

Community Participates In Design Process

Approximately 75 people gave up their Friday evening April 29 to make their way to a NAIT classroom where they learned some principles of urban design from Dan Burden of Walkable Communities Inc. At the end of the session everyone brainstormed ideas for revitalization. Each participant had 5 blue sticky dots to select 5 priorities.

On Saturday, April 30, an unseasonably cold spring morning with the ground still dusted with snow, community members returned to NAIT to warm themselves with coffee and muffins before heading out on a walk around audit. Everyone piled onto an ETS bus and groups were dropped at different points along 118 Avenue. Their mission was to evaluate their assigned section of street for what they liked and what they didn't and to make suggestions for improvement.

The group I participated in (and I'm sure all the others as well) saw ugly dirty storefronts, windows either broken, barred or plastered with posters, unfriendly or even dangerous intersections, lots of concrete and a dizzying array of signs. And that was just on the surface. Behind the grime were run-down buildings, some empty, others used for criminal activities, and only the occasional gem like Renato's Restaurant.

We were fortunate to be able to enter the restaurant to take refuge from the cold, see the completed renovations and chat with the family that owns it. Seeing this magnificence 4 star restaurant on our Avenue along with the many before and



Group picture taken before the walk around audit.

after pictures of transformed streets Dan Burden showed us the night before gave us hope.

We envisioned an avenue with welcoming entry points, lots of alluring greenery, curb extensions to make pedestrians safer, appropriate signage, store facades with attractive window displays, store front patios, and inviting benches and sitting areas.

Frozen yet invigorated the groups returned and shared their observations and visions. After another presentation on design and a brief lunch, we broke into design teams. Each team huddled over a map of the 27 block Avenue and began drawing in desired features. Joining the residents were a local beat officer and employees from various city departments.

Having a beat officer tell us about what they deal with in our neighbourhood was eye opening and a little unnerving. From the apartment building that is little more than a crack house with a drive up drug window to the Hell's Angels clubhouse and "business" operations to the used

car lot that supplies cars to drug dealers, the beat officers are kept very busy.

When the teams revealed their designs, we found many of the desired elements were similar. Our task, for the time being, was done. Dan Burden, his associate, Raj Mohabeer, and a team of city employees took all the information gathered over the week and spent a couple long days and nights compiling it into a plan we could use as a starting point.

On May 2, Burden presented the elements of a streetscape plan for the Avenue which include trees along the sidewalks, pedestrian level lighting, 3 lanes on the Avenue, curb extensions, raised intersections with concrete crosswalks, narrowing entrances into residential areas and three village centres in addition to the hubs at NAIT and Northlands. Burden stated it will be up to us to create a pattern book, adopt appropriate zoning and select street furniture. The approximately 80 people in attendance approved the general streetscape design and

23 people signed up to continue working on the process.

So will any of these recommendations ever happen? The City already had 118 Avenue scheduled for "refurbishment" in 2008 - that means new paving, curbs and sidewalks. Right now the Transportation and Streets Department is pricing up the Streetscape Plan. The Advisory

Committee is also looking at possible immediate actions that could be taken.

Physical improvements are just one element of the revitalization plans, however. Issues that impact quality of life will be tackled next. Stakeholders have identified community safety, beautification and cleaning, housing, appropriate businesses, and programs and services as other areas they would like to see addressed. **A community meeting will be held June 20 from 6:30-9:30 at Eastwood Community Hall** to discuss the social and economic elements of revitalization.

The game plan is to get a concrete detailed proposal before City Council in the fall. Pray they approve the very expensive price tag attached to it!

By Karen Mykietka

Want to know more? See "Crash course in Urban Design" on page 14.



Design team working on a map.

Is the City Giving New Businesses a Hard Time?



Karen Mykietka

One of the most important things needed to revitalize a community is business. Viable, independent, people-friendly business that creates an atmosphere people want to shop in. Beautiful, creative, interesting businesses selling things that people need or just plain want. Businesses that care about the community, that support local initiatives, that clean up and keep up their part of the street. So why has it been difficult for some businesses to start up in our area?

When calling the City of Edmonton's Planning and Development Department it seemed relatively straightforward. They explained that a building development permit and a business license were needed; take the forms off their website or pick them up from their office downtown, complete and bring them in. If everything is in order, you pay your fee and get your approval right away, with the exception of food businesses, which take up to a month. Except I guess it depends on whom you talk to.

When Angela Larson wanted to open her store Swish (9560-111 Avenue) last fall the first thing she did was call the city. "I was told I needed a business license, that it would cost approximately \$154 and that it would take a day."

Larson thought this was great. She then spent the next 3 months renovating the space she had let and returned to the city a week before her planned opening only to be told something different. Now she needed a development permit, which would take 1 month to be approved; once it was she could get her license.

"Then 4 days later I was called by the city and told I

couldn't open at all because of the Second Hand Overlay. I'd never even heard of this before," said Larson.

After long discussions with the Planning and Development Department Larson was told to send in a letter outlining the products Swish would be selling. This she did, explaining that her stock was a mixture of vintage, antique and new textiles, furniture, embroidery, clothing, and jewellery. She also wrote she had community support for her business; as a long-time resident of Alberta Avenue, many people in her neighbourhood knew and approved of Swish. One month later her permit and business license were approved.

"If I had known about the Second-hand Overlay earlier I would definitely have complied with its rules. I'm a resident here so I knew I had [unofficial] support. I wanted my business to be in this area because I believe in it; I'm committed to my community."

After all the hoops Swish finally opened and Larson went on to face her next big challenge - insurance.

"I went to nine insurance companies before I found one that didn't either say no outright or quote extremely high rates because of where I'm located. That's a real problem for a newly opened business."

Contact Us

479-6285,
ratcreek@telus.net

Contest

See page 2

Rat Creek Press

RAT CREEK PRESS

PO Box 39024
8901-118 Avenue
Edmonton, AB
T5B 4T8
479-6285
ratcreek@telus.net

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Managing Editor
Karen Mykietka
Editor

Dawn Freeman
Designer
Theresa McBryan
Ad Rep
Joy Dyck
Distribution
Elaine Mantua

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We will not publish articles or ads that will be damaging to the community. We reserve the right to choose our advertisers.

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\$7.75 per column inch
Business Card \$40
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Contact us for an Ad Rates & Specifications sheet.

SUMMER FAVOURITES

We're going to do a Top 10 summer activities. What are your favourite things to do in our area, around Edmonton, and within a 2 hour drive of the city.

Send us some photos and a few sentences about the activity.

Deadline: June 15

Editorial: History Is What You Make It

I have often wondered about what makes our history. Is it family? Is it a house or a community? Is it a race, a religion or a culture? Can we truly learn from it? Can we ever escape it?

For a long time I felt I had no history, that I wasn't tied to any place, people or culture. As a child of immigrants I wished my family had belonged to just one land for a long time. As a child of a small and only immediate family group, I wished that I had more relatives: aunts and uncles, cousins and grandparents that knew me as only family could.

I spent years searching for where I belonged, first traveling through my own country, then

through parts of the world. It seems ironic that I eventually wound up emigrating myself, moving away from my family and the country where I was born, to live in one of the most

I have come to realize history is something carried inside a person; that defines them.

historical parts of Edmonton. Living, in fact, right on what used to be called First Street. My house is nearly 90 years old; the huge pine trees brushing my

fence even older. I am comfortable here, surrounded by the echoes of the past as I plant my own roots; make my own history.

Over the years I have lived here, I have come to realize history is something carried inside a person; that defines them - for good or bad. It can come from family and it can come from land. It can be hundreds of years old or just one day. It can come from a look, a smell, a touch or a sight. We can choose to learn from it and avoid pitfalls, or ignore it and make the same mistakes again. We can choose to embrace it and live within its comforting walls. We can acknowledge it as harmful and

turn away to start afresh. We can choose to know and love it and still make our own story.

History is what you make it, and you are making it even now; your own contribution to the greater picture, the history of a person, of a community, of a city, of a country and of a world.

I feel my history now; the country I left behind, my family, my lineage. It is there for me to take courage from and to learn from; it belongs to me. From it, I look to the future, for now I am not just making history for me, but for my children as well, and only time will tell what they will do with it.

By Dawn Freeman

Lucky Timing and Community Backing Help Business

Continued from page 1

Angela Larson is not the only one who has found the city difficult to deal with. Dr. Daria Shewchuk-Dann is a Chartered Psychologist who bought the building located at 9311-111 Avenue so she could open a part-time counselling practice convenient to her regular job at the Royal Alec hospital.

When Dr. Shewchuk-Dann applied to the city for her development permit and business license she was told that they would not be approved. On-site parking was cited as being one of the problems. She was then told that what she could do was open a second-hand store because the previous business had been one a new development permit would not be need-

ed. Dr. Shewchuk-Dann explained, as a Chartered Psychologist, she had more qualifications to counsel than run a retail store, and there was plenty of street parking available as her clients usually come one at a time. She was informed that her only option was to file an appeal.

As luck would have it, not long after this happened the Community Action Project held a news conference near her building about the wasteland that 111th Avenue had become and the need for revitalization. The plight of Dr. Shewchuk-Dann was covered thoroughly by television, radio and print media, and not surprisingly, the city called and offered to meet with her.

"The meeting was with

much senior officials than what I had earlier been dealing with. They wanted a number of minor improvements done (on the building), such as the inside lighting, and a letter of support from the community, and then they would facilitate my permit and license".

Dr. Shewchuk-Dann obtained a letter of support from C.A.P, who also helped her consult and get consent from the community. With this and the asked for building improvements done, her license was approved.

"Without the publicity, I don't think I would have got my license. Since I opened my practice I've had no problems at all. I love this area, but I wish it would develop more, it has so much potential," say Shewchuk-

Dann.

Is the city making it hard for businesses to start up here? Perhaps the people answering the phones need to ask more questions and to know more about the zoning bylaws for our area. Perhaps the community by way of the Leagues and other organizations such as C.A.P. should be informed when all business permits are applied for so that the entrepreneur can be contacted directly to see if community support is needed and necessary. And perhaps people wanting to start their own business need to dig a little deeper into what is involved rather than trusting that one employee of the city they are talking to knows it all.

By Dawn Freeman

Need Help Starting a Business?

The Alberta Avenue Business Association (AABA) is here to help all types of businesses get set up in the Alberta Avenue area, and they are willing to help out in the surrounding communities as well. Their role is to introduce potential businesses to the property owners and managers, matching up the right business to the right building and area. They will help out a new business with

promotion and media as well as being a support in those first trying months around the opening of the enterprise. They are also an excellent resource link to other services offered to small businesses in our city.

AABA TIP

Take 6 months to a year to really plan your business. You don't want your business to fail just because you didn't do your homework.

