

RAMSAY NEWS

<http://www.ramsaycommunity.ab.ca>

August, 2003

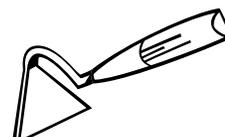
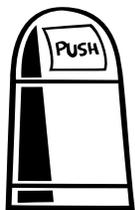
Circulation 1050



RAMSAY COMMUNITY NEEDS YOUR HELP!

John Holt and Vince Bodnar

On **September 20, 2003**, Ramsay Park (on top of Scotsman's Hill next to the skate shack) will undergo an extensive upgrade courtesy of the *United Way Day of Caring*.



RAMSAY VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THIS PROJECT

Over 100 volunteers are required for this community enhancing event.

The Ramsay - *United Way Day of Caring* committee is actively seeking community volunteers to assist on Sept 20th. Mark your calendars – and plan on helping out!



We need community volunteers from Ramsay to also get involved.
Volunteers of all ages (including kids) are welcome and encouraged!!



Skills required include: painters & scrapers, event planners & organizers, plumbers & builders, rakers, gardeners & tree planters, runners, games and recreation coordinators, telephoners, recyclers & cleaners, refreshment servers, greeters, and much more.

This will be a fun day and a great way for the entire family to get involved in your community!

Get to know your neighbours – and come out and Help Ramsay!!

Call the Ramsay 'Day of Caring' line @ 508.5070 Today.

Please leave a message for Karen, and we will contact you with more information.



Day of Caring 2003 in Ramsay

This event that partners a corporation and its employees with a project in a local community group or service agency. This is a "from-the-heart" kind of philanthropy that builds community partnerships and promotes a deeper understanding of community issues. Companies supply the labour and materials, and the community provides the project. In Ramsay, City of Calgary employees will volunteer their time for the day to plant trees, work on landscaping and clean up public areas. A beautiful new playground is in the process of being installed this summer.

Call our 'Day of Caring' line @ 508.5070 and Volunteer!



Come to a meeting and find out more about your community!

Next General Meeting

NO August Meeting!

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 5th 2003

Lower Hall, 7 p.m.

Babysitting available.

Next Ramsay Community Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 15, 2003

Upper Hall, 7 p.m.

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RAMSAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2002-2003 AND COMMUNITY CHAIRS

Board Members:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|----------|------------------------------|
| President | Tim Stock-Bateman..... | 264-2119 | ... tstockbateman@yahoo.ca |
| 1 st Vice-President..... | Vince Bodnar* | | |
| 2 nd Vice-President..... | Dawn Blair | 237-7351 | |
| Past President | Brenda Japp | 264-7137 | ... brendaj@sprint.ca |
| Secretary | Elizabeth Skagen..... | 262-8714 | ... lizcar@shaw.ca |
| Treasurer..... | Catherine Cartmill* | | |
| Member at Large | Allan Baker* | | |
| Member at Large | Beth Carter | 269-4199 | ... bethcarter@shaw.ca |
| Member at Large | David Graham | 264-9233 | ... neovblee@telusplanet.net |
| Member at Large | Christina Greco* | | |
| Member at Large | John Holt* | | |
| Member at Large | Martina Jileckova..... | 265-7303 | ... msherrin@telusplanet.net |

Committee Chairs:

| | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|----------|------------------------------|
| Membership..... | Darrel Larsen..... | 265-1306 | ... darrelasia@hotmail.com |
| Summer Sports..... | Glen Larsen..... | 232-8173 | ... glen-larsen@shaw.ca |
| Winter Sports | Mark Sherrington..... | 265-7303 | ... msherrin@telusplanet.net |
| Casino | Pat Baker* | | |
| Bylaws..... | Nikki Carter* | | |
| Ramsay School Liaison..... | Catherine Cartmill* | | |
| Newsletter | | | Ramsay-News@yahoogroups.com |
| Beautification..... | Brenda Japp | 264-7137 | ... brendaj@sprint.ca |
| Civic Affairs | Martina Jileckova..... | 265-7303 | ... msherrin@telusplanet.net |
| Community Safety..... | Karen Lowry* | | |
| Historical Committee | Angie Maeots | 313-2677 | ... a_mae75@hotmail.com |

Other Contacts:

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|----------|----------------------|
| Community Hall Manager . | Karen Lowry | 265-4898 | |
| Website Coordinator..... | James Duggan..... | 283-0248 | ... jpduggan@shaw.ca |

*Please leave a message at the Community Hall: 265-4898

Ramsay Community Association:
President's Message

I can hardly believe it is already August. It seems like just yesterday we were meeting over shovels and snow banks – and now we're well into lawn mower and BBQ season. Before you know it.... well, let's not think about that just yet.

