

# RAMSAY NEWS

## **IMPORTANT: COMMUNITY INPUT NEEDED**

**Tuesday, February 3, 2004  
Ramsay Community Hall, 7 p.m.**

The Stampede Board has approached the community for our input on creating an access route across the south end of Spiller Road near 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue. This route will provide access from the Stampede to their new storage facilities. Two options have been suggested: tunnelling under Spiller Road or closing Spiller Road.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION, AND TO VOICE YOUR OPINION,**

please attend this important meeting. Guests from the Stampede and our Traffic Calming Committee will be present to answer your questions.

*For more information, see the  
Traffic Report on page 3.*

## FAMILY DAY SKATING PARTY



**Monday, February 16, 2004  
3 - 5 p.m.**

**At the Skate Shack on top of Ramsay Hill, next to the Ramsay Skating Rink**

### **Come one, come all!**

Enjoy some togetherness with your family and other members of our great community. Bring your skates, enjoy a big bonfire and delicious hot chocolate.

Even if you don't skate, drop by for a visit.

**See you there!**

**RAMSAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2003-2004 & COMMUNITY CHAIRS**

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**MEETING NOTICES**

**Next General Meeting**

Tuesday, February 3, 2004, Ramsay  
 Community Lower Hall  
 7 p.m. Babysitting available.

**Next Ramsay Community Board Meeting**

Tuesday, February 17, 2004  
 Ramsay Community Upper Hall, 7 p.m.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Contact Info</b>
<b>Co-President and Vice President – Internal &amp; Chair, Membership</b>	<b>Michael Fitzpatrick</b>	<b>294-0752 fitz@telus.net</b>
<b>Co-President and Vice President – External &amp; Chair, Civic Affairs</b>	<b>Janice Thoroughgood</b>	<b>269-2640 j_thoroughgood@hotmail.com</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Jennifer Hapgood</b>	<b>217-6750 jennifer.hapgood@shaw.ca</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	
<b>Past President &amp; Chair, Nominating Member</b>	<b>Tim Stock-Bateman</b>	<b>264-2119 tstockbateman@yahoo.ca</b>
<b>Member</b>	<b>Beth Carter</b>	<b>269-4199 bethcarter@shaw.ca</b>
<b>Member</b>	<b>Brenda Japp</b>	<b>264-7137</b>
<b>Member</b>	<b>Ev Bell</b>	<b>259-3753 evbell@telus.net</b>
<b>Member</b>	<b>Allan Baker</b>	<b>237-7927 bakerpals@shaw.ca</b>
<b>Member</b>	<b>Angie Maeots</b>	<b>265-4898</b>
<b>Community Hall</b>	<b>Karen Lowry</b>	<b>265-4898</b>
<b>Summer Sports</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	
<b>Winter Sports</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	
<b>Casino</b>	<b>Pat Baker</b>	<b>237-7927 bakerpals@shaw.ca</b>
<b>Ramsay School Liaison</b>	<b>Catherine Cartmill</b>	<b>265-4898</b>
<b>Beautification</b>	<b>Brenda Japp</b>	<b>264-7137</b>
<b>Community Safety</b>	<b>Tim Stock-Bateman</b>	<b>264-2119 tstockbateman@yahoo.ca</b>
	<b>Karen Lowry</b>	<b>265-4898</b>
	<b>Dawn Blair</b>	<b>265-4898</b>
<b>Heritage</b>	<b>Angie Maeots</b>	<b>265-4898</b>
<b>Website:</b>	<b>http://ramsaycommunity.ab.ca</b>	
<b>Newsletter layout:</b>	<b>Fred Holliss</b>	<b>815-3733 fred@holliss.ca</b>





## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Michael Fitzpatrick

### WHY SHOULD WE GET INVOLVED IN OUR COMMUNITY?

At our last community Board meeting, we were discussing how we almost need an "issue" to get people out to our meetings. Only when it affects us in a negative way do we make an effort to come to a meeting, an Open House, or a community event. We put a lot of energy into fighting the "issue" and then retreat back to our cozy homes.

But think of all the positive things that community involvement can bring. Good friends, safe streets, vibrant neighbourhoods with bustling businesses, an active school and interesting cultural and social events. These are the things that I believe everyone is looking for in their neighbourhood, but they don't just magically happen. A small core of volunteers do a lot of work behind the scenes. They want your support and they want to hear your opinions.

