

Blooming Beautiful

Local residents Ritchie Velthuis and Stuart Ballah win 2011 Edmonton in Bloom Awards

It all started 15 years ago with a juniper tree, or more specifically, a dead juniper tree that Ritchie Velthuis and Stuart Ballah pulled out of the corner of their front yard. Ballah remembers staring at the big hole and thinking, "what now?"

Plant by plant, statue by statue, they built up their yard

to create this year's 2011 Edmonton in Bloom Award, voted on by the Edmonton Journal readers. While their ever expanding yard has placed high in the voting before, this is the first time they have topped the poll.

"The Edmonton in Bloom Awards is a chance to recognize and thank residents across Edmonton for making their communities more attractive," said Rodney Al, Communities in Bloom Coordinator for the Parks Branch. "With the increase in nominations and two new awards in 2011, this program continues to grow, which speaks to how much Edmontonians support beautification in our communities."

Although pleased with the recognition, Velthuis and Ballah admit to being a bit overwhelmed by all the cars, pedestrians and visitors they

have had to their yard. They estimate they get several dozens of cars driving by every hour, with 3-4 people stopping in their yard to ask questions.

"I sometimes leave our front deck and go into the house to hide from them," admits a laughing Ballah.



A history of love

The house near the corner of 115th Ave and 95A street was built in 1909 by Ballah's grandfather. Kept in the family all that time, Ballah remembers playing in the yard and planting the juniper tree as a child. "I planted it, watched it grow, and die,"

says Ballah.

Fifteen years ago, he moved in with Velthuis and they began to renovate the house and grow their garden. Both artisans, they took their sense of shape and color to their front yard and began to build.

For Velthuis, it was a chance to reconnect to his roots as a child growing up in a green house family near Gibbons. His two older brothers started the greenhouse business, his sister joined in, and it still sells plants as Deanna's Garden Centre today.

With trips to BC to pick out new plants year-to-year, and adding well-placed sculptures, they have grown a garden that is proudly admired by their neighbours.

In a sense, they have polinated the neighbourhood with their horticultural creations.

"A few people have



(left to right) Stuart Ballah and Ritchie Velthuis in the middle of their award-winning garden. With original sculptures and exotic plants, they have turned their front yard into a colourful gift to their neighbourhood and community.

moved into the neighbourhood because of our garden," says Velthuis. A quick trip along the street confirms this. There are over 10 houses with outstanding yards, full of blooming color. With the hundred year old trees lining the boulevard, it stands out as one of the most relaxing blocks in the community.

A living sculpture

It's an unusual yard that has organically grown beyond its borders. Their adjacent neighbour has allowed the two gardeners to expand into his yard. Also of note is the use of the leeway between the sidewalk and the street that visually expands the garden so that passerbys get the sense they are walking in the middle of the garden.

While they have built up their front yard in the never-ending tinkering of artists, they have over 70 percent seeded with perennials, and alter the remaining to create the proper effect.

"In sculpture, you are always aware of structure and volumes," says Velthuis. "These are things you pay attention to in a garden as well."

With Fall approaching and the winter snow falls soon following, both men will enjoy the respite from their

well-wishing visitors and take a break from digging and weeding. As for the resting on their laurels for next year, Ballah dismisses any chance of that happening.

"Plans for next year?" says Ballah. "Darn tootin'. We got big plans for next year."



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The joy of music at the Carrot

PAULA GILLIS

Most people who live around the Avenue are aware of the home-like atmosphere the Carrot Cafe provides to its patrons. On any given day there are ad hoc meetings taking place, writers and artists will be sitting in a corner creating a vision, and people drop by with their children as all are welcomed and a bit of kid noise is not frowned upon; in fact, it is like music to the ears of many.

There is the other type of music as well; the more formal music with lyrics and instruments. On Thursday afternoons people will participate in the Zoomers Open Mic gatherings. The songs and artists are many and varied. Last week, two musicians sang ballads in Ukrainian with one playing guitar and the other pushing and pulling on his accordion.

Although most of the audience did not understand the words there was clapping and toe tapping in accompaniment. There were others too who belted out their best material. Jason Knott played a series of Christian songs which again were recognized by the audience.

Many of the artists are familiar with each other. They discuss accessories, share picks and applauded each other at the end of each performance. Zoomers is not a competition. It is a time for music lovers to come together and bring a whole different type of energy to the Carrot. Running from 1 until 4pm, the stage is always full and it would be difficult to name all those eager to share their talents. Genres range from good ole rock 'n' roll to down home country.

Saturday night, which is Open Mic night, brings out other artists along with musi-

cians. From 7 until 10 people will recite their poetry, tell a few jokes or read excerpts from a book they are working on. It is Arts on the Avenue after all and everyone is welcome to come and share their special form of art work.

One evening a young Albanian man came in for coffee with a group of friends. He listened intently and after he drove his company home, he returned to listen some more. With a bit of encouragement he too got up on the stage and sang one song that he had written in his native language when he first arrived in Canada. A song about how afraid he was that his new life would not be successful. While few, if any of the listeners could understand the words of his song, there were many in the audience who have felt the same sentiment on many occasions. The young man smiled at the sense of welcome that he received.

Life is good at The Carrot. The musicians that show up regularly add another dimension to the sense of home the place gives to many people. There are budding artists and people who have been nomi-

nated for awards in Western Canada. What they have most in common is the passion to express themselves through their music or writing.

If you play an instrument or write your own poetry join the crowd that gathers in what strongly resembles a down-East Kitchen Party! Come one, come all. Bring your guitar, your hand drum or just your ears in order to be a part of these wonderful evenings. The Carrot is part of Arts on the Avenue and can be found at 9351-118 Avenue. Stop in, order a Cappuccino or a Special Tea and listen for a while before you decide that it is your turn to be centre stage. See you at The Carrot!



Stock Photo



Paula Gillis

Jason Knott takes the stage at the carrot cafe. You can hear it all, from old-time banjo music to contemporary Christian rock.

Check out the Tibetan Bazaar at the Alberta Avenue Community Centre on Sept 16-18.

Marty Chan is in your neighbourhood

SPRUCE WORDS

Shannon Clarke

Local author, Marty Chan, has been called a “quadruple threat” for his success as a writer of children’s fiction, theatre, radio, and television. He has proven to be much more than “quadruple” in the short time I’ve known him as Edmonton Public Library’s 2011 writer in residence. Marty has had great success getting Edmontonians of all ages excited about reading and writing. His office is at Stanley A. Milner Library downtown, but Marty’s impact right here in our community is what stands out the most for me.

Marty has committed to helping writers of all ages, experience levels and genres by providing feedback on writing samples submitted to him (you can send him up to 15 pages), hosting a writers’ corner on the last Sunday afternoon of each month, and recording monthly podcasts (available at epl.ca/writerinresidence). He even wrote and directed a Fringe play and allowed the public to sit in on rehearsals.

Marty has also entertained and enlightened young minds at Crystal Kids Youth Centre. He shared the art of creating stories rich with detail, and taught techniques for building suspense. The Crystal Kids were captivated and inspired to explore some scary settings and scenarios of their own, and I picked up some tips from Marty for facilitating teen book clubs.

At Sprucewood Library, Marty ran a “Cryptozoologist” program, telling tales of wild monsters and getting kids to create fantasy creatures of their own. He may even use one of these kid-created creatures in an upcoming novel. Marty has more fun planned for our neighbourhood in the fall with the Kaleido Family Arts Festival, Teen Facebook Project (during teen read week in October, friends will come together to create an online novel), National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) and Kids Write Edmonton kicking off in November.