I think you'll all join me in celebrating how good Ramsay is looking. People have had fabulous success in their gardens and there are many people out and about. This is a great opportunity to meet you neighbours, new and old, and to get to know the community a little better.

Part of why the community is looking so good is the success of the Ramsay Community Clean-Up Day. I'd like to thank everyone who came out to help as well as those who organised the event. A huge amount of garbage was removed from the community – from candy wrappers to old appliances. There are already good suggestions on the table for how to make next year's clean-up an even bigger success.

We have also been fortunate to have a number of new trees appear in the community. The ongoing work of the Beautification committee is valuable and we are all benefiting from good successes. You will all have seen the new mural on the wall of Ste. Anne's School. Thanks to everyone involved in that project, especially to local artist Dale Fehr. Everyone will be pleased to know that very good work is progressing on the redevelopment of Outwest Park. A huge amount of money has been raised to aid in this and a phenomenal number of volunteer hours have gone into it.

I would also like to thank all who participated in the Ramsay Heritage Day. This great celebration of Ramsay and its residents had a good turn out and all had fun. The Heritage Committee has been busy. Plans are afoot for the development of a book celebrating Ramsay's heritage. We will keep you posted about the development of this project as it gets underway.

As it is August we have all had some time to come down from the hustle and bustle of Stampede. We have had some good feedback this year about the impact on the community, and by most accounts, the parking issue was much better this year than it has been in past. I know that Ramsay Elementary School benefited well from their parking program and I would like to thank them for their efforts. Please, if you have comments or concerns about the community during Stampede, forward them to me. My phone number and e-mail address appear later in the Newsletter.

In the coming weeks, volunteers will be getting in touch with you for your assistance with the United Way Day of Caring. Information appears in the newsletter outlining this opportunity and we will be looking for people to help. Bring your hammers, paint brushes and good spirits to help the City of Calgary with the redevelopment of Ramsay Park at the top of the hill.

Please note that there will be no Community Meeting in August. We are giving you all the evening off, as well as some well-deserved time off for the Board Members who have all been working hard over the past months. I, personally, would like to express my gratitude to everyone who has been contributing to the life and livelihood of the community.

Please feel free to contact me with any concerns or ideas you have.

Very best,
 Tim



Tim Stock-Bateman

Traffic Update, Tom Jevne, Civic Affairs

This fall the community of Ramsay will begin with the traffic study process mentioned in recent editions of the newsletter. Bruce McDougall from the City of Calgary is the Transportation Planner assigned to assist us through the process.

Bruce provided traffic statistical information gathered from a number of locations within the community. The City of Calgary collected the information on September 9th and 10th, 2002.

In the chart below I have summarized a listing of the locations, total vehicle trips per day in a 24 hour period (VPD) and if stats were available a comparison to vehicle counts from June 1991 (from page 29, Background information, Ramsay Area Redevelopment Plan).

| LOCATION | Vehicle Trips Per Day (VPD) | |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------|
| | VPD Jun '91 | VPD Sep '02 |
| Spiller Rd north of Margaret Ave. | 5230 | 4934 |
| Spiller Rd south of 19 th Ave | 5100 | 5694 |
| 8 th St north of 19 th Ave | 6840 | 6938 |
| Salisbury St north of Burns Ave | no info | 434 |
| Bellevue Ave south of Macdonald Ave | 590 | 725 |
| 11 th St north of 19 th Ave | no info | 6855 |
| 19 th Ave east of 9 th Street | 1440 | 2310 |
| 21 st Ave west of 8 th Street | 2640 | 3278 |
| 24 th Ave west of 7 th Street | no info | 1661 |

Information on vehicle speed and short-cutting was also collected.

The traffic study process will begin in October 2003. In August we plan on meeting with City of Calgary staff to gain a clearer understanding and interpretation of the statistics gathered.

If anyone has any questions or comments regarding traffic concerns, or if you wish to become more involved in the process, please contact me at 781-3463 (leave your name and phone number). I can also be reached by e-mail at tcj.tek@shaw.ca

PARKING PERMIT REVIEW

The City of Calgary is currently reviewing the residential parking permit program. Some streets in Ramsay are controlled by restricted Zone D residential permit requirements. The City is looking for input to determine how the program is working and what changes may be required. Please forward any questions, concerns or comments to Tom Jevne at 263-5778.