We often think of Ramsay as a village in the midst of the big city. We are surrounded by the river, parks, and green spaces and we have an interesting and diverse population. Help to keep our village strong and dynamic. Don't wait to become involved when the next "issue" hits us – come out to our monthly meetings - held the first Tuesday of EVERY month – and become an active member of our community. I think you will enjoy the experience!



### TRAFFIC CALMING UPDATE

Tom Jevne

The Traffic Calming committee met on January 7th. Representatives from the Calgary Stampede presented information regarding future proposed development and expansion plans for Stampede Park.

Much of the proposed expansion was in the area north of the Round-up center and the Saddledome, into Vic Park, to 12th Avenue S.E. Plans included projects such as the Round-up Center expansion, a new Ag facility, youth campus, and more green space.

The relocation of their maintenance facilities presently located along the Elbow River to the land just north of 25th Avenue S.E. between Dartmouth Road and Spiller Road would have the greatest potential impact on this community.

A new access would have to be created to connect this parcel of land to the land housing the horse barns located on the west side of Spiller Road. There were two potential options presented. One would be to tunnel under Spiller Road. The other option was to close Spiller Road south of 6th Street and connect the lands with a private roadway running east and west.

The representatives from the Stampede said they did not prefer one option to the other and were looking for direction from the Community. Also there is no definite time or schedule for starting this part of the overall expansion. Plans are contingent on a number of factors including funding.

An opportunity to learn more about the Stampede development/expansion, will occur at the February 3rd, 2004

general meeting, 7:00 PM in the lower hall. Please plan on attending if you have any concerns.

If anyone wishes to provide information regarding what you see as traffic related problems within the community, please write or e-mail me. Provide the following information:

#### -Location of the Problem

(indicate streets, intersections, addresses)

#### -Type of Problem

Examples would be pedestrian safety, motorist or cyclist safety, parking, speeding vehicles, shortcutting traffic, truck traffic.

#### -Describe the Problem

Be specific and provide as much information as possible. Indicate times of day, direction of travel, magnitude and extent of problems, and so forth.

#### Please provide a way to contact you

(Name, phone number, e-mail, fax).

Here are a number of ways to get the information to me:

-e-mail: [tcj.tek@shaw.ca](mailto:tcj.tek@shaw.ca)

-Fax me at 265-4858

-Mail to or drop off at the community center:

Ramsay Community Association

1136 – 8th street S.E.

Calgary, Alberta T2G 2Z7



# *Yoki & Jeff's Real Estate Report*

## Annual Report January – December 2003

	RAMSAY			INGLEWOOD			BRIDGELAND		
	# of Sales	Avg. List Price	Avg. Sale Price	# of Sales	Avg. List Price	Avg. Sale Price	# of Sales	Avg. List Price	Avg. Sale Price
Bungalow	16	195,336	187,062	25	204,240	198,272	19	237,481	229,842
1.5 Storey	10	198,220	190,660	5	232,440	222,900	10	226,908	218,435
2 Storey	14	250,150	242,021	23	281,017	273,497	13	300,837	289,107
Attach/Twnh	8	381,850	373,750	5	285,540	275,580	3	319,900	311,466

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# The Bridges of the Inglewood "Peninsula"

Joe Donnelly

## ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY YEARS AGO January 1884

To the thousands of motorists who pass through Inglewood every day the area must seem like an island -- particularly if they approach from the north, east or west since the only way in is by bridge over water: the 9th Ave Bridge over the Elbow on the west, the Zoo Bridge and the

flood of 1886 and replaced in 1887, and again in 1897, until finally the present Algoma Steel structure was erected in 1909, in conjunction with the arrival of the streetcar in Inglewood.

The Zoo Bridge (more properly St. George's Island Bridge) was put up the year before (1908) and is, therefore, at 96 years of age the oldest iron bridge still in use in Calgary. (See photo.) Though

the development and re-routing of the Blackfoot Trail. There was at least one earlier Cushing Bridge (perhaps as early as the WWI) which provided a connection between Forest Lawn and the Provincial highway. (17th Ave., now sometimes called International Ave., in the past was briefly referred to as Chestermere Trail.)

