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APRIL 2014

NEWS » DEVELOPMENT

## Pilot housing program brings hope

Qualifying Edmonton homeowners have an opportunity to repair their homes



(Above) Dennis Lee, the City of Edmonton HOPE inspector, shows the Raos' new, high-efficiency furnace. (Right) Rebecca Lippiatt has just started the application process for the HOPE program. » SUPPLIED



TALEA MEDYNSKI

Home repairs can be costly, especially if it's plumbing or heating.

But you may be in luck. A pilot program called Housing Opportunities Program for Edmonton (HOPE) is available through the City of Edmonton.

According to the City of Edmonton website, "HOPE will help qualifying homeowners bring their homes to a minimum standard of health and safety relating to plumbing, heating, electrical, structural, fire safety, disability modifications and energy efficiency."

HOPE provides eligible homeowners up to \$20,000 in grants for repairs to be completed with the year the grant is given. Homeowners enter into a 20-year agreement with the city. If they move before the 20 years is up, they must repay the grant in full.

The two-year pilot program is entering its second year. Last year only residents from high

need neighbourhoods were eligible. Now, any qualifying Edmontonian can apply, meaning your gross income must fall below a certain amount.

For example, a two-person household must make below a combined \$50,879 to qualify for HOPE.

Alberta Avenue residents Mike and Betty Rao are half-way through the program. The couple is also taking advantage of the city's Curb Appeal program.

After buying their two-bedroom home in 2010, the couple knew they still needed to tackle repairs, like replacing their 28-year-old water heater and installing new windows with the ability to open. With the birth of their son Benjamin two years ago, Mike became a stay-at-home father while Betty worked. Like many homeowners, it was difficult for them to find the extra funds for repairs.

Then, they discovered the HOPE program through a brochure and applied last fall.

The Raos are happy with the program. They've received the full \$20,000 grant as well as \$2,000 for the Carbon Dioxide Reduction Program grant, which goes towards improving energy-efficiency.

They have already replaced their water heater, switched their old toilet with a water-saving one, replaced their old furnace with a high-efficiency model, and topped up insulation in the attic. Soon they will be replacing windows and shingles.

"The application is very simple," said Mike.

Dennis Lee is the city's Safety Codes Officer and the only inspector for the program. Lee inspects the home to determine what repairs are necessary.

"I go through the list of repairs with the homeowners and help establish priorities," said Lee.

Homeowners get in touch with contractors and get a minimum of two quotes. Contractors need to be quali-

fied, said Lee. The city pays the contractors directly.

"We couldn't have made improvements without the program," said Rao. He also points out how the program is much more than money. "The service the city gives us, all the help with planning and contractors, that was most valuable".

Rao said he and his wife have learned more about maintaining their home and how it's not always best to buy cheaper equipment, adding that Lee suggested they buy the higher-quality and more efficient water heater and furnace.

"Once a project is finished, the city inspects it to make sure it's done properly," said Rao.

"I do an average of 10 inspections on every property," said Lee.

Rebecca Lippiatt has just started the application process. Lippiatt, a single mother and photographer living in the

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NEWS » HOUSING

# Alberta Avenue area home boarded for 90 days

ALERT and Edmonton Police Service have been investigating the home since 2011

ROB BERNSHAW

On February 20, neighbours watched as workers from the provincial ALERT Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN) team boarded the windows and erected a fence around an Alberta Avenue home.

Residents of the 120 Avenue and 90 Street home left in compliance with a Community Safety Order (CSO) under SCAN, served and implemented by sheriffs of the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT).

An addiction to crack cocaine led to the intervention. According to the ALERT press release, the home has “generated over 100 calls for service since 2007. In January 2012 it was the scene of a drive-by

shooting that was related to an unpaid drug debt.”

The home will remain empty for 90 days and will continue to be monitored. If necessary, another CSO will be obtained from a Court of Queen’s Bench judge.

A crucial part of investigations is community involvement and confidentiality.

“The people that call in are confidential; I cannot release their information to you, to anybody. I do not know who complained on this property. It empowers citizens to report these problem properties because they do not have to worry about going to court,” said Chip Sawchuk, SCAN manager.

The constant comings and goings from the home was an education to neighbour Glenn

McLean. “Why didn’t the police respond to this situation five years ago? That is what befuddles me,” said McLean.

McLean said people around the neighborhood were collecting license plate numbers continually and had been complaining about the home for years.

Not all properties SCAN teams investigate end up closed; the goal is to improve community safety and target property, not pursue individuals or lay criminal charges. SCAN holds property owners accountable for activities on their property.

Investigators first try solving the problem through warnings and meetings before taking legal action through a CSO. SCAN works closely with Edmonton Police Service and the two groups share resources.



The Alberta Avenue home at 12033 90 St has been closed for 90 days following an investigation by ALERT and Edmonton Police Service. >> ROB BERNSHAW

Continued from page 1.

Norwood neighbourhood, is collecting quotes from contractors. She hasn’t yet received the grant, but her 1912 home needs work such as partial foundation repairs, new windows, and electrical work.

“My house is sagging in the centre like an old lady,” said Lippiatt, explaining her home also needs teleposts for support.

Lippiatt said Lee makes a point of keeping her updated on the progress.

“It’s a huge weight off my mind I can get these things done,” said Lippiatt. “I intend to live in this house until I die.” Homeowners have been accessing the program. In 2013, 15 homeowners received funding.

This year, 33 homeowners have started the preliminary steps of the program. Nine homeowners have already completed the program, and there’s currently 12 people on the waiting list.

The program ends in December of this year, although people can still apply until the end of the year.

“We’re looking at options for carrying the budget into the next year, but it’s up to the city council,” said Lee.

The city allocated \$4 million to the program, which Lee said won’t be used by the end of this year.

“We’re hoping to get provincial funding – that’s one reason why we ask for a 20 year commitment,” said Lee. “I believe the province wants this pro-

gram to become self-funding.”

Lee acknowledges some homes receiving the grant will be sold before the 20-year agreement is over, allowing money to go back into the program. Despite that, it’s a decent way to fund home repairs.

“Look at it as an interest-free loan,” said Lee, and added many homeowners don’t have the option of receiving a bank loan.

Qualifying properties should have repairs over \$1,000 and be over 15 years old or at least five years old if the property is being modified for someone with a disability.

Check out the City of Edmonton website for more information: [www.edmonton.ca/hope](http://www.edmonton.ca/hope).

In upcoming issues, the *Rat*

*Creek Press* will feature two other housing grants: secondary suites and curb appeal.

WHO QUALIFIES?

Income level determines eligibility.

For households over one person, the income levels listed are combined, gross incomes.

- One person household: \$33,517
- Two person household: \$50,879
- Three person household: \$54,857
- Four person household: \$65,662
- Five (or more) person household: \$68,960

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE HOPE PROGRAM

Recipients may receive up to \$20,000 in grants.

The homeowner and the City of Edmonton sign an agreement, and the homeowner must stay in the home for the next 20 years or pay the amount back.

Repairs must be completed within the year the grant is given.

Recipients may also receive a \$2,000 Carbon Dioxide Reduction Program grant. This grant does not have to be paid back and goes towards improving energy-efficiency.

More info: [edmonton.ca/hope](http://edmonton.ca/hope)

**EDMONTON**

**Play and Save**  
Summer Day Camps for Low Income Families

The following fun filled day camps will be running in the Central-Downtown Area this summer!

**Registration Start April 29, 2014! Call 311\***

\*Credit card only through 311.

To pay cash, debit or credit please visit any City Recreation Centre such as Commonwealth Community Recreation Centre

Camp names, location, times and prices subject are to change. The information at 311 or the City facilities will be considered correct if there is a discrepancy.

Alberta Avenue  
Bellevue  
Boyle Street  
Central Lions  
Cromdale  
Eastwood  
Delton  
Killarney  
Montrose  
Newton  
Parkdale  
Queen Mary Park  
Spruce Avenue  
Westwood

City of Edmonton

**PLAY AND SAVE!**  
Summer Day Camps for Low Income Families

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Half Day 9am - 11:30am	Trex & Friends Ages 3 - 5 \$11.00 517669 Central Lions							
Half Day 1:30 - 4:00pm	Kinder Sports Ages 4 - 6 \$11.00 517671 Alberta Ave				Castles & Kingdoms Age 3 - 5 \$19.00 517681 Queen Mary Park		Kinder Cooks Age 4 - 6 \$19.00 517686 Parkdale/ Cromdale	
Full Day 9:00am - 4:00pm	Surviving Summer Ages 9 - 12 \$20.00 517691 Eastwood	The Great Treasure Hunt Ages 6 - 9 \$30.00 517694 Parkdale/Cromdale	Arts Galore Ages 6 - 9 \$37.00 517705 Alberta Ave	Surviving Summer Ages 6 - 10 \$34.00 517722 Queen Mary Park	Splash & Dash Ages 9 - 12 \$33.00 517727 Killarney	Camp Sampler Ages 6 - 9 \$27.00 517703 Bellevue	Creative Café Ages 6 - 9 \$34.00 517729 Spruce Ave	Just for Girls Ages 9 - 12 \$34.00 517746 Westwood
	Arventure Ages 8 - 12 \$37.00 517697 Delton	Secret Agent Camp Ages 9 - 12 \$50.00 517709 Montrose	Multi Sports Ages 8 - 12 \$34.00 517723 Newton			On Broadway (2 Week Camp) Ages 8 - 12 \$63.00 517741 Boyle Street		

**EDMONTON**

**alberta avenue COMMUNITY CENTRE** Wine & Cheese AGM. Howard Lawrence on Abundant Community. Connecting neighbours. April 15 at 7 pm.