JOY DUPRE

651-8206
263-3923 (Res.)

CIR REALTORS 294-1500



"NOT JUST A HERITAGE HOMES SPECIALIST"

JUST LISTED



Riverfront

66 Ft. Frontage. The VanWert House/ Burns Ranch House. ca 1886. Heritage grants available. Verandah rebuilt slanted. Spacious open plan 2409 sq.ft. huge family, dining, & living rooms, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2 clawfoots, jacuzzi. **Million dollar River & downtown views.** Realtor owned. Possibility of renting. **\$629,000**



Inglewood Riverfront

33 ft. frontage. 1910 two storey, 1700 sq.ft. 2 storey. Newly restored. Top of the line light fixtures, upgraded mechanicals, repaired, painted & polished. Two suites (grandfathered). Return to single family with removal of kitchen. 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, hardwood, fabulous home. Rented \$1700. Realtor owned. **\$409,000**

JUST LISTED



Brick Cottage Block From Elbow River

Newly restored 2 bedroom, softwood, clawfoot with shower. Hardwood, mexican tile in bath. Great designer colors. Realtor owned. **\$179,000**

JUST LISTED



Ramsay Victorian

3 Suites. Beautiful, large, character plus, newly restored, great investment. Shows 110%. A show stopper. \$1850 revenue. Could be single family with basement suite with removal or door. Realtor owned. **\$249,000**



Inner City Edmonton Trail

Raised bungalow freshly painted, hardwood floors, 2 bedrooms up, 2 down. Roughed in for kitchen or second bath basement. **\$158,000**



Scarboro

Here's your chance to get into prestigious Scarboro complete with basement suite on a large 50' lot. 995 sq.ft. has been operated as a daycare. Garage, fenced lot. **\$249,000**



Grande Old Dame on Elbow Drive right across from River

This wonderful old lady needs a little work to update her to today's standards but she has the right bones & breeding. 2759 sq.ft & 667 sq.ft. in basement. **\$550,000**



JUST LISTED

5 Minutes to Downtown

1032 sq.ft. 3 bedroom bungalow, fully developed basement. Oversized double garage. Well maintained, established yard. **\$164,000**

JUST LISTED



Marda Loop

Adorable doll house with designer colors, new pergo floor, clawfoot tub, nice large deck, great next door neighbours, first time owner or investor, you can't miss with this one at only **\$158,000**

JUST LISTED



Rare East Elbow Park

Beautiful character home which will bring a smile to your face from the minute you walk up the walkway. Four bedrooms, three baths, huge master, beautiful verandah, back deck, balcony, original trim, oak floors throughout. Landscaped. **\$529,000**

3036(3/7)-/ls/by

Call Joy today at 263-3923 • 651-8206 - New Listings daily

Ramsay Heritage Day

Thank you Ramsay!

Michael Fitzpatrick, Evelyn Bell, and Angie Maeots, would like to say... **Thank you to all those who supported and contributed in making Ramsay Day a success!**

Grant Rushton - At Ramsay's "Space Gym" for contributing two six month memberships!

Liz and Eric Skagan- Residents of Ramsay, for contributing their popcorn machine, and for helping to preserve the day... and the heritage of Ramsay with all the photos they took!

John Holt - Resident of Ramsay, for his very generous donation of a cherished and prized antique teddy bear!

Paul's Pizza - For donating some fantastic food gift certificates!

Rhonda - Manager at **7-11** for donating a hundred free slurpee certificates, in which the children loved! Also for providing the Ramsay parade with an audience!

George's Pizza - For donating some great food gift certificates!

Vince Bodnar - For contributing his volunteer time and potato sacks in which we all had a blast racing in!

Jed - At Neon Classics for his generous money donation!

Steve Sosa - At Sosa Clothing, for his donation of "in style" children's T - shirts!

The Ramsay Community Association - For their support and for providing some funding for this event!

Tom Sorbie - "At the Den of Antiquity" -For his donation of a very valuable antique rocking chair!

Black & White Grocery Store - For generously donating Candy prizes for the children!

Brian DelCasthilo - Ramsay Elementary School for helping to advertise the event, and for lending equipment!

Alberta Corner Store - For helping to Advertise, and donating

toy prizes!