I’ve seen the impact of Marty’s work in our community with kids coming in to the library to ask at the customer service desk “do you have anything by Marty Chan?” and then signing out all of his books and placing holds on titles not on the shelf. Sharon, a front line youth worker at Crystal Kids told me that “the kids were really excited about Marty’s visit and really appreciated that a real author would take the time to come and talk to them. He was really funny and connected well with the kids.”

I wanted to find out a bit more about Marty’s idea of community and how his work fits in, so I sat down with him to ask a few questions.

What does community mean to you?
Community is the connective tissue of a city. Without community, you just have a collection of people who happen to work or live in the same area. Community is what gives life to a neighbourhood and a city its character.

How have you been able to impact your community here in Edmonton?
I don’t know if I can say that I’ve made an impact on a community. I smile when a kid runs up to me and says she’s read my books. I beam when a kid runs up to me and tells me he’s started writing his own book. If there are enough kids who have been influenced by me, then hopefully I can say I made an impact on a community, but I’ll leave that to others to decide.

What is the best part of being EPL’s writer in residence?
My favourite part of serving as EPL’s writer-in-residence is being able to meet new writers. I know my job is to help them develop their craft, but their enthusiasm re-energizes me and reminds me why I love writing.

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I think that the work you do with kids in our community is very important and beneficial. Why do you do it?

Not every kid loves writing. They think it’s too hard or that they have to be born with the ability. I started off as a reluctant reader, but thanks to my teachers and librarians, I learned to love books, which then translated into my love of writing. The only way I can thank my mentors is to pay it forward.

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The Edmonton Public Library’s Writer-in-Residence program provides services to aspiring and established writers in the Edmonton area including individual manuscript consultations, public readings and talks, information on the publishing process and connections to the writing community.

To find out more about the Writer-in-Residence program at EPL or to get involved with any of Marty’s upcoming events, please visit www.epl.ca/writerinresidence.

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Editorial

Glimmers from the past

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EDITORIAL POLICY

The Rat Creek Press is a forum for all people. We encourage comments that further discussion on a given article or subject, provide constructive criticism, or offer an idea for community activity.

Letters should be no longer than 250 words and must include the full name, location and contact information of the author.

Op-Ed columns should be 600-800 words and observe formal rules of spelling and grammar.

The RCP reserves the right to edit all material and to remove any electronic comment at any time.

All columns, letters or cartoons submitted are attributed to the author and do not necessarily represent the views or opinions of the Rat Creek Press.

Send submissions to the Rat Creek Press Editor via email editor@ratcreek.org, or 9210 - 118 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5G 0N2. Mail may also be dropped at the address above.

DARREN BOISVERT

Back in the 1930's, men would hop a CN train from Edmonton to the Peace River country. It was farming country, and at least during harvest time, a man had a small chance of finding temporary work. My grandmother, who was a little girl growing up in the small community of Fairview, says these out-of-towners would make their way up the gravel road to their house, and politely ask if there were any chores for food.

There rarely was. But any man who arrived during meal time, was asked to take a seat on the back porch, and a plate of food would be brought out for him. No-one had money, but there was no reason to leave a stranger to starve.

When telling me this story, I remember the small note of pride in my grandmother's voice. Rarely one to criticize others, it was her way of gently saying, "Here is a value of my generation that you need to remember."

My grandmother passed away a year ago, and her stories and memories are all I have to

carry forward. I remember her words as I pass through three locked doors to get into my apartment. I hear her voice as I make dinner and eat in solitary silence. Feeding the homeless from my kitchen, I tell myself, is just not physically feasible.

Nor would it be safe. A hungry person is desperate, and desperate people are dangerous. In 2002, during the Second Palestinian intifada, I watched as a crowd of women rushed towards the locked metal gate of the UN compound in Gaza City. The Israelis had cut off milk supplies to the

region, and these Palestinian mothers were crawling over each other to vainly attempt to scale the gate. They had heard there was milk inside, and were desperate to feed their children. There as no reason in their actions, only a mad frenzy of driving need. The sound of their screaming was horrific.

We may comfort ourselves with the cynical view that the world has changed, people are different, and we live in a dangerous time. We can turn

"Any man who arrived during meal time, was asked to take a seat on the back porch, and a plate of food would be brought out for him. No-one had money, but there was no reason to leave a stranger to starve."



on our TV sets and see the Middle East and Africa uprisings, the protests in England, the strikes in Argentina, and the constant carnage in Iraq and Afghanistan. A person would have to be blind to see the social upheavals across the globe.

Here in Canada, we are secure in the knowledge that these troubles haven't touched our shores. Times may be tough, but we are wealthy, we have oil, we have food. Things aren't as bad as they were during the Great Depression. There is cause for concern, but not for panic.

I wonder though, if it so hard to unlock our doors when times are good, how much more unlikely is it for us to change our habits when times get hard? Will we feed the strangers or will we erect metal gates to keep the desperate out?

During the recent Eastwood

Fest, I passed long lines of people waiting for their plates of pancakes. In this community, our parties include everyone, and everyone is fed and entertained equally. Our festivals are free for those who can't afford a donation, and there is never a dress code.

Our community is not rich and there is violence on our streets. Many residents shoulder a sense of fear when walking the Ave. But we still carry forth the idea that whatever our problems, we need to fight to keep our community together. Whether it's free pancakes or hot dogs, street music or crazy art, we offer what we have to share.

There is still the glimmer of our past generations in our life here on the Ave, but it will be strained in the years to come. One can only hope that like a muscle, our values get stronger the more we exercise them.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Really enjoyed the August edition. Loved the front page and all of the pictures throughout.

Arthur Dyck

(re: Placing value on the arts)

Just wanted to say that I really enjoyed the editorial about Ezra Levant's attack on the arts. Great work.

Joel French

Constituency Manager for Brian Mason, MLA
Edmonton Highlands-Norwood

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Speaker's Corner

Have opinions? Great- let's hear them! Submissions: editor@ratcreek.org

Voiceless for too long

GEORGE TSOUKALAS

When I was a child I soon discovered that my speech was adversely affected by a severe stutter which made me feel very self-conscious, anxious, depressed, and extremely introverted. Stuttering has a neurological origin that combines the problems of shallow breathing, tension in the larynx/voicebox, and a lack of coordination between the tongue and palate which leads to an inability to speak properly or fluently.

This type of problem led to severe bullying in primary grades, junior high school, and senior high school as well since very few people fully understood the problems that a stutterer faced. Problems included trying to use the telephone without any fear, speaking in front of a group of strangers, and, especially for men, making social contacts with the opposite sex since 85% of stutterers are male.

My first treatment for stuttering began in May 1980 at the University of Alberta where my syllables per minute would be timed and recorded in order to find the 'speech rate' I had attained including the disfluency or stutters that the speech clinicians recorded on their digital devices. In order to get the help necessary to combat

my stuttering I would require the assistance of the Institute of Stuttering Treatment and Research (I.S.T.A.R.) in Summer 1989.

I was 15 at the time, and I received the necessary treatment for my speech impairment through a system of cognitive therapy and speech fluency skill development, such as deep meditative breathing and relaxed methods of initiating speech, both of which helped me further develop my capacity to control my speech and not to have it control me.

It is difficult to explain to people what had happened to me as a result of this stuttering because of its origins in the central nervous system. Feeling nervous or uncertain about what I might say to someone would inevitably lead me to feel out of place, isolated, and depressed. I keep trying to tell people who see me as a 'lone wolf' type of character: I did not choose solitude, solitude chose me.

As I grew older, my feelings about my stuttering diminished because I felt in control of my speech mainly due to my systematic use of 'controlled rate of speech' at which I would consciously measure my syllables per minute and slow down my rate of speech.

When I reached adulthood

it became apparent to me that my shy, quiet, bookish personality was giving way to a more friendly and outgoing manner that made many in my immediate family feel uneasy about because they were not used to the new me.

