

TUSCANY SUN

OUR COMMUNITY'S VOICE

MAY 2014

Brought to you by your Tuscany Community Association

TCA Annual General Meeting

May 21

***Tuscany Book
Swap*** See page 7

Community Clean Up Days
May 10 - 11



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TUSCANY

community association
www.TuscanyCA.org

Tuscany Community Association

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Traffic and Safety Committee

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In Our Community

TCA President's Report

The TCA's Annual General Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, May 21 at 7 p.m.** at the Tuscany Club. Please consider joining us as we elect the directors who will serve the community for the next term. We welcome all residents in Tuscany and hope to see some youth and seniors in the room!

The City of Calgary hosted an open house in April regarding plans for the new LRT station. It was exciting to see the more efficient bus routes and details of the new station amenities. One thing that caught my eye was a covered bike shelter, which will be appealing to those who are able to resist driving to the station. There is also a new paved pathway to the east of Tuscarora, which will link the LRT with the other pathways in the community and with the pedestrian bridge.

For residents who live north of Tuscany Boulevard and east of Tuscany Way, the City will accept applications for parking restrictions within a few weeks. The restrictions are NOT automatically imposed on residents, so if you live in that area, please consider learning more about the process and volunteer to canvass your block. A minimum of 80% of residents must sign the application before the signage will be provided, and parking restrictions along green spaces will be considered after applications for adjacent residential streets have been applied for and approved. I have been told that it is remarkable how far some people will walk to avoid having to pay for parking!

Please visit this link to learn more about the Residential Parking Permit program: www.calgary.ca/Transportation/Roads/Pages/Traffic/Parking-management/Residential-parking-permit-program.aspx.

Parking will be quite limited at the new station, so if you plan to reserve a spot, please e-mail me at president@tuscanyca.org and I will contact you as soon as the reservation process opens. For those who have reserved parking at Crowfoot or other stations, please know that your reservation will NOT automatically transfer to Tuscany Station, so you will need to apply specifically for a spot in this new lot.

The TCA continues to work with the Calgary Fire Department to communicate plans for a new fire station in our community. As Tuscany has grown over the past decade, the Calgary Fire Department has proposed a location for a new station in the greenspace at Tuscany Way and

continued on next page



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In Our Community

TCA President's Report *continued*

Tuscany Valley Park NW. Additional information will be coming soon, so keep an eye on our website at www.TuscanyCA.org and the June edition of the Sun where we will share more details as they become available.

For more information about what is going on in Tuscany, I encourage you to attend the AGM in May. If you are interested in being involved as a director, please e-mail me at president@tuscanyca.org, and I'll be happy to meet with you in the next few weeks to chat about the work we do and which roles we would like to fill.

- Kelli Taylor, President

TUSCANY
community association

Tuscany Harvest Festival

Save the Date!

3rd Annual

**Tuscany Harvest Festival
Saturday, September 20**

Sponsorship and volunteer opportunities available. Email executiveadmin@tuscanyca.org for more information.



Photo by Terry Boyle

Traffic & Community Safety in Tuscany

Community Safety and Home Security

With the coming of spring, many families are looking toward weekend camping trips and summer vacation. If you are travelling for just a couple of days or as long as a few weeks, it is important to think about home security while you were away. Recently, the Tuscany Traffic & Community Safety Committee learned that there have been some break-ins in the neighborhood, particularly while home-owners were away. We also received a request to provide some helpful tips to secure your property while travelling. Below is some excellent guidance from the Calgary Police Service to deter thieves by making your home look occupied while you are away.

Make Your Home Look Lived-in While You're Away

- Arrange to have your mail picked up, and consider stopping newspaper delivery at least one day

before you leave to be certain your request was received.

- Arrange to have the grass cut, the leaves raked, or the snow removed as necessary.
- Use timers on a few lamps in rooms where the light will be noticed from outside the house.
- Have a neighbour check both inside and outside the house every few days. Ask them to pick up items delivered to you while you are away.
- If you have a clearly designated outside parking space (as is the case in many townhouse neighbourhoods), ask a neighbour to park their car in your space.
- Tell a neighbour you're going away. Also remember to keep an eye on your neighbours' house as well. Notify the police if you see anything suspicious.

- Tuscany Traffic & Community Safety Committee, traffic@TuscanyCA.org

Calgary International Children's Festival

Volunteers Needed

Volunteering with the Calgary International Children's Festival is fun! Join our amazing team for four days of inspiration, imagination, and excitement by signing up as a volunteer! We are in need of volunteers aged 14+ to help with activities, such as craft making, ushering, and artist hospitality, among other exciting opportunities. Visit

our website at www.calgarychildfest.org and look under Volunteer Opportunities for more information or to sign up as a 2014 volunteer.