REVIEW » FOOD

# Something a little spicy

Lan's Asian Grill offers a delicious taste both familiar and fresh



**LAN'S ASIAN GRILL**

11828 103 STREET NW

PHONE: 780.478.8805

HOURS: TUESDAY - THURSDAY:  
11 AM-8 PM; FRIDAY - SATURDAY:  
11 AM-9 PM; CLOSED: SUNDAYS  
& MONDAYS

DYLAN THOMPSON

Near the Value Village on 118 Avenue, Lan's Asian Grill is a Vietnamese and Thai fusion restaurant offering a fresh, delicious take on some familiar flavours.

The walls are decorated with framed pictures of traditional Eastern cuisine ingredients with an explanation of each and its typical culinary purpose.

Tom Lin, the owner, is affable and smiley, ready to chat up everyone who walks in the door. His sister, Monica, is the head chef and co-owner.

Lan's is truly a family affair; the restaurant is named after their mother, Lan. Tom is also quick to point out his father, Sunny, who waves to me as he buses a table.

My fiancée and I place our

order at the counter and are escorted to our table to await our meal. But first, we stop at a table stocked with water jugs to help ourselves to some refreshment.

Each blue-topped table comes fully stocked with sriracha, hoisin sauce, napkins, and chopsticks.

Everything in the restaurant is spaced apart quite nicely. My fiancée remarks that at many similar restaurants, "the tables are too packed together and the service suffers because you're bumping elbows with some stranger."

I can see the kitchen from my seat and I watch flames spit to the roof as the chefs toss fresh ingredients in oil.

Our appetizers are an order of spring rolls (\$6) and a green onion cake (\$3) and arrive within five minutes. Both are piping hot and served with sweet chili sauce.

The green onion cake is soft inside with just the right amount of crunch. The spring rolls are likewise crunchy and stuffed with vegetables. There is also a meat option available. Each bite leaves surprisingly little grease on the fingers.

My fiancée and I order the Chicken Pad Thai (\$13) for our main. I decide to throw caution to the wind and demand the two times hot. Both Tom and Nick express concern over my choice but I wave off their objections with the comment, "I eat sriracha like ketchup!"

When our order arrives, I'm struck immediately by its lovely colour. Long noodles, sprouts, chicken, and tofu, are all accented with a sprinkling of peanuts and a slice of lime on the side, which I squeeze all over.

With my first few bites, I scoff and comment to my fiancée that I could have handled the three times hot. Soon, the heat builds up until I realize I have been bested and will be taking two-thirds of my meal home as leftovers. Let's just say, I'm glad you can refill your own water.

That's not a complaint. Too many restaurants call food no hotter than a mild salsa "hot." I appreciate a place that can really turn up the heat!

My fiancée chose the medium heat pad Thai, which is also more than she can handle. And she's no lightweight, either.



The Lin family owns and operates Lan's Asian Grill. >> REBECCA LIPPIATT

If you can't handle the heat, maybe stick to mild when you come to Lan's.

If I had to choose one word to describe Lan's Asian Grill, it would be: genuine. The food,

the atmosphere, the small talk, it all feels genuine.

I would definitely recommend Lan's Asian Grill and I will probably be returning with friends soon enough!

# PENNY CARNIVAL

Come one, come all! The penny is gone, but the fun remains. Join us to play games for all ages and abilities. Old-fashioned amusement at an old-fashioned price, with prizes and food too.

Admission is 50¢ AND you can play all the games you want!

Saturday, April 12th  
1:30pm to 4:00pm  
Alberta Avenue Hall  
9210 118 Avenue

Sponsored by Avenue Vineyard Community Church  
www.avenuevineyard.com  
For more info call 780-716-6823

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# LOOKING FOR A SPOT TO GARDEN?

Plots available in 3 local gardens:  
Alberta Avenue (9210 118 Ave), Eastwood (119 Ave & 86 St)  
Elmwood Park (125 Ave & 75 St)

Do you live in the Norwood area? We need 8-10 gardeners to discuss a Norwood garden as early as 2015.

For a garden plot this year or to show interest in Norwood: Contact Rocky at 780.496.3782 or rocky.pilisko@edmonton.ca

SUSTAINABLE FOOD EDMONTON

WHAT'S ON » ACTIVITIES

# Retro bowling time warp

Family business has provided five decades of family fun

SHELAINÉ SPARROW

I admit the invitation to my daughter's fifth birthday party at Plaza Bowl described the location as having "a kind of creepy entrance."

Because I invited parents I didn't know from outside the neighbourhood, I wanted them to know what they were looking for. But everyone was thrilled once inside the basement bowling alley of the dusty 118 Avenue strip mall.

Plaza Bowl is a delightfully authentic time warp. The place is original, right down to the Lifesaver chocolate bar display.

"There are only a few of the flavours still available," said Terry Stride, the owner and operator.

Stride would know. He is also an authentic fixture of the place. His father opened Plaza Bowl in 1960, back when the original Sears store was across the street.

Stride worked as a pin setter for "five cents a game," which he tells me was a good job for a kid back then.

Those were different times. Plaza Bowl has seen many changes over the last five decades. Terry tells me at one point, "when women didn't work, there was a nursery with three staff to accommodate the daytime ladies' league."

It's more typical to have mothers at work and kids in daycare today, but Plaza Bowl has stayed the same. And not by accident, though Stride admits "time has a way of creeping up on you."

The facility has been faithfully maintained. The chrome, the benches, the wall,



The vintage bowling alley has maintained its original look. >> SHELAINÉ SPARROW

the fabric – all are in mint condition. Stride does all the maintenance, even mechanical repairs.

"Everything is refinished each year," Stride said, who took over the business in 1977.

"It's stood the test of time and stayed a family business. One of the few family merchants on the Ave that have lasted," said Stride. "We see a lot of customers. A lot. All types."

In addition to the leagues for men, women and youth, Plaza hosts many phys-ed classes throughout the week and Special Olympics every weekend. The bowling alley is seeing a bit of a comeback with a rise in staff socials and functions, families, and birthday parties.

"The kids' parties are easy," he said.

Easy for the parents, too. A

\$45 per lane rental includes shoes, an hour of bowling and the party room for an hour after. No neon, no obnoxious music. Just bowling with friends and family.

Unlike those parties at bouncy places where parents sit painfully waiting, at Plaza Bowl, parents can bowl with the kids and even have a beer. How awesome is that?

There is something wonderfully unpretentious about bowling. Maybe it's because you wear shoes that aren't your own. Shared shoes. The authenticity and retro vibe of Plaza Bowl seems to align with that.

**PLAZA BOWL**  
10418 118 Avenue  
PH: 780.477.7848  
HOURS: MON-SAT 9 am-10 pm;  
SUN 1 pm-6 pm

# Old-fashioned fun

Carnival offers honest entertainment



Face painting is one of the activities at the Penny Carnival. >> WAYNE THOMAS

DAVE VON BIEKER

Step inside the Alberta Avenue Community League on Saturday, April 12, and you may feel you've gone back in time.

You'll find hand-made carnival games, like ring-toss and mini-golf. There will be face painting and the squeak of balloon animals. You'll meet families having fun together at the Avenue Vineyard Penny Carnival.

My daughter tells me everyone in her class has their own iPad, or iSomething. Surely, this is an exaggeration, but it's clear we are in an age where much of our kids' playtime is spent in the virtual world. It is refreshing to toss a beanbag while family and neighbours cheer.

The family interaction around these lo-fi games is the real attraction.

"Our hope," Pastor Wayne Thomas tells me, "is to give families an event they can enjoy together. A chance to interact with each other and interact with other families in the com-

munity."

The Penny Carnival has run over five years and is one of two major events put on by Avenue Vineyard Church and supported by the Neighborhood Revitalization Matching Grant (the other is an outdoor movie).

Avenue Vineyard members David and Esther Stockburger have taken on the carnival as a labour of love. David, who likes building stuff, developed almost all of the games. Most of Avenue Vineyard's congregation will volunteer.

When I ask Wayne what stands out from past carnivals, he answers simply, "Just laughter ... I remember for the first two years I was put in a situation that involved water. The kids loved getting me soaking wet."

Bring your family and join the fun and laughter.

**AVENUE VINEYARD PENNY CARNIVAL**  
Alberta Avenue Community League  
9210 118 Avenue  
Saturday, April 12, 1:30 pm-4 pm  
Unlimited games: fifty cents

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WHAT'S ON » SHOPPING

# Searching for treasure

Thrift shopping a source of bargains and one-of-a-kind items

CADENCE BERGMAN

I start my afternoon at an old haunt: Wee Book Inn. Today, paperback classics, movies, and children's books catch my interest.

It seems like time slows down, or even spins a little backwards as my fingers flip through titles. A jaded cat is always here, like a tired sentinel, patrolling the aisles or dozing in a corner. I pick out a few old books and chat with Rick at the counter before finding my way to Bissell Centre Thrift Shoppe.

There is a lot to love about second-hand shopping. The pleasure of strolling and gazing at the cornucopia of goods satisfies for a while. Really, you're waiting to spot something you can't describe – but you'll know it when you see it. It will be a good bargain, it will be just what you wanted, and it will be one-of-a-kind.

"Bingo!" A woman's voice calls one aisle over from where I'm standing. She's discovered a lilac fleece jacket that fits her

perfectly.

"This reminds me of the old poem," she muses: "When I am an old woman, I shall wear purple/With a red hat which doesn't go..." Her name is Lynn Cox and she's a Parkdale resident. Cox describes shopping at second-hand stores as "shopping smart."

"It's fun," said Cox, "I can buy things with attitude and it leaves more money left over for other things we need."

We're not alone in the aisles on Saturday afternoon. Delton resident Brenda Moore is also shopping today, filling a basket with clothing.

"These things are all new to me, and I can update my wardrobe for spring. It's a rush to find something. Many people in the neighbourhood need these stores, too," said Moore.

While we browse, steady streams of people come in and go out. They need work boots, skates; one woman asks about puzzles. Almost everyone finds what he or she came for.

A jean jacket is hanging on

the rack – after considering it for a moment, I try it on. It fits me, looks brand new, and is a bargain at \$6. My two shopping companions approve, and the matter is settled.