Years would go by as I went to university and worked in private security part-time in order to pay my tuition and books, while I studied at work. It felt strange to me not to see for myself what was happening to my psyche and my mental health, as both were improving, and as far as self-esteem goes, well, it just went sky-high! Being able to speak fluently and without fear of public embarrassment just gave me an adrenaline rush that I will never forget.

Of course I still felt shy and somewhat reserved for someone who is so outspoken and opinionated, however, these feelings of shyness and fear of public embarrassment gave way to feelings of complete control over my destiny and a determination to succeed that, even today, will not be extinguished.

Challenging oneself to face the fears which give rise to the social anxiety that affects many people is one of the best methods by which one can go about taking control of ones' life.

Reflection on five years of living in Eastwood

JO-ANN SIEBERT

My husband and I moved into the Eastwood neighborhood 5 years ago. A lot of things have happened in that time. A lot of effort has been made to improve North Central Edmonton at a variety of levels. The result is that we have a lot of great activities and opportunities going on in Eastwood and the surrounding North Central neighbourhoods, although people still have to be very careful about their safety living here due to the amount of negative activity that continues to go on.

People are moving into the area because it is affordable and because there are a lot of positive community opportunities. There are also people moving away because they are tired of the drug dealers and prostitution. They are frustrated that they have to watch out for people who would take advantage of their children the moment they turn their back. One of my neighbours who lived here approximately 20 years, highly involved, moved away because they didn't want to deal with the crime anymore.

There are many, many people who come out and utilize the park space every week from our community and surrounding communities. They contribute by participating in activities and showing that this is a good place to be. Several people help clean and monitor the park areas, and a lot of people come help with putting on activities for people to attend.

We also have the Eastwood Community League board that is really struggling just to keep on top of the building maintenance, have a few festivals, and provide a few modest activities through the year for the community. There is still a huge gap between the community league 'building' and the community.

We see the example of other community leagues in the community which have 'made it'. They inspire us that it is possible to have an interactive community league. In the meantime, Eastwood Community League struggles just to have enough board members to get the simple things done let alone things that would be awesome for the community. For example, the fact that the community league is locked all day and people can't even go inside to use the



washroom or change their child when they use the spray park is unacceptable. At the same time, it is a real problem having people hanging around clawing at the back door after they have had their 'fix'. I know I don't want to be changing the sign on my own in a windowless building and have these individuals have free access to come in.

These kinds of problems makes me really angry. I guess there are a few options. One option suggested is becoming very active with calling the police (from all corners of the community) until we don't have this issue. Another option is to have enough 'people power' to have people using the hall and the park all the time, so that things never had to be locked up. Then people could always know they could access the community league building whenever they want, and know this is their league. Another option is for people to find homes in other neighbourhoods and give up.

In the meantime, it is a lot of work to keep the community fun, friendly, interactive and user-friendly for everyone, and safe. There are moments and days of success that occur because a lot of effort in invested by community members, people hired by the City of Edmonton, and people who are helping us through grant money and community league money. It is a wonderful place to be when people are connecting, and when people are feeling good to be living here.

What really makes me happy is knowing people in my surrounding neighbourhood who I might never have even known existed. The reason I met them is because they took an interest in something that was going on in our community, and all of a sudden we know each other well enough to help each other out when needed.

And we find out each others' interests and strengths.



PETER GOLDRING
Member of Parliament
Edmonton East



Who Needs a New Arena?

The billionaire owner of the Edmonton Oilers says Northlands no longer meets the team's needs, and he wants all three levels of government to contribute to the construction of a new facility.

Our federal Conservative government has made it clear that it will not provide millions of dollars to support private sector projects such as this in Edmonton or Quebec City or anywhere. The City of Edmon-

ton has promised money to the project and has asked the Province for a \$100 million commitment to the \$450 million project despite an earlier provincial rejection of the idea.

NHL hockey is a private business. As much as I want to see the Oilers do well and win the Stanley Cup, I don't think that is the responsibility of government to subsidize it. It's a matter of priorities. The amount of money being requested from governments could be used instead to house a lot of people or hire a lot of doctors or teachers.

The NHL says new arenas (with more seating and luxury boxes) are necessary to allow teams to break even. But the NHL's biggest expense is player salaries, some \$3 million per player average, which seem to escalate exponentially, to the point a single player often makes more than an entire team did 20 years ago. I'm sure the players could live quite comfortably on a million dollars a year, much more than those who pay to see them play dream of earning.

Experts say Edmonton can't support two arenas. Northlands is profitable, is only 37 years old, and has lots of life left in it. Make any necessary upgrades, but don't ask taxpayers for the cost of a new arena that will unnecessarily compete with Northlands that is operating cost effectively.

What do you think?

780-495-3261

www.petergoldring.ca

Eastwood Fest fills the Ave

Thousands turn out for massive block party

DARREN BOISVERT

Eastwood Fest kicked off this year's celebration with pancakes for all and music and entertainment throughout the day. On Saturday, August 13, they closed off the street for vendors and stages, and filled the Eastwood Community League park with laughing children and lounging parents.

In its seventh year, Eastwood Fest has grown from a small collection of locals to an impressive display of community spirit.

"It's the Eastwood community wanting to gather, to get out of the house, and get together," says Matt Halton, producer of the Fest.

With only tepid community support leading up to the event, Halton says he was pleased to see the hug outpouring of support on the morning of the event.

"It's a tonne of work," says a visibly tired Halton. "But this community really stepped up to volunteer. Residents showed up out of the blue and I sent them off to get everything set up."

He cites the hard work of the volunteer coordinator, Mari Sassano, for pulling the volunteers together.

Lots to do

For the first time, the Fest had an extra 'demo stage' where bikers, wrestlers, boxers and other involved in physical activities could entice the crowd to join in. Bikes were supplied by the Edmonton Bicycle Commuters (who are in the process of moving their headquarters to the Ave).

A big favourite among the kids were the jumping buildings, the dunk tank, and the life-sized version of Snakes and Ladders.

But it wasn't all healthy living. According to Halton, they gave out over a thousand slushies to the thirsty, and piles of pancakes and butter for breakfast. Those tired of the running around found themselves at the music main stage where local musicians performed for the crowds.

"Irregardless of the reputation of this community," says Halton as he looks over the thousands of attendees. "This is the majority who enjoy their city together. Ultimately, this is our block party."



Darren Boisvert



Darren Boisvert

(From left to right) Erin Faight, Dave Sustrik and Alex Klassen perform as The Collective West during Eastwood Fest. With an engaging groove and strong vocals, they entertained the crowd with songs from their debut album.

Hello, Highlands-Norwood!



The Premier's decision to allow provincial tax dollars to go towards a new arena for the profit of billionaire Daryl Katz is unacceptable. The government is offering \$100 million for the project while cutting \$100 million from education, leading to teacher layoffs and a host of other problems in education for Albertans.

That money should be for kids, not Katz.



Your MLA, Brian Mason
Edmonton Highlands-Norwood
6519 - 112 Avenue

www.brianmason.ca ph: 780.414.0682

A Force for Good

Tougher than Han Solo, scruffier than Chewbacca, more heroic than the entire Rebel Alliance. Mike Gagnon (right) participates in ten events a year with his custom-built motorbikes and side-cars. He enjoys taking people for rides, spraying the kids with laser fire, and talking about classic motorbikes with the many interested passers-by.

He may look like the easiest stormtrooper to take out with single shot, but he's one tough guy. Just days before the Eastwood Fest, he was mugged at 82nd street and 118th Ave, which led to a sprained arm and several cracked ribs. Add into the mix several strokes and heart attacks over the past few years, and you would expect him to be at home resting.