So, early on, Inglewood's 9th Ave. served as a connector route for transient



**Calgary's First Traffic Bridge** With Fort Calgary seen in the background, the Atlantic Ave. Bridge (today's 9th Ave. bridge) was the first structure over the Elbow River to link Inglewood to the west side of the city. It was built around the year 1880.

Cushing Bridge over the Bow to the north and east respectively.

And if one takes into consideration the manmade barrier (the CPR tracks and Alyth yards) which forms Inglewood's southern boundary, this boomerang-shaped community may at least be described as a peninsula (Latin for "nearly an island").

Inglewood's isolation started early. When the CPR arrived in August of 1883, the tracks and trains pushed through the settlement and across the Elbow where the railroad established its headquarters half a mile west of the river. Many settlers began striking their tents and skidding their shacks across the river. By that winter it was clear that a bridge was needed over the Elbow so those remaining in Inglewood could get supplies and goods from the railway depot.

A town meeting was called on January 7, 1884, and Lt. Governor Edgar Dewdney was petitioned for \$1,000 to construct a bridge. This original span was Calgary's first traffic bridge. (See photo.) It was swept away by the spring

hardly adequate for the traffic it bears today, this was an elegant structure for its day, with its lengthy span and 17-foot wide roadbed.

This bridge was built at the suggestion of city engineer T.E.Child, who noted that the downtown bridges across the Bow were overloaded. With the population explosion in this decade, the bridge became a popular route for families picnicking on the islands (St. Patrick, St. Andrew, St. George) and after 1910, when the General hospital relocated to Bridgeland, was a shortcut for East Calgarians. When the Dominion of Canada gave the three islands to Calgary, the city set aside \$8,000 to build a Biergarten and lay out pathways.

The Tom Baines Bridge on the north side of St. George's, was constructed in 1964. Old timers remember its wooden predecessor.



**The 9th Avenue Bridge** from Inglewood to downtown.

the through-traffic of the 30's, 40's and 50's, thousands of commuters passed through Inglewood every day, headed for what the CPR chose as downtown. Makes me wonder if today's travelers ever give the commute through Inglewood an extra thought.

.... The more things change, the more they stay the same.

To the east the Cushing Bridge was built in 1956 and 1965 in conjunction with

*For information in these notes, my thanks to the City hall archivists, and to Scotty Austin. Thanks also to Bill Yeo for assistance with this piece. Reprinted from Inglewood Newsletter, Jan 2004.*



**St. George's Island Bridge** (Zoo Bridge) was built in 1908



## ***SUDS AND SAVINGS***

The Alex-sponsored Community Laundromat is the first of its kind in Calgary. This unique place offers work experience for women, as well as great rates on coin laundry, drop off laundry and dry cleaning. You can even qualify for a membership and get even better value. On February 11, the Global TV Breakfast Show will be airing from this location, starting at 6 a.m.! Drop by for some donuts and coffee .

## ***SHARING OUR NEWSLETTER?***

Ramsay and Inglewood are currently discussing the possibility of merging our two newsletters. What do you think of this idea?

Ramsay and Inglewood are inner-city neighbourhoods which share many common concerns. We are both older communities where our history is celebrated, and remains important to the contemporary community. Families, singles, seniors, industry and business all co-exist in our neighbourhood. Our people come from many backgrounds, and we welcome this diversity as one of our strengths. We love to live here in the centre of this growing city.

At the same time, we struggle with the similar issues specifically because of our prime inner-city location. Traffic, transit expansion, crime, closure of schools, skyrocketing land values which are forcing many families from the inner cities, and development issues – these are all topics which affect both our neighbourhoods and a shared newsletter will allow broader communication and the potential for shared discussion. It will also be more cost effective for both our communities.

Let us know if you have any thoughts, comments or concerns about this idea. Contact either Beth Carter (Ramsay News Editor) at [news@ramsaycommunity.ab.ca](mailto:news@ramsaycommunity.ab.ca) or Ed Top (Inglewood Editor) at [thetops@shaw.ca](mailto:thetops@shaw.ca).

## ***BEAUTIFICATION***

Don't forget that we are still looking for your input on the proposed designs put forward by Marc Boutin and the Streetscape Development Committee. You can submit questions or comments through the website or by calling Brenda Japp at 264-7137.

## ***WHAT'S IN STORE?***

*Lisa Parker Shaw*

Have you noticed the new sign on the Ramsay Village Market at 703 - 23 Avenue SE?