I wander over to the glass jewellery case by the register. Graceful to gaudy, baubles catch my eye and hint about their secret histories, like a Barrhead Legion pin, a Wright Brothers glider plane belt buckle, a candy cane Christmas brooch, and tiny charms. Funky art loiters on the wall, hoping to catch someone's eye.

I'm on my way out when I pass a bin of new items. Among the platters, toys and clothes sits an antique green and yellow kitchen scale. A burst of satisfaction courses through me like an errant electrical current. This is it – my find! I seize it like a jealous magpie.

The woman unloading the bin laughs softly. "I didn't think that would last long," she said.

I leave the store where old things are discovered again, but I'll return.

SEEK OUT GREAT FINDS AT LOCAL SECOND-HAND SHOPS

Places to start a second-hand treasure hunt:

**BISSELL CENTRE THRIFT SHOPPE**

Due to a fire at their permanent location, the Bissell Centre Thrift Shoppe is temporarily located at 11817 80 Street. The Thrift Shoppe carries clothes, toys and household items. Proceeds of all sales support Bissell programs which help move low-income Edmontonians out of poverty.

**REUSE CENTRE**

The City of Edmonton's Reuse Centre is a little different. This facility doesn't deal in clothes or housewares, but takes in extra craft, office and school supplies as well as paper and plastic materials. After paying a fee of \$5 per visit or \$50 annually, just pick what you need. The Reuse Centre is meant to promote recycling and keep usable items out of landfills. Find it downtown at 10004 103A Avenue.

**SUPERFLEA MARKET**

Go west a little for the Superflea Market, located at 12011 111 Avenue. The market is open on weekends from 10 am to 5 pm and hosts many vendors with a wide variety of previously-owned goods.

**VALUE VILLAGE**

An old standby, the classic thrift store is on the Ave. Located at 11850 103 Street, this location sells clothing and housewares, books, toys and some furniture. Value Village also gives back by partnering with non-profit organizations in the community and paying them for collecting donations.

**WEE BOOK INN**

Wee Book Inn can be found at 8101 118 Avenue. The second-hand book store has been a fixture of the community for almost 35 years. Discounted paperback novels, classic literature, comics and movies line the shelves. Shoppers can trade in their good quality books and DVDs for new material. While the bread and butter here is paperback trade-ins, collectors can also hunt for that special item, and can tap into the four Edmonton locations to help with the search.



Find superheros in the large assortment of comic books at the Wee Book Inn.



Antique kitchen scale.



A variety of unique artwork at Bissell Centre Thrift Shoppe. >> CADENCE BERGMAN

How about an extra \$20,000 towards your home repairs?

**HOPE: Housing Opportunities Program for Edmonton**

HOPE provides a one-time conditional grant of up to **\$20,000** for qualifying homeowners.

You can use the money for major repairs or disability modifications to your home. Your application will be automatically considered for an additional **\$2,000** for energy-efficient retrofits.

Download your application via [edmonton.ca/hope](http://edmonton.ca/hope) or email [hope@edmonton.ca](mailto:hope@edmonton.ca) to have an application sent to you.

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EDITORIAL

# A fine way of doing things

A day-fine means everyone pays according to his or her means

DYLAN THOMPSON

What is the point of a fine? Why are we charged money for breaking minor laws? Is it meant to raise money for the city? Is it meant to deter unseemly behaviour?

It's both; a bit of a win-win, if you will. The city maintains order in a minimally obtrusive way (less so than prison, at least) and shores up the always-wanting coffers at City Hall.

Is the way we calculate and administer fines now the best way?

Let's say an average person like you or me comes back to their car after running a little long in a meeting downtown. The meter has run out and they find a slip of paper under their windshield wiper demanding \$50.

For many, that could be a real blow to the pocketbook, the difference between making rent and falling short. Especially since the cost of living in this province is always escalating.

Yet, is a \$50 ticket that big of a deal for everyone?

According to the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, as of January 28, 2013, Alberta had the highest income inequality in Canada. The highest paid person in Alberta makes about 18 times as much as the average Albertan. In Calgary, this is closer to 26-1. In 1980, the top earners made closer to nine times the average amount.

By January 2 of this year, the top 100 CEOs in Canada had already pulled in income equivalent to what the average worker will earn as of December 31.

This being Alberta, there are also the well-compensated workers from the oil sands who typically pull in a six-figure

**“The highest paid person in Alberta makes about 18 times as much as the average Albertan. In Calgary, this is closer to 26-1.”**

salary. You can recognize these folks because many of them are under 30 and mostly drive enormous trucks and park them across at least two stalls at your local Safeway.

What do these wealthy Albertans have in common? A \$50 parking ticket is pretty much a pittance.

Enter the day-fine. Under this system, above a reasonable minimum fine, an offender's daily personal income determines the penalty. According to

Wikipedia's page on day-fines, "as incarceration is a financial punishment, in the effect of preventing work, a day-fine represents one day incarcerated and without salary."

This isn't some radical, untested idea, either: Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Croatia, Switzerland, Macao (a region of China), and Germany all have day-fine systems.

In Finland, a fine may consist of one to 120 day-fines, with each day-fine calculated as a per cent of the offender's last known annual income.

In 2009, a wealthy Finnish businessman opened his mailbox and found a speeding ticket for €112,000. This may seem like a lot, but when your income tops €10 million a year, €112,000 isn't that much money. In fact, it is about a hundredth of a per cent.

A day-fine system would have two benefits for Edmonton. First, it would increase the amount of revenue the city receives from fines. Second, and perhaps more importantly, the day-fine would provide an actual deterrent for our city's richest residents.

I'm not suggesting our well-to-do residents break the law at a rate any different than the average person. However, one has to wonder how often a quick and dirty cost-benefit assessment will lead someone of means to drive a little faster or park a little longer.



# Who's next door?

Rediscover the lost art of neighbouring



KAREN MYKIETKA

Can you name your eight closest neighbours? Do you know anything about them other than what you can see from your house? Have you ever interacted or connected with them in any way?

What would be different if we took the time to get to know our neighbours?

Maybe you wouldn't be so quick to judge the neighbour with the unkempt yard if you realized all his time was spent caring for his wife who is dying of cancer.

The big, tattooed guy down the street may frighten you, but if you took the time to chat with him you would discover he fixes bicycles. You can't afford a new bike and your son's bike needs repairs.

You just donated all your children's outgrown winter clothing at Value Village. Meanwhile, the new family next door is from Africa and desperately in need of winter clothing.

The Denver mayor Bob Frie said, "The majority of the issues that our community is facing would be eliminated or drastically reduced if we could just figure out a way to

become a community of great neighbours."

There is abundance in our communities. We all have something valuable to give and we all need at times. But many of us lead isolated lives, unaware of the gifts, skills and abilities of our neighbours.

And how many of us are helping create the communities we want to live in? Or are we simply consuming our neighbourhood parks, schools, program and events like we do everything else?

What keeps you from doing something as simple as having a friendly conversation with people who live nearby?

We have to get beyond our individualism, entitlement and self-interest if we are going to create true communities. Stepping out of our normal routine and our comfort zone to connect with a stranger takes being intentional.

Challenge yourself to create opportunities to interact with your neighbours. Connect with them by sharing something of yourself and being interested in them as people.

And remember the art of neighbouring adds value for everyone – you, your neighbours and your community.

RAT CREEK PRESS ASSOCIATION 9210 118 AVENUE, EDMONTON, AB T5G 0N2 | T: 780.479.6285

**ABOUT US**

The *Rat Creek Press* is a non-profit community newspaper in north central Edmonton serving the communities of Alberta Avenue, Delton, Eastwood, Elmwood Park, Parkdale-Cromdale, Spruce Avenue and Westwood.

**COMMUNITY, COMMUNICATION, CAPACITY**

The *Rat Creek Press* goals are to help connect residents with what is happening in the community, provide a forum where information and ideas can be exchanged, and help individuals learn new skills, acquire experience and develop leadership.

**PUBLISHER**

Karen Mykietka info@ratcreek.org

**EDITORS**

Karen Mykietka, Talea Medynski editor@ratcreek.org

**LITERARY EDITOR**

Rusti L. Leahy lit@ratcreek.org

**PHOTO EDITOR**

Rebecca Lippiatt photo@ratcreek.org

**DESIGNER**

Michelle Hayduk design@ratcreek.org

**ADVERTISING**

ads@ratcreek.org

**PROOFREADING**

Cath Jackel

**CONTRIBUTORS**

Talea Medynski, Rob Bernshaw, Dylan Thompson, Rebecca Lippiatt, Shelaine Sparrow, Wayne Thomas, Dave Von Bieker, Cadence Bergman, Karen Mykietka, Rusti Leahy, Rayanne Doucet, Wolfgang Carstens, Ky Perrau, John Yamrus, Marlene Salmonson, Henri Yauck, Chantal Figeat.

**DISTRIBUTION**

John Larsen, Margaret Larsen, Arlene Kemble, Cantelon Family, Bettyann Dolata, Melanie Moore, Karen Mykietka

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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 400-700 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 at editor@ratcreek.org, or 9210-118 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5G 0N2. Mail may also be dropped at the address above.

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

Space is available to non-profit groups for event and program listings as well as volunteer opportunities on a first-come first-serve basis and will be printed as space permits.

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POLICE » INTERVIEW

# One-on-one with police Chief Rod Knecht

Interview highlights about community, crime prevention, and more

KAREN MYKIETKA

In December, I sat down with police Chief Knecht to talk about community concerns. Here are some highlights of our conversation.

**Question: What is your take on the community policing model?**

**Answer:** We are a community-based police service, so we want to hear from the community.

It's important for us to get that community feedback all the time so we can adjust our programs, do things a little bit differently. Sometimes we may say the biggest problem in your neighbourhood is break and enters, for example, and the public will say no, we think it's speeding in the school zones. So it's important to have that dialogue with the community.