Contact the Volunteer Coordinator by e-mail at dramler@calgarychildfest.org or by phone at 403-294-7414 ext. 4 with any questions.

Open The Door To Your Imagination!

In Our Community

TUSCANY BOOK SWAP

The Annual Tuscany Community Association Book Swap is back again this spring!

Donate your used books at Tuscany Sobeys or the Tuscany Club from May

1 to 9. Drop by the Tuscany Club on Saturday, May 10, to pick up a book, visit with some neighbours, and meet representatives from the community association. The event is open to all members of the community, and there is no charge for donating, trading, or picking up used books.

All leftover books will be donated to the Calgary Reads Book Sale.

If you would like to volunteer to help make this event a success, we would love to have you! Please let us know at TuscanyCA.org/ContactUs.



Councillor's Report

Open House Information Session – Proposed Bus Routes NW LRT Extension Tuscany/Rocky Ridge

The new NW LRT Extension to Tuscany plans to open in the fall of 2014. Calgary Transit held information sessions on the proposed bus routes that will serve Tuscany, Rocky Ridge, and Royal Oak. View the proposed bus routes plan at www.calgarytransit.com or www.calgary.ca/nwlrtrt. Please provide feedback by email transitplanningfeedback@calgary.ca or phone 403-262-1000.

Pro-rated Annual Transit Passes for Seniors

In Calgary, an annual senior pass is valid from July to June. However, this creates an unfair pay structure for seniors who purchased their first pass after July 1, as well as for those whose birthdays fall somewhere between June and July. For seniors living on fixed income, this creates an additional hardship. Furthermore, as seniors play a significant role in the

volunteer workforce, they should not be impeded, and allowed to continue with safe and affordable means of transportation.

In March 2014, I brought the motion to Calgary City Council to rectify the inflexibility of the senior pass. Council voted in favour of pro-rated annual transit passes for seniors over the age of 65. This means that the later in the year the pass is bought, the less it costs. More information on when Calgary Transit will implement the new pro-rated is to be announced.

Snow Removal

This spring, Calgary City Council will review current snow removal policy. I will take into full account all constituents complaints and suggestions sent to my office. The snow removal budget analysis will examine the higher cost for improved snow removal services and benefit to residents. Council will also assess options used in other winter cities, such as contracting for standby equipment and contractors to several companies.

West Memorial Sanitary Trunk Catchment Area

Work has begun for adding the inner sleeve inside the existing sewer pipeline in the northwest of Calgary. The starting point of the sleeve started in March in Bowness. The estimated end point of the sleeve is August 2014 in Silver Springs.

On March 3rd, 2014, The City of Calgary held an open house to discuss the West Memorial Sanitary Trunk Project. The West Memorial Trunk is tunnelled 24 hours a day, which results in less impact for residents. As a result, the project is now 14 months ahead of the original schedule of December 2017. As well, sound walls were put around open pits to reduce noise for residents. The current estimated connection date for the tunnel is September 2016. For more information, go to bit.ly/1hW5va9.

- Ward Sutherland



Community

Girl Guides



Our Guiding year is winding down. We're having our year-end camps, advancement ceremony, and selling the last of our cookies.

We would like to thank everyone in the community for supporting us: the community centres and organizations who allow us to meet weekly in their facilities, the guest speakers who come to our units, the businesses who allow us to visit on field trips, everyone in the community for purchasing cookies, the families for bringing such eager and joyful girls to the meetings, and the leaders and district members who donate their time to facilitate our programs.

Registration for the 2014–2015 Guiding year, beginning in mid-September, is open to returning girls until June 1 and then is open to the public on June 2; please visit www.girlguides.ca to register. We are always looking for leaders and volunteers. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Diana and Kristy at scenicbowvalleydistrict@gmail.com or 403-510-5598.

Our Sports

TCA Soccer in Tuscany

This spring, almost 600 young Tuscany residents will be hitting the soccer pitch! Please watch out for the families who will be making their way to and from the local fields. Please visit soccer.tuscanyca.org for current information, including game schedules, field locations, and rules of play. Our season runs from April 21 to June 28.

We thank our generous sponsors,

Martinizing by Stephen Cleaners in Crowfoot, Tim Hortons, and The Home Depot, for sponsoring our jerseys this season. We also thank Ray Côté of CIR Realty for donating a van for the equipment-sorting evening. With Ray's help, we were able to move all equipment from the storage facility to the sorting location at one time. If your local business is looking for a way to get involved, the end-of-season wrap-up is a great opportunity!