If the name Dean Stanton doesn't ring a bell, his style will. His most visible work is the mural on Sunalta School (overlooking Crowchild Trail). The Ramsay Village Market sign will be his second most visible work!?! Dean's studio is located right here in Ramsay, on 11 Street. I'm hoping Dean will produce some "no junk mail" signs to stock in the store, so more of us can say "well I have a Dean Stanton". By the way, I requested he insert a self-portrait into the sign. What's he look like? Slim with blonde hair facing the sun, when the sun is at 12 o'clock in the month of June.

## ***CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE***

Over the last year, James Duggan and Yukiko Monks have worked diligently to create a fantastic website for the Ramsay Community. It is loaded with all sorts of great information, including information on your Board, Heritage, Beautification, Civic Affairs, and other current events. Check it out at [www.ramsaycommunity.ab.ca](http://www.ramsaycommunity.ab.ca). Thanks to James and Yukiko for all their hard work.

## ***RAMSAY COLLECTIVE KITCHEN***

*Robyn Webster and Catherine Cartmill*

In January, 2004 the Ramsay Kitchen produced 13 meals with 24 portions each for our families. A great time was had by all. We encourage new members to join whenever they are available and welcomed two new members in January. January favorites were Taco Beef, Russian chicken, scalloped potatoes, Seasonal Fish (marinated), Chicken master mix, vegetarian recipes and four soups. Our February cook date is not yet scheduled but the menu will include, but is not limited to, burritos, lazy lasagna, beef stew, shepherd's pie and, of course, soups! For the cook date, recipe requests or further information, contact Robyn Webster at 264-9692 or Catherine Cartmill at 263-0267.

### ***Just for Kids***

This is an invitation to you!! The Ramsay Community Association wishes to sponsor nights out for youth age 10 and up. If you can join us on Friday evenings twice a month to cook up meals to eat and take home, play games and visit, please call Catherine at 263-0267. There is no charge for these events, what we cook will be decided by the group and your input is welcome.

## ***RIVER VALLEYS COMMITTEE***

*Taras Semeniuk*

The Ramsay Community Association is seeking a volunteer to represent Ramsay on the River Valleys Committee (RVC). The RVC was created by City Council in 1990 and subsequently housed under the umbrella of the Parks Foundation, Calgary. RVC is mandated by City Council to protect and enhance the natural, historical, and cultural values of Calgary's River Valleys ecosystem.

Some of the past activities of the RVC include: participation in the Urban Park Master Plan, input to Calgary Pathways and Calgary Open Spaces Plans, advisement on the East Village development, re-naturalization of park space in Stampede Park and expansion of the Talisman Centre.

As a minimum, the volunteer position involves attending two to four meetings per year and interfacing between the Ramsay Community Association and RVC. It is a fun position, and the RVC members are very passionate about their responsibilities to the environment. For more information, check out their website at [www.parksfdn.com](http://www.parksfdn.com) and give our present RVC representative, Taras Semeniuk, a phone call at 264-1972.



## **RAMSAY SCHOOL**

*Brian Del Castilho, Principal*

It is the middle of January as I write this message. We are waiting to see how the issue of school closure for Colonel Walker will be resolved. Some representatives from their school council will come to our next meeting in February. We hope that this will be a productive meeting for both schools. I shall keep you informed.

We all need special activities to keep our spirits up in the months of January and February. Here are some of the things that have happened or will be happening at the school: a field trip for several homerooms to Fish Creek Park, a visit from a magician, the start of our school science club, a visit by Lana Skauge, Wacky Hair Day, the second professional development day for our staff, teachers' convention, and a visit from Evergreen Theatre.

One of the school's bookworm characters, Mini - Me, is now travelling all over the world. The children are writing letters to ask Mini - Me to come home. Mini-Me has promised to send the children pictures and postcards from all of the places he visits. We are having a great deal of fun because we never know where Mini-Me will travel to next.

If you have any ideas about where Mini-Me can travel to and could help him travel around the world, please let us know at the school at 777 - 6790. The more exotic the location, the better it will be for all of the children. Thank you.

## **A NEW PLAYGROUND FOR RAMSAY SCHOOL**

*Catherine Cartmill and Beth Carter*

Ramsay Elementary Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) is planning the replacement of the existing playground at the Ramsay Elementary School. A new playground will provide increased safety, improvement to play environment, community beautification, accessibility for special needs, opportunities for play therapy, and improved security.