Taras Semeniuk - Resident of Ramsay, for his generous money donation!

Beth Carter - Resident of Ramsay for her contribution of a fantastic craft table the children loved!

Catherine Cartmil - For all her contribution with lunch, and all her volunteer assistance!

Tahiriah Milne - Resident of Ramsay, for her volunteer assistance and for making a great "prize lady!"

Hilary Argento - Resident of Ramsay, for all her support, and for volunteering to be the parade marshal!

Madame Meagan Hutchinson - For being the Fortune Teller, and dressing up!

The Ramsay Elementary Students - who came to volunteer, did an amazing job, and helped make the day successful!

Jim Laurendeau - At the Calgary Stampede, for his donation of many stampede and clothing items!

David Johnston - On the Canada Day Committee, for helping to support the event by donating a generous amount of Canada flag items!

Constable Bill Styba, Constable Mark Chambers, and Sgt. Derrick Mc Gougan and the two Mounted Police for coming, enduring the heat, and for being the stars of our first "Ramsay Day" Parade!

Thank you to all the parents, and all the residents who came just for the community spirit!

News From the Point

July 2 to July 22

Patrick Kornak

NEW PHOTOGRAPHIC WORKS

Mixed media with many figurative works in black and white;

Opening Reception: Friday, July 4, 5 to 9 p.m

July 23 to August 12

Dave Langley

STONE SCULPTURE WORKS

Opening Reception: Friday, July 25, 5 to 9pm

Visit **The Point Gallery** at 1139 11 Street SE every Thursday or Friday from 1 to 4pm, or Saturday from 11 to 4pm, or by special appointment by calling 265-6867.

In addition to the above shows, works by the members of the Point of Art Society may be viewed at the studio complex, or by visiting the website www.artpoint.ca.

COMMUNITY



TIDBITS

RAMSAY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Brian Del Castilho

On September 6, 1913 Ramsay School opened its doors to students for the first time. This September the school will celebrate its ninetieth anniversary. There will be a celebration and special activities on September 12, 2003. More information will follow, please look for it in the school newsletter and in various locations in the neighborhood.

The school will open this fall with a kindergarten, four homerooms and a special education class. The Janus Academy will continue its program and will increase its enrollment to 21 students. The YMCA will continue its out of school care program and assuming that there is sufficient interest, this program will be extended to kindergarten. We are working on continuing our partnership with the Talisman Centre. The school will increase its enrollment most likely and this is a good sign.

At the end of June we had to say a sad farewell to a number of staff members: Josie Baines, Laurie Cassidy, Bill Lee, Winnie Longmuir, and Gloria Nordgren. We also bid adieu to Shelly Godlein from the Janus Academy. This September we shall welcome Jodi Kruezfeld, our new grade 2/3 homeroom teacher, and Linda McAtamney, our new grade 5/6 homeroom teacher. In August I shall also interview and hire a new teacher for the grade 1 / 2 homeroom.

I hope that the communities of Ramsay and Victoria Park see that Ramsay School has survived, in fact actually prospered, in difficult and challenging times. You know that old saying, "Seeing is believing." Well we have proved this more than true at the school. The reverse saying is equally true, "Believing is seeing." Believe in this school because those of us who work in it certainly do.

I look forward to seeing you at the celebration in September.

Brian Del Castilho, Principal

P.S. Thank you to Catherine Cartmill for the historical information.

CASINO REPORT

Pat Baker

Our casino was held May 27 and 28, 2003. We should be receiving the funds (hopefully over \$50,000) in late July. Our next casino will be in 2005, and these funds are very important to sustain the work of the Ramsay Community Association. Many thanks to the volunteers of Ramsay and Inglewood and a few outsiders who helped out over the two days. Several people worked double shifts, so special thanks go to Eva Welychka, Jack Armstrong, Carl Olineck, Dennis McLaren, and Birgit Reviczky. Thanks also to our advisors, Nola and David Brodsky, who did their usual commendable job. Lastly, thanks to those people who filled out applications but were unable to work for various reasons. We always appreciate your support.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Brenda Japp

Hello from the Beautification Committee.

Summer is here and Ramsay's gardens are looking quite lovely, thanks to all the busy gardeners out there- including the Alberta Corner Store who have planted a lively and bountiful row of cosmos along their fence line which really looks great!!