Age Group	Division	Schedule
U4	Mixed	Saturday 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
U5/U6	Mixed	Saturday 10:45 – 11:45 a.m.
U5/U6	Mixed	Tuesday and Thursday 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
U8	Mixed	Monday and Wednesday 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
U8	Girls	Monday and Wednesday 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Jumpstart Soccer Program

This free program is offered in partnership with the City of Calgary Recreation and Canadian Tire Jumpstart. This program is for low income Calgarians with little or no soccer experience. The main goal is to practice soccer skills and have fun. Equipment will be provided.

Where: Lester B. Pearson N.E. fields, 3020 52 St N.E. Calgary, AB

Dates: Wednesdays (rain or shine), May 14 until June 11

Age and Times:

- Ages 7 – 9 years: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. (Barcode: 337191)
- Ages 10 – 12 years: 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. (Barcode: 337192)

How to register: Call 403-268-3800

For more information, call Fran at 403-268-4504.



Our Schools

Twelve Mile Coulee School

Outdoor Fitness Area Update

Twelve Mile Coulee School opened in September, 2012, and this new middle school currently has a population of 850 students in grades 4 – 9, with a capacity of 900. Although there are parks and playgrounds in the neighborhood, they are neither accessible to students during school hours, nor were they designed with middle school-aged children in mind. We are collaborating with the Calgary Board of Education and the City of Calgary to build this outdoor fitness area on joint use land at the school. We have received tremendous support from Tuscany School Council and Tuscany Community Association for this project. Aside from offering an extension to the Physical Education program at TMC School, the outdoor fitness area will provide a reprieve from the children's studies, a place to play and expend some energy during their breaks, as well as an area for physical and social engagement during all non-school hours for youth and families in the community.

Park N Play has been chosen by the design committee to design and equip this area, and we are looking to complete the fitness area in September of 2015. The cost is \$334,000, and we need your help!

Our project has been approved by the Parks Foundation Calgary for the Project Gift Administration Program. All donations over \$25 will receive a tax receipt from the City, and 100% of your donation will go directly towards the development of the TMC Outdoor Fitness Area. Please bring your cheques to the TMC School main office and include your name,

address, and phone number to ensure a tax receipt is mailed to you from Parks Foundation Calgary. Mark the envelope:

Attention: **Pam Mylrea, TMC Outdoor Fitness Committee Chair**

Cheques should be made payable to *Parks Foundation Calgary*, and please indicate *TMC Outdoor Fitness Area* in the memo.

Crowfoot COBS Bread will donate 5% of any purchase to this project until the end of this calendar year when you mention Twelve Mile Coulee school fundraiser at the time of your purchase. *Tuscany Sobeys* has commenced an "add-a-dollar" campaign at their tills, until the end of the 2013-14 school year, except during Easter when they have another fundraiser.

Cookies by George at Market Mall has donated over 2000 cookies which helped us raise \$2237 to date. Thank you! We have also received some very generous donations from *Ultimate Edge Concrete* (\$5750 in kind), *Concert Infrastructure Ltd.* (\$2500 commitment), *MDC Property Services Ltd* (\$1000), *Blue Grass Nursery* (\$600 in kind), *Kalaidoscope Preschool* (\$1000), *Stephanie Campbell* from Kirby Cox (\$250), and from many community members to help us make this project a reality.

To date we have raised \$73591.46 in cash and in-kind donations. Our fundraising committee also applied for the Alberta Lotteries CFEP grant on March 15 and continues to investigate other grants and

fundraising opportunities. We would love to hear from you about any grant opportunities or contributors to this legacy for TMC School! Thank you for your continued enthusiasm and support. Please contact me with any questions.

- Pam Mylrea, TMC Outdoor Fitness Committee Chair,
TMCOutdoorFitnessCommittee@gmail.com



Stolen Mountain Bike

On Sunday, April 13 a men's mountain bike was stolen from outside the Mac's / Petro Canada gas station at the Tuscany Market. While my 6 yr old son and I were in the store purchasing a slurpee, someone felt the need to steal the bike. It is an orange Kona Cinder Cone mountain bike. If anyone has seen it or has information about it, please contact Reid at reidbilben@hotmail.com.

Thanks for the help
Reid (Tuscany Resident)

Our Schools

Tuscany School Council

Tuscany School participates in a program called Teaming Up! 4 Healthy Learners (TU4HL). TU4HL is sponsored by Alberta Health & Wellness, Education Matters, and the Calgary Board of Education. The program is designed to promote health and wellness through three main areas: physical activity, healthy eating, and positive social behaviours. The TU4HL committee at Tuscany School has held events, such as fun walks and Walk to School Day, to promote active living. The committee has also worked on initiatives for cooperative play.