"It was important to me to come here this year," said Gagnon. "Being here is me fighting back. This is my neighbourhood. My community. At least today, we control the streets and the kids can have fun."



Darren Boisvert

Trocadero Orchestra Big Band is coming back to 118 Ave Saturday, Sept 10 at Kaleido Festival www.kaleidofest.ca



A business district with lots to explore

Did you know that the Alberta Avenue business district, actually called Alberta Avenue Revitalization Zone or BRZ, stretches out along 118th Ave from NAIT, with businesses like ABC Wedding Supplies (30 years on the Ave) all the way to Northlands, with businesses like Coliseum Steak and Pizza (40+ years on the Ave)? There is an entire world to explore in those 27 blocks.

Did you know that within the Alberta Avenue BRZ you can choose from nearly 40 restaurants with ethnic flavours like Eritrean at Habesha, to Caribbean at Safron's, to continental at Creative Bistro & Catering and Absolutely Edibles? The Alberta Avenue Business Association has just released the third printing of their colorful Taste of the Ave food guide and map, available at most businesses on 118th Avenue and online at www.alberta-avenue.com.

What about shopping for real frankincense that you can burn in your incense burner (it is heavenly) at Fahmo Fashions with Safi or hanging out at Afro Café with Fred after 5PM for civilized conversation over shisha pipes (hookah) and great coffee and snacks?

Do you need special ingredients for that Mexican or South American recipe? ParaisoTropicale (20 years on the Ave) is your best bet for piñatas and ingredients not easily found anywhere else.

The Alberta Avenue Business Association (AABA) represents the over 180 businesses that make up this magical place called Alberta Avenue. The volunteer board of directors is made up of 15 members who are either business or property owners, or residents, and a chairperson who works closely with the executive director, Joachim Holtz.

Working closely with the City of Edmonton, AABA serves as a liaison for business interests on "The Ave". There are a number of city programs for our businesses like The Storefront Façade Improvement Grant Program and the Development Incentive Grant Program. Check out Polar Bear Water & Health who took advantage of this and have a gorgeous new storefront in the works.

All this coolness that is currently happening on "The Ave" isn't much good unless we have people coming here to shop and eat. Business board members know only too well how important it is to grow our businesses! AABA has both strategies and plans in place to help.

Marketing and promotions for Alberta Avenue businesses are going strong! Listen to CHED radio? This is one of the highest listener radio stations in Edmonton with coverage stretching nearly from provincial border to border. Radio ads promoting restaurants, businesses and the arts started July 9th and ran to August 15th, 2011.

ETS interior bus ads focusing on our businesses started on August 15th and will run until October 15th.

Edmontonians continue to learn all about the excitement on Alberta Avenue and get into their cars to see, eat, shop and experience the new attitude for themselves.

AABA continues to be a supporter of the arts, with Arts on the Ave, as Kaleido Family Arts Festival prepares to kick off on September 9th. This arts festival, as well as Deep Freeze and others, bring thousands of people to Alberta Avenue so get your restaurants ready for hungry festival goers who will eat and shop on the Ave!

Is AABA done yet? Nope. AABA also works closely with the Edmonton Police NET team and the Avenue Initiative on safety and security projects to ensure we continue to have a safe and secure business revitalization zone for the benefit of business members, their customers and adjacent communities.

Mayor Stephen Mandel, Councillor Tony Caterina and a number of city departments continue to work closely with AABA to ensure our business concerns are recognized as planning and budgets are put together. Their ongoing support of Alberta Avenue as an important revitalization zone has made the growth and improvement of Alberta Avenue a reality.

The ongoing work of the AABA volunteer board has ensured that this city support is funneled in the right business areas on "The Ave". Many thanks to the current board and our executive director for a job well done, but not yet done. Support Alberta Avenue businesses. Shop Local. Dine Local. It's fun!

Denise Leclair,
AABA Chair and business owner of Bedouin Beats Dance Studio



Looking for a nice place to relax? Stop by and see Rashid at the Afro Cafe, 8654 - 118th Ave, for coffee, hookah, cold drinks (no alcohol) and dessert from 5PM to midnight. Private booths are available in this well-appointed gem for great conversation.

"I fix your sole and heel and dye for you." That's the tongue in cheek motto of Gioacchino (Gino) Gugliotta at Fast Show Repairs, 8652 - 118th Ave. Gino originally learned his craft over 20 years ago in Italy, and ever since he has been mending shoes, boots, backpacks, baseball gloves, bags, jackets, and all kinds of other things. Gino also makes custom shoes and cuts keys. Before coming to the Avenue in the last couple of years, he was located in Bonnie Doon mall for over 15 years.

You can find him at his shop 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, or you can email him at ggugliotta@live.com.



Denise Leclair, AABA Board Chair, with Selina Agymepang and her children at Mama Afro. Selina and her husband Isaac Acheampong own and operate Mama Afro Beauty Supply and Unisex Salon at 9323 118th Ave supplying all your hair care and styling needs including human and synthetic hair for braids and weaves, wigs, pony tails, cosmetics and jewelry. Mama Afro's specializes in African styles and they have been on the Avenue for over 4 years. They also have a downtown location. Stop by and check them out.

Safi, shown above, and her son are the owners of Fahmo Fashions, an amazing store with real frankincense, African wear, furniture, jewelry and those unique items you just can't find anywhere else. Fahmo Fashions is located at 8608 118th Avenue, or you can contact the store at (780) 758-3884.



Staying on top of a turbulent market

FINANCIAL ADVICE

Dalena McLean

I love my job as a financial advisor and what it entails. For most people though, markets and financial economics are alternate universes and quite frustrating -- if not terrifying.

Recently I have had many people approach me on the turmoil in the markets and ask me what they should do with their money.

Firstly, markets are doing what markets do. When people make withdrawals (runs) on banks and markets, they crash. Here's a very simplified how and why. Banks provide accounts/products (savings accounts, bonds, GIC's, etc) for people to deposit money and offer them an interest rate on the deposit. The bank then takes that deposited money and lends some of this money out to others and charges an interest rate. This is where money comes for the mortgages they sell.

When borrowers default and don't pay back the borrowed money to the bank, it creates a problem of solvency for the bank. When depositors start (a run) on the bank, demanding or cashing out their accounts it also creates a problem of solvency for the bank. When borrowers and

depositors do this all at once a bank can become insolvent (bankrupt). In Canada, banks are regulated and funds are insured up to \$100,000 per individual if

your bank was to go bankrupt. The same sort of principle applies for markets except there is no insurance and investors can lose all of their money.

This is a simplified understanding, but following the basics can help make better choices when investing. For example, Sarah and Carlos are clients who have a young child and are both working full time. Initially Sarah wanted to start investing and take risks. Their goals were to pay down debt, vacation and build a down-payment for a home and be rich. I took the time to explain and educate them that life and finances are a tight wire walk, we are all trying to get to the other side. Making sure we have a safety net beneath us should be our first primary and then we can venture out further onto the wire and at greater heights.

First, I had them apply for dalena.mclean@sunlife.com

insurance, secondly we started creating an emergency fund, thirdly we looked at debt management, and fourthly we looked at investing to create a down payment for a home purchase. Because of their risk tolerances and the length of time we are looking at to achieve their goals I had them place their money in guaranteed savings. They just could not afford to lose any money.

Recently, Sarah phoned in an absolute panic because she heard markets were tumbling. I laughed and assured her that by buying into only guaranteed (insured) investments, their money was still growing and safe.

So what is happening with banks and markets? Answer - the same as always has happened with banks and markets. So what should you do with your money? Answer - put a safety net under yourself before you ever wager what you can't afford to lose. Find a qualified and trusted professional financial advisor who knows what they are doing and will look after your best interests.