When Do You Require a Development Permit?

If you are planning to construct a new building, alter an existing building or change the use or intensity of use of a property, you will need a development permit. You also require a development permit before you can apply for a business license. A development permit is written approval from the City of

Edmonton that ensures what you are planning to do complies with the regulations of the Land Use Bylaw. The development permit process addresses how land is used and helps preserve and enhance the quality of life in our community. For more information go to www.edmonton.ca.

Win a Free Pizza & Movie Night

Enter our June draw for a large pizza from **Chicago Joe's** and two free movie rentals from **Video Station**. Fill out a ballot at the **Sprucewood Library (95th St & 116 Ave)** or **Video Station (80 St & 118th Ave.)**
Contest closes June 18th.

Congratulations to Tina Cardinal winner of our May contest - a free haircut from Timothie Hill Hairdressing.

The Norwood Neighbourhood Association and the Rat Creek Press are pleased to present a

JOURNALISM WORKSHOP SERIES

All workshops are free; however, we expect you to submit one item to the paper for each workshop you attend.

To register contact Rat Creek at 479-6285 or ratcreek@telus.net

Thanks to all those who participated in the May workshops. We look forward to your submissions! We have 2 workshops left.

How to write a good article

Saturday, June 11, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

At the Sprucewood Library

Refreshments served.

Instructor: Cheryl Mahaffy, freelance writer

Research: Finding the information you need

Monday, June 20, 6 pm - 8 pm

At the Sprucewood Library

Instructor: Maria

News and Views

No "Fast Track" For Northlands

The Northlands Park Facilities Planning and Development committee may be enthusiastic about their vision, but they are not attempting to "fast-track" Northlands redevelopment. Instead, they have committed the last month to meeting with community groups throughout the area to gather as much public input as possible.

According to Andy Huntley, volunteer chair of the Planning and Development committee, the current facility either needs to be upgraded or it will lose its appeal and impact. The last upgrade to Northlands was done over 20 years ago. Services available on-site no longer meet the expectations or requirements for trade shows or entertainment venues.

All redevelopment will remain within the current boundaries of Northlands Park. The total cost of the expansion and upgrades could go as high as \$140 million and take up to 10 years. Plans for upgrade and development include additional trade show space, increased parking, more entertainment venues and an expanded racetrack, as well as improved public transit access and connection with the LRT. A weather-protected pedway is planned from the LRT to service Rexall Place, the AgriCom and future Exposition Centre. The first stage of this plan would be the extension of the parking lot from 116 Ave and Wayne

Gretzky Drive to 112 Ave.

Most of the feedback at the public meetings has been positive. The Alberta Ave. Business Association is interested in the spillover effect of the development and the future expansion of Northlands. Residents have expressed interest in expanding bicycle and walking trails from 112 Ave to 118 Ave. There is also interest in the developing of some unifying architectural theme that makes the park attractive and identifiable.

Northlands is a prominent member of the business community, not only of this neighbourhood, but also in the Capital Region. Northlands Park, including Rexall Place, hosts 2,500 events each year. These include hockey games, concerts, trade fairs, and a variety of catered events. An estimated 3.5 million visitors engage in Northlands Park events. Close to \$350 million was spent on-site last year with spin-off dollars of close to \$900 million. Northlands provide 240 full-time jobs and another 850 part-time positions.

For more information regarding the Northlands Park Facilities Master Plan or for general inquiries, please contact: Cheryl Schneider, Manager, Community Relations, Phone: 471-7336, cschneider@northlands.com or redovelopment@northlands.com.

By Gordon R Vickruk



Local Organization Receives Grant from the National Crime Prevention Strategy



Left to right: David Stockburger - CAP Chair; Pieter de Vos - Organizer, Justin Harder - Organizer

The Community Action Project (CAP) is 1 of 67 community-based crime preventive initiatives across Alberta to receive funding from the National Crime Preventive Strategy.

The announcement of \$2.6 million for Alberta initiatives was made on April 25th at the McCauley Boy's and Girl's Club by the Honourable Anne McLellan. In her address to the crowd, McLellan shared how this strat-

egy is unique in that it is not government telling organizations or communities how to do things but communities coming up with unique ideas to solve local problems.

CAP received \$45,000 for the North Central Organizing Project. The funding is specifically to build safer, healthier communities through strengthening community networks. Pieter de Vos, lead organizer for CAP, stated, "We don't have a lot of social cohesion as residents and organizations. We plan to work with individuals and organizations to strengthen relationships. The end result will be more social capital."

Solid Rock Evangel Church

Meeting at Chapel Colosseum B&B

11827 - 85 Street

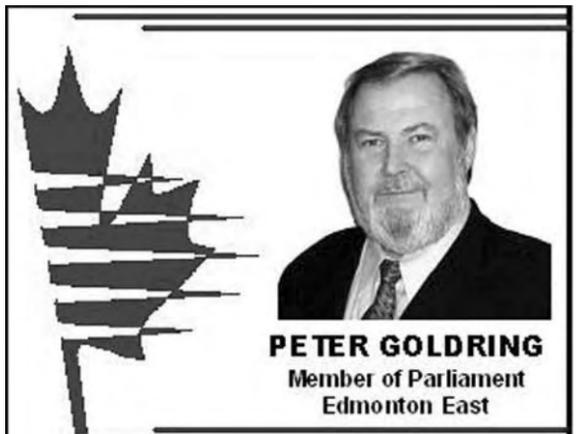
Worship: Sundays 11am;

Wednesday 7pm

Pastor: Stanley Burdett

Ph: 463-5950

All Welcome



Why A Federal Election is Needed Now

We Cannot Afford to Wait

The Canadian public is fatigued and does not want another election. My family is also fatigued, since any election takes much out of family members. Still, there is an overriding responsibility and a higher calling for us who serve the public, to oppose corruption and hold accountable those who bring disgrace to the privilege of elected office. Canadians should have their say on the future governing of their country.

Let Canadians make no mistake: \$250 million of taxpayer dollars is now gone, benefiting select Liberals at the expense of the hardworking Canadian taxpayers. The Liberals have spent \$4.6 billion more in taxpayer dollars, to extend their regime through buying the votes and conscience of the NDP. The Liberals, since making the disgraceful compact with the NDP, have further spent an average of \$1.25 billion per day demonstrating contempt for the electorate, using taxpayers own money, under guise of social concerns. If the Liberals continue to spend at this rate, the sum could reach approximately \$300 billion by the Gomery report release 10 months from now which is not mandated to convict anyone. We cannot afford to wait. Undenied allegations from multiple sources should be damaging enough but confessions from Senior Liberal Party people themselves are unprecedented and paralyzing the Liberals in their governing. The Liberal lawyers are relentless in their attempts to impact the Gomery outcomes.

There is no greater duty to which all Canadians are called than to stop this squandering of our children's futures. The performance of the Liberals must therefore be put before the court of the public electorate, sooner, rather than later. It is a matter of moral imperative and fiscal urgency.

495-3261 www.petergoldring.ca



Working for Your Communities

City of Edmonton

2nd Floor, City Hall

Sir Winston Churchill Square

Edmonton, AB T5J 2R7

www.edmonton.ca



Councillor Ed Gibbons

496-8138

ed.gibbons@edmonton.ca

Neighbourhood Voice

Norwood: Turning Over a New Leaf

As long term residents of Norwood, we thought we had seen it all: prostitutes and drug dealers openly plying their trade, an armed standoff, intoxicated people passing out in the street and people tearing our garbage bags open to take whatever they thought was valuable. However, the past 12 months have shown me something I haven't seen in the past 13 years - a quiet residential neighbourhood.



Dwayne Wladyka

At night, when we hear a car door close it is no longer a prostitute getting in or out of a car as often as it is a neighbour returning from errands. When we see a young girl walking down our streets, more often than not it is a resident going for a stroll. No longer are our roads clogged with "johns" looking for a hooker or a drug user looking to score. Instead, our sidewalks are busy with families walking to and from the store or just to see what is going on in the "Wood". What sort of miracle has occurred here? Well, it wasn't divine intervention.

It's the result of a lot of hard work by residents of our neighbourhood along with City of Edmonton agencies, including but not limited to, Housing Services, Capital Health, Edmonton City Police Department and City of Edmonton

Fire Department. We are all getting tougher with the slum landlords who plague our quaint, family atmosphere. We are reporting people who engage in activities we find unacceptable on our streets. We don't tolerate the deteriorating houses left abandoned by uncaring owners. To each and everyone who has contributed to this new feeling of community, BRAVO. You've done an excellent job. Our neighbourhood is quieter, safer and

more pleasant to live in. Of course you know there is a "but" coming.

But we cannot stop now. We cannot say, "Well it's about time the City did something, that's why I pay taxes." We have to stay on top of the situation, keep up the pressure on the unsavoury people who commit unsavoury acts in our community. We have to be involved in the changes that occur. We have to be active participants in the change. We've worked too long and too hard to let it slide back to the way it was. Nothing worthwhile comes easy and we know that the improvements so far have not been easy. But is it worthwhile? Ask the children playing in the yards and on the sidewalks of your street. Ask the teenage girls who walk to catch a bus to go to school. Think about the good neighbours who moved away because they didn't feel safe here.

We are attracting new families to our community. They are coming here for a number of reasons but they are staying for only one. This neighbourhood is home. How do we protect our home?

We stay involved and join our neighbours in shaping the future of our community and of ourselves. It really can be "all that" here in Norwood. It doesn't take a huge amount of time or effort, just a

commitment to yourself to improve your quality of life and the life of your community.

What will YOU do to protect your home?

By Shelly Severson



Canada Day Celebration and Yard Sale

at Norwood Square 9516 - 114 Avenue

Sponsored by the Norwood Neighbourhood Association

July 1st 11am - 4 pm




Horse and wagon rides

Norwood band

Hotdogs and hamburgers

**For the kids: inflatables, castle,
spiderman train & face painting**



Got stuff to get rid of? Rent a table in the yard sale for \$10. Call Margaret 440-1534

In Memory of Ron Moore



It was a loss to the Avenue three years ago when George's Cycle closed its doors. It's a greater loss now to learn that Ron Moore died May 9 due to complications from cystic fibrosis. He leaves many to mourn his death and celebrate his life, especially his wife, Linda and children, Alanna and Aaron.

George's Cycle was founded and operated by George Glasman in 1960 until he passed away in 1975. In 1979 Grayon Bain took over the business, and then passed it on to Ron Moore in 1985. He expanded the business to "Georges on Whyte" in 1995.

Our family bought all our

bikes from George's Cycle. We appreciated the friendly and knowledgeable staff and their youthful energy. Once I took my old 5 speed up to get it fixed and the young man who helped me said, "That's ancient!" I realized he was younger than my bike!