In May and June, TU4HL is asking students from Tuscany School to submit healthy recipes, which will be displayed in our local Tuscany Sobeys store! This is a great way to get students thinking about healthy food choices, and they will be very proud to have their creations displayed at Sobeys for the community to see. Please stop by Sobeys in May or June to see the healthy recipes from our students!

We thank Tuscany Sobeys for this opportunity and for donating a gift card to the Food Bank in exchange for our school's participation in this program.

Our CBE Trustee, Joy Bowen-Eyre, will be in attendance at our next Council meeting on May 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Tuscany School gathering space. We encourage all parents of Tuscany School students to attend. Parents with children who will be starting kindergarten in September 2014 are also welcome to attend.

St. Dominic Fine Arts School

St. Dominic Fine Arts School offers a fine arts integrated program for all kindergarten to Grade 6 students. The fine arts program integrates the arts with academic subjects and allows students to experience links between the arts and core subjects. To learn more about this program, attend our Open House on May 14, 1:30 p.m. RSVP by calling 403-500-2058.

Researchers from Columbia University studied twelve art-focused schools with over 2,400 students. Using qualitative and quantitative data, researchers identified that the students were better able to attend to subject matter; were better able to make associations among diverse, prior and ongoing learning experiences; were able to perceive and understand various points of view; were able to develop multiple meanings and interpretations and to imagine new possibilities; and had increased sensory learning. Even children who experienced difficulty with subject content were more willing to stay on task when engaged in the arts.

How would a fine arts integrated program benefit your child? Children learn that problems can have more than one solution, that there are many ways to see and interpret the world, and to use tools other than writing to convey their knowledge. Students who may not learn in a traditional way are able to increase their confidence and self-esteem. Students learn through increased collaboration with more project-based work to achieve Alberta Learning program of

studies outcomes. Students have the opportunity to develop and showcase their talents. Learning through the arts is active, engaging, and fun.

St. Sylvester

Bonjour from the staff and students of École St. Sylvester! As we begin to plan our year-end events, we are also beginning to make plans for the upcoming school year when we meet our newest and youngest students and say goodbye to our oldest! Our Grade 6 students celebrated their journey on their retreat, where they participated in a variety of team-building games and reflected on their relationship with God, their awareness of themselves, and their connections and friendships with others.

We have many field trips planned for May. Our Grade 6 students will be heading to the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, our kindergarten students will have a field trip to Safety City, and our Grade 1 students have a planned outing to Canada Olympic Park.

Our spring fundraising efforts will be flowers from DeVry—perfect for Mother's Day! Proceeds from sales will help fund Grade 6 activities and the Leadership Project in support of the Free the Children Foundation.

All parents who are interested in French immersion are encouraged to register their children at our wonderful school at 403-500-2063.

- Tanya Wittewaall

In Our Community



Support Tuscany! Buy Your Community Membership Today!

Membership

...do you have your
Community Association membership yet?

Benefits of Membership

- A healthier and more enjoyable community through the provision of community sports and recreation activities like soccer – your membership contributes to the costs of operation
- Insurance coverage to participate in Community Association organized sports, such as soccer
- Discounted insurance rates - email president@tuscanyc.org
- Up-to-date information about issues affecting you and the community through the Tuscany Sun and our website
- Effective representation and advocacy to external third parties about issues of concern to the community, including public health and safety, development and the natural environment
- Maintenance and preservation of the natural environment, including Twelve Mile Coulee
- A safer community through our advocacy on traffic and other safety issues
- Pride and a sense of community through participation in community activities

YES! I would like to become a member of
the Tuscany Community Association

Go to www.tuscanyc.org to register online
for your membership today!

TUSCANY
community association

Your Tuscany Community Association

The TCA is a non-profit organization run by a core group of volunteers who are committed to the needs and constructive development of Tuscany and its community. The TCA has a broad mandate to represent the community to external stakeholders, such as the City, and to provide community sports programs. We also have an emphasis to preserve and protect the natural environments in Tuscany.

This year, the TCA is focusing its efforts on three broad goals: community cohesiveness, traffic safety, and the development of youth programs in Tuscany. If you would like to participate in the development and implementation of these goals, the TCA is always looking for committed volunteers.

For more information, contact president@tuscanyc.org or go to our website at www.tuscanyc.org.





Tuscany RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

The Tuscany Club is operated by the Tuscany Residents Association (TRA) as a private recreation facility for the exclusive use of its members.