Kaleido Fest around the corner – and up in the air



Returning to Kaleido Fest 2011 is the Firefly Theatre & Circus. From 21st Century Gargoyles to aerial installations (above), The Avenue will be awash with the colours from Under The Sea.

Come out to support our neighbourhood's biggest festival of the year! Volunteers are still needed and treated pretty darn good. Enjoy the festival and get involved.



Bring your idea to the community!

The deadline for matching grants is the 15th of the month.

Do you have an idea that would make a difference in your neighborhood? We are looking for projects that will enhance, beautify, create a sense of community or improve safety. The Neighborhood Matching Fund will match your volunteer time or donations in kind to make your project a reality. You can apply for up to \$20,000 for large community projects. SMALL SPARKS funds up to \$250.00 for local neighborhood events such as block parties or fence painting. For an application and more information go to www.avenueinitiative.ca or call Veronica at 780-496-1913.



The Avenue Initiative is a community based revitalization of 118th Ave from Nait to Northlands. The community has come together to work with the City to develop a council approved strategy that will create a safe, walkable community for everyone.



Think beyond the big box



Alberta Avenue
118 Ave - Nait to Northlands

- Dine the Ave
- Shop Local



www.alberta-avenue.com

Kaleido's newest stage is BAROQUE – at St. Faith's Anglican Church Sat and Sunday - don't miss it.

Classic Prose

Nellie McClung

Nellie McClung, born Nellie Letitia Mooney (1873–1951) was a Canadian feminist, politician, orator and writer, and social activist. In 1927, McClung and four other women: Henrietta Muir Edwards, Emily Murphy, Louise McKinney and Irene Parlby, more commonly known as "The Famous Five" launched the "Persons Case," contending that women could be "qualified persons" eligible to sit in the Senate.

A life-long writer, she published 17 books, including *Clearing in the West: My Own Story* (1935).

After the Christmas dinner of turkey and plum pudding, the men sat and talked of the trouble Louis Riel was causing. . . Frank Burnett was indignant that the Government had not sent an armed force, just as soon as the trouble began. . .

I wanted to talk. Mr. Schultz had told us about it in school. The half-breeds and Indians had a grievance, a real one. . . But much to my delight, Hannah came forward and defended the half breeds. Hannah was always listened to when she spoke. She had what I lacked, a quiet and dignified way of expression. . .

They all began to talk; and I could feel a hostile tide of opinion gathering and sweeping ahead of it all good sense and reason and it seemed to me I would have to speak, no matter what happened. Will would listen to me anyway. I went over and stood before him.

"Will," I said, "I want to talk, make them keep quiet."

"Nellie has something on her mind," Will called out in his good humored way. "It is not often this poor tongue-tied child wants to talk, and she should get her chance on Christmas day, of all times."

Mother rose up to protest, but Will waved her back.

"Let the kid talk," he said, "talk won't hurt anyone. It's the things we don't say that hurt us, I know."

Then came the ordeal, when the silence fell on the room. I have faced audiences who were hostile since then and encountered unfriendly glances, but the antagonism here was more terrible, being directed, not as much against what I had to say, as against the fact that I dared to say anything.

I addressed Will, as people air their views in letters addressed to the Editor. "The Government is like the Machine Company, Will," I said. "The half-breeds are dissatisfied with the way they are treated, they are afraid they are going to be put off their farms, just as we were afraid when the tongue of the binder broke, and we saw we were going to lose our crop. The half-breeds have written letters, and sent people to see the Government and asked them to send out someone to straighten out their trouble, just a you, Will, wrote letters to the Company and asked them to send an expert, who would put the binder in good shape. The government won't answer the half-breeds, won't notice them, won't talk to them—and the only word they send them is a saucy word—"what we will send you will be an army; we'll put you in your place." Just as the Machine Company wrote to us a saucy letter saying that it was our own fault if the binders broke, and they couldn't supply us with brains. It's the same spirit. We should understand how the half-breeds feel. That's all I want to say," and before anyone could say a word, I left the room, glad to get away."

The Night Sky

by George Tsoukalas

When I look skyward at night,
I see that the stars twinkle in the darkness,
And, even though some sounds and shadows can cause fright,
Nothing can make me fear our world full of madness.
Some people commit evil to boost their egos,
However, I look after myself to protect my sanity from criminals,
And I put myself in the arms of the Lord as He is like an anvil,
Because just as a blacksmith forges his metal or steel in a furnace,
I turn to the Almighty God, called Elohim in Hebrew, to seek deliverance.

Foolishness on Cats and Flies

by Paula Gillis

We have no mouse in our house
To entertain the cats
And so they sleep upon my bed
They look like two old mats

Now that summer's here I find
The flies come to bug me
The cats become enfrenzied
And they dance around with glee

They spot them on the ceiling
Or buzzing by the door
If the cats can get a paw up
They'll lay upon the floor

I don't know if they eat them
But I've never seen one dead
They don't look for the treat bag
I guess they've been well fed

"Here and Now"

by Anthony Goertz

The stars fall around you, begging your feet to tread
their angel blessing above them,
like the sacred palm leaves,
they throw themselves before you out of a reverence,
an acknowledgement of what you really are.
My heart is a monument to the danger of you,
the unrelenting positions you put yourself in for me to notice (entitlement?
Arrogance? Honesty?)
The gait you work so peacefully beside, the pure wash of your gaze.
I am afraid of being alone with you.
This works better if you believe this is a diary entry, so try.
Try to lose the reality of it, sabotage its credibility with your thinking-too-much.
What remains is that I have something to say about
having something to say.
I am here I am here and I can't understand why I need
to suffer like this
here, of all places,
it's all I have, I'm always
here I've never been not here,
never been away or apart from
myself. Give me at least the here
and now. I need now as well. Take
then, or there, take 'maybe in the future,'
stay as far away from me as you can.
I will rush towards you but fend me off, I could not love you.
Something, make something up.
We couldn't be? I never had a possibility of that, did I?
My eyes tell my brain they see more than they can,
make meaning from a casual gesture,
a glance or a shrug or some off-colour joke.
My eyes know no morality, they lean towards beauty like a leaf to sun
they cannot, I cannot, live without it,
without you. Live without,
within,
withholding
here.
Now. I will rest. I am certain. I have nothing else to repent upon. I am
a cast of my former self. I am of a cast of some better self. The reason I fell in love
with what I saw
every day is
that I confused it
with the comfort of habit. My only fear
is that I will live in between stasis and longing for the rest of my body, and more out
of a fear for the stasis than for the longing.



9535
JASPER AVENUE
780.441.6966 info@theartery.ca

theartery.ca

events listing &
ticket sales



Arts & Events
community arts &
events venue

Rent the Artery
hourly, no frills &
full rental options

FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER
9

Fleetwood Mac Coverband

Featuring Rumour Has It, Dane Gretzky and Eric Ng.
Tickets \$10 at the door.
Doors at 8:30 pm. 18+. Minors prohibited.

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER
10

Dance and Silent Auction

Featuring DJ Budakron and guests.
Tickets are \$10 in advance at www.theartery.ca or at the door.
Doors at 9:00 pm.

TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER
13

The Collective West

with Bog River - Album Release.
Tickets are \$10 in advance at www.artery.ca or \$15 at the door.
Doors at 8:30 pm. All ages welcome.

\$500 in prizes at Kaleido Festival poetry slam

Poets will perform original work and compete for \$500 in prizes at the **Words from the Avenue** poetry slam that will be held September 11 as part of the Kaleido Festival.

A poetry slam is a competition where poets rap, read, and recite original work. Poets get judged on both the quality of their poem and the strength of their performance.

Everyone, young and old, is invited to participate. First prize is \$300, second prize \$150 and third prize \$50.