We have been victims of several garage robberies where thieves stole our bikes. However, thanks to the business standards of Ron Moore, we were able to get our bikes back. Ron printed the serial number of each bike on the receipt, which we always kept. The first time we were robbed, we reported the serial number to the Norwood Station. There, a keen volunteer checked all the pawnshop entries against the serial numbers and we got the two bikes back within 3 days.

We were robbed again the next year, even though we had chained the bikes together. The thief took our garage shears, snipped the chain and stole our son's new bike. Again, we

reported it, but it was not to be found in the pawnshops. Over a year later, we got a call from a police officer on 107 Avenue. He was able to trace us through our police report and the bike serial number. The bike had been roughly used and abandoned outside a store. I took it in for repair and thanked Ron profusely for putting the serial number on the receipt.

Ron was an active member of the Alberta Avenue Business Association, including a term as Chair of the Board. I invited him to speak at the Prostitution Offender Program, or "john school". The first time he came he said something like this to the men. "I had a speech pre-

pared, but, now that I'm here and I'm looking you in the eyes, I'm going to talk to you man-to-man. I'm going to tell you straight that you've got to look at your lives and ask yourselves some questions." He then went on to describe how his young female employees were frequently harassed and how he walked them to their cars or the bus stop at night to protect them.

I went to George's a few days before it closed to thank Ron for all his work. He said he was thankful he had been able to live so long despite the cystic fibrosis and to enjoy life so fully. Thanks, Ron, your life was a gift to many.

By Kate Quinn

Prostitution makes victims of us all.

It takes it's toll - on families, communities, children & their playgrounds. It brings with it drugs, violent crime, disease & death that we all pay for one way or another. Everyone suffers when prostitution thrives. For more information call "The Health Line": 427-4635 ext. 5000



Prostitution Awareness & Action Foundation of Edmonton
Phone: (780) 471-6137 Fax: (780) 471-6237
paafe@telusplanet.net

People change like a garden, time to get ready to bloom

Starting in June, Jr. stylist Antony will be accepting new clients on Saturdays. New clients will enjoy professional creative service at a Jr. Stylist price. Be one of the first 5 to book with Antony and receive a small complimentary shampoo and conditioner.



This years beauty convention was the first week of May at Northlands. It was very inspirational and educational. We look forward to the opportunity to try some new trends.



Timothie Hill Hair Dressing

11507-87 Street

Open Tuesday to Saturday by appointment.

For great haircuts, colours, perm sets or upstyles call 448-7473.

Bring in this advertisement before June 30, 2005 to save 15% off a cut and colour with Timothie.

Don't Pay Another Cent in Rent to Your Landlord Before You Read This FREE Special Report!

EDMONTON - If you're like most renters, you feel trapped within the walls of a house or apartment that doesn't feel like yours. How could it when you're not even permitted to bang in a nail or two without a hassle. You feel like you're stuck in the renter's rut with no way of rising up out of it and owning your own home.

Well don't feel trapped any more! A new FREE Special Report entitled "How to Stop

Paying Rent and Own Your Own Home" has already helped dozens of local renters get out from under their landlord's finger, and move into a wonderful home they can truly call their own. You can make this move too by discovering the important steps detailed in this FREE Special Report.

It doesn't matter how long you've been renting, or how insurmountable your financial situation may seem. With the

help of this report it will become suddenly clear to you how you really can save for the down payment and stop wasting thousands of dollars on rent.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call 1-866-815-9646 and enter ID#4301. Call anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and stop wasting thousands of dollars on rent NOW.

This report courtesy of Donna Strauss, Sutton Challenge. Not intended to solicit properties already listed for sale.

Pet Corner



Peanut and Daisy-May are 2 1/2 year old guinea pigs recently adopted from the SPCA. Peanut loves to eat celery and cucumbers and Daisy loves apples. They love to be petted and chase each other around their cage all day long. They live in Spruce Avenue with their new family.

The SPCA doesn't just have cats and dogs, they have a wide assortment of Guinea Pigs Rabbits and other small animals, and they sell cages for a very good price.

Dogs and Schoolyards Don't Mix...Love Fluffy

Now that the weather is warm and the fields are dry, people in the community are spending time outdoors with their pets, specifically dogs. Although tempting because of their large space and short grass, schoolyards are not the place for dogs. It is quite common to see dog owners happily frolicking with their dogs on school grounds on a warm day, obviously unaware of or in defiance of the city bylaw regarding off leash animals and schoolyards. For most it's understandable, since the city and the school boards rarely post signs stating that dogs are not allowed on school grounds-ever. The City of Edmonton bylaw reads:

"... no owner shall allow for any reason his or her dog on any school ground, playground, or posted parkland except when the owner is attending a training or obedience school for training his or her dog."

I love dogs and own two, but I also appreciate that there are places for dogs to play and that not everyone loves my dogs as much as I do. Many dog owners will say "I clean up after my dog" and "My dog loves children and would never bite anyone". That's great, but the

parents and children at the playground don't know that, and a dog present can cause anxiety to playground occupants. The bylaws are in place to ensure the safety of children in the playgrounds and the cleanliness of the fields. I can't tell you how many times I have seen dog droppings at Spruce Avenue schoolyard as well as at soccer and baseball fields.

A better way to exercise your dog is to make the trek to one of Edmonton's many off-leash parks.

Edmonton has over 40 sites where your dog can run and play without having you on the other end of the leash. You too, can get physical and emotional benefits from exercise and by socializing with other dog people.

Some off-leash areas are in river valley parks, some are on undeveloped land, still others in neighbourhood parks. All sites have boundaries. Area maps with boundaries are posted at each site.

Pamphlets for off-leash dog areas are available from the City Pound by calling 496-8860. These pamphlets can also be found at Parks and Recreation by calling 496-4999. The Dog Park Locations can also be found on the City of Edmonton's Website at www.edmonton.ca

Have a great summer with your dog or favorite pet!

By Tricia Stefanuik

The Canadian Native Friendship Centre

The Canadian Native Friendship Centre has a For Sale sign up outside their building at 11205 101 Street, but nothing has been finalized yet.

"It's not big enough right now to hold our Pow Wows and Round dances", says new Executive Director Basil Quewezance, "and the utility costs are very high, partly due to poor insulation in the roof".

The Board of Trustees for the Centre wants its members to decide what to do about the building. It's listed to sell right now but other options could be to renovate to make it energy efficient and suitable for the group's needs, or to tear it down and rebuild. Two community meetings have been held so far, with another one planned for the near future.

"We want the Friendship Centre to be the first, and hopefully, last place a person comes to for support. We're here

primarily to help aboriginals in the city, but our doors are open to everyone. To do this we need a building that works", says Quewezance. He has many plans to boost the Centre's membership base as well as the services and programs it offers.

The Canadian Native Friendship Centre was founded in 1962 by the Edmonton Junior League to assist aboriginals who were new to the city. Today it is a place of refuge as well as a resource of support programs and services for aboriginals and non-aboriginals alike. The Centre offers a free lunch program on Fridays as well as other organized activities. Anyone in the city can join; call the Friendship Centre at 479-1999 for details.

By Dawn Freeman

Brian Mason, MLA Edmonton Highlands

The Legislature's Spring Session will soon come to a close.

If you would like to visit the Legislature please call my office.

Also call to receive monthly updates through my constituency newsletter.



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Business Association
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Thank you to everyone who came out and participated in the design charette with Dan Burden. Great energy and ideas came out of the weekend. Although many of the desired changes on the Avenue will take years to accomplish, let's do everything we can now to start the revitalization process.

Crime and Grime:

Our Association and businesses are addressing the issue of crime and grime along Alberta Avenue. Since the Spring Street Sweep, we are working with our businesses, property owners and City Departments to continuously work at cleaning and improving Alberta Avenue.

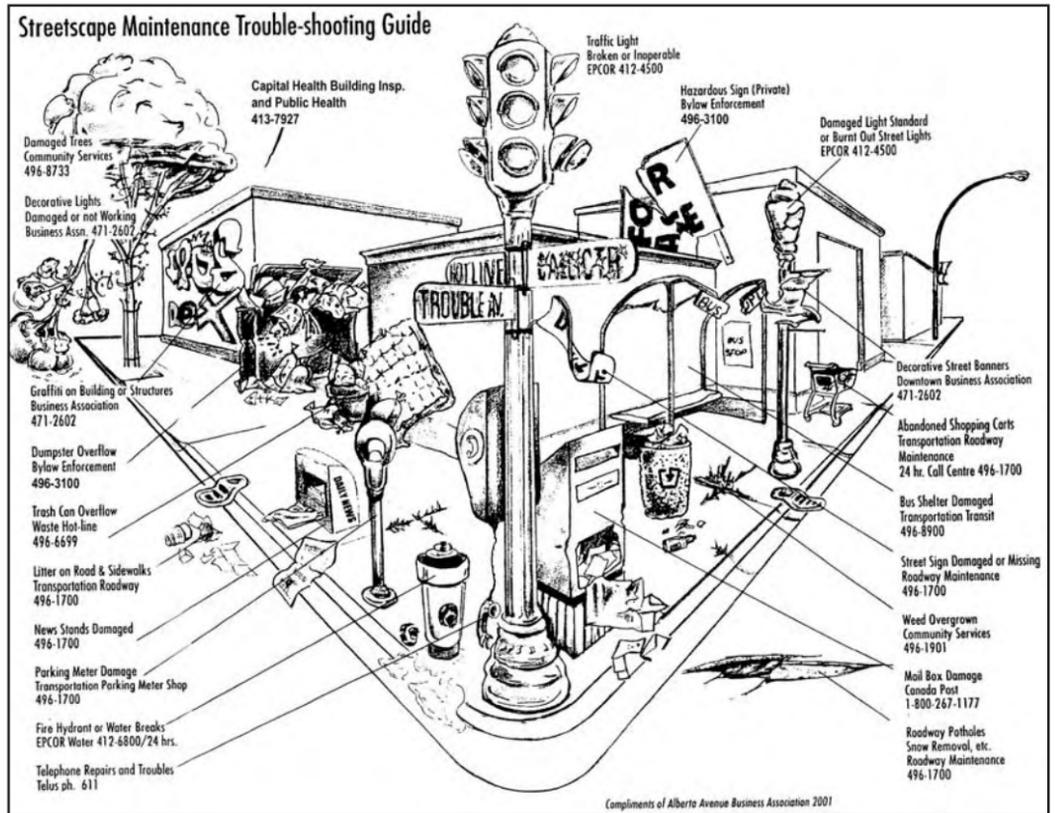
We recognize that there are some buildings and properties needing special attention. We are working with Edmonton Police Services, Bylaw & Enforcement, and Capital Health to address these build-

ings and properties.