Address

Tuscany Residents Association
212 Tuscany Way NW
T3L 2J6

Phone

403-241-6402

Hours of Operation

Park and Facility Hours:

Mon. to Sun. 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Office Hours:

Mon. to Sat. 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
(closed 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.)

Access to the Tuscany Club

Please note our policies regarding access to the facility and grounds to ensure the safety and exclusivity of the Tuscany Club for our members. We appreciate the understanding and cooperation of all our members and remind them that entering with or presenting your valid TRA membership card is the fastest and easiest way to access the club and all its amenities.

- All TRA members 12+ years are expected to have their own card to swipe in.

- If you have forgotten your TRA card, access may be denied unless photo identification can be provided.
- Children under 12 must always be accompanied by a responsible eligible member.
- Guest privileges and equipment loan may be denied if membership card is not presented.

Tuscany Club Features

Check out the current program guide online at www.tuscany-connect.com or pick up a copy at the Tuscany Club. We offer family special events plus sports, fitness, and recreation programs for preschoolers to seniors.

- Gymnasium
- Fitness and dance studios
- Outdoor basketball courts
- Banquet and meeting rooms
- Hockey rink and skating oval
- 2 outdoor tennis courts
- Playground
- Wading pool and splash fountain
- Horseshoe pits and shuffleboard court
- Skatepark (July+Aug.)

Rent Rooms at the Tuscany Club

Rooms for receptions, banquets, birthday parties, seasonal events, club and business meetings, and more:

- Available only to TRA members in good standing.
- For more information call 403-241-6402 or email customerservice.tuscany@shaw.ca.

May Events & Notices

Summer Program Registration

The TRA Summer Guide is out Friday, April 28, with registration for all daycamps, tennis weeks, and summer fitness programs opening Friday, May 2. We offer weekly half-day morning and afternoon camps for 4 to 7 year olds starting July 2 until August 29

and full day camps for 8 to 11 years every second week starting July 14. Camps include indoor and outdoor sports and games, arts and crafts, special events, and much more. View the guide and register online at www.tuscany-connect.com or contact daycamps.tuscany@shaw.ca for help or more information. Tennis lessons run the weeks of July 7, July 21, August 11, and August 25 for youth between 4 and 12 years of age. Don't delay, many camps fill up fast!

Community Clean-up Day

Saturday, May 10 and Sunday, May 11 are the dates for this year's event. We need volunteers! E-mail clubprograms@shaw.ca to sign up now and join a crew to go out in the community and clean-up the parks, ravines, and green spaces in Tuscany from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday. Enjoy a volunteer barbeque afterwards.

- Sat. May 10: We will accept old electronics components, paints and solvents, and household batteries for safe disposal; safely and securely shred any unwanted documents or papers; and collect donations of household items, clothing, recyclable deposits, and more at the Club between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.
- Sun. May 11: City of Calgary will have large packer trucks on site from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to accept general waste and larger items (e.g., couches, mattresses) and organic materials, such as brush, grass clippings, leaves, branches, clean fill (dirt free of rocks), tree trimmings, and any general yard waste that can be composted. We will also accept any old vehicle tires and batteries for disposal thanks to Action Tyre.

Watch for more details at www.tuscany-connect.com closer to the date.

continued on next page

Tuscany club



Events & Notices

Tuscany Giant Garage Sale

This year's giant garage sale is on Saturday, June 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Free registration and complimentary lawn signage is available to all TRA households in good standing. Sign-up now by e-mailing clubprograms@shaw.ca – 150+ homes usually participate, and it is advertised all around the city.

Annual TRA Fees

The Tuscany Residents Association has now invoiced all membership holders, and fees are now due. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the staff at the Tuscany Club at 403-241-6402 or via e-mail at tuscanyclub@shaw.ca. With your invoice came various payment options, please take time to read the attached instructions. We look forward to serving the people of Tuscany in the upcoming year. Inquiries about annual fees can be sent to tuscanyclub@shaw.ca or call 403-241-6402. To avoid any interest charges, please pay your annual fees by May 31, 2014.

TRA Stampede Breakfast – Saturday, July 12

Join us at the Tuscany Club from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. for the annual Stampede Breakfast along with your family, friends, and neighbours. Enjoy pancakes and sausage, coffee and juice, and some fine entertainment, and wrap up Stampede in style. Volunteers are always needed and welcome to help for an hour or two with set up, cooking, and more. Please contact clubprograms@shaw.ca to sign up!

Community Concerns and Maintenance

The condition of amenities in the community is a priority to the Tuscany Residents Association. We welcome the assistance of residents in identifying outstanding issues or problems. If you are out and about in the community and notice something (e.g., broken fence panels or vandalism), please feel free to notify the TRA at 403-241-6402, and we will address the issue as quickly as possible.