Plans for an up and coming Art & Craft sale this October will be announced in the next news letter as well as an open house with Streetscape Architect Marc Boutin who will be back from his sojourn in Rome. He will be eagerly looking for your feedback and input.

Funding for Outwest Park is nearly complete and an open house for community feedback and opinion will also be held in November. Until then enjoy your summer.

Your ad could be here!

Advertising Rates

| Ad size | Per month |
|---------------|-----------|
| business card | \$35 |
| 1/4 page | \$65 |
| 1/2 page | \$100 |
| Full page | \$175 |

Internet Ads are an additional \$25 per month. Pre-printed inserts are \$75 per month, not including printing and paper.

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.

ALEXANDRA CENTRE SOCIETY

COMING IN THE FALL...

September:

**Alexandra Centre Society
Annual Barbecue
Saturday September 13, 2003
12:00 pm – 5:00pm**

Bring your family, share a picnic blanket with friends, and neighbours. Bring a picnic basket. Meet your neighbours, old and new. Children's activities, music.

FREE Hot dogs, Music, Children's Activities.

October:

Ready, Set, Go... October 5, 2003

Join the Alexandra Centre Society "Run for the Cure" Team. Walk or run 5 kms., enjoy the fresh air, and meet new friends while you raise funds for breast cancer research. Do the run... Get the T-Shirt. Easy registration and race package pick-up at the Society. Bring the whole family including the pooch! No registration fee for children under 16 (must raise \$50 in sponsorship to get a T-shirt). Or... support your team sponsor a participant with pledges and come out and cheer us on!

WALKERS / RUNNERS CLUB

Are you interested in forming an informal Tri-Area Walkers' or Runners' Group? All ages and physical levels welcome. This is not meant to be competitive training. Meeting frequency and times can be determined by the group... and the "Apres Work-Out" possibilities are endless. The CIBC Run / Walk date is: October 5, 2003...

Come join us!

Just for families...

Are you interested in a co-operative "Time-out" from childcare, or extra-curricular activities for children? If you need a break to do errands, or meet a friend (kid-free), call us and meet other busy mums and dads looking for the same help.

If you have children between 5 & 12 years old... Would your child be interested in... Learning about different cultures through music and movement?

Email: acentres@shaw.ca

Call 269-5588 or drop by for a coffee.

Have a good summer!

Folk Dances of the World

Boys & Girls 5 – 10 years

Raise your child's awareness of different customs and cultures through music, and movement, with an emphasis on having fun.

No dance knowledge required.

Minimum 8 registrants.

269-5588

Suzuki Music

Early Beginnings I

For children from 6 months to 3 years of age and their parents. Babies and toddlers enjoy learning from each other in this multi-age grouping.

Taught by a Mount Royal Conservatory instructor.

Minimum 8 children needed.

16 Weeks / 1 day per week
September through December
Schedule TBA
Cost: TBA / per session

Call 269-5588



CHILDREN & YOUTH

Children and Youth Summer Programs at the Alex

Here's what's up this summer at the Alex for children and youth:

Child & Youth Community Garden & Mural in Ramsay

Help plan and plant a garden and paint a mural.

Youth Initiatives

Join other youth volunteers and help your community.

- Youth Volunteers wanted for the Alexandra Community Health Centre's Annual General Meeting. Monday, June 23 from 5-8:00 pm.

YMCA Calgary - Kids in Motion

This is a summer "work for leisure program" for children ages 9 to 12. Youth volunteer in meaningful community projects and in return earn the opportunity to enjoy recreation such as swimming, outdoor activities and visits to local attractions. Registration is required.

- Must be willing to commit at least one month during the summer (July or August), Tuesdays & Thursdays
- Must not be registered in any other summer programs and have no other plans for summer

NEW! Visual Arts Program

Mondays, children can create art projects in painting, printmaking, collage, and/or 3-dimensional art. Cost for supplies, \$10 (fee waiver possible, where needed). Registration is required for this program.

- Children (6-8 y.o.), Aug 6-25, 9:30-10:30 am (Due to holiday first class is on Wednesday the 6th, remainder of program is on Mondays)
- Children (9-12 y.o.), Aug. 6-25th, 10:45-11:45 am (Due to holiday first class is on Wednesday the 6th, remainder of program is on Mondays)

City Of Calgary Afternoon Adventures

This is a free, drop in program. Summer afternoons weekly, from 1:30 - 4:30 pm, the van will visit inner city locations. Designed for children aged 6-12 and their families, everyone can join in the activities presented by qualified leaders. Games, crafts and safe play will be part of the afternoon. Mondays from July 7 - August 18. Parents must check in with leaders.