We need everyone to help in this effort. The Streetscape Maintenance Trouble-shooting Guide identifies who you can call to have specific issues addressed. The various departments want to work with residents and businesses in addressing our issues and concerns, so don't be shy about calling.

Shine & Dine on Alberta Avenue:

We're about one month away from our first big community event on July 8th and 9th. Come on down to the parking lot at 106 Street and 118 Avenue to see Grand Prix cars and drivers, as well as over 200 of the best street cars in Edmonton, participating in the Show & Shine. Be sure to bring some change along for the street performers and to taste the food from a number of Avenue



restaurants.

The event will take place from noon to 8:00 pm on the Friday and Saturday. We need over forty volunteers each day during this event to help set-up, organize and tear down the grounds. Call me if you can volunteer any time during this event or if you can help with

some of the organizing.

We're also requesting that local business provide donations or gift certificates that we can use as prizes for the Show & Shine and for our volunteers. Feel free to call me if you can volunteer, donate prizes or if you have any questions about the event.

K-days Breakfast:

I'd like to acknowledge and thank Trent Androschuk, Manager of the Coliseum Safeway for his efforts in getting a Safeway K-day's Breakfast at his store. It will be held on one of the Saturdays during K-days. Watch for a posting at the Safeway store for the actual date and time of this event.

Business Spotlight The Kis Club



The Kis Club is a name most area residents are not familiar with or have little knowledge of. If they do know about it, they may be leery about even sticking their heads in the door. So what is it? It actually consists of 2 separate entities: the restaurant 'Keep it Simple' and the members' only club 'The Kis Addictions Recovery Foundation'.

The 'Keep it Simple' restaurant, open to all including kids, provides a full fare, starting with your basic Brekkie for \$2.99, lunch for \$5 and under, and competitive dinner prices. The fare is simple but good and the desserts delicious; they serve soft ice cream, sundaes and banana splits as well as homemade ones. It's very comfortable and cozy with oversized booths that easily fit 6 adults, and an ambiance that says 'make yourself at home'. In fact regulars may purchase a coffee mug with a spot on the wall on which to hang it. The proprietor, Tom



Charbonneau, regularly adds interesting new items to the décor and also has a beautiful and powerful mural being painted on the wall of one of the meeting rooms. During the summer months you can enjoy sitting on the patio and buy BBQ'd hamburgers, hotdogs and steaks. There are also three Internet terminals available for a reasonable \$3/hr.

The 'Kis Addictions Recovery Foundation' (KARF) is a separate space as well as entity; their motto is "Providing a safe and secure social environment

for the recovering community". They are a registered non-profit organization that counts on funding for its day-to-day operations. KARF supports itself with fundraisers such as the Golf Tournament on June 26 and bingos, etc.

KARF offers a wide variety of services to those seeking recovery. Firstly they rent out space including a boardroom in which various 12-step meetings are held such as Alcoholics Anonymous, Alanon (for family and friends of Alcoholics), Cocaine Anonymous, and the province's only Crystal Meth Anonymous. This space may be

rented by any organization for \$10 a shot, as available. The dance room may also be rented for private functions.

Secondly, for \$5/month members may play pool, darts, cards, arcade games, karaoke Sunday thru Thursday, attend sober dances Fridays and Saturdays or just hang out with the fellowship, which is fundamental to anyone's recovery in terms of identification and support. A member must be at least 18 years old and recovery minded, at least as far as having 'safe' fun.

The third major service KARF provides is as a liaison between the multitudes of addiction related organizations. They currently have a 12-seat passenger van, which transports residents of Recovery Houses and treatment centers to and from meetings, and are currently looking to expand this out to the Enoch Reserve. The fellowship and sober recreation helps those who are new to recovery to see first hand that life can still be fun. They also work with those new to the health professions, arranging meetings with people who've experienced addictions and the associated lifestyles, to further promote understanding and to give the kind of education not likely found in a classroom.

The staff reserves the right

to refuse service to anyone on the premises. They have a zero tolerance policy for anyone whose state is in question (although they're invited back for a coffee the next day) nor do they tolerate untoward behavior. And it works! With a monthly membership of 500, you know these guys mean business when it comes to recovery. The Kis Club has earned the respect and support of the Edmonton City Police, Premier Ralph Klein, city councilors: Janet Melnychuk and Ed Gibbons, and those involved in both the field of addictions and those in recovery themselves.

They've also earned my respect. The Kis Club gets a really big Gold Star for their contribution to this community.

By Carolyn Givens



The KIS Club Keep It Simple



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Business Briefs

Renato's Italian Kitchen

9515 - 118 Avenue
477-7179

The extensive renovations are finally completed and this renowned Italian restaurant is open for business, for both lunch and dinner. If you want atmosphere and great food, this is the place to go. They serve a variety of chicken, veal and pasta dishes as well as pizza. This family business is owned and operated by the Dodaro family. Their goal is to become the best Italian restaurant in Edmonton and restaurant critics have indicated they are not far off the mark. Call for reservations today.

Cafe Cubita Bar and Grill

11732 - 95 Street
477-8412

Vidal Travassos has been in the restaurant business most of his 47 years in Canada, and at 74 years old, is not prepared to retire just yet. His latest venture is a family-friendly, smoke-free, very clean and comfortable restaurant with a menu that, as Vidal explains, has something to please everybody. It is open from 10 am to 10 pm Tuesday through Sunday and breakfast, lunch and dinner are served, including lots of coffee in between. A substantial breakfast can be had for \$3.99; for lunch sandwiches are served on baguettes and the soup is homemade. The chef is from El Salvador and the cuisine is a mixture of Brazilian and Cuban, with influences from Portugal and South America; there are also some basic North American items on the menu for the less adventurous. Chicken, Alberta beef and numerous seafood

entrées are accompanied by fresh salad, sourdough bread and the standard Cuban/Brazilian black beans and rice topped with flax meal. Check it out - it is definitely worth a visit.

A Self-Catered Guest House

953-9572

Gabrielle Ast has had a long-time dream of owning and operating a guesthouse and, if plans stay on schedule, by the beginning of July her dream will have become reality. Gabrielle and her partner, Ian Sim, have gutted a late 1940's bungalow in our neighborhood and are turning it into a guesthouse that has the feeling and comfort of home. It will have all the amenities needed, including Internet access, TV, laundry facilities, a deck and large fenced-in backyard. Guests can prepare their own meals in the completely new kitchen, eat out or take advantage of a catering company. Call Gabrielle for availability and prices.

Dairy Queen Closes

Go by 90 Street and you'll see an empty building where the Dairy Queen used to be. The signs were removed just a couple days after it closed at the end of April. The business was facing a rent increase and the owner was nearing retirement so he decided to close up shop and sell the franchise back to Dairy Queen. Have a craving for a DQ burger or blizzard? Want to buy an ice cream cake? Well now, you'll have to travel to the Beverly DQ on 34 Street or the McCauley one at 101 St and 108 Ave. But if you are just looking for a spot to grab an ice cream on a hot

day, go to one of our other local ice cream serving businesses such as the Handy Bakery or the KIS Club.

Dollar Store Closes

The Closing Out Sale sign has been standing since before Christmas and now The Dollar Store on the corner of 97 St and

118 Ave has finally shut its doors. Numerous other dollars stores and bargain stores can be found in the area. Check the specialty sales and second hand stores in the business directory at www.alberta-avenue.com

Contact us if you have any information or suggestions for our business briefs report, 479-6284 or rat-creek@telus.net. We'd like to print a list of all businesses that serve any form of ice cream in the July/August issue, so please contact us with any that you know of.

By Joy Dyck



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118th Avenue Visioning: Seeing the Lost Heritage



After

With the recent visioning exercise on how 118th Avenue should develop, some people noted they would like to see the area more like Whyte Avenue, full of activity, bustling, independent shops and lots of old buildings. Whyte Avenue was not always this way and its savior was the Old Strathcona Historical Foundation that actively campaigned to fight a road widening project and save the buildings, many in consider-

able disrepair. Are there historic buildings on 118 Avenue? Sure there are, just not as many as on Whyte Avenue. What should be made note of is that there are a few older 'modern' buildings of significance that 118 Avenue can be proud of, such as the new MetroTown Market building (93 St) or the Poulin's Pest Control building (87 St). While many people may not see the potential

now, in a few years they will be old enough and rare enough, to warrant some concern. Twenty years ago the city centre lost many older buildings that were not viewed as significant or old. The downtown is poorer for this lack of foresight; 118 Avenue has the potential to identify and save its future heritage now.

Most of the potential gems are hidden behind the makeovers and improvements done over the years, and as a

get restored become landmarks and become desirable locations as they are attractive and have 'history'. In hindsight many owners of restored buildings agree it was worth the effort. An example of such a building exists on 97 Street and 103 Avenue, the Fix and Smith Law Office. When it was known the building was to be restored many passersby advised it best to knock it down, as rebuilding would be easier. Now that the building

the Edmonton Trading Post building (88 St) are also structures that have potential. While they may not all be older or the best examples, they will, if retained, help to ground the Avenue, give it a sense of place, add to the eclectic mix and retain a reference to the area's past history that helps define the character of the area. 118th may not have the density of Whyte Avenue yet but it has the basic building blocks from which to work with. We go to Whyte because it is full of character and variety; we could have the same right here. Let's use it, not lose it.

How can the City Heritage Program help? It provides grants. Funding is always an

issue, especially as restoration is usually more labour intensive. The heritage grants assist with restoring the missing or existing heritage portions of the building and could potentially cover 50% of the restoration costs. Any owner wishing to receive a grant must however go through a process. All buildings must be on the City's Historic Inventory to qualify. Check out the Historic Resources Management Program for more information.

Don't judge a building by its current appearance or be too quick to call in the bulldozers. Look a little deeper and you may find some hidden beauty and great potential.

By David Holdsworth



Before



82nd St possible makeover



82nd St now



105th St. Possible makeover

able disrepair.

Are there historic buildings on 118 Avenue? Sure there are, just not as many as on Whyte Avenue. What should be made note of is that there are a few older 'modern' buildings of significance that 118 Avenue can be proud of, such as the new MetroTown Market building (93 St) or the Poulin's Pest Control building (87 St). While many people may not see the potential

result they do not look attractive or significant. During a walk through of the Avenue I identified at least 20 buildings that have potential to be restored back to their former glory. The usual response is that they are not worth saving and it would be better to build new. Yes and no. Sometimes buildings are not worth saving as they are not significant or the cost is too prohibitive. However those that do

has been restored it draws much praise and comments on how glad people are it was saved and not lost like so many other attractive old buildings.