I think historically, we the police service would tell you what we were going to deliver as a service. But if you are truly a community-based police service you invert that model and what you do is listen to the community and respond to what they want and what they expect from their police service.

**Question: How do you see the role of the community liaison constable?**

**Answer:** So as far as the community liaison constables go, obviously, they are supposed to be the front line. They are in the communities and dialoguing and working with the communities around strategies to make the community safer. Our business is really all about trust. Getting the community to trust us and work with us.

There's not enough of us [police] to go around. We [society] can't arrest ourselves out of any problems so it's necessary for us to leverage that relationship with the community so the community is helping us. And we have really seen that change in this last year. I would say about April or May we saw a shift where the community is becoming more engaged. They are coming forward as witnesses on minor crimes and serious crimes. They are providing us with information, calling us when they see something suspicious.

**Question: How are you going to deal with the significant levels of crime in**

**District 1 with what seems to be diminishing resources (positions not filled, N.E.T. going division-wide, no derelict housing officer)?**

**Answer:** It's all about prioritizing. We do have finite resources. People don't want their taxes to go up. This

**“ We're seeing Edmontonians taking back their communities, taking back the streets.”**

year the city gave us 35 new resources and those resources are going to patrol sergeants, so 10 patrol sergeants. That will get 10 more people out onto the streets doing police work. We're a 24/7, 365 day a year service so that actually equates to six to seven more police officers on the street at

any given time for the whole city.

We haven't cut back on our N.E.T. teams. But the N.E.T. concept is they go around into one community, they stay there for a little while and then they go on the next community. We don't have the resources to have N.E.T. teams in each community, obviously.

We've had tremendous success with the Community Action Teams. In fact, the city has provided us with six full-time resources to work with Community Action Teams this year. The last two years it's been a pilot to see if it works. It actually does work. It gets cooperation in the community.

**Question: What is most effective in preventing crime?**

**Answer:** Community involvement, community engagement, community support – there's no question about it.

We're seeing Edmontonians taking back their communities, taking back the streets. They want their police to work with them in doing something about it. And a lot of times the best solutions come from the

community, not the police.

But the biggest collaboration is actually in prevention. If we can get there before people are victimized, before the crime occurs, before it becomes a problem, that's a much better way to deal with it. It's actually more efficient, it's better and we don't have victims.

**Question: Residents frequently say they don't get an appropriate response when they call information or problems into the police complaint line. So what should they do?**

**Answer:** That's disappointing if that is happening, and we would certainly like to know if you are getting an impolite response, unprofessional response, or you are not getting a legitimate response from the police service. It's important for us to know that so we can fix that problem.

We are busy. Calls are up. If you look from 2011 to 2012, we had 4,000 more calls. From 2012 to 2013, so far they are up 6,300 more calls. And each call, you average those out at 104 minutes a call. So that's a significant pressure on the police service.



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## EARTH DAY » RECYCLE

# The City of Edmonton's recycling evolution

Think ahead before throwing something away; reduce, reuse, recycle



Edmonton has plenty of recycling options. » THE CITY OF EDMONTON



Blue bins are used in apartment complexes or condominiums. » THE CITY OF EDMONTON

TALEA MEDYNSKI

April brings spring, more sunshine, and on April 22, Earth Day.

A worldwide event celebrating all things environmental, Earth Day brings to mind earth-friendly activities like recycling.

Edmontonians are recycling pros. Edmonton has had a curbside recycling program since 1988. According to the City of Edmonton website, "more than 90 per cent of residents voluntarily participate through the City's recycling programs."

Live in an apartment? Chances are you'll have blue bins outside your apartment building. Home owners or renters can place recyclables in blue recycling bags alongside their garbage. There are also depots throughout the city to place sorted materials.

While items like paper, plastic, and glass can be recycled, other materials cannot.

Garry Spotowski, the city's Waste Management Services education program co-ordinator, says there are common mistakes.

"We often receive bicycle chains, Christmas lights, and extension cords," said Spotowski, adding those items tangle up equipment and should be sent to an eco station.

Eco stations are located throughout the city and accept

items like electronics, appliances, construction materials, and batteries.

While it's free to take many items to an eco station, some items have a charge associated with them, like mattresses or sofas.

Spotowski said shredded paper shouldn't be recycled. Throw it in the garbage, where it will end up in the Edmonton Composting Facility.

Want to donate office supplies or items for crafts? The Reuse Centre on 100 Street and 103A Avenue accepts those items and sells them at a low price.

The Ambleside Eco Station Reuse Area (14710 Ellerslie Rd) has items such as furniture and appliances for free pick up.

Some items are trickier to recycle, like light bulbs.

As of January 1, the federal government banned the sale of incandescent bulbs. Light-emitting diode (LED), halogen, and compact fluorescent bulbs are the replacements.

"We want all kinds of light bulbs. All go to the eco stations," said Spotowski.

Incandescent bulbs cannot be recycled – they go to a landfill, though Spotowski added that the disposal is not dangerous. Incandescent bulbs have some metallic content that disintegrates into little pieces in the compost.

While the new bulbs are more efficient, fluorescent bulbs contain mercury.

Eco station employees separate the bulb from the mercury using something called a bulb eater. The bulb eater crushes the glass and a HEPA filter collects the mercury. The glass and aluminum is recycled and the mercury vapour filter goes to Swan Hills for disposal.

Technology has progressed with the upcoming Waste-to-Biofuels facility.

"Roughly speaking, 20 per cent gets recycled and 40 per cent of material gets composted," said Spotowski.

The new facility, set to open in late spring, will take any remaining waste and turn it into ethanol and methanol. Enerkem Alberta Biofuels built, owns, and will operate the facility.

"It's a big deal," said Spotowski. The facility will allow Edmonton to divert 90 per cent of waste by 2016.

But recycling isn't the only way to be environmentally conscious – reducing and reusing is also important.

If you're renovating, supplies can often be donated.

Habitat for Humanity, a charitable organization, accepts new or gently used building supplies such as doors, windows, or flooring for resale in their ReStore outlet.

Go online to <http://www.hfh.org/restore/donations/> for a complete list acceptable items.

Alfred Nikolai, president and CEO of Habitat for Humanity, said items sold prevent materials from ending up in a landfill.

"Give us a call and we'll pick it up," said Nikolai.

Sales from ReStore outlets cover administrative costs, allowing all donations to go to building homes.

Nikolai said ReStore prices vary and depends on the item, but expect to pay 60 to 70 per cent of retail price. The longer stock is there, the cheaper it becomes due to limited space.

"We're trying to stay away from cloth furniture because of the bed bug scare in Edmonton," said Nikolai, and added they could use more appliances.

Reusing and reclaiming materials has also become trendy.

Pinterest yields several ideas for turning wooden pallets into shelves, bike racks, patio furniture, and planters.

DIY (do-it-yourself) projects have become a fashionable pastime, with people refurbishing antiques, recovering furniture or giving chairs or cupboards a fresh coat of paint.

With the variety of options available, it's hard to imagine tossing everything in the trash.

## EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT RECYCLING:

### DO RECYCLE:

- Paper (all kinds of paper: newspaper, flyers, and phone books)
- Plastic (bags and food containers)
- Cardboard (such as boxes)
- Metal (tin cans and containers)
- Glass

### DON'T RECYCLE:

- Shredded paper
- Dirty or greasy paper
- Food
- Metal (such as foil or coat hangers)
- Plastic items (Styrofoam, food wrap, garden hoses, or yard waste)

See the City of Edmonton website for a complete listing of recyclable and non-recyclable items.

[http://www.edmonton.ca/for\\_residents/garbage\\_recycling/what-can-i-recycle.aspx](http://www.edmonton.ca/for_residents/garbage_recycling/what-can-i-recycle.aspx)

### NEARBY RECYCLING DEPOTS:

Eric Cormack Centre  
(99 Avenue and 112 Street)  
Abbotsfield Shoppers Mall  
(119 Avenue and Abbotsfield Road)  
Mountain Equipment Co-op  
(124 Street and 102 Avenue)

### NEARBY ECO STATION:

Coronation Eco Station  
(11440 143 Street)

### REUSE CENTRE:

(100 Street and 103A Avenue)

### HABITAT RESTORE, NORTH:

8210 Yellowhead Trail

### GIVE YOUR OLD ITEMS A NEW HOME

The Brick Sport Central: donate sports equipment  
11847 Wayne Gretzky Drive, Ph: 780.477.1166 [www.sportcentral.org](http://www.sportcentral.org)

Bissell Thrift Shoppe: donate clothing and household items  
11817 80 Street, Ph: 780.471.6644 [www.bissellcentre.org](http://www.bissellcentre.org)

Value Village: donate clothing and household items  
11850 103 Street, Ph: 780.477.0025 [www.valuevillage.com](http://www.valuevillage.com)

Habitat for Humanity ReStore North: donate building supplies  
8210 Yellowhead Trail, Ph: 780.471.4909 [www.hfh.org/restore/home/](http://www.hfh.org/restore/home/)

Architectural Clearinghouse: donate building supplies  
11507 120 Street, Ph: 780.436.1222 [www.achouse.ca](http://www.achouse.ca)

### EDMONTON EARTH DAY CELEBRATIONS

MONDAY, APRIL 21 FROM 10 AM - 4 PM

Alberta Avenue Community League (9210 118 Ave)

Some highlights include performers, speakers, activities for kids, and information tables and booths. This event is still being planned.  
Contact Trey Capnerhurst at 780.477.2540 for more information.

Organized by the Edmonton Green Party.

SUNDAY, APRIL 27 FROM NOON TO 4 PM

Earth's General Store parking lot (9605 82 Ave)

Tents will be set up in the parking lot with food and educational exhibits from non-profit organizations. Check out the Edmonton EarthDay Facebook page for further details closer to Earth Day.

### EARTH-FRIENDLY IDEAS TO KICK OFF EARTH DAY

Don't stop at recycling - think about reducing and reusing as well.