The existing wooden playground structure built in the 1980s has reached the end of its expected lifespan. We are working with GPI Outdoor Designs and Tony Argento, a landscape architect and community member, to develop a new play environment, which will suit the children in the school, the special needs of autistic children in the Janus Academy and the children in the community.

The project budget is approximately \$150,000 including landscaping costs, play equipment and the special poured play surface needed for special needs children. The Ramsay Elementary PAC has committed \$10,000 of their funds for the project as well as committing 500 hours of volunteer labour. GPI has offered to donate materials for the project. Calgary Board of Education has offered to donate the cost of removal

of the existing playground. We are also requesting assistance from the Ramsay Community Association, as well as foundations, granting agencies and other community businesses.

The Ramsay PAC will host an Open House in May 2004, inviting school children, families and community members to give input into the final selection of components for the playground. Watch for details later in the spring.

## **NEWS FROM THE POINT**

### **The Point Gallery**

Hours: Thurs. and Fri. 1-4 pm; Sat. 11 am - 4 pm.

1139 - 11 Street, S.E., Calgary. T2G 3G1.

Ph/Fax 265-6867.

Check out our website @ [www.artpoint.ca](http://www.artpoint.ca)

Contact Elizabeth Dunn, Susan Whyte or Pam Dalsin.

*Jan 28 - Feb. 17*

### **New Horizons - A celebration of form and colour**

Group show. (No opening)

*Feb. 18 - Mar. 9*

### **Objects and Abstractions**

a group show featuring contemporary, abstracted works in various media. (No opening)

*Mar. 10 - 31*

### **Flowers for Peace, A Dedication to our World Leaders**

Collages by Elizabeth Laishley.

Opening Friday, March 12, 5-9 pm.

*April 2 - 20*

### **CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!!**

#### **Amateur Art Show and Sale**

This will be a juried exhibition. Deadline for slide, photo, or e-submissions (to [pdalsin@hotmail.com](mailto:pdalsin@hotmail.com)) is March 19th, 2004.

Questions? Call 265-6867.

Opening Fri., April 2, 5-9 pm. with open bar and refreshments.

## **GRASSROOTS HOCKEY**

Do you want to play fun and affordable hockey?

Every Monday evening the Ramsay Community Association hosts a grassroots hockey program at the Hockey Rink on the Scotsman's Hill. We can accommodate beginners and more advanced players. Come on out!

For more information call Mark @ 265-7303

Ramsay Community would like to thank our Ice-Flooding volunteers: Mark Sherrington, Kevin Garvey and David Graham.

Thanks Guys for ice that's Smooth as Glass & Crystal Clear!





## CIVIC AFFAIRS

Janice Thoroughgood

Ramsay Civic Affairs met on January 20, 2004 upstairs at the Shamrock at 7pm.

### **DP2003-3674 1240 – 20 Avenue SE**

*Alyth/Bonnybrook Community*

This is the tan brick building behind and to the East of the Ramsay Design Centre. The structure falls just outside the area designated by the Ramsay Area Redevelopment Planning guide. The proposal included restoring the existing building, and two new additions on the North end and South end of the building. The restoration of the original structure keeps the building's historical style and integrity, while the additions juxtapose with a very modern design. The DP also included extensive landscaping around the property. Generally Civic Affairs is in support of this application. We put forward a concern that a portion of the addition's roof was over 16m, however there is currently an elevator shaft on the original building that is the same height.

### **DP 2003-2788 – 24 Avenue SE**

*(Georgian developments behind Kam Han Restaurant) - for appeal only*

This DP had already been viewed and commented on by the Civic Affairs Committee, any concerns to be addressed from now on must be done through a formal appeal. The Civic affairs committee had previously expressed concerns of

the Rooftop patio and the privacy of adjacent properties to this development. The Rooftop patio has been adjusted to the front portion of the structure only. Civic Affairs acknowledges the appreciation of the developer's modifications to the original designs to address concerns of privacy of adjacent yards.