118 Avenue certainly has a few hidden gems. The apartment block next to 95A Street is a potential architectural beauty. The Delton Apartments (82 St), the Darcia Restaurant building (94 St), the former bank where Good Food To Go is (84 St), or



94th St. Possible makeover



94th St. now



105th St. now

Now it's History

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 The Evening Journal Sept 2, 1905

Ever been curious about your house's history? Wondered who used to live there and what they did? There is a way to find out and all it takes is some time and patience.

Right close to our community is a world-class source of information - the Archives Reference Room at the Prince of Wales Armories Heritage

Centre. Calmness covers you as you enter the room; it's quiet, peaceful, climate controlled and full of memories. Sign in and stow your coat and bag in the lockers provided, then take yourself round to meet one of the archivists.

"We are here to help people get in touch with the sources [of

information].

We can't do the researching for them but we get them started, show them where to look and help find an alternative route if they reach a dead-end," says Kim Christie-Milley, an archivist at the Armories. She is obviously passionate about information and loves to help people track

down history.

Give the archivist your address and they will plug it into their database to see if it had a permit issued when it was built. If so you can then check the microfilm of permits to see the original information given.

There are also fire insurance maps from certain years and blueprints from 1910-1957 that can be checked, as well as some aerial and general photographs.

Next is the really interesting part of history - the people. To find out who lived in your house check through these amazing reference books called Henderson's

Directories; they list the properties and who occupied them as well as some information about the occupant, and there is one for each year from 1907 - 1987 (except for 1918 - the year of the flu epidemic).

The names can then be searched for in the newspaper clipping files, newspapers on microfilm, city documents and private correspondence and voter's lists. As well there is a non-lending library that may hold items of interest.

"Bring your patience and lots of time", says Christie-Milley, "and be prepared to come back several times [to find everything]". Remember also to take plenty of paper and pencils and a magnifying glass for looking at old handwritten documents.

The Archive Room at the Armories is located at 10440-108 Avenue. Hours of operation are Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Wednesdays until 8:00 p.m. Please note that no food or drink is allowed in the Archive room.

By Dawn Freeman

This Old Edmonton House Public Seminar Series

Are you the owner of a historic home full of character, charm and outdated mechanical or electrical systems? If so, you'll be interested in this series of public seminars about owning, maintaining and restoring a historic home. An expert in the field leads each of the 10 seminars. The series runs once a year in the spring. Check the website www.edmonton.ca or contact David Holdsworth 496-5281 for the next series in 2006.

Historic Resources Management Program

The City of Edmonton's Planning and Development Department designed the Historic Resource Management Program to identify, facilitate and manage the conservation of Edmonton's historic resources for the benefit of present and future residents of the city.

The Register of Historic Resources in Edmonton is a list of buildings and structures within Edmonton that merit conservation and may be eligible for designation as Municipal

Historic Resources. The initial list was compiled in 1992 by an experienced team of architectural and historical consultants. Applications are accepted to add buildings to the Register. The focus is buildings pre 1947, but newer properties that are significant in some way will also be considered.

The existing zoning, and attendant development rights and regulations continue to apply to properties on the register unless the building has been

designated a Municipal Historic Resource. Designation provides properties with protection from demolition or inappropriate alterations and may make property owners eligible for financial assistance and/or other incentives. Assistance may include municipal property tax incentives, direct payments for specific rehabilitation costs, or other incentives deemed appropriate by City Council. To qualify for rehabilitation incentives the property must be on The

Register of Historic Resources in Edmonton. Two homes in our communities have recently been designated and restoration plans are underway.

To apply to be on the inventory your house's history needs to be fully researched and you need to justify why the building is significant and worth saving (so head to the City Archives!). The Heritage Planners are happy to give you advice; they will even come and view your house to see if it qualifies for the inventory.

Further information on the City's Historic Resources Management Program can be obtained by contacting the Heritage Planners

Robert Geldart (496 6123 at robert.geldart@edmonton.ca) or

David Holdsworth (496 5281 at david.holdsworth@edmonton.ca)

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Living in a little piece of history



Karen Mykietka

2005

The story of the three little pigs made a big impression on Kathleen as a child; she vowed she would live in a brick house when she grew up. In 2000, when she bought her first house, it was brick and it had already survived the test of time.

The house, a hundred year old Victorian style two and a

half-storey on 97 Street and 112 Avenue, is clad in buff brick with orange brick trim detailing. It dwarfs most of the other houses on the street; from the second story windows, you look out across a sea of house tops. An even better view could be had from the widow's walk, a small, railed observation plat-

form atop the house, but the access to the walk in the attic ceiling is currently covered over and the railing is no longer on the rooftop. Restoring the widow's walk is just one of the many things in store for this home.

Kathleen and her family bought the house from the Despin Family who owned the house since 1955. She recently succeeded in having the house designated as a Municipal Historic Resource and received a grant to help restore the exterior of the house. The rehabilitation work includes fixing the exterior brick work, rebuilding the original porch and upper balcony, fixing the widow's walk, removing the aluminium widows and replacing them with wood framed windows and fixing some of the beautiful detail work.

The work and detail that went into the house is amazing says Kathleen. "You get a home that you just can't get anymore. The quality is amazing." The house has coggings details below the eaves, decorative brickwork below the window sills and the eaves feature a decorative frieze consisting of rosettes linked by a festoon of circular disks. The grant will only cover a small portion of the restoration costs which could reach as much as

\$130,000 so Kathleen is also seeking a provincial grant.

When Kathleen was searching for a house to buy she was actually depressed about what she could (or couldn't) afford. When her realtor called her to look at the house on 97 Street, she was thrilled. She had often seen the house on her walks in the neighbourhood and wish she could see inside. "It was in really rough shape...you could see the beauty in it though," says Kathleen. She bought it for \$65,000 but took out an extra \$20,000 on her mortgage for the immediate renovations needed to make the house habitable.

And renovations have been a regular part of life since moving in. While Kathleen hires tradesmen when necessary, for instance to redo the plumbing and wiring, she enjoys doing as much work as she can herself. "If I could afford to, I'd do it for an occupation. I love working with my hands. I love old homes...A brand new home is just not the same, I mean there's history here."

Currently, Kathleen and her family are doing renovations on the three second floor bedrooms. The main floor has a spacious dining room and living room separated by pocket French doors, an older kitchen, and a bathroom with claw foot

tub. Tucked behind the staircase there is an office that unfortunately was remodelled in the 1950s and doesn't have the same original character elements of the rest of the house. The main floor is still without baseboards from previous renovations.

When asked about the best and worse of owning a historic home Kathleen replied the best was "living in a piece of history" and the worst was "the energy [heating] costs." She went on to say there should be energy rebates for people living in historic homes.

"I researched the history [of my house]. It was a lot of work, but I loved it," says Kathleen. "I have nothing but the highest regard for the Heritage Planners. They held my hand through the whole thing." She went on to say she is feeling quite overwhelmed with the whole restoration project but the Heritage Planners continue to be a great support.

Overall, Kathleen loves her old historic home and the diverse neighbourhood it sits in. "I know more neighbours where I live now than anywhere else I have lived since I was a child living in a small community...It's a blessing to embrace diversity."

By Karen Mykietka

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City of Edmonton Archives

The McNeill Residence

This historic house is referred to as the McNeill Residence because the McNeill family, who lived in the house from 1910-14, is the most prominent family to have occupied the home.

In 1910 at the age of 39, John "Jock" McNeill of Scotland moved his wife and 6 children to Alberta. He purchased the Twin

City Transfer Company and transformed it into an extremely successful enterprise that incorporated baggage transfer, moving and storage, as well as Edmonton's first taxi and private ambulance services. The Twin City Taxi slogan was "The thinking fellow calls a yellow" and was the precursor to the Yellow Cab Taxi Company we have today.

He also built Edmonton's

Municipal Airport's first Hangar. "McNeill's Hangar" and the airstrip were both named after him; later the airstrip became Blatchford Field. John McNeill died in 1947. He was recognized as an Edmontonian of the Century for his contributions to our community.

A Widow's Walk is a platform or walk atop a roof, as on certain coastal New England houses of the 18th and early 19th centuries. It was often used as a lookout for incoming ships. Many wives of sea captains would watch for the return of their husbands unbeknownst to some of them that they were already widows. It's not sure why a widow's walk was included on this house but it must have given an impressive view of the entire countryside including Edmonton to the South (our current downtown), Packing Town to the North East, and new developments in Inglewood to the West.

Restoration Over Renovation



Ken Eisenbarth

The McTaggart House, built in 1922, has received recognition as an historic residence in Edmonton. Ken Eisenbarth, the current owner, has lived in the bungalow for five years and is enthusiastic about restoring it to its former grandeur.

Ken admits that it did take some work to achieve the historic designation, but for him it was well worth it. He was motivated by a combination of passion and practicality. Each time an old house is listed on the register of Historic Resources it is

protected from inappropriate remodeling or demolition. He hopes to inspire others to preserve the few historical properties we have left in the city. Once designated, the owners receive financial help towards restoring the foundation, roof, windows and original paint colour. In return, the city requires applicants to maintain the architectural integrity and the street appearance of the original home.

The owner's love affair with old houses began in a rental

home in the Oliver area and culminated with his purchase of the McTaggart residence at 11530-95A Street in Alberta Avenue. The character of the structure, along with a reverence for the 85 years of family life that transpired within its walls before his family took possession, contributes to Ken's pride of ownership.

The craftsman style bungalow is unassuming at first glance. The trained eye will quickly identify the enclosed verandah, clapboard and shingle

siding, clinkerbrick foundation, chimneys and fireplace as original features of the post WW1 construction. The interior is rich with special features. There are counterweighted double hung windows as well as five fixed windows with textured glass placed symmetrically on the north and south walls of the adjoined living and dining rooms. The former has a recessed piano wall and two built in book cases with sliding glass doors, while the dining area has wood paneling, plate rail and a built in sideboard. A reading and conversation nook is tucked away in an east-facing window. Originally all interior woodwork was lightly burned with a torch and then oiled, as opposed to being stained and shellacked and it is Ken's plans to restore it in the future.

Although Ken never lived in an old house during his childhood, he believes that growing up on a farm equipped him

with the confidence to learn the new skills required for the restoration projects as well as the value of restoring and recycling available materials. He thinks that it is a wiser investment to strip down and repair old windows than to spend the tens of thousands of dollars to replace them and he despairs to see beautiful old oak doors discarded and replaced with a new product. It is Ken's belief that a shortage of restoration carpenters, a lack of imagination and knowledge along with high-pressure sales people often lure the owners of old houses to renovate rather than to restore the original.

Thanks to people like Ken there is a greater chance that some of the remaining architectural treasures of the historic neighbourhoods will survive for generations to come.