- Engage in a DIY project: create a quilt from t-shirts or plaid shirts. Or, turn wooden pallets into planters.
- Post unwanted goods on sites like Kijiji for sale or donation.
- Re-use containers. Earth's General Store refills laundry detergent and dishwashing liquid containers.
- Reduce the amount of materials thrown in the garbage.

**CAN'T AFFORD SPORTS EQUIPMENT OR A BIKE FOR YOUR KID? VISIT SPORTCENTRAL.ORG**

ENERGY » SOLAR

# Alberta is a bright source for solar energy

Our winters, sunlight, and clear skies are perfect for generating solar-powered energy

TALEA MEDYNSKI

Alberta generates most of its electricity from coal. In fact, we burn half the coal in Canada. Yet, we also have lots of sunshine, clear skies, and cold winter days.

According to the City of Edmonton's Green Home Guide, Alberta gets about 2,300 hours of sunlight a year.

"Alberta has one of the highest solar resources in the world," said Warren Sarauer, the general manager of Evergreen & Gold Renewable Energy.

Our cold weather, clear skies, and long hours of sunlight are ideal for generating solar power. It's a little like how a computer functions best in a cooler room.

"It's due to the way electrons flow. As things get colder, the electrical flow is easier," said Sarauer.

The best part: solar power doesn't produce greenhouse gas emissions.

While installing a system can be pricey, the cost continues to drop.

Outfitting your home (including panels, installation, and permits) costs half the amount it did three years ago. Solar panels alone cost 100 times less than they did 40 years ago.

Sarauer said outfitting your home ranges anywhere from \$10,000 to \$25,000 and depends on how much power you want to generate and typically use, and whether you want to generate all power or a portion.

"Just put it [solar panels] on the roof of your house and forget about it. You don't have to change your lifestyle," said Sarauer.

You can install the panels by yourself, though Sarauer doesn't recommend it due to safety and insurance concerns. An electrician should install the system and companies usually handle the complete set up.

Solar power users can connect to the power grid, meaning you sell power to the grid when you generate excess power and buy power when needed. You can also go off-grid, using solar panels that store generated power in batteries.

Anna Bubel, a McCauley resident, installed solar panels in January 2012.

"I managed to get our 1,350 sq. ft. house to consume about a third of an average amount of household electricity. Once I did that, I realized that I would only need a small, six panel system to become a net zero home," wrote Bubel in an email. "My household consumes 1,100 kW-h (kilowatt hours) per year and exports 1,400 kW-h. So, we are net exporters of energy."

Bubel said it cost \$11,000 for installation and had already reduced her power use before installation.

There may soon be more incentives. Barbara Daly, senior project manager in the city's Department of Sustainable Development, said the city is considering incentives like one-time grants or co-op models where communities raise funds to install solar panels on buildings such as schools.

The Energy Transition Strategy is a plan the city is creating for council consideration to incorporate renewable energy. The council is addressing the plan by early fall and solar energy is an important focus.



NAIT installed solar panels on the roof of its main campus. >> NAIT

In 2012, the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues and the City of Edmonton initiated the Solar and Energy Savings Program.

According to the EFCL website, "\$110,000 funding for the program, from both the EFCL and City of Edmonton, facilitated the participation of seven community leagues."

The Alberta Avenue Community League was selected through a lottery. Solar panels were installed in late spring of last year.

"The community centre uses a lot of power. Our solar panels probably only power our new LED Exit signs," said president Karen Mykietka. "For us, the more valuable part of the program was the energy audit and working with Warren on ways we could reduce our power consumption."

Daly hired an energy auditor for her own home. Energy auditors determine where energy

is being lost, such as through roofs and poor insulation. An audit takes a few hours and costs around \$150, said Daly.

"The energy advisor went over my whole house and prepared a report with a number of recommendations, easiest to hardest."

Sarauer said people should be aware of how much energy is used.

"We waste 30 per cent of energy in North America," said Sarauer.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- One solar panel generates 250 watts of electricity. That's equivalent to lighting a little over two and a half 100-watt light bulbs.
- A typical house needs 24 solar panels for 100 per cent solar-generated power. A minimum of 16 solar panels is usually used.
- 100 per cent solar-powered homes have approximately \$280 in power bills annually. Those costs are from

grid connection, administrative costs, and meter use.

- Solar power can also heat water.
- Solar ovens can cook food and small solar panels can recharge phones and other electronics when camping.

**FIVE TIPS TO SAVE ENERGY**

1. Switch your light bulbs from incandescent to LED or compact fluorescent. Incandescent bulbs lose 90 per cent of energy in heat.
2. Turn off your computer and television when you're not using them.
3. Use power bars with electronics, and turn off the power bars when you're not using the electronics.
4. Buy new appliances. An old appliance uses significantly more power than a new one.
5. Save on your heating bill by using an electronic thermostat to regulate the temperature while sleeping or away from home.

\*Tips provided by Warren Sarauer

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EDITORIAL » LITERARY

# Spring: time to begin anew

RUSTI L. LEHAY

Ah, spring... winter... spring...winter. Or, maybe it's best to call this time of year Alberta's yearly confusion. Give the weather five minutes if you don't like it – it is sure to change.

Our weather is a little like Wolfgang Carstens' poems in his latest book, *Factory Reject*. Swallow all 58 pages of poetry whole quickly or savour each

one like a glass of fine wine or liqueur. However, you will want to keep your head straight as each poem deceptively offers multiple layers of meaning.

His poems, like Alberta's weather, weave east to north and west to south unpredictably, angling through memories of friends who died too young, the importance of believing in flight, stages of marriage, a reverence for his daughter

and much more. Under it all is a simmering of viewpoints on nearly everything with one recurring theme of living, really living full tilt into the wind, because on the other side of the grass, the worms cannot survive on unfulfilled dreams and hopes and there are no more chances.

So go ahead, reinvent yourself this spring. Make radical choices, create lingering memories, then create some more.



## SHE LIVED A WOMAN

RAYANNE DOUCET

Breathe richly  
into your life  
Because if this is it  
Then live like you breathe  
Suck life into your lungs  
and exhale wonder

If there is no more  
Don't just feel the  
sun on your face  
Breathe in the sun  
Taste the texture  
in your mouth  
Run it over your teeth and  
swallow deeply

When my body fails  
let my soul scream  
I lived this precious life

I was ferocious!  
  
Beauty touched me as I walked  
through it,  
The whispers remain on my skin

Every line on my face a memory

I danced with my mistakes  
Proudly walked  
with what they taught me

Every wrinkle on my face a poem

When I am gone  
and my scent still lingers  
I hope you will say  
She lived like she breathed  
She lived a woman



awake  
we don't  
get to decide  
when or where  
our life begins

and it always ends  
on the wrong side  
of the grass

only the short path  
between the cradle  
and the cemetery  
is ours to choose

make no mistake  
about it—  
there won't be  
any resurrection

make  
every  
god  
damned  
step  
count

WOLFGANG  
CARSTENS

Joan Miró  
overcame a serious bout  
of typhoid  
and devoted  
the remainder  
of his life  
to art.

most people  
overcome nothing

and,  
consequently,  
they do  
nothing.

WOLFGANG  
CARSTENS

## FUNERAL PROCESSION

KY PERRAUN

Sudden setting sun.  
Autumn leaves in cruisers'  
lights.  
The statesman lies in state.

a book  
of  
photos  
of Greta Garbo,

a  
Stephen  
King novel,

and  
a Russian  
novel from 1934

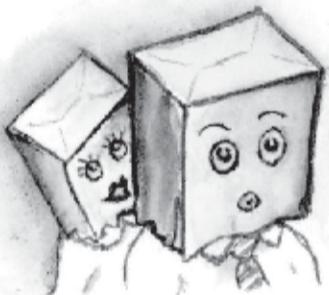
that  
will certainly  
never be read.

these  
are the things

he  
looked at

as he  
stepped  
off the chair.

JOHN YAMRUS



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Book six HC3 ads (this size) with the *Rat Creek Press* and we'll give you one **FREE**. *Start a relationship with your community now*. Call today to book your ad **780.479.6285**.

Please remember, there are only a limited number of HC3 ads available. Don't miss out, book now.

## DELTON FAMILY CIRCLE

MARLENE SALMONSON

It's Family Day in Delton.  
Neighbours talking and laughing,  
around the blue, painted tables in the Community League  
building.

A young mother bounces an infant on her knee,  
while smiling up at an older woman who stops to chat.  
Small children run in endless circles around the adults,  
before finally collapsing.

A little boy enjoys an overflowing plate of food,  
mounds of donuts still awaiting him,  
Dads and Moms fill out soccer registrations on computers,  
fervently hoping not to hit "delete" in the process.

Outside, a red sleigh full of revellers,  
glides silently through the snow,  
I bend down to stroke someone's beagle,  
and smile when she jumps up and licks my face,  
while two giggling girls share blackened bannock.

As I take in this family celebration,  
I experience the ever-widening circle of warmth,  
rippling through Delton, not only for today,  
but lingering in memory.

**BUSINESS » SHOP LOCAL**

# Number experts

Big Red Accounting is here to help



Dave Patterson, manager of Big Red Accounting. >> REBECCA LIPPIATT

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 OFF SEASON: MON-FRI 9 AM-5 PM, SAT 9 AM-4 PM, OR BY APPOINTMENT

REBECCA LIPPIATT

Dave Patterson has been operating Big Red Accounting for nearly 31 years. With tax season upon us, Patterson and his staff are busy and have extended hours. Taxes must be filed by April 30 or June 15 if you are a business owner. Personal returns start at \$59 (for a simple filing), with a discount for low-income earners. Big Red Accounting does not offer instant tax back, but

will file your return for you. Patterson recommends having all your paperwork in order before going to see him or his staff and organizing and keeping track of your receipts. He charges for unfolding, sorting and flattening those pieces of paper, which can often take longer than the actual accounting!