Depending on the number of contestants, preference will be given to poets who live in the Rat Creek Press' seven neighbourhoods.

The Rat Creek Press is hosting the poetry slam in celebration of the printed word and in support of the Kaleido Festival.

Poets who would like to compete in the poetry slam should contact Harvey Voogd at rustic13@telus.net or 780.474.2576.

Kid's Korner

Forget the fridge. Post your artwork here!

Do you like to draw? Take photos? Got a short story or poem you have written? Do you tickle your friend's funny bone's with your cartoons and jokes?

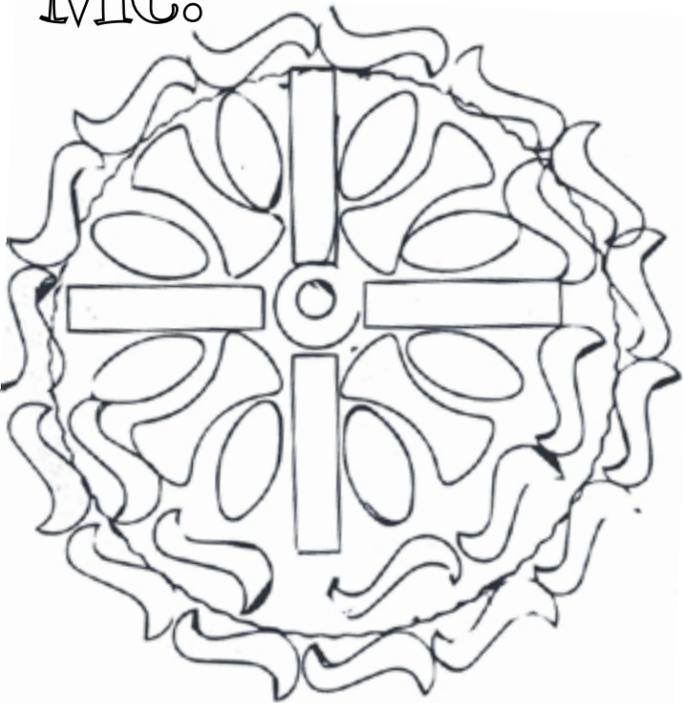
If you got the time, we've got the space for you.

The Kid's Korner is hoping to receive and publishing work by our younger readers. Everyone is encouraged to submit. All creative ideas will be warmly welcomed.

So send us your best work. We want your stuff!

Email us at editor@ratcreek.org. Mail us at 9210 - 118 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5G 0N2. Drop it off at the Alberta Avenue Community League building at 9210-118th Ave.

Color Me!



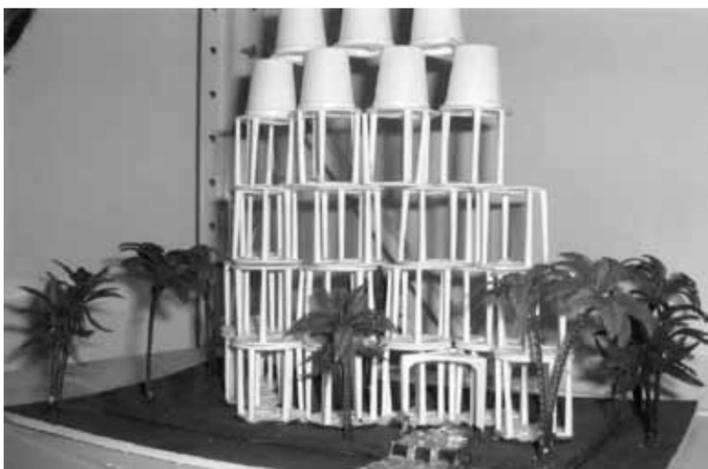
Bernice Caliguri

Pizza 'table' skyscrapers

by Bernice Caliguri

Collect the little 'tables' that come with pizza delivery boxes. Make sure you wash them first. Then imagine what they could be.

1. Use a foam board or strong cardboard for the base. You can buy cheap green felt from the "Dollar Store" or paint it up nice with whatever color you like.
2. Use glue to put the tables together. Will you build a city? How about a tall tower?
3. You can use little plastic milk cups for the tops.
4. Finish your city with anything you can find. Maybe you have streets and can put some cars there. Plastic trees and flowers are also good to use.



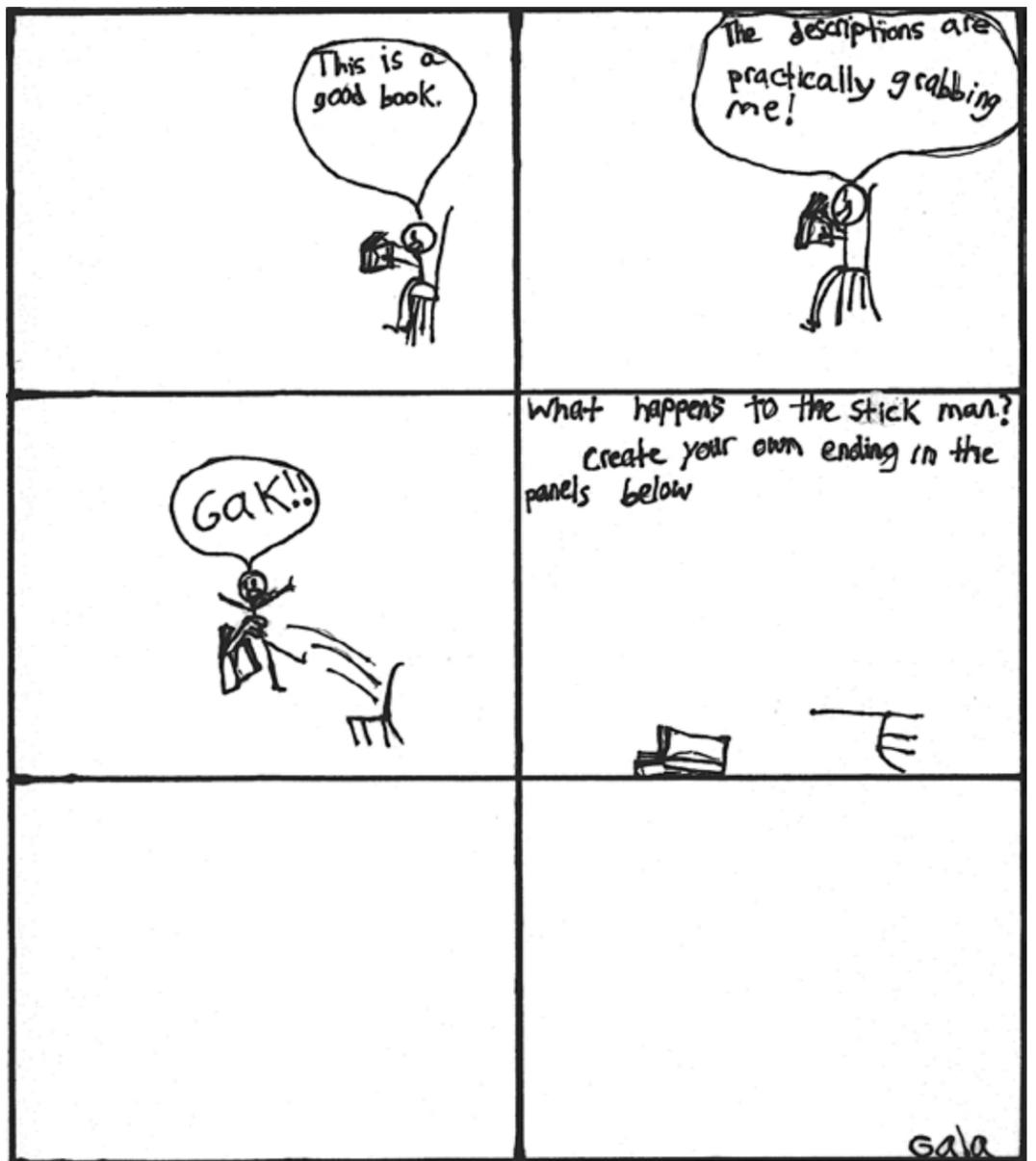
Color Me!