By Patricia Dunnigan



City of Edmonton Archives

The McTaggart House was built in 1922 by John Lawson Haight. A teacher by profession, he joined the Royal Flying Corps as an aviator in 1916, was captured by the Germans and spent two years as a prisoner of war. Upon his return to Alberta in 1919 he resumed his teaching career at Parkdale School and married Kate Laycock, a piano instructor with the music conservatory in Regina, the following year.

Many houses of that era were mass-produced and ordered through the Simpson's or Eaton's catalogues. Similar to buying a car today, the purchaser could choose from a variety of standard models and add features according to taste and budget. John had a hand in the actual building of the house and

is responsible for doing the interior woodwork. The special features, including the recessed

piano wall, the bookcases and the sideboard reflect the couple's professions and lifestyle.

Haight sold the house to the McTaggart family in July 1925 and moved to St. Petersburg Florida with their three-year old son because of John's health concerns. The new family, John, Myril and their daughter Marjorie, retained ownership for 52 years. Ken credits this for maintaining the original character of the house.



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The Kitchen Store That Comes to Your Front Door

Michele Rouble - Consultant

**A7906 - 122 AVENUE
EDMONTON, AB
T5B 1A2**

780-477-9777

GREEN FROGS



Neighbourhood Pub
9349 - 118 Avenue
479-7902

Drink in a safe place

Free Snacks
Free Pool on Mondays
Free Karaoke for parties (15+ people)

Karaoke
Over 100,000 karaoke songs
Special shooters 2 for \$5.00
Available Wednesday and Saturday
8 pm to 1 am

Everyday Specials
12 oz mugs of beer **\$1.75**
Bottle of beer **\$2.75**
Hi Ball **\$2.95**

Hours
Monday to Saturday 4 pm to closing
Sunday Closed

Getting Community Support

The first and most obvious place to start is the Community League for the area that your business will be in. To find out which Community League to connect with contact the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues at 437-2913 or by e-mail at info@efcl.org. They should also be able to provide you with contact information for the League President. The seven community leagues in the Avenue area and their contact information are also listed in every edition of the Rat Creek Press.

Another community organization to contact for support is the Community Action Project (CAP) at 474-8318. The Organizers will advise you to send a letter of intent to CAP outlining what type of business you hope to open and what pre-

vious business experience you have. CAP encourages the interested party to also contact the residents directly surrounding the proposed site and get some feedback on the proposed business development. (If your business falls under the Major and Minor Secondhand Overlay or other zoning variances you are required to contact all residents within 60 meters in order to receive a development permit.) The letter of intent that CAP receives would be presented to CAP's membership. If the decision were made to support the development, a letter of support would be drafted and delivered. If the decision were made not to support the development, the interested party would be informed.

Please remember that anyone calling up a community organization looking for a letter

yesterday will be disappointed. Gaining support from community organizations does take time. Most of the people involved in the organizations are volunteers and meetings may only be held monthly. And it is not necessarily a bad thing for these community organizations to take the time to get all the information.

CAP tries to be deliberative and cautious wherever possible, recognizing that acting too quickly or without proper consultation not only with our members but the community at large is not positive, regardless of the merits of a proposed business. CAP does try to respect that the business doesn't want to wait forever, but they will err on the side of gaining more community input rather than rushing a letter through.

Recently CAP was vilified

in the Edmonton Journal for not being quicker to support a new business proposal for our area. But wouldn't we rather them, and other organizations, be thorough? In the words of one resident, "That I had questions [regarding the business proposal] made me grateful that someone from CAP put Tony [the applicant] through a rigorous interview, helping to ensure that the whole deal wasn't whisked through on the whim of a few people's hunches or hopes... I am grateful for organizations like CAP who have the neighbourhood's long-term best interests in mind and take the time to investigate these types of situations."

By Dawn Freeman



The Major and Minor Second-hand Stores Overlay



In 1997 a group of concerned residents came together to discuss the problems they felt pawn stores were causing in their neighbourhood.

"We were concerned with seeing people at all hours walking through our streets carrying goods to sell at the pawn stores. We were concerned about the amount of stealing that was occurring. And we wanted businesses in our community that were committed and stable, not ones that opened and closed willy nilly," said Amber Anderson, one of the members of the group. "We wanted businesses to have a process to go through to prove they were serious and legitimate."

The group went to the City Planning and Development Department and with their help and the assistance of then city

councillor Brian Mason, the Major and Minor Second-hand Stores Overlay was created.

"We came up with the proposal, then went to every business on 118 Avenue with a support sign up sheet. Every one signed it," Anderson reflected.

The Overlay's purpose is to have the people interested in opening a second-hand business consult with property owners prior to applying for a Development Permit.

The applicant is required to contact any residents within 60 meters of their proposed business as well as the presidents of any community leagues and the Business Revitalization Zone Association within the area. This is supposed to be done at least 21 days prior to the submission of the Development application.

The applicant needs to out-

line their business proposal to these people and document any opinions or concerns expressed by them, as well as any modifications made to address their concerns, and then submit this information with the Development application.

The exception to this is if the applicant is planning to open their business in a space that previously housed a second-hand store.

The question is: Is the overlay still needed?

"Perhaps there does need to be some change - it is more difficult for antique or vintage stores," Anderson replies. "The problem is how to change it. I think it is still important though; any city that wants good businesses and good neighbourhoods needs rules. And it is our commercial areas that define us as a community".

Peter Rausch, the Executive

Director of the Alberta Avenue Business Association, believes change is needed.

"I think the bylaw has to be readdressed and redefined and the questions asked: what is the intent of the bylaw? I think the city has to look at it so that businesses such as Swish that have vintage clothes and furniture have an easier time opening."

The overlay certainly did its job: there were 20 pawn stores on and around 118 Avenue when it first came in, now there are just seven.

"Pawn stores and cash stores do serve a need," adds Rausch, "and they are very aware of the products they get as well as the consequences faced if they receive stolen goods. They are a legitimate business; they pay property taxes and have business licenses. Things have changed."

By Dawn Freeman

Areas Covered by the Major and Minor Second-hand Overlay

118 Ave from 105 St to Northlands

82 St from 117 Ave to 118 Ave

111 Ave from 101 St to 90 St

95 St from 113 Ave to 114 Ave

Intersection of Fort Rd and 115 Ave



An event not to be missed! Shine and Dine on Alberta Avenue

July 8 & 9
12:00 pm to 8:00 pm
118th Avenue and 106 Street

Come see the Grand Prix Cars & their drivers
200 of the best street cars in Edmonton
Street Performers
Taste the fare from our local Restaurants!

Mark your calendar now!



Crash Course in Urban Design



Dan Burden

Curb extensions

"Design out of hope, not out of fear" is the wisdom shared by Dan Burden during his work with community members on the Avenue Initiative design weekend. Burden has spent the last thirty years developing, promoting, and evaluating alternative transportation and sustainable communities. He proposes healthy street design, accomplished through walkable neighbourhood size and mixed uses, interconnected and diverse street pattern, shorter block lengths, front porches, traffic dispersion, narrower intersections and lane widths, street furniture and lighting, and other measures. According to Burden "healthy streets create healthy neighbourhoods."

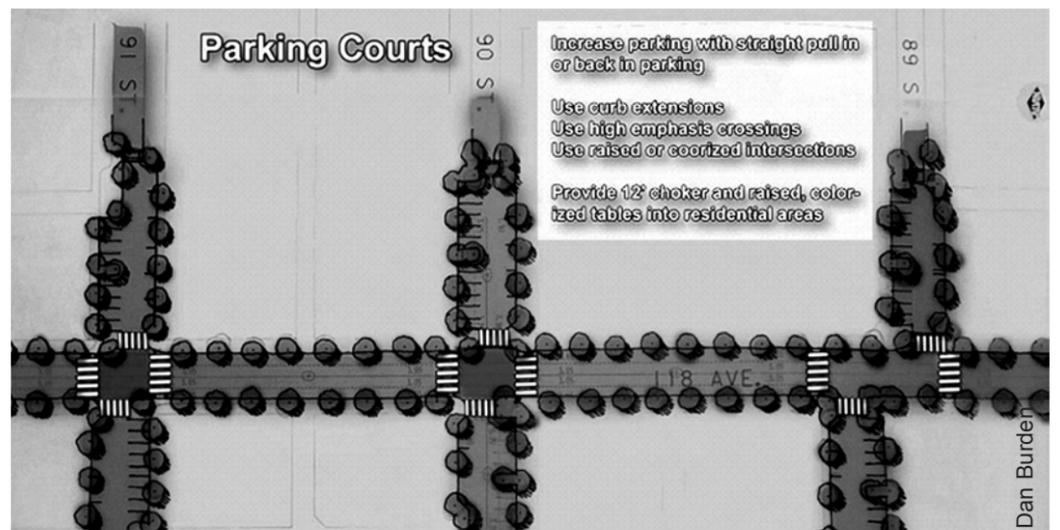
Five keys to any successful place are security, convenience, efficiency, comfort and welcome.

First and foremost for a place to be successful people must feel safe and secure going there. You make a street safe by putting "eyes on the street" around the clock. Ideally, buildings have retail on ground level, then maybe commercial offices above that, with residential units

on top. All levels of a building need to have numerous windows facing both the street and the alley so people in the building can see what is happening outside and people on the street can see in. During the day you have workers as the eyes on the street and at night the residents are the eyes.

In addition to visibility through windows, windows should also be in good repair and without bars. Broken windows are a sign that anything goes in the neighbourhood. Bars, in addition to obstructing vision and being ugly, send the message "don't come here, crime is rampant." To increase safety and security, you also need appropriate lighting. Lighting should come from the street lamps, theme lighting (e.g. in trees) and lights left on in businesses.

Appropriate development will enhance security as well as contribute to the convenience and efficiency. Strong health communities are walkable, mixed use, and mixed income. Every corridor should consist of a series of "villages" with a town centre. Each 6 block village



Dan Burden

should include civic, commercial, retail and residential buildings and density should be highest closest to the centre. A high density of people within walking distance to the "town centre" is what supports the businesses; it is convenient and efficient for them to use local businesses.

Any concentration of any one type of housing is not healthy. You could and should have high end condos on one side of the street and affordable housing on the other. The trick



Dan Burden

Sweeping Away the Grime



On Tuesday, May 24, the Alberta Avenue Business Association (AABA) initiated its first annual Spring Sweep of the Avenue. At 8:00 am members of the AABA and local dignitaries gathered at Coliseum Steak & Pizza on 80 Street to launch the 3 day cleaning event. Three of our representatives, Councillor Janice Melnychuk, Councillor Ed Gibbons and MP Peter Goldring attended as well as Mayor Stephen Mandel. Mandel has taken a particular interest in the revitalization of 118th Avenue.