Patterson is happy to work with you on organizing paperwork, as he enjoys working face-to-face with clients.

Big Red also offers small business bookkeeping and tax return filing.

For small business owners needing office space, Big Red has space to rent. Shared desk space starts at \$50 per month, and dedicated desk space at \$100 per month.

**BUSINESS » THE LEMONADE STAND**

# Can you win by losing?

The strategy on ratcheting your way up to success

HENRI YAUCK

Before I give you the answer, let me tell you about a scientific discovery that has important, if not life and death implications, for your business. A physicist, Dr. Juan M.R. Parrondo, at the University of Madrid in Spain, made this discovery.

Parrondo's Paradox (as it's called) states two losing gambling games can be combined in such a way that they yield a winning result. Sort of like, you lose and lose and lose... and you walk away a winner. Okay, by the look on your face you are skeptical. It does sound strange. Yet, could it be true?

You see, Parrondo's Paradox is based on the principle of ratchets. A ratchet is a device allowing movement in one direction, but not in another.

The reason you see "Otis" on every elevator in the country is not that Otis invented the elevator; it is because he perfected the ratchet, making it safe. Elevators crashed a lot and more than just a few folks got compacted until Elisha Otis came along with a ratchet that worked every time.

Self-winding wrist watches also work because of ratchets. Move your arm in a way that winds the watch...that movement winds the watch. Move your arm in a way that would unwind the watch and the movement is effectively ignored.

Incredibly, in a certain sense you can fail your

way to the top, or to a win. In business, you make offers, many of which fail. However, combine them in a certain way and you will ratchet your way to success.

Every tactic lined up in a certain way (even if many of those tactics (offers) fail) will ratchet your way to profit. That certain way is a definite strategy carried out every week for the 12 months of your business year. Every time you apply a tactic (be it an offer or special event), even if it fails or falls below your expectations, it still will ratchet you up towards eventual profit (success). Sorry, that's just how business works.

A word of warning though: the ratchet works consistently for you if you have a series of tactics lined up in one direction only. A direction that leads you forward towards profit, even if

the odd click along the way doesn't seem to do anything.

So yes, Dr. Parrondo was right, and his principle works not only in gaming, but also in the marketing aspect of business. To find out more on just how to apply this to your business, download the "Lemonade Stand Strategy" from <http://www.ratcreek.org/the-lemonade-stand.html>. It is FREE. No cost or obligation ever. And it will walk you through a 12 month business cycle with loads of ideas and suggestions.

*It's your turn now to ratchet your way up to business success.*



**RAT CREEK PRESS**

We always welcome your feedback, news tips, ideas, or neighbourhood snapshots!

**UPCOMING FEATURES**  
 May issue - Development / Housing  
 June issue - Aboriginal / Bikes

**JOIN THE DISCUSSION**  
 We host monthly get-togethers with our contributors. We want to meet face-to-face, get to know each other, share and brainstorm. Join by filling in the contributor form on our website and you will be notified of meetings and editorial needs.

**BOARD NOT BORING**  
 Do you have a few hours a month to talk stories and strategy, projects and projections? Join the RCP board and help guide the newspaper and organization in continued success.

Have you visited a business because you saw an ad or read about them in the *Rat Creek Press*? If so, tell them. Let them know that being in the newspaper pays!

info@ratcreek.org 780.479.6285

**Edmonton Census 2014**

**Online April 10th - April 27th**  
 Edmontonians answer the census questions online at [edmonton.ca/census](http://edmonton.ca/census) and follow the link. A PIN number will be mailed to your household around April 10th.

**At the door starting May 10th**  
 Census workers will go to the doors of households that did not complete the census online.

**Answering census questions is important to your future**  
 Census information is used to determine how much funding our city receives from other levels of government. It is also used by the City, school boards and businesses for planning.

Questions? Go to [edmonton.ca/census](http://edmonton.ca/census), call the City of Edmonton Elections and Census Office at 780-496-8008, Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4 pm, or call 311

**Spruce Avenue Community**  
 10240 - 115 Avenue

**Community Garage Sale May 2 & 3**

EARTH DAY » CELEBRATE

# 10 Tips for Earth Day

This Earth Day, why not try to do something Earth-friendly?

HERE ARE SOME IDEAS:

1. Avoid using your vehicle for the day. Instead, take transit, walk, or use your bicycle to get to work. If you must use a vehicle, try carpooling.
2. Go for a hike on one of the city's many trails. Check out nearby Rundle Park or Kinnaird Ravine.
3. Learn something new, like composting or companion gardening.
4. Consciously use less electricity by remembering to turn off lights when you're not in the room.
5. Use only the water you need. For example, during a shower you can turn off the water while washing your hair.
6. Consider switching cleaning supplies to an environmentally-friendly brand. Many cleaning products are toxic and harmful to the environment.
7. Spend the evening playing board games, cards, or visiting instead of watching a movie or going online.
8. Have a romantic candlelight dinner with your loved one.
9. Host a clothing-swap night instead of buying new clothes.
10. Reduce your carbon footprint and consider buying your food from local farmers instead imported food. There's a lot of carbon emission involved in transporting food over long distances.



HOW TO HOST A GREEN BIRTHDAY PARTY

Article 24 of the United Nation's Convention on the Rights of the Child includes the right to a clean environment. Parents can honour this right each birthday by celebrating without the excessive waste so common of parties today.

Here are some ideas to approach birthday parties in a greener way:

DECORATE WITH FABRIC

Colourful table clothes and fabric wall hanging can transform any room. Fabric is much nicer than plastic and is reusable.

Tip: curtain panels that fit banquet tables perfectly are usually available in cheery designs at second-hand shops.

Festive strings of garland can be hung for any occasion or custom made. These can even become a cherished family artifact.

USE FOOD AND CLOTH NAPKINS AS DÉCOR

Homemade cupcakes, fruit skewers, and cloth napkins eliminate need for plates and serve as décor.

Tip: handkerchiefs make great everyday napkins and come in many bright colours.

NO NEED FOR PLASTIC

Invest in metal cups and use repeatedly. Metal cups can be used indoors or outdoors and are stackable and light.

The birthday kid can make goodie bags from paper lunch bags and decorate each one individually for guests. Choose skipping ropes, crayons or other no-package, non-wrapped, non-plastic toys for gifts. Alternatively, put a treat in a small mason jar and tie with ribbon.

Store and transport it all in a bin.



**Councillor Tony Caterina**  
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[www.edmonton.ca](http://www.edmonton.ca)



**BRIAN MASON, MLA**  
Edmonton Highlands-Norwood

The voice of Alberta Avenue,  
Parkdale, Delton, Eastwood and  
Elmwood Park in the Alberta Legislature

As the legislature resumes I will continue to focus on the diverse constituency of Highlands-Norwood and to work on the issues that matter to you, the citizens. Please contact my office or interact online with me to share your views, issues and concerns that impact our community and our democratic values.

**Connect with Brian**

E-mail: [Edmonton.HighlandsNorwood@assembly.ab.ca](mailto:Edmonton.HighlandsNorwood@assembly.ab.ca)  
Phone: 780.414.0682 Fax: 780.414.0684  
6519-112 Avenue

## Taking Action: #yegsecret Exposed

Collaborating to end sexual exploitation



**2014 Sexual Exploitation Week of Awareness**

Organized and hosted by the **SEWG** SEXUAL EXPLOITATION WORKING GROUP

**Events**

<p><b>Proclamation Ceremony</b> Monday, April 7, 2014 12:00 Noon – 1:00 p.m. CBC Stage, City Centre Mall Free Event</p> <p>The official opening ceremonies of Edmonton's 2014 Sexual Exploitation Week of Awareness.</p>	<p><b>Taking Action: #yegsecret Exposed</b> Thursday, April 10, 2014 Friday, April 11, 2014 Day One: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 a.m. Day Two: 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.</p> <p>Santa Maria Goretti Centre 11050 – 90 Street</p> <p>\$75 fee for one day \$120 fee for two days</p> <p>A two-day professional conference covering a variety of topics focused around the themes of "Protecting Youth" and "Taking Action".</p>	<p><b>Film Screening: Buying Sex</b> Thursday, April 10, 2014 7:00 p.m. Santa Maria Goretti Centre 11050 – 90 Street Free event</p> <p>This feature documentary explores the state of prostitution laws in Canada.</p>
<p><b>Taking Action: #yegsecret Exposed Public Event</b> Wednesday, April 9, 2014 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Santa Maria Goretti Centre 11050 – 90 Street Free Event</p> <p>A hard talk panel discussion on rape culture and sexual exploitation.</p>	<p>Social Workers can receive Category 'A' credits for the hours they attend the conference.</p>	<p><b>Film Screening: The Whistleblower</b> Friday, April 11, 2014 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. Santa Maria Goretti Centre 11050 – 90 Street Free event</p> <p>This award winning film shares Kathryn Bolikovac's story about uncovering a sex trafficking ring in Bosnia.</p>

[www.dlsfilm.com](http://www.dlsfilm.com)

HOLIDAY » EASTER

# Renew. Rebirth. Recycle

One anxious dad hunts for Easter meaning

DAVE VON BIEKER

In the earliest days of spring, I stack plywood along the house to divert the dripping snow-melt away from my basement. The ground softens. The grass reminds me it still exists, even if it is brown and matted. Rotten apples melt into fermented fragrance across the back lawn. Tulips twitch in their tombs. Behind the thaw, the world waits to be reborn.

On the first double-digit weekend, my family heads into the Kinnaird Ravine for a two-hour walk. We spot squirrels and my daughter summons a dozen dogs who wish she would throw her walking stick.

Every stranger smiles, as if to say, "Isn't life good, after all? How did we forget all of this?"

"Yes", I smile back, "It is wonderful." I barely notice the constant stops as my son scales the hoodoo hillside. Boys love to climb, and after winter hibernation, who am I to stop him?