Find The Letters from a, to M, Circle them



The Adventures of Stick Man

by Gala Freeman



Drivers - Be careful. Kids are walking to school. Parents - Try tucking an encouraging note in your child's lunch bag.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

for the neighbourhoods of Alberta Avenue, Delton, Eastwood, Elmwood Park, Parkdale-Cromdale, Spruce Avenue and Westwood

Listings for free events and programs as well as volunteer opportunities. Submit online at ratcreek.org.

ENTERTAINMENT

BETWEEN THE COVERS

A multimedia exploration of music, literature, history and culture. This unique program blends live performances of pop music with literary readings and discussions of significant world events. Saturday, Sept 3 from 2pm-3pm at Sprucewood Library (11555 95 St). More info: 780-496-7099.

VINTAGE OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT

Join in the 1968 Herbie the Love Bug retro frenzy. It's a VW Beetle with a mind of its own. 108 minutes Bring your own lawn chair or Kaleido's open-air cinema on a giant inflatable screen. Concession on site. Friday, Sept 9 starting at 8pm behind the Alberta Avenue Community Centre (9210 118 Ave).

PAWS FOR A STORY

Read a good tale to a furry friend with a real tail! Children enjoy a 15-minute reading session with a dog from the Pet Therapy Society of Northern Alberta. Saturday, Sept 25 from 2pm-4pm at Sprucewood Library (11555 95 St). More info: 780-496-7099.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Share in stories, songs and finger plays. This family-friendly program is fun and will help your young child get ready for reading. Saturdays, Sept 24 to Nov 5 from 1:30-2pm at Sprucewood Library (11555 95 St). More info: 780-496-7099.

KARAOKE WITH CRUD

Tune up your vocal cords and join us down Green Frog's Pub (9349 118 Ave) for another hopp'n good time of socializing and singing. Friday, August 26 & Friday, September 23 at 9pm.

COMMUNITY PUB NIGHT

Come enjoy an evening with friends and neighbours. Campfire, music, games and food! Sorry no children. Friday, Sept 30 starting at 8pm at Alberta Avenue Community Centre (9210 118 Ave). Membership required from any league (can be purchased on site). More info: info@albertaave.org.

THE CARROT OPEN STAGE

Thursdays for folks 55+ 1:30-4pm. Saturdays 7pm-10pm. 9351 118 Ave, 780-471-1580.

EVENTS

FALL CORN ROAST

Thursday, Sept 8 from 5pm-8pm at the Alberta Avenue Farmers' Market. \$2 for a fresh cob of corn! Fundraiser for Kaleido Family Arts Festival.

SPRUCE AVE HARVEST FEST

Free family event with horse drawn hay rides, games and activities for the children, membership drive and

celebration of Front Yards in Bloom. Saturday, Sept 17 starting at 1:00 pm, BBQ at 5:00pm, at 10240 115 Ave.

WESTWOOD LEAGUE DAY

Bbq, big bin, kids activities. Saturday, Sept 17 at 12139 105 St.

CITY OF EDMONTON FREE ADMISSION DAY

...a celebration of recreation Family Fun September 25 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. Enjoy FREE admission at selected City of Edmonton owned and operated attractions and leisure, sport and fitness facilities. For a list of the selected locations and more information Call 311 or visit www.edmonton.ca

TALKS AT THE MARKET

Starting the end of September is a series of talks & activities in the lounge at the community centre during the farmers' market. Talks are free. Sept 29 - fall gardening, Oct 6 Off the grid, Oct 13 - for the kids by EPL, Oct 20 Homeopathy Demystified, Oct 27 - Edmonton Paranormal Society. Come learn and participate on Thursdays from 6:30-7:30. Go to www.albertaave.org for more. And don't forget to shop at the market.

PROGRAM / CLASS

TEEN TOASTMASTERS

Do you get nervous when speaking in front of an audience? Toastmasters is here to help. Build confidence in public speaking as you learn to communicate with confidence! Saturdays (Sept 24-Nov19) from 10:30am-12pm at Sprucewood Library (11555 95 St). For more info & to register: 780-496-7099.

PRACTICE ENGLISH @ YOUR LIBRARY

Are you learning English? Practise your English language skills, meet new friends and have some fun. We'll have conversations about many different topics, using materials from the library. Mondays from 6:30-8:30pm at Sprucewood Library (11555 95 St). More info: 780-496-7099.

NEEDLE FELTING WITH MIKE GERMANN

Learn the basics of felting. Materials supplied and tools will be on hand for those who don't have their own. Share ideas and techniques while chatting over a drink. The Second Saturday of the month at 1:30 pm at The Carrot Community Arts Coffee House (9351 118 Ave). More info: info@artsontheave.org or call 780-471-1580.

ENGLISH CONVERSATION CAFE

For those who need to practice their new found English language skills. Every Saturday 10-11:30am at Bethel Gospel Chapel (95 St & 117 Ave). Free child care provided.

FREE WEEKEND HEALING CIRCLE

A free healing weekend to heal the

affects of child sexual abuse. For adults only. Sept 17-18 from 9:30-5pm at Matrix Hotel. Registration Required. Call Ann at 780-721-2960.

VOLUNTEER

HELP SOMEONE ELSE LEARN

The Learning Centre Literacy Association is seeking volunteer tutors to help adults develop reading, writing and/or math skills. Volunteers participate in group learning, tutor one-to-one, or assist drop-in learners. Skills and Experience: High school level reading, writing and/or math skills. Openness to tutor and learn with adults with various life experiences, including living with homelessness. Two locations: Boyle Street Community Services and Abbottsfield Mall. Contact: Denis Lapierre Coordinator, Downtown Centre 780-429-0675 or email:dl.learningcentre@shaw.ca Susan Skaret, Abbottsfield Mall Centre 780-471-2598 or email:sskaret@telus.net

HELP AT NORWOOD CENTRE

Become a Volunteer at Norwood Child & Family Resource Centre (9516 114 Avenue) and gain experience for employment/education, meet new people, learn new skills, have fun and give back to your community. Click the volunteer tab at www.norwoodcentre.com to view positions descriptions OR Phone: 780-471-3737 to find out what positions are available.

HANG AT A GALLERY

Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts is looking for individuals willing to share 2-4 hours a week as gallery attendants. Gain experience working in a gallery setting, while supporting your neighborhood arts scene! For more info, contact Anna at volunteer@ninahaggertyart.ca

BE A COFFEE BARTENDER

Learn how to be a barista and make lattes and other coffees, then hang out at a cool coffee shop for 3 or 4 hours and visit with the interesting people who stop in. Drop by: The Carrot Community Arts Coffeehouse at 9351 118 Ave, call 780-471-1580 or visit www.thecarrot.ca.

DRIVE A SENIOR

Be a volunteer driver who spends 3-4 hours once a month to drive an elderly senior to medical appointments, banking and/or shopping. Gas reimbursed. Call 780-732-1221.

SOCIAL

FREE DOG TRAINING

Free workshops for puppies and dogs of any level. Each session will address common training requirements as well as the management of problem behaviours like barking, jumping up,

pulling, and not coming when called. For more info or to book a 1-on-1 call Darlene at K9 Behave at 780-915-0213. Every Wednesday from 6:30-7:30 at the Parkdale Rink (11335 85 St).