City Of Calgary Inner City Youth Connections

This is a free, drop in program. Hangin?...here's an early evening drop-in program for youth! This roving van program stops at sites in and around the city core equipped for "games on the go", fun things to make, and sweet tunes. Geared towards 12-17 year olds, youth can come and go as they please and hang out with the roving crew all summer. Monday evenings, 6 - 9:30pm from July 7 - August 18.

City of Calgary Stay 'N Play is a drop-in program for preschoolers 3-5 years of age. Children must be accompanied by an adult parent/guardian who are encouraged to "stay and play" in the activities. Aug. 18-22. Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 noon. Registration with the Play leaders is required on site each day.

City of Calgary programs are weather dependent.

All programs are available through the Alexandra Community Health Centre. For more information and to register, please contact: Jessica Spence-Sales, Child & Youth Community Resource Worker at 266-2622 or email youth@thealex.ca



Joe's Journal



THE CITY OF
CALGARY

Welcome back from summer break, everyone. While it can be difficult pulling ourselves away from holiday activities, there is always a great deal to look forward to in the fall. Somewhat like New Years Day, this is a time of year that represents new beginnings—the start of many new cycles and endeavours in our lives.

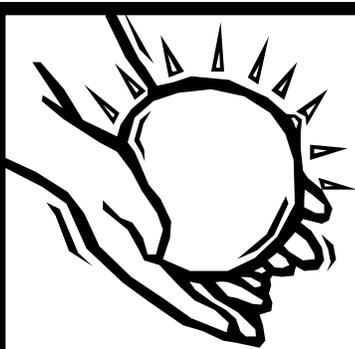
The school year is one of these cycles. Unfortunately, not all the children in our ward are going back to the same school they left in June. While we were successful in our campaign to keep Ramsay Elementary School open, the Calgary Board of Education has now closed Mountain View Elementary School and will use the facility for other educational purposes.

As Calgary's population and city limits continue to expand, the role of established inner city services will continue to come under review. Protecting these services is a constant challenge,

but so far we in Ward 9 have worked successfully to retain and, in some cases, improve a number of valued community assets. Forest Lawn Pool, for example, will be kept open another two years. Also, at a time when some inner city areas are threatened with the loss of their local library—such as Georgina Thompson Library in the northwest—our Forest Lawn Library is expanding and the Ogden Library has moved to a larger space in Glenmore Square Plaza.

If you would like to speak with me regarding inner city services or if you would like to talk about any issue you would like addressed, please contact my office at 268-2430 (phone), 268-8091 (fax) or jceci@calgary.ca

Sincerely,
Joe Ceci, MSW
Alderman, Ward 9



Integra Intuitive Massage Therapy

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Craniosacral
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*Colleen Peters RMT
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COME PLAY WITH US!

Do you want to belong to a **WORLD-RENOWNED MUSICAL ENSEMBLE?**
Would you like to **TRAVEL** all over the **WORLD?**
And have the **EXPERIENCE** of a **LIFETIME?**

If you answered **YES** to any of these questions, we have an exciting opportunity for you!

The Calgary Stampede Showband, the Calgary Stetson Show Band and the Calgary Round-Up Band are currently looking for members for the 2003-2004 season.

You will get the chance to travel, make new friends, develop music skills and have tons of fun all at the same time!

If you are interested in joining one of these world-class organizations, and are between the ages of 12 and 21, please contact the Bands of Calgary.

phone: (403) 261-9322
website: www.bandsocalgary.com
email : info@bandsocalgary.com



Calgary's newest summer festival, **TransCanada's Global Fest**, debuts this August 19-24, combining an International Fireworks Competition at Elliston Park Lake and pavilions throughout East Calgary that celebrate and showcase Calgary's rich and eclectic cultural heritage. Ticket prices are only five dollars. Revenues will go to the cultural associations and to United Way of Calgary and Area. Stay tuned for Tickets and Program information.

Volunteers Make it happen!

Global Fest is looking for 1500 volunteers to help make this the best festival in town. We will provide training and also a volunteer recognition event.