Spring is that rare time of year I will cheer my children into puddles without a care for the mud they'll track inside. Soaking pants? Grab another pair! Two baths in one day?

Great!

Just a week before, it was 40 degrees colder. Before this rebirth was long, dark and lingering death beneath the cold crust of snow.

**“ I love painting eggs. I can devour a Purdy’s Hedgehog or two, and don’t get me started on Easter ham.”**

Dark and death. New life. All of this has me thinking of Easter.

In my faith, Easter is a story of hope and new life. Jesus dies a brutal death and is placed in a tomb, behind a heavy stone, for a long and silent time. But then, beyond all reasonable hope, he comes alive. The stone rolls away. He walks the earth again, and offers his renewal.

I often wonder and worry how I might pass such stories on to my children. It seems we soft-step around the origins of our holidays like walking on coloured eggshells. Are these old stories buried too deep in piles of rainbow cellophane straw? Can my kids hear them anymore, their ears plugged with Marshmallow Peeps?

I love painting eggs. I can devour a Purdy’s Hedgehog or two, and don’t get me started on Easter ham. But as a dad, I feel some responsibility to make sure my kids know what Easter means. I feel it is my duty, as always, to take at least some fun out of things.

Sometime around Christmas, it’s Sunday morning church and a half-dozen kids are on stage to answer a question.

“If you could do one thing to make the world better, what would you do?”

One after another, the kids answer with some variation of “clean up the earth”. Almost without exception, we’ve raised a pack of environmentalists.

When I learned the three R’s in elementary school (reduce, reuse, recycle), they seemed new. A generation later, those three



Easter is a holiday that holds different meanings for people. >> STOCK

R’s form the go-to answer for saving the world.

Recycle. Renewal. Rebirth. Resurrection.

Remembering that Sunday morning answer, my tense shoulders relax. The earth will continue whispering Easter throughout an eternity of springs, especially

in Edmonton, where we cheer across spring’s finish line after every winter marathon.

The seasons still tell us there is death, and behind death, life awaits as new as a puddle jump.

Perhaps my kids know more about the old stories than I have forgotten.

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HISTORY » COMMUNITY

# Local church grew from a humble beginning

Building a strong spirit of co-operation in converted wooden school houses

CHANTAL FIGEAT

St. Alphonsus church on 118 Avenue and 85 Street has a long past and a big community impact.

Christine Loterzo is a lifetime parishioner and the office manager at St. Alphonsus. Loterzo describes the co-operation between church, home and school during her youth.

“It was like a family, you went as a group from the school to the church,” said Loterzo.

St. Alphonsus parish not only provided spiritual support, it was also a hub of social life. Card parties, dances, potluck suppers, communion breakfasts, fundraising, and home visits were among the social activities.

It all started in 1923 when Edmonton Archbishop Henry O’Leary invited the Redemptorist priests, a missionary order, to work in the newly created St. Alphonsus parish.

Two former schoolhouses were purchased and converted into a church and a rectory. The church had a pastor by June 20, 1924 – Father Charles O’Hara. The church was full when it was blessed on October 26, 1924.

The tiny rectory was the Redemptorist mother house in the West. It served a huge parish and sent out missions to communities such as Gibbons, Tofield, and Ardrossan.

In the booklet distributed at the 75th anniversary celebration of St. Alphonsus in 1999, Father Joe Murphy gives his impression after travelling to the parish by train from Toronto in January 1945.

“The dining room and kitchen were in a dark, dank basement. My first impressions... not favourable to say the least... I had never seen such a parish back east,” wrote Murphy.

However, Murphy praised the dedicated work of the Redemptorist Fathers and the Sisters of Charity.

Construction and renovations made improvements to the church.

Father John Cunningham helmed the construction of the present-day church, which included a wide floor plan seating 500 and bringing the congregation close to the main altar. On August 10, 1952, Edmonton Archbishop John MacDonald blessed the church.



The present St. Alphonsus church showing the tower erected after the official opening in 1952. >> CHANTAL FIGEAT

Interior renovations took place in 1966 under Father John Santopinto and a wooden façade with clean, modern lines in the shape of a gothic arch was erected behind the altar to give a visual impression of renewal.

Changes continued when priests began to conduct holy communion in English rather than Latin.

At the parish’s 75th anniversary, the aging Redemptorists

returned the parish to the archdiocese. According to Murphy, “we lack the manpower to serve the parish in the pattern of our past service.”

Today, the congregation reflects the ethnic diversity of the Alberta Avenue community.

St. Alphonsus continues to hold several Catholic masses throughout the week, including those serving the Eritrean community. They also have a

children’s liturgy program, and hold an annual summer picnic.

**ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH**  
 11828 85 Street  
 Pastor: Father Robert Kasun  
 Associate Pastor: Father Jack Gallagher  
 Official opening: Oct. 26, 1924  
 Present cornerstone blessed by Archbishop John Macdonald on Aug. 10, 1952



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PETER GOLDRING

Member of Parliament  
Edmonton East



## GOLDRING CALLS FOR NATIONAL HOMELESS STANDARDS

Peter Goldring says controversy over a proposed “warehouse project” for chronically homeless people in Terwillegar Towne emphasizes the urgent need for standardized definitions and methodology to be implemented in order to better help those in need.

On October 16, 2013, Mr. Goldring submitted a motion to Parliament, calling on the federal government to set in national standards, for counting the homeless, including:

- nationally recognized point in time for counts taking place;
- nationally recognized definitions of who is homeless;
- nationally recognized methodology on how the count takes place, and
- nationally agreed-upon criteria and methodology in determining who is homeless.

A survey conducted in all major Canadian municipalities that presently count their homeless population, done on the same date and time and using the same agreed-upon criteria and methodology would provide statistically useful data to allow governments to better help the homeless. Mr. Goldring points out that: “Different homeless counts in different cities have used different definitions of chronically homeless, and defining methodology to conduct homeless count.”

He further notes that Canadian homeless counts are done in a haphazard fashion, at different times and using different methodology, unlike in the United States. Without national definitions and standards the concept of “homeless” can mean something vastly different in Edmonton than it does in Toronto. The chronically homeless definition, creatively applied, can equate to big grant dollars to so-called “non-profits.” A single point in time for conducting homeless surveys would give governments a clearer picture of the extent of the problem. For governments to allocate funds for affordable housing projects and services for Canada’s homeless, it is crucial to know exactly who the homeless are, where they live and how to best help them, goals that can be achieved through this motion before Parliament. The motion was debated in Parliament March 24.

What do you think?

780-495-3261

www.petergoldring.ca

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sponsored by the Norwood Neighbourhood Association whose vision is to support good projects and activities that benefit the neighbourhood.

For the communities of Alberta Avenue, Delton, Eastwood, Elmwood Park, Parkdale-Cromdale, Spruce Avenue and Westwood.

## EVENTS

### GAMES NIGHT

Please feel free to bring your favourite board games to share. We'll also have plenty of games to choose from. Invite whoever you like - the more the merrier! Tuesday, April 29 from 7-9 pm at The Carrot (9351 118 Ave).

### SPRUCE AVENUE GARAGE SALE

May 2-3. Tables available for rent at \$10 per table. Donations of gently used items would be appreciated. Proceeds going to the park re-development project. Call 780.479.8019.

## NOTICES

### AREA DEVELOPMENT MEETING

Join in on discussions regarding development in your neighbourhood. Monday, April 14 at 6:30 pm at Alberta Avenue (9210 118 Ave). More info email: judy.allan@edmonton.ca.

### AREA CRIME COUNCIL MEETING

On Thursday, April 17 at 6:30 pm. Location TBA. More info email: judy.allan@edmonton.ca.

### YARD SHARE GARDEN

Garden space available for 1-2 people at 119 Ave and 82 St. Access to tool shed and water. Share produce. Contact Auston 587.783.0059.

### COMMUNITY GARDEN

Alberta Avenue has room for new gardeners! Call 780.477.2773.

### ALBERTA AVENUE LEAGUE AGM

Guest speaker: Howard Lawrence on Abundant Community. Wine and cheese. Getting to know neighbours. Tuesday, April 15, 7pm at 9210 118 Ave. More info: www.albertaave.org

### PARKDALE-CROMDALE LEAGUE AGM

Thursday, April 24 at the Parkdale-Cromdale Community League (11335 85 St). Wine and cheese reception at 6 pm and Annual General Meeting with board elections from 7-9 pm. More info: www.parkdalecromdale.org

### BRAZILIAN PERFORMANCE

Come to the Parkdale-Cromdale Community Hall (11335 85 St) to see

free capoeira performances every Saturday from 1-2 pm! More info: www.capoeiraacademy.ca

### THE CARROT STAGE

9351 118 Avenue, 780.471.1580 www.thecarrot.ca  
Thursdays: Open Mic Returns! A variety of entertainment. Adult performers are welcome to our stage - music, song or spoken word from 1:30-3:30 pm.  
Fridays: Live music starts at 7:30 pm. Check website for line-up. \$5 cover, all ages welcome. Saturdays: Open mic 7-9:30 pm. Great time to share your newest tune, poem or comedy act! Free for all ages. \$1.25 minimum charge.

### RECYCLE YOUR COMPUTER ITEMS

The Electronic Recycling Association will refurbish used computers and IT equipment and donate to non-profit organizations. More info: www.era.ca

## PROGRAMS/CLASSES

### LEARNING THROUGH PLAY

Monday, April 7 from 11 am to 1 pm at Norwood Centre (9516 114 Ave). Call 780.471.3737 to register. It's free!

### CAREGIVER/CHILD BOOK PROGRAMS

For babies (up to 12 months) on April 15, 22 and 29 from 1:30-3 pm. For toddlers (12 months to 3 years) on April 17 and 24 from 1-3 pm. For preschoolers (3-6 years) on April 16, 23 and 30 from 12-2 pm. At Norwood Centre (9516 114 Ave). It's free! Call 780.471.3737 to register.