### **Inglewood Area Redevelopment Plan**

Inglewood has been reviewing their ARP since it is now an older document (10 or so years). Ramsay's Past Civic Affairs Chair was invited to attend a meeting within Inglewood CA dealing with redevelopment and the Inglewood ARP. They are trying to form a committee that would report back to the Inglewood Board; the committee would examine the parameters of new development in Inglewood. They see a lot of opportunity with some existing vacant land as well as within the established areas, and they do not believe that the Inglewood ARP reflects this potential for change and new ways of looking at development. They wanted to maintain close ties with Ramsay because of our geographic proximity. Once they form a committee, they may invite Ramsay to formally participate.

**Next Civic Affairs meeting will be held: Monday Feb 9th, 7-9pm at the Shamrock Saddle Dome Hotel - upstairs in the restaurant. All are welcome.**



## RAMSAY HERITAGE SOCIETY

Angie Maeots

The Ramsay Heritage Society would like to welcome three new members. So far on the committee we have some strong community volunteers! Catherine Cartmill, Robyn Webster, Evelyn Bell, and Christine Stock! Thank you to all those who volunteer for the events and make donations. A special thank-you to those who generously donated lots to the Ramsay Heritage Silent Auction. (especially Dale!)

We have an exciting year ahead of us!

**In June** ...we have our bigger and better **Ramsay Heritage Boot Sale!** So don't worry about the hassle of a garage sale...just save your stuff, and have a huge one together with other community residents! We will be advertising in the newspaper, and on radio!

**In July**...we will celebrate Ramsay on **Ramsay Day!** It's a family event...free to the community, and full of contests, crafts, games, prizes, and refreshments!

Fun – Fun – Fun!!

**October** is the perfect time for the **Ramsay Heritage Silent Auction!** Stay tuned for more information in the months to come!

The Ramsay Heritage society has also started writing a book on the history of the community! It will be used as a **future fund-raiser** for Ramsay! If you have any suggestions, ideas, or would even like to participate by writing a chapter...call Angie at 313 -2677 and read more information





# Street Names Changed 100 Years Ago

Joe Donnelly

## One hundred years ago – January 1904

On January 7, Calgary City Council authorized its Police and Relief Committee to initiate the process of “numbering the city’s streets and houses.” Thus, a century ago the old names of Inglewood’s roads began to disappear from common use, overtaken by the efficient but soulless numerical quadrant grid. Never mind that Inglewood’s older layout didn’t match the master plan, so that 17th Ave, where it exists, cuts a diagonal slash across the neighbourhood, and 9th Ave veers from the east/west avenue line, dips under the tracks and the Blackfoot, and heads southeast toward the bird sanctuary. Inglewood never fit anyone’s preconception.

The motivation for this change was likely home mail delivery, which began in the years immediately following the numbering of streets and houses. The use of numbers and the grid system was

also a popular thing at the time. Since there was little street furniture before this time, it is likely that residents did not use the original street names much anyway.

Only three street names persist here: New St. (one of the oldest streets in

***Unaccountably,  
Inglewood’s nearest  
and oldest neighbour,  
Ramsay, has kept  
many of its street  
names.***

town), St. Monica Ave. (once St. Mary Ave. and now two cul de sacs) and Alyth Rd. Unlike the district of Mount Royal where so many names survive. And unlike the new subdivisions (Inglewood Village, for instance, has added Cove and Point and Landing to this locale’s addresses). And, of course, unlike the

outlying burbs, which seem preoccupied with making their communities alphabetically correct: in Scenic Acres, for instance, there isn’t a main thoroughfare or minor mews that doesn’t start with “sc.” Ditto for Chaparral, Edgemont, Harvest Hills.

Unaccountably, Inglewood’s nearest and oldest neighbour, Ramsay, has kept many of its street names. One of the most picturesque is Bison Path, a narrow passageway that curls slowly down the hill from Bellevue Ave to Maggie St, just above 8th St and 11th Ave. Not exactly San Francisco or Montmartre, but surely one of the quaintest public byways in Calgary.

*This article is re-printed courtesy of Inglewood Newsletter. Over the next few months, because of our common concerns, Ramsay and Inglewood will be collaborating on some newsletter content. Thanks to Joe Donnelly and Ed Top.*



# SAY WHAT? DOG AS A SECOND LANGUAGE.

*Laurie Albright*

I find I'm getting more and more questions these days about dog-to-dog aggression, and dog-communication in general. This is a fascinating topic! It's amazing just how well our little furry buddies can communicate if we understand their language!