Please contact: Volunteer Director at 569-9679 or volunteers@globalfest.ca



WAYNE CAO, MLA

Calgary Fort Constituency

2784 Glenmore Tr. SE Calgary, AB. T2C 2E6

Phone: 216-5454

Fax: 216-5455

Review of Auto Insurance

Personally as a consumer and parent of young drivers, I have great concern about high auto-insurance premium, and about issues our constituents are facing at their insurance renewals.

My concerns are also for the Seniors drivers, and transportation businesses, and those who make living as drivers. I agree with our Finance Minister Patricia Nelson when she said, "As a government we have responsibility to ensure Albertans have access to insurance that is fair, affordable and accessible". Personal responsibility and a safe driving record will be the focus of new rules for auto insurance in Alberta.

The Alberta government will move towards a uniform entry-level premium that will continue to provide incentives for safe drivers while motorists with traffic violations and at-fault accidents will pay more.

My colleague MLA Rob Renner conducted a cross-Canada fact finding mission, and scanned the world on auto insurance systems. "Rising insurance rates are an issue in many parts of the country. The direction we have chosen is to develop a made-in-Alberta solution," said Renner. The government received input from consumers, insurers and civil trial lawyers about solutions to rising auto insurance rates. Many of these recommendations stressed the need for fairness in the setting of premiums.

The government will immediately begin developing tough new regulations, taking into consideration the input already received from consumers, the insurance industry and civil trial lawyers. Automobile insurance is mandatory for all Alberta drivers, who are required to have at

least \$200,000 liability coverage. The fine for driving without insurance is \$2,500.

What if I can't get insurance?

Consumers declined coverage by insurance companies can be covered by Facility Association insurance which charges very high premiums.

Facility Association provides compulsory and non-compulsory auto insurance to Albertans who are not able to purchase auto insurance coverage through the regular market. Not all insurers can write Facility Association policies, but all agents are assigned a Facility Association carrier to which they refer drivers.

The Automobile Insurance Board approves the rates charged by the association. Rate changes are approved with a view to keeping Facility Association a non-profit organization.

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Report to the Community, David Tuer, Chair, Calgary Health Region

The Calgary Health Region plans to add 500 to 600 beds over the next five years by expanding existing hospitals and building a new one in the south end of the city. Although the Region has added 150 beds in the past three years, capacity levels remain lower than desired. The Calgary Health Region has 1.72 acute beds per 1,000 population. The goal is to reach 1.9 beds per 1,000 and an occupancy rate of 85 per cent. As of April 1, 2003, the population of the expanded Calgary Health Region grew to nearly 1.1 million residents, putting additional pressure on the system. The Region's board endorsed several strategies on June 24, 2003, including the following:

- Continue to construct the new Alberta Children's Hospital and proceed as soon as possible with an adjacent maternal/women's health building
 - Add 100 beds as soon as possible at the Rockyview General Hospital
 - Add 100 to 150 beds as soon as possible at the Peter Lougheed Centre
 - Accelerate planning and development of a south hospital with approximately 350 additional beds and associated services in the first phase, expected to be complete by 2008/2009
 - Continue to review opportunities to utilize rural sites
- The cost of implementing the strategic plan is about \$800 million.

The Calgary Health Region approved its annual budget on June 24, 2003, adding more hospital beds, more long-term care and more home care services. The budget for the 2003/04 financial year calls for more than \$1.8 billion to be spent on health care services in an effort to deal with the Region's growing and aging population. The budget includes a projected deficit of \$25 million. The Region finished the 2002/03 financial year with a deficit of \$7.6 million, working hard to control costs to keep the deficit below the budget forecast of \$24.5 million. The increased budget reflects an amalgamation of Headwaters Health Authority and portions of Wheatland County; which was effective April 1, 2003. The budget increase also reflects other pressures on the Region's operations, including an increase of \$69 million due to salaries, contracts and supplies and an increase of \$40 million due to additional acute care beds and increased surgical services, laboratory services and home care.

The Tavender Report to the Calgary Health Region's board of directors has concluded that the Region co-operated fully with the fatality inquiry into the death of Vince Motta. David Tavender, a well-respected Calgary lawyer, concluded after an exhaustive review that the Region and its personnel acted in an appropriate manner, documents were provided on a

timely basis and witnesses were responsive and co-operative. Motta, a 23-year-old Okotoks resident, died as a result of a severe asthma attack following an emergency appendectomy at the High River Hospital in January 2001. He had visited two different emergency departments in Calgary the day before his surgery, complaining of stomach pains. Both times the waits were long and he left before he was treated. An autopsy concluded