### TODDLER TUMBLE BABY BOUNCE

(by Bent Arrow Parent Link Assoc.) All young parents, or grandparents may bring pre-school aged children for gym play time on kid-friendly equipment followed by our Little Peoples Lunch. Tuesdays from 11:30-12:45 pm at Crystal Kids (8718 118 Ave).

### SING, SIGN, LAUGH AND LEARN

For children up to age three accompanied by a grown-up. Tuesdays from 10:30-11:15 am at Sprucewood Library (11555 95 St). More info: 780.496.7099.

### COOKING GROUP

Meet new people while learning to

make something delicious! Wednesday, April 9 from 5:30-7:30 pm at Norwood Centre (9516 114 Ave). Call 780.471.3737 to register. It's free!

### COLLECTIVE KITCHEN

Cook with friends, try new recipes, help your food budget at PrayerWorks Collective Kitchen. Second Wednesday of each month, 5:30-8:00 pm, St. Faith/St. Stephen Anglican Church (11725 93 St). Cost is \$3 for one serving of each of four different meals. More info: Trish at 780.464.5444.

### ENGLISH CONVERSATION CIRCLE

Drop in and join others who also want to practise their English. Mondays, 2:30 pm at Sprucewood Library (11555 95 St). More info: 780.424.3545.

### IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH

ECALA English for Community Integration offers free Parent-Tot English classes. Bring along your little ones and learn basic English skills for everyday situations. Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-11 am at Parkdale-Cromdale Community Hall (11335 85 St). More info: Sarah at 780.887.6825.

### FREE MUSIC LESSONS BY CREART!

Every Saturday at Parkdale-Cromdale Hall (11335 85 St) free group lessons will be offered to members. Singing lessons from 9-10 am and Guitar lessons from 10 am - 12 pm. Play and meet others. Contact 780.878.8265 or createedmonton@hotmail.com

### FREE ART NIGHTS AT THE NINA

Community Art Nights, Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 pm. Family Art Nights, Wednesdays, 6:30-8 pm. The Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts (9225 118 Ave). www.thenina.ca.

### JUST FOR TODAY AFG

Are you troubled by someone's drinking? Al-Anon meeting, Mondays at 10 am at St. Stephen Anglican Church (11725 93 St). Entrance is at back door by ramp: handicap access. For more information, phone: 1.888.322.6902.

### ALATEEN MEETINGS

Help for young people whose parent, relative or friend is a problem drinker. Saturdays at 10 am at 11107 129 St (backdoor, downstairs). More info:

call 1.866.322.6902 or Google alateen edmonton. Al-Anon and Alcoholics Anonymous meet at the same time, in the same building.

## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

### WANDERING WOOLIES

Wednesday, April 9 from 7-9 pm at The Carrot (9351 118 Ave).

### LADIES COFFEE

St. Faith's Women's Fellowship Guild Cosy Coffee Club (11725 93 St) in the Prayerworks Hall (entrance facing 92 St). Wednesday, April 9 from 10-11:30 am. Come and join other women in the parish for a cup of coffee, a snack and conversation. Open to all ages, children welcome.

### NFB FILM CLUB

Saturday, April 19, 1:30 pm at Sprucewood Library (11555 95 St).

### PRAYERWORKS COMMON

Hot complimentary meals and warm friendship at St. Faith/St. Stephen (11725 93 St). Every Thursday lunch 10 am-2 pm. Every Friday supper 5-8 pm with MusicJam on the third Friday. Saturday breakfast 8:30-9:30 am.

### BROWNCOATS KNITTING GROUP

Wednesday, April 9 and 23 from 6:30-9 pm at The Carrot (9351 118 Ave).

### CRUD DINNER CLUB

Everyone welcome. To stay informed about upcoming dinners, join CRUD on Facebook.

### FAMILY MUSIC POTLUCK NIGHT

Join us on Friday, April 25 from 7-11 pm at the Parkdale-Cromdale Community Hall (11335 85 St) for our monthly family friendly arts party and potluck. Enjoy live professional and emerging musicians or take part in the open mic.

### FAMILY STORYTIME

Share stories, songs and games for the whole family. Sundays from 2:30-3 pm at Sprucewood Library (11555 95 St). More info: 780.496.7099.

### TWEEN LOUNGE

Play video games, make a DIY project,

meet friends or just hang out. For ages 7-13. Thursdays from 3:30-5 pm. Sprucewood Library (11555 95 St). More info: 780.496.7099.

### TEEN GAMING

Come to the library to play some great games! For ages 12-17. Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 pm. Sprucewood Library (11555 95 St). More info: 780.496.7099.

### BABES IN ARMS

A casual parent group every Friday from 10 am to noon at The Carrot (9351 118 Ave).

### LI'L SPROUTS PLAYGROUP

Parkdale-Cromdale Community League is looking for a responsible parent to lead this fun li'l playgroup. If you can help out please call 780.471.4410.

### NORWOOD LEGION SENIORS GROUP

Play darts, shuffleboard and pool. After, socialize over coffee and desserts. Tuesdays at 10:30 am. Cribbage Wednesdays at 1 pm. At Norwood Legion (11150 82 St).

### PARKDALE-CROMDALE SENIORS GROUP

Seniors bingo and social takes place every Monday from 10 am-2 pm at the Community League (11335 85 St). Coffee and snack provided.

### SENIORS BREAKFAST AND SOCIAL

All seniors 55+ are welcome to join us for breakfast, then stay for a visit, play some cards or billiards and if you like, you can watch a movie! Wednesdays from 11:30 am-12:45 pm at Crystal Kids Youth Centre (8715 118 Ave).

## SPORTS/REC

### FREE COMMUNITY ACCESS AT COMMONWEALTH REC CENTRE

Enjoy the fitness centre at Commonwealth for free on Saturdays from 5-7 pm with your community league membership.

Listings for free events and programs as well as volunteer opportunities. Email your listings to: info@ratcreek.org.

# CHURCH SERVICES

### ANGLICAN PARISHES ON ALBERTA AVE ST. FAITH AND ST. STEPHEN

Two Traditions - One Faith.  
11725 93 Street

St. Stephen: 780.422.3240

#### Sunday Worship:

8:30 am - Low Mass  
9:00 am - Morning Prayer  
9:30 am - High Mass  
7:00 pm - Evensong

St. Faith: 780.477.5931

#### Sunday Worship:

11:00 am - Sunday Worship  
1st Sunday - Worship in the Common  
2nd Sunday - Traditional Anglican  
3rd Sunday - Aboriginal Form  
4th Sunday - Traditional Anglican

### AVENUE VINEYARD CHURCH

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

8718 118 Avenue (Crystal Kids building)  
www.avenuevineyard.com  
Sundays at 10:30 am

### BETHEL GOSPEL CHAPEL

A Bible-based, multi-ethnic fellowship.  
11461 95 Street 780.477.3341

#### Sunday Meetings:

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

### CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER

Our Vision is to be a growing community of believers who are woven together by the love of God for support, fellowship and prayer.

10123 Princess Eliz. Avenue  
780.471.2250 www.clifec.ca

#### Service Times:

9:40 am - Pre-service Prayer  
10:30 am - Worship Service  
10:45 am - Kzamm Kids  
Child care provided for ages 0 to 12 yrs.

### CARISMA CHURCH

Our vision is to EMBRACE a relationship with Jesus and share it with others. Come and experience a multicultural worship service in an informal, friendly environment.

8401 114 Avenue 780.477.1235  
www.carismachurch.org

#### Sundays at 10:00am

Kids Ministries for ages 2 to 12yrs.  
Come as you are. All welcome!

### ST. ALPHONSUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

11828 85th Street 780.474.5434

#### Service Times:

7:30 am - Mass, Tuesday to Friday  
4:00 pm - Mass, Saturday Vigil of Sunday  
11:00 am - Mass, Sunday Main Celebration  
4:00 pm - Mass, Sunday, Eritrean Catholic Community

English Classes and Collective Kitchen (Seasonal - call for more info.)

St. Vincent de Paul Food Help Hotline:  
780.471.5577

## PAWN . SELL . TRADE . BUY

# VARIETY EXCHANGE

9406 118 Avenue 780.474.1260 | Mon-Fri: 10:30-6:30 Sat: 10-6

· Movies, Musical Equipment, Tools,

Video Games, TVs and Stereos

· FREE One Day Loans

· FREE Government Cheque

Cashing (with account)

· DVDs 12 for \$20.00



· Friendly Service

· Will Negotiate

· No Insurance Fees - EVER

· No Interest, No Fee Lay-Away

· Reputable, Clean and Organized



WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS!



Northlands congratulates the nominees of the 27th Annual Mayor's Celebration of the Arts. Great art reflects the community it is created in, and we believe the standard set by their work should fill every Edmontonian with pride.

Mayor's Celebration of the Arts  
 Monday, April 28 at 7 p.m.  
 Winspear Centre  
[mayorscelebration.com](http://mayorscelebration.com)



Princess Elizabeth Dental

Currently accepting new patients into our family practice. Call us for an appointment today.

10515 Princess Elizabeth Avenue  
 (kitty corner from NAIT)

780 488 0383

that **Bloomin'** garden show & art sale

**Compost & Mulch Sale**  
 Pick up Thursday, May 15 from 5 - 7 pm and at the show  
 Second Nature Compost  
 30 L bag for \$6 or 2 bags for \$10  
 Wood chip mulch 60 L for \$5  
 Cash sales. No pre-orders.

**Saturday, May 31**  
 10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
 Alberta Avenue Community Centre  
 9210-118 avenue

**PLANTS ARTISAN GIFTS COMPOST SALE ACTIVITIES RAFFLE**

Volunteers needed! email: [bloomin@albertaave.org](mailto:bloomin@albertaave.org)  
 Call for garden vendors, artisans and gallery artists  
 Apply online. Deadline April 11.  
 More info at [albertaave.org](http://albertaave.org)

Free League members access at the Commonwealth Rec Centre, Saturdays 5pm to 7pm