Let's start with some basics. Dog communication is primarily physical. Its body language that puts ours to shame! The dog's body posture tells you how he's feeling and what his intentions are. For example: the adorable beagle that comes into doggy daycare for the first time. She comes into a group of four other dogs that she doesn't know, she's feeling a little unsure – her hackles are up. Her owner is afraid she's being "aggressive", but the rest of her body language, her tucked tail, head down, turning sideways to the other dogs tells another story. She's nervous. After a few minutes of bouncy greetings she realizes the others are friendly and playful and she's in the thick of the best wrestling match she's ever enjoyed! What fun! Her coat is slick now, her tail and head are up and she's giving as good as she gets in the play time.

Dog play often makes owners nervous. It can be loud and is usually rowdy. The thing to watch for is that the dogs are taking turns playing "dominant". Even with dogs mismatched for size, the big dogs are "on the mats" as often as the little dogs. If a dog doesn't want to take turns, you have to give them breaks in the play so no one gets bullied or scared.

The rule of thumb in doggy play session seems to be "any thing after a play-bow is just in fun". But don't leave your dog unattended with strange dogs. Sometimes one will take offence and a more serious situation can develop. Signs to watch for include a hard stare. If the dog is staring, without blinking for more than two seconds, you might want to step in between the two dogs or call them off for a treat to let things cool off a little. Other clues that things may not be going well are a still, stiff, upright stance or a slow, straight line approach towards the other dog. A more polite way to approach is a curved approach, with a happy grin and a soft eye – the dog radiates good-will as they approach the other dog.

If this topic piques your interest, there's a really good book on the market, "How to Speak Dog" by Stanley Coren. It's well written and really helps those of us who are trying to speak Dog as a Second Language.

For more information, feel free to call me at 265-9669 – maybe we can learn to speak dog together!



## **BEAVER SCOUT NEWS**

The mighty Calgary 70th Scout Group meets in the newly renovated hall at Victoria Park Community Association. Our group is open to both boys and girls.

Beavers are 5-7 years old and meet on Mondays. They have an active program of games, songs, crafts, and outings. They also have camps a couple of times a year. For more information, call Gary at 264-2778.

Scouts, age 11-14 and Venturers, age 14-17, have very active outdoor programs. In winter, we are skiing and camping until spring breakup when we get on the water canoeing and kayaking. Each summer we have at least one week of camping. Last summer our Venturers scrambled up 7 mountains in an attempt to win the top Canadian Adventure Award. For more information call Rick, H-278-2547 or W-259-5229.



# ALEXANDRA CENTRE SOCIETY



## **SUZUKI MUSIC CLASSES**

Suzuki music classes "For Baby and Parent" are weekly one-hour classes, for 6 months to 3-year olds and their parents, where they participate together in exercises involving rhyme, rhythm, musical instruments, and children's books. Classes will be held every Wednesday starting February 4, 2004 for 16 weeks from 9.30 am to 10.30 am. The cost for the course is \$144.00, which includes your membership to the ACS as well as a CD.

There have also been requests for an evening class. Please call and let us know if you are interested in that time slot. A minimum of 8 children is required for a class. If you wish to register or require any further details please contact Leslie or Pia on 269-5588.

## **DAY-CARE PROGRAM**

The Alexandra Centre Society is committed to providing high quality, affordable services to Tri-Area residents. Because of this commitment, the Alexandra Centre Day-care service will not meet its projected opening date of February 2004. Unforeseen delays in approvals and scheduling, as well as unexpected damages to the space are also factors. We apologize for any inconvenience that may result from this delay, but look forward to providing the best of care to community children.

## **HALL RENTAL**

The Alexandra Centre Society has recently renovated the gymnasium and is now renting it out to residents of the Tri-area. The hall has a capacity of 150 people. Please contact Leslie between 9 am and 1 pm.



**Making hampers at the Alex** - Over 40 people packed non-perishables into boxes for the needy. Seen here from left to right are Grace Westra, Pia Wilkinson Chapman, and Leslie. Photo by Ed Top.

## **Christmas Hamper Program 2003**

45 hampers were given out to needy families in the areas of Inglewood, Ramsay and Victoria Park. The success of the program was largely due to the support of over 50 volunteers and donors. We would like to thank the numerous individuals (you know who you are) for their financial and in-kind support and, also the organizations of: Steele's Transfer; Fleischmann's Yeast; University of Calgary Health Science Centre; Silver Threads; Fort Calgary; Stampede Grocery and Mini Mart; St. Anne's School; Norampac; and, U-Haul for their financial and in-kind support.