When addressing the media, Goldring stated it was "a worthwhile effort" and Mandel said, "It's just the beginning of a rebirth for what will become a real hot spot in Edmonton." Then the group pick up some brooms and started to work on the Coliseum Steak and Pizza parking lot. It wasn't hard to find debris, garbage and grime to sweep up. After the photo ops, the dignitaries left and a crew of men working off community service hours came in to do the real manual labour.

Picking up garbage and tak-

ing a layer of grime off buildings is just the beginning. Peter Rausch, Executive Director of the AABA, indicated that as they clean each block they would be taking note of any other problems or concerns and work with businesses or property owners to have them addressed.

In addition to the Spring Sweep on 118th Avenue, three churches along 95 Street organized a clean up of 95th Street on Saturday afternoon, May 28.

Now let's all do our part to help keep our streets clean!



is to ensure affordable housing adds to the street not detracts from it; it needs to "fit" with the neighbourhood and be attractive. While a mix of owner-occupied and rental housing will always be needed, affordable housing does not have to be rentals. In fact Burden recommends getting as many people into home ownership as we can. Good accessibility for all people including those who walk, cycle and drive is important. Burden recommends on-street parking; it's convenient and it provides a barrier between pedestrians on the sidewalk and moving vehicles, which increases people's sense of safety. A street also needs to be comfortable. Everyone from babies in strollers and elderly in wheelchairs should be able to easily get around. Adding things like curb extensions, raised intersections and places to stop like a bench or kiosk every 400 feet make the experience safer and friendlier for pedestrians.

Last but not least, a street should be welcoming. According to Burden the single greatest investment you can make on a

street is trees. Greenery can transform a concrete jungle into an attractive, appealing and serene environment in which people want to linger. A street that is aesthetically pleasing, visually interesting and full of details will draw people back time and time again.

Appropriate street design affects the health of commercial corridors and adjacent neighbourhoods. You don't just want a street that encourages people to zoom through from point A to point B. You want your street to be the destination spot. You want your street to encourage people to drive their cars slowly, see the businesses and want to stop. Burden says, "We design for what we value most." Do we value the people who live, work and shop on a street or do we value the people who use the street as a corridor?

As Dan Burden says, "Good design costs more money to do and maintain but it also makes more money...It's not about building bigger; it's about building better."

By Karen Mykietka

Bring in Summer with a Neighbourhood Block Party



Our family has lived in Alberta Avenue for three years and this neighborhood feels, by far, the most community-like of any other in my almost 40 years in this city. One of the principle reasons is the annual block party, a day of activities, visiting and feasting.

One woman is the catalyst and leader and she pulls a group of ten to twelve organizers together as soon as the weather

warms up. I was reluctant to join them last year because of work/life overload. I discovered, however, that by working together and spreading the tasks around I could do what was comfortable for me, and that my ideas were important.

A booklet of suggestions including an application form is available from the City of Edmonton Community Services, 496-7275 or online at

www.edmonton.ca. The city provides barricades for each end of the street at a cost of \$53.50. With no traffic and no parked cars the block becomes safe and people friendly. The kids especially show an appreciation by taking over with their bikes and playing games without fear of injury.

Some of the work involves:
-Canvassing the block to get permission from all residents to

have the cars removed at 9:00 AM and have City of Edmonton barriers placed at each end of the block

-Collecting a voluntary \$5.00 fee per household to cover the cost of street closure

-Deciding on food, activities, and ways of covering expenses and assigning responsibility for each.

-Setting up a communication plan that includes flyers and activity boards with schedules of events for the day.

Last year the party on our block went from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Muffins, coffee and juice were served in the morning and there was a barbecue set up for hot dogs and hamburgers at lunch.

Activities included face painting, a bike decorating contest with prizes, story telling, a free bike repair station and a sale of home baked desserts to offset the cost of the food and other supplies. In other years there has been a wading pool for kids, karaoke, a belly dance demonstration and a tour of the old restored houses. Families will volunteer to run an activity that is then held at the front of their house.

Diversity is the first thing I

notice and appreciate when we join together like this. My street is a microcosm of what it means to be an urban Canadian - a richly diverse population with a variety of lifestyles and customs living with respect for one another. We have young, old, retired, working, disabled, immigrant, students sharing homes, and a surprising number of large families. There are stay-at-home parents, artists, professionals, trades people and several businesses run from home. We are First Nations, Ukrainian, Chilean and Canadians who have lived here all their lives or who have origins in other parts of the country.

The hidden benefit of holding a block party is that it creates community and a sense of safety. We are no longer strangers. I can walk down the block and have conversations with people along the way. I know that there are many places to go if I ever need help. In this community I have found a sense of hope and caring that makes me know it was a good choice to move here with my family.

By Patricia Dunnigan

Being vigilant - Neighbourhood Watch



Some of you may not familiar with the Neighbourhood Watch program, so I would like to share some information about this great program. The Neighbourhood Watch program is in every community in the city. The program is for Edmonton only. Rural Neighbourhood Watch pro-

grams are RCMP organized.

Neighbourhood Watch is a not-for-profit, charitable volunteer passive crime prevention organization. Membership is free and all our volunteers have a police security clearance.

The main objective is to have as many residents actively participating in their neighbour-

hood as possible, in order that any threat to that area will be reported to the police, thus avoiding the occurrence of a crime. We report any suspicious activity in our neighbourhoods, whenever they occur. Our volunteers are always vigilant.

Benefits of being a member Personal

- Opportunity for training and skill development for anyone over the age of 18.
- Increase sense of personal safety and security for property.
- Reduce the risk of being a victim of crime.
- Personal satisfaction in contributing to the well being of family and neighbourhood.
- Meaningful participation and recognition of volunteer work.
- Enhance self-confidence and volunteering is good for your heart.
- Opportunity to develop leadership abilities and learn coping strategies and problem solving.
- Volunteering enhances your job resume.

Social

- Opportunity to meet neighbours and build friendships.
- Satisfaction of working as part of a team with a common goal and sense of belonging and sharing.
- Reduces isolation by having contact with other members.
- Establishes links with other crime prevention activities and gives a sense of pride and ownership.
- Networks are developed to provide a place to turn to when in need.

Environmental

- Fosters safer streets and property.
- Freedom from fear of crimes against property and person.
- Supports crime prevention through environmental design.
- Guidance on alarms and securing property.
- Proactive action is taken in problem areas.

Economic

- Can reduce insurance costs.
- Increases recovery rate of stolen

property.

- Reduces policing costs and taxes.

Please note that Neighbourhood Watch is a separate organization to Neighbourhood Patrol. Our members do not patrol the streets; we are the eyes from within our homes or businesses.

For further information visit our website:

www.watch.edmonton.ab.ca or contact us by e-mail at watch@tera-byte.com or phone: 421-3428. If Sylvia is busy leave her a message and she will return your call.

You are part of the 17 communities within Central District, and I am your Central District Director. Feel free to contact me. I am available to come to your League meetings or do training sessions.

Arlene Kemble

Ph: 477-5606

Email: hakemble@telus.net

Classifieds

HealthWalker/Gazelle exercise machine. Excellent condition. \$160.00. Please call after 4pm@ 930-1132.

Children's wooden/upholstered couch & chair style toy boxes. Excellent condition. \$65.00 the set of two. Please call after 4pm@ 930-1132.

FREE: Large dog house. Call 429-1977

FOR SALE: Raleigh Mountain Bike, junior boy's size, \$75 obo. Call 471-1699

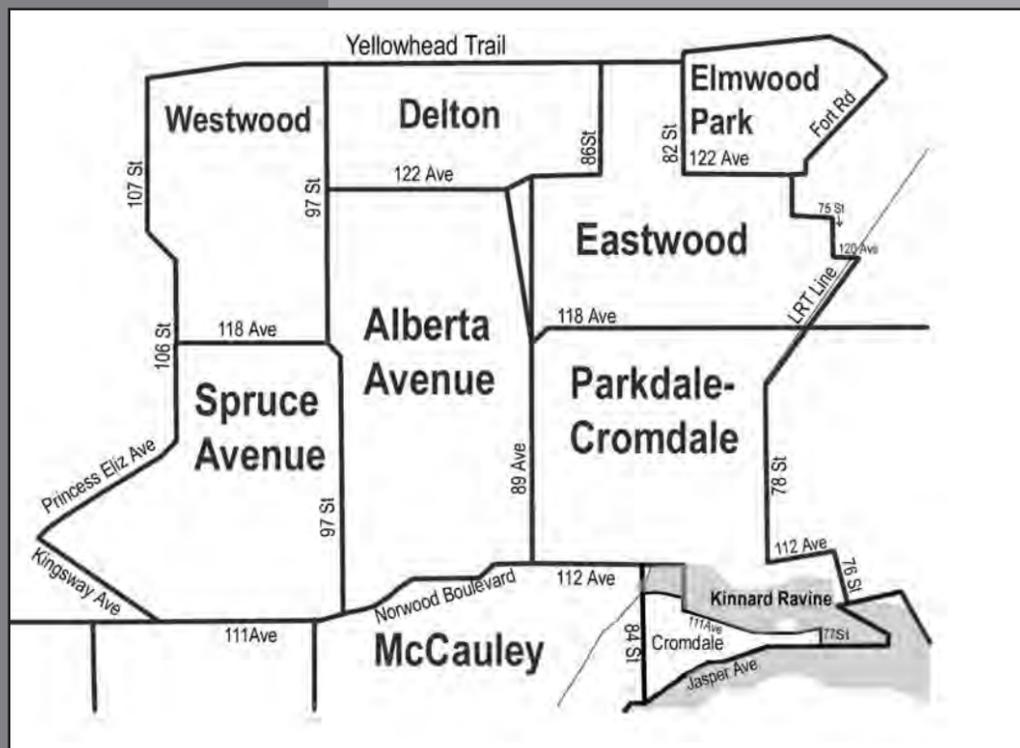
FOR SALE: 1994 Pontiac Grand Am SE, 4 door, red, PL, PW, air, command start &

remote entry, great condition, 215K, \$2200. Call 479-4812.

FREE: Modern halogen dining room chandelier, brushed silver finish with 4 blue fluted shades, Call 479-4812.

If you are a member of a community league, you can list your classified ad for FREE! This only applies to ads for personally used items not for items that are a result of a money making venture. For business or real estate ads call for a price. 479-6285 or ratcreek@telus.net

Community Leagues



Other Leagues:

Delton Community League

12325-88 Street
477-3326

Parkdale Cromdale Community League

11335-85 Street
471-4410

Westwood Community League

12139-105 Street
474-1979

Partner Leagues:

Alberta Avenue Community League

9210-118 Avenue 477-2773

Email: office@albertaavenue.ca

Office Hours: Thu & Fri 5:30-7:00pm

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm

Eastwood Community League

11803-86 Street 477-2354

Email: ewmember@telusplanet.net

Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri 10am-12pm

Meetings: 1st Saturday of the month from 1-2pm

Elmwood Park Community League

Playground/rink: 75 St & 125 Ave

Contact: Glenn 472-1101

Meeting: May 30, 7pm at Sands Hotel

Spruce Avenue Community League

10240-115 Avenue 471-1932

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7pm

Sports & Fitness

Long summer days and great weather are here. Hopefully as you are reading this the sky is blue and the grass is all green! June means the kids will be out of school and you will need to find ways to keep them active. I encourage anyone with a great summer sports idea to call me. A considerable amount of time was spent retooling the soccer program this year and now that soccer is growing new projects are underway. Look for sports like street hockey and 3-on-3 basketball.