Contact the Recreation Manager at clubprograms@shaw.ca for more information on any TRA program and event.

Enter to Win

Enter to win the CBC and Federation of Calgary Communities, Community by the Book: Sidewalk Library Give-Away

Here's a novel idea that's bookin' it across Calgary—Sidewalk Libraries filled with free books for anyone to browse. CBC's The Eyeopener and the Federation of Calgary Communities want to bring one to your neighbourhood with a contest: **Community by the Book: Sidewalk Library Give-Away!**

Inspired by the *Little Free Library* movement and the local *3 Things for Calgary* initiative, this story began when Brentwood neighbours got together in 2011 to build Calgary's first two Little Free Libraries. To their delight and surprise, the book boxes

International Migratory Bird Day



The City of Calgary has been proudly participating in this annual celebration for the past 10 years and will again be hosting our popular event this Mother's Day! Join Parks staff and local experts for a fun-filled day of games, entertainment, and activities to celebrate bird migration and conservation.

Date and time: May 11, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Inglewood Bird Sanctuary

became the first of dozens of sidewalk libraries to pop up across the city.

So, how can you get involved? Craft us a compelling tale about why your community needs a Sidewalk Library. Be creative! Use story, photos, artwork, video—whatever it takes—and you could win an artist-decorated, book-filled Sidewalk Library and a visit from Angela Knight and CBC's The Eyeopener to install and launch your Sidewalk Library. As a steward of your neighbourhood's new Sidewalk Library, you will be in charge of keeping it well maintained for your community's use. Entries for the **Community by the Book: Sidewalk Library Give-Away** will be accepted at www.calgarycommunities.com from May 1 – 30, 2014. The lucky winner will be announced on CBC's The Eyeopener on June 2, 2014!

In Our City

Crowfoot Library

Programs for Adults

Registration required for all, beginning April 21.

- **Social Media: Safety and Privacy:** May 5, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- **Law at Your Library: Immigration Law – Applying for a Temporary Resident Visa:** May 6, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- **Birds of Calgary with Gus Yaki:** May 7, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- **Essential Peru:** May 14, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- **Spanish Conversation Club:** Tuesdays, May 20 to June 24, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Intermediate-level Spanish required. Ages 16 and up.
- **A Taste of Coaching: Professional Coaching – Private Sessions:** May 22, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Programs for Children and Youth

- **Drop in Family Storytime:** Wed., 10:30 – 11:00 a.m. and Sat., 11:00 – 11:30 a.m. Ages 2 to 5 with a parent or caregiver.
- **Post-Secondary Prep Night:** May 8, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. Ages 13 and up.
- **The 2014 TD Summer Reading Club is coming!** Read and win book prizes. The fun starts next month.



"My mother had a great deal of trouble with me, but I think she enjoyed it."

Mark Twain

Book Recommendations

Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children, by Ransom Riggs

A mysterious island. An abandoned orphanage. A strange collection of very curious photographs. It all waits to be discovered in *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*,



an unforgettable young-adult novel that mixes fiction and photography in a thrilling reading experience. As the story opens, a horrific family tragedy sets sixteen-year-old Jacob journeying to a remote island off the coast of Wales, where he discovers the crumbling ruins of Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children. As Jacob explores its abandoned bedrooms and hallways, it becomes clear that the children were more than just peculiar. They may have been dangerous. They may have been quarantined on a deserted island for good reason. And somehow—impossible though it seems—they may still be alive. A spine-tingling fantasy illustrated with haunting vintage photography, this book will delight adults, teens, and anyone who relishes an adventure in the shadows.

Ransom Riggs has just released *Hollow City*, the sequel to *Miss Peregrine's Home*, so you get to continue your enjoyable, eccentric read distinguished by well-developed characters and some very creepy monsters.

The Glass Castle, by Jeannette Walls

Jeannette Walls grew up with parents whose ideals and stubborn

nonconformity were both their curse and their salvation. Rex and Rose Mary Walls had four children. In the beginning, they lived like nomads, moving among Southwest desert towns, camping in the mountains. Rex was a charismatic, brilliant man who, when sober, captured his children's imagination, teaching them physics, geology, and above all, how to embrace life fearlessly. Rose Mary, who painted and wrote and couldn't stand the responsibility of providing for her family, called herself an "excitement addict." Cooking a meal that would be consumed in fifteen minutes had no appeal when she could make a painting that might last forever.

Later, when the money ran out, or the romance of the wandering life faded, the Walls retreated to the dismal West Virginia mining town—and the family—Rex Walls had done everything he could to escape. He drank. He stole the grocery money and disappeared for days. As the dysfunction of the family escalated, Jeannette and her brother and sisters had to fend for themselves, supporting one another as they weathered their parents' betrayals and, finally, found the resources and will to leave home.