FAMILY PARK CRAWLS

CRUD's Family Park Crawls are the place to be every Sunday at 1:30pm. Meet families, have fun and enjoy the outdoors in our great neighbourhood parks. Aug 21 - Parkdale School (11648 85 St); Aug 28 - Norwood School (9520 111 Ave); Sept 4 - Delton School (12126 89 St); Sept 11 - Having fun at Kaleido Family Arts Festival; Sept 18 - Spruce Ave (10240 115 Ave); Sept 25 - St. Alphonsus School (11624 81 St).

BOOK TALKS BOOK CLUB

Share your love of reading. Come to this unique book club to talk about the book you are reading and listen to others talk about books they are reading. Last Wed of the month from 7:30-8:30 at Sprucewood Library (11555 95 St). More info: 780-496-7099.

MAKE MELODY

Are you a singer, songwriter musician who wants to perform and share your ideas? Join the Edmonton Melody Makers at the Carrot Saturday nights at 6pm. Contact Mj at mjn_mjn@hotmail.com for more info

FRIDAY NIGHT DROP-IN

Open-house, free coffee and snacks - games and conversation with friends. A safe place to hang out on a Friday night from 7-9pm at Salvation Army Crossroads Community Church (11661 95 St). More info: 780-474-4324.

SENIORS LUNCH

Wednesdays from 11:30am-12:45pm at Crystal Kids Youth Centre (8715 118 Ave).

L'I SPRIGS PLAYGROUP

Little Sprouts Play group is starting September 2! Come by the hall with your little ones Fridays, 1000-1200. Call the hall for more information. 780-471-4410 or parkdalecromdale.org.

CRUD DINNER CLUB

Discover new flavours and restaurants while you explore a variety of wonderful cuisine along Alberta Avenue with friends & neighbours. Check CRUD's calendar at www.crudedmonton.org or Facebook for time and location of this months feast.

SPORTS & REC

THRILL THE AVE

Classes to learn Michael Jackson's Thriller for performance at Kaleido and Thrill the World. Classes free, no dance experience necessary. For the whole family! Thursdays 7pm to 8pm at Alberta Ave Community Centre (9210 118 Ave). More info: Heather 780-454-9296, thrilltheave@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY SWIM

Free swim for Alberta Avenue & Parkdale-Cromdale Community League members. Sundays from 12pm to 2pm at Eastglen Pool (11410 64 St).

CRUD DOG WALKING GROUP

Meet neighbours and their canine companions while walking around the community. Mondays evenings: 6:30pm in front of St. Alphonsus Church (11828-85 St). Walk is cancelled if raining. More info:www.crudedmonton.org.

NOTICES

LAST BIG BIN EVENT OF THE SEASON!!

City residents can drop off items such as old couches, chairs, mattresses, and appliances free of charge. Computers and other electronics will also be accepted for recycling. Do not bring household hazardous waste like paint, varnish, household cleaners or batteries. Sept 17 & 18 from 9am to 5pm at Commonwealth Stadium (112 Ave & 90 St).

YOUTH PRESENTATION

Please join CRUD and Streetworks on Saturday, October 1 at 1:00pm at Eastwood Hall (11803 86 Street) for a presentation on youth addiction and harm reduction. This is an open and informative event with a hotdog BBQ to follow.

BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED

The Rat Creek Press is in need of more board members. Annual General Meeting is November 7. Contact board@ratcreek.org

NICE NEIGHBOUR RECOGNITION

Do you know someone who makes your neighbourhood a better place to live? Then why not nominate them for CRUD's Nice Neighbour Recognition Award and give some recognition to those that make our community great. Nominations are accepted via e-mail atinfo@crudedmonton.org.

COPS AT THE CARROT

Join EPS members every Tuesday morning from 9:30 to 11 am for open and direct access to the EPS members working in your community. Bring your questions and comments or come in for a visit and coffee.

CLASSIFIEDS

NEWS FROM PARKDALE-CROMDALE

Fall programming to start in September at Parkdale-Cromdale hall. Yoga will be returning on Tuesday nights from 730-900. Welcome to The Capoeira Academy, starting the week of September 6th. Come out and give it a try!! Free dog training in the rink on Wednesday nights starting at 630. Contact the hall at 780-471-4410 or parkdalecromdale.org for more details, times, dates and fees.

Church Services

Avenue Vineyard Church

A friendly, informal, non-judgmental and safe place to grow spiritually. Traditional Christian values in a non-traditional way.

8718 118 Ave (Crystal Kids building)

Sundays at 10:30 am
www.avenuevineyard.com

Bethel Gospel Chapel

A Bible-based, multi-ethnic fellowship

11461 95 St. 780-477-3341

Sunday meetings:

9:30 AM – Lord's Supper
11:00 AM – Family Bible Hour
Saturdays – Free English Conversation Café for immigrants

St. Faith's Anglican Church

St. Stephen the Martyr Anglican Church

Two Traditions – One Faith

St. Faith - (780) 477-5931 St. Stephen the Martyr – (780) 422-3240
11725-93 Street, Edmonton, AB

Sunday Services

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (St. Stephen)
9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (St. Stephen)
9:30 a.m. High Mass (St. Stephen)
11:00 a.m. Sunday Eucharist (St. Faith)
7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer (St. Stephen)

St. Faith and St. Stephen invite all to worship with them. St. Stephen uses the Book of Common Prayer in the rich worship style of Anglo-Catholicism; St. Faith worships according to the Book of Alternative Services and has a more contemporary service in language and form. Both churches are community-focused with St. Faith providing a hot breakfast the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month and supper the 3rd Friday of the month.

Advertise your church here for only \$120/year.
Contact ads@ratcreek.org

Advertise in the Rat Creek Press!

Contact us at
ads@ratcreek.org
or 780-479-6285

www.ratcreek.org

Aurora Lantern Parade Friday, Sept 9th at 10pm starting at The Carrot (9351 118 Ave). Street Party to follow!

GOT COMMUNITY NEWS?!
CALL US!
780-479-6285

THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 8
 5 PM TO 8 PM



FALL CORN ROAST

\$2 FOR A FRESH COB OF CORN!
 ROASTED TO PERFECTION

at the Alberta Avenue Farmers' Market
 93 Street and 118 Avenue

Funds raised will support the Arts on the Ave Kaleido Family Arts Festival



nice neighbour
 RECOGNITION

Do you know someone who makes your neighbourhood a better place to live? Then why not nominate them for the monthly **Nice Neighbour Recognition Award**.

For further details contact CRUD.

COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO URBAN DISORDER
 T: 780.996.4728 | email: info@crudedmonton.org
 www.crudedmonton.org



Vintage Movie Night:
Outdoor Movie Reel!

AT **Kaleido**
 FAMILY ARTS FESTIVAL



Friday, September 9
8pm

9210 118 Avenue
 behind the community centre

Join the 1968 Herbie the Love Bug retro frenzy. Its a VW Beetle with a mind of its own! **108 minutes**

Bring your lawn chair to Kaleido's open-air cinema on a giant inflatable screen.

Concession on site

sponsored by  Avenue Vineyard Community Church
Standing steady through hills, trees and time



BE PART OF THE SHOW

If you want a job that's exciting, rewarding, and entertaining, all at the same time... that's what awaits when you join the show at Northlands. Be part of the team behind the best events in entertainment, business, agriculture and horse racing. Come share your enthusiasm and commitment to excellent customer service. Be an ambassador for one of the greatest facilities in the world, known for its outstanding spirit and volunteerism.

Here's just some of the great northlands job perks:

- Exciting and fun place to work
- Flexible shifts
- On-the-job training
- Generous benefits
- Pay increase incentives
- Opportunities for advancement
- Gain valuable experience
- Year-round employment available
- Staff incentive and recognition programs

We have a variety of job options available. Please visit northlands.com for more details.