Of course, soccer remains the biggest activity right now and our teams are doing great! We have four outstanding (and full) soccer teams this year. Our U12 soccer team won gold at a tournament May 14-15. Congratulations! Our U6, U8, and U10 teams will be compet-

ing in the Festival of Fun Tournament on May 28 and 29, and our U12 team will play in the North Edmonton Soccer Tournament June 10, 11, and 12. Good luck!

I want to thank the following coaches for their continuing commitment to amateur sport in our community: Barry Gabruch (U12 Avalanche), Marcos Manuel Garcia (U10), Mario Bustamante (U8), and Lance Vandeborn (U6). These coaches are all volunteers and should be commended on their dedication to their community and players! Well done guys!

We have two excellent sessions of pre-school soccer running right now. This class is a perfect way to introduce young children to soccer and also makes a great summer evening with the family. See below for upcoming start dates.

As mentioned above the outdoor season is here. Our free soccer camps with Concordia Thunder Men's coach Sasha Samadi were instrumental in our success so far this year. Thanks to Coach Samadi for running four outstanding sessions with our local players and agreeing to facilitate a fifth camp. His knowledge, skill and wit make for an excellent learning experience (for both players and parents) in a really fun environment. Soccer is a great way for kids keep fit, learn new skills, make great friends and represent their community in organized sport.

Brad MacCallum
Community Sports Coordinator
Parkdale-Cromdale,
Eastwood, Elmwood Park and
Alberta Avenue

Registration

To register for any community league sports program or fitness class:

Call Brad MacCallum at 479-2313 (office) or 982-3052 (cell).

Then bring cheque or cash to one of the following locations,

whichever is most convenient.

Eastwood Hall

10am-2pm on Mon, Wed or Fri

Parkdale-Cromdale Hall

11am-2pm on Mon, Wed or Fri

Alberta Avenue Hall

5:30pm-7pm on Thur or Fri

Your registration must be con-

firmed by payment of fees (if applicable) 3 days prior to the start of the class.

Did you know that community league members can work bingos to offset their registration fees?

Call Brad for details.

INSTRUCTOR PROFILES

Sasha Samadi joined the Concordia University College coaching staff in the fall of 2003. Last year Concordia finished first in the regular season out of eleven colleges in Alberta that compete in the Alberta Colleges Athletics Conference. He is originally from Iran where he played on the Youth Under 18 National Team.

Shauna Dowson completed a Bachelors of Phys.Ed from the U of A in 1995 and holds National Coaching Certifications for soccer, gymnastics and track and field. She coached track and field for Athletics Alberta in their Sport Outreach program for 3 seasons and played soccer for the U of A Pandas, but retired after numer-

ous knee injuries. Currently, she holds the position of Head Coach for the U-13 North Provincial Girls Soccer Team. Shauna has run many successful community gymnastics and pre-school soccer programs since starting her company "Gymfit Sport and Recreation" in 1995.

SOCCER

Outdoor Soccer Camp

(8-12 years)

The camp will focus on techniques including dribbling, receiving and controlling the ball, short and long passing, shooting, crossing, and heading. The camp is free and concludes on both days with a short game and pizza!

June 4 & 5 from 10 am-12 pm

At Eastwood School

Instructor: Sasha Samadi

Pre-School Soccer

(3-5 year olds)

Learn instep pass, shooting, dribbling, throw-ins, stopping a ball, co-operative play and game

simulation. As well there will be tag games, keep away games & mini-games.

6 Mondays, June 20 - July 25

5:30-6:15 at Alberta Avenue

Community Field

Cost: \$40.00

Instructor: Shauna Dowson

Summer Soccer

(6-12 years)

Learn technical skills, positional

play and sport tactics then compete in

inter-group scrimmages.

July 5 - Aug 9

from 6 pm - 7:30 pm

Cost: \$50

Instructor: TBA

SUMMER CAMP INFO

Here's a couple of ways to keep your kids busy during the summer. More camps will be developed as the summer gets closer.

If you have any question or ideas regarding summer camps call Brad at 479-2313 or 982-3052

Basketball 101

(7-12yrs)

Hot-dogging on indoor or outdoor courts, participants learn to dribble like the Globe Trotters & shoot like Micheal Jordan or LeBron James. Rules of the game are introduced and kids have a blast learning their new skills in fun games and activities.

July 18-22 from 9am-Noon

Cost: \$25

Location: Parkdale/Cromdale Community League

Instructor: Shauna Dowson

Registration Deadline: June 30

It's Not Sports Art Camp

(6-12yrs)

I know it is not SPORTS!! For all those youngsters who find excitement in creativity...call it brain exercise! Pick a medium - painting, drawing, mixed media, sculpting, cartooning, chalk/charcoal, masks or printing and art instructors teach the tools for kids to create masterpieces from landscapes to drawing in motion to small base supported sculptures!

August 15-19 from 9am - Noon

Cost: \$25

Location: TBA

Instructor: Shauna Dowson

Registration Deadline: June 30

Community Calendar

CHECK COMMUNITY SPORTS & FITNESS PAGE 15 FOR ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS.

Pre-Schoolers

Indoor Playground
For caregivers and children ages 0 to 6 years. We will meet in the park for the summer.

Mondays, 10-12pm at Alberta Avenue, 9210-118 Ave.

Drop-in Playgroup
Tuesdays, 9-11am at Prince Rupert Hall, 11245-113 St.

until June 28. Please call Ann at 378-0530 if you plan to attend.

Rhymes that Bind
Rhymes, finger play, songs and movement games for infants and toddlers. Free drop-in program including lunch.
Wednesdays, Apr 6 to Jun 8

from 11:30-12:30 at Norwood Family Centre, 9516-114 Ave.

C.O.W. Bus
(Classroom on Wheels) For parents and children 0 to 6 years. Stories, songs, free book borrowing & draws for books.
Thursdays, 2-3pm outside Eastwood School 12023-81 St.

Adults & Seniors

Internet Awareness
Pointers on protecting your computer from potential threats on the Internet. Presented by Network Specialist John Zabiuk. Thursday, June 9, 6:30pm at Sprucewood Library.

Bingo
Wed, Thu & Fri, 6:10pm and Friday late night, 11:15pm at Alberta Avenue. Call 477-2773 for more info.

Drop-in basketball
Tue & Thu 7-9pm; Sun 12-4pm at Stadium Fitness Centre, 86 St & 111 Ave. Cost \$6.75 (or buy a pass).

Drop-in badminton
Wed & Fri 7-9pm at Stadium Fitness Centre, 86 St & 111 Ave. Cost \$6.75 (or buy a pass).

SENIORS
Upcoming programs at Central Lions Seniors Centre, 11113-113 St. 479-7366
June 2-23 Community Pacers (walks around the neighbourhoods)
Friday Night Dances, 7-10pm. Call for more info & prices of these programs or pick up a program guide at the library.

To list your event in the community calendar, email us at ratcreek@telus.net or phone 4796285.

Ride to Survive

School Aged Children

Welcome

May 28 1-4 pm

Call: Tricia @ 471-5802

to register

GARAGE SALE

Friday, June 17, 4 pm - 9 pm
Saturday, June 18, 9 am - 4 pm at **St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church**
8715 -118 Avenue
For more info call 477-8677

Children, Teens & Family

CHILDREN & TEENS
Write Right! For ages 10 and older. Join other aspiring authors as we set out on an epic quest for literary greatness. Each session will feature a different style of writing.
Thursdays, June 2 to 23, 4pm at Sprucewood Library. Call 496-7099 to register.

Learn Science the Easy Hands-On Way For ages 6-12. Create fun science magic by experimenting with everyday household materials.

Saturday, June 4, 2pm at Sprucewood Library. Call 496-7099 to register.

Star Search For ages 9-12 years. Have you ever wondered...how hot is a star? How is a star born? Do the constellations change shape? Find out during this interactive workshop. Take your constellation viewers and star finders home to view mysterious night sky.

Tuesday, June 14, 2pm at Sprucewood Library. Call 496-7099 to register.

Bite-sized Cheesecake Delights For ages 12-16. Calling all future bakers! Learn how to make scrumptious bite-sized cheesecakes. Wow your friends and family.

Saturday, June 18, 2pm at Sprucewood Library. Call 496-7099 to register.

Summer Reading Club
Join us for a big bang of a party to ignite those rocket ship engines and "Blast off" opening day.

Saturday, June 25, 2pm at Sprucewood Library. Call 496-7099 to register.

Crazy for Crafts
Drop-in and do the craft of the week at Sprucewood Library starting June 27.

FAMILY

Canada Day Celebration & Yard Sale

Friday, July 1st, 11am to 4pm at Norwood Square, 95 St and 114 Ave.

Community Swim
FREE swim for Alberta Avenue and Parkdale community league members (you must show your membership card). Use the 25m saltwater pool, steam room or hot tub.
Sundays, 12-2pm at Eastglen Pool, 11410-68 St.

Free Public Skating
Sundays in June, 5pm-6pm at Grand Trunk Arena, 13025-112 St.

Wednesday, June 1, 8, 15 & 22 7:15-8:15pm at Castledowns Arena, 11520-153 St.

Friday, June 3, 10 & 17 7:45-8:45pm at Clareview Arena, 3804-139 Ave.

CANADA DAY
CELEBRATION
Friday, July 1st @ 1 pm
In the parking lot at 101 St. & Princess Elizabeth Ave
(Next to Boston Pizza)

Live Music
Games for Kids
Door Prizes

Free Hamburgers & Hot Dogs

Christian Life Center
471 - 2250

KZAMM KIDS
SUMMER DAY CAMP

IT'S FREE

Where? Eastwood Community Center
11803 - 86 St

When? July 18 - 23 ... 10 am to 1 pm

Who? Ages 5-11

SPACE IS LIMITED
CALL TODAY!
471-2250

DON'T MISS OUR
OPENING...
PARK PARTY
JULY 16

- ☺ Games
- ☺ Cool Prizes
- ☺ Funky Music
- ☺ Delicious Food
- ☺ Water Fun
- ☺ Trip to the Zoo

Sponsored by CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER - 10123 Princess Elizabeth Ave