We would like to thank the following volunteers who helped put the hampers together: the CASS crew; Ria Buur; Shirley-anne Reuben; Leslie Knaus; Pat Abbott; Peter Abbott; Grace Westra; Jim Diamond; Jane Bella; Paul Zubaty; Amjad Adhami; John Forest; Koreen Finnman; Kyre Smith; Peter Smith; Pat Baker, Doreen Weins; Don Raine; Armand Klobberdanz; Pat Rowley; Ed Top; Angela Dean; Heather Wallinder; Dorothy Ward; Bunny Hale; Lois Currie; Heike Semon; Anice Harding; Ghislaine Carpan; Rindy Young; Don Raine; Doug Cooper; Margaret Vollans; John Juraz; Mae Fraser; Rocky Greenslade; Leslie Fernandes; Pia Wilkinson Chapman; Christine; Anne Belzil, Don Tremblay, Laurie; Donna Staples, Heather Delorme, Paul Moores; and, Doug Cooper.



**Many volunteers make light work** - Back row, L-R: Kyre Smith, Peter Smith, Paul Moores, Don Raine and Peter Abbott. *Middle row, L-R:* Seiji Shiraiwa, Doreen Wiens, Ria Buur, John Forest, Anne Belzil, Nick Jennings, and Pia Wilkinson-Chapman. *Front row:* Margaret Vollens, AJ Adhami with Kobe (dog), Grace Westra and Ken Robertson.



## KEY POLICE CONTACTS

If you see crimes in the area, please contact the police by phone or e-mail. The police in our area are:

**Bill Styba Badge # 1692,**  
**Ramsay Community Liaison Officer;**

**Inspector Dan Jahrig Badge #1763**

**Sgt. Blair White Badge # 2783**

**Staff Sgt. Dean Stobo # 2519**

To e-mail any police officer the address is: pol(badge #)@calgarypolice.ca (eg. to e-mail Bill Styba, pol1692@calgarypolice.ca).

## Newsletter Contributions

Any community member is welcome to contribute to this newsletter. The deadline for submissions for each upcoming month's issue is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month. Please email your contributions, comments, and articles to:

[news@ramsaycommunity.ab.ca](mailto:news@ramsaycommunity.ab.ca)

or drop it off at the Ramsay Community Hall, 1136 8 St SE

## ADVERTISING

Ad size	Per month
business card	\$35
1/4 page	\$65
1/2 page	\$100
Full page	\$175
Inserts	\$75
Internet	\$25

The Ramsay News is a non-profit newsletter offered free of charge to the community each month. Our circulation of over one thousand reaches all of Ramsay. Submission deadline is the 20th of each month.



**Ramsay Community**  
**BLOCK WATCH**  
For More Information  
Call  
**Teresa Young**  
**263-7127**  
Making Our Community Safer

## Ramsay Community Contacts

**Ramsay Community Hall & Ramsay Community Association**  
**1136 - 8th Street SE, Calgary, AB T2G 2Z7**

Phone: 403.265.4898 (please leave a message) • Fax: 403.265.4858

Ramsay Community Website: [www.ramsaycommunity.ab.ca](http://www.ramsaycommunity.ab.ca)

Ramsay Community email: [general@ramsaycommunity.ab.ca](mailto:general@ramsaycommunity.ab.ca)

Ramsay Newsletter email: [news@ramsaycommunity.ab.ca](mailto:news@ramsaycommunity.ab.ca)

Ramsay website: [webcomments@ramsaycommunity.ab.ca](mailto:webcomments@ramsaycommunity.ab.ca)

## FEBRUARY 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 <b>RCA General Meeting</b> 7 p.m. TRAFFIC DISCUSSION	4	5	6	7
8	9 Civic Affairs Shamrock 7 – 9 p.m.	10	11 Suds & Savings – Global TV a.m.	12 TEACHERS CONVENTION	13 TEACHERS CONVENTION	14
15	16 Family Day Skating Party 3 – 5 p.m.	17 RCA Board Meeting 7 p.m.	18	19 School Council Meeting 7 p.m.	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	March 1	March 2 <b>RCA General Meeting</b> 7 p.m.	March 3	March 4	March 5	March 6