What is so astonishing about Jeannette Walls is not just that she had the guts, tenacity, and intelligence to get out but that she describes her parents with such deep affection and generosity. Hers is a story of triumph against all odds, but also a tender, moving tale of unconditional love in a family that despite its profound flaws gave her the fiery determination to carve out a successful life on her own terms.

In Our City

Bowness Library

Programs for Adults

- **Career Coaching and Computer Technology Coaching:** Saturdays, May 3 to August 16, 10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
- **Heirloom Edible Gardening in Alberta:** May 14, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- **Adult Book Club:** May 24, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- **Chinese Brush Painting: Flowers, Birds or Fish:** May 23, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
- **Talk by Two - Early Communication Development:** May 28, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Register by calling 403-955-1300.

Programs for Kids

- **Drop-in Family Storytime:** Fri., 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Ages 2 to 5 with a parent or caregiver.
- **Eureka! Things that Go VROOMM!:** May 16, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Ages 2 to 5 with a parent or caregiver.
- **Dinosaur Stomp!:** May 30, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Ages 2 to 5 with a parent or caregiver.

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



Bridging the Book Gap

In the homes of many children, the bookshelves are bare. In some homes, there are no bookshelves. Having a home library rich with books of all kinds is the not-so-secret tip to building book-loving children.

Children who have few or no books at home are at risk for lower literacy rates.

So how can you bridge the book gap and allow your child to have access to more books?

- Give your kids some “book bucks” and then visit a used book store, a book sale, or garage sale and let them spend every buck on whatever books they want – even if it’s zombies or fairies. Letting the child choose the books themselves ensures they’ll want to read them.
- Keep a bookshelf in your child’s bedroom, and keep it loaded with books.
- Keep a bin of “emergency” books in the car for those long delays in traffic or waiting-room visits.
- Have baskets of books in places where your child likes to relax—the couch, the playroom, or even in the bathroom for bubble bath time.

If you’re looking for a place for your child to spend their “book bucks,” try the **CBC – Calgary Reads Book Sale on May 23 and 24** at the Calgary Curling Club (720 3rd St NW).

Thousands of high-quality, low-cost, gently used books of all kinds are there, waiting for a good home.

To donate gently-used books for someone else to love, bring them to:

- Calgary Food Bank, 5000 11th St SE, warehouse door 3 on April 23 – May 9: Mondays – Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. or Fridays from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (sorry, no weekend drop offs)
- Calgary Curling Club, 720 3rd St NW on May 10 – 18: weekdays from 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. or weekends from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. on May 18 only)

Your book donation and your book purchase enables Calgary Reads to help more kids discover the joy of reading.

- Calgary Reads
www.calgaryreads.com



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In Our City

Fostering Safe Communities

It's that time of the year again: spring cleaning! Here are some things to keep in mind during your spring cleanup:

- Complete a walkthrough of your property to ensure that all buildings and structures are in good repair, there is no vandalism or graffiti, and no wildlife have taken up shop over the course of the winter. If you see any graffiti on your property, please report it to The City of Calgary by contacting 311, and remove it as soon as possible.
- If you plan to partake in construction projects, please ensure any material stored in the yard is not visible from outside of the property. Only an appropriate amount of materials for the current building project is permitted, and it should be stacked in an orderly and safe manner.
- Many community associations host community cleanups in the spring. These events are great opportunities to properly dispose of unwanted household items, such as electronics or old furniture. Contact your community association for the date of the cleanup closest to you.
- Hazardous materials, such as gasoline, motor oil, and paint, cannot be disposed of with your household garbage. Visit calgary.ca to find a list of Throw n' Go locations and fire stations with special storage depots for proper disposal of these materials.

Having a tidy property increases personal and community pride. You, your family, and your friends will feel comfortable and safe enjoying your yard and spending time outside.

For more information, please call 311 or visit www.calgary.ca.

- City of Calgary,
Animal and Bylaw Services

Editor's Note: The annual Tuscany Community Clean-up event is scheduled for May 10 to 11 at the Tuscany Club. Special thanks to the Tuscany Residents Association for sponsoring this event in the community. More details can be found in the Tuscany Club's update in this issue on page 17.

City Cycling Charter

City Council approved a proposal to develop a project charter for a city-wide cycling network plan and design (excluding the Centre City), which will address:

- principles for network design and route selection of both on- and off-street solutions
- approaches to data, research, and analysis related to route and network planning
- approaches to public engagement
- timeline to complete a city-wide network plan

The completed charter will come to a Council Committee on Transportation and Transit by October 2014.

- Anne Burke

BowWest Community Resource Centre

Connecting People to Resources

BowWest Community Resource Centre lends a hand to people who find themselves in a crisis related to food, clothing, shelter, or health and wellness issues.

Contact BowWest if you:

- don't have enough money to buy nutritious food, medication, or children's clothes
- are worried about rent or utility arrears
- want to go back to school
- worry about being a great parent
- want someone to talk to about these or other issues



You can contact us by calling 403-374-0448, visiting us at 14 – 1840 Ranchlands Way N.W., or logging in to www.bowwest.com.

“Building Lives Through Opening Doors”

In Our City

Updates from the City of Calgary

Pathway and River Cleanup

For the past 47 years, The City of Calgary has partnered with sponsors to host an annual pathway and river cleanup where volunteers participate in a springtime city-wide garbage cleanup. This year the event is scheduled for Sunday, May 4.

Household Hazardous Waste Campaign

Did you know there are designated city drop-off locations for your household hazardous waste? It is important for your safety and the safety of others to package and label your household hazardous waste properly and clearly. Doing so not only protects you, but it protects the environment against spills and prevents unintentional mixing when being processed.

For quick tips on preparing these items and other information on household hazardous waste, visit calgary.ca and search “household hazardous waste”.



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Parenting Your Preschooler

How a Young Child Learns

There is a quote I love that really gets to the essence of early childhood education. I came across it years ago and filed it away. I never cease to enjoy this description of how a young child learns, even though I have read and considered it many times.

“Thus a child learns, by wiggling skills through his fingers and his toes, into himself. By soaking up habits and attitudes of those around him, by pushing and pulling his own world. Thus a child learns, more through trial than error, more through pleasure than pain, more through experience than suggestion and telling, and more through suggestion than direction. And thus a child learns through affection, through love, through patience, through understanding, through belonging, through doing and through being. Day by day the child comes to know a little

bit of what you know, a little bit of what you think and understand. That which you dream and believe are in truth what is becoming that child. As you perceive dully, or clearly, as you think fuzzily, or sharply, as you believe foolishly or wisely, as you dream drably or goldenly, as you bear false witness or tell the truth, thus a child learns.”

– Frederick Moffet

Young children are experiential learners. They learn by experiencing the world around them. Although it is easier and faster for the adults in their lives to do everything for them to prevent messes, to save time, or to have a task done perfectly, it is necessary for children to do age-appropriate things themselves. Scissors may not cut on the line. Paint may splatter little hands. Juice may spill. But these experiences shape what the child becomes. Through these and many other experiences,

children grow to be capable, confident, and curious individuals. By challenging the child a little past what he or she has already mastered, the child learns and grows. This calls for patience and understanding, with an eye to the long-term benefits instead of the short-term mess on the part of the adults in a child’s life. As an adult models behaviour, shares books and ideas, waits patiently for a child to perform a task, or listens while a child shares ideas and experiences, that child’s growth is being encouraged and supported.

It is a blessing and a privilege to be a part of that process for the children in your life. As you wash the sticky floor, launder the muddy clothing, or wipe a grubby grin, be aware that even though it may not seem glamorous at the time, you are playing a vital role in a child’s future. Say “Happy Mother’s Day” to all the patient, loving mothers you know!

– Betty Ann Chandler, B. Ed.



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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 May 2 – 3 Cassie Campbell Street Hockey Festival Olympic Oval ahomeawayfromhome.org	3 May 2 – 3 Calgary Beerfest Big Four Building, Stampede Park www.calgarybeerfest.com
4 May 3 – 4 Day Out With Thomas Heritage Park www.heritagepark.ca	5	6	7	8	9 May 3 – 4, May 9 – 11 Day Out With Thomas Heritage Park www.heritagepark.ca	10 TCA Book Swap Tuscany Club Tuscany Community Clean-Up Day Tuscany Club
11 MOTHER'S DAY Mother's Day Brunch Calgary Zoo www.calgaryzoo.com	12	13	14	15	16	17 Calgary Street Food Festival Kingsland Farmers' Market www.kfmcalgary.com
18	19 VICTORIA DAY Mountie Day Fort Calgary www.fortcalgary.com	20	21 TCA Annual General Meeting Tuscany Club	22 May 21 – 24 The Calgary International Children's Festival EPCOR Centre and Olympic Plaza epcorcentre.org/CalgaryKidsFest	23	24 May 24 – 25 Annual Festival of Quilts Heritage Park www.heritagepark.ca
25 Calgary Lilac Festival 4th Street	26	27	28	29	30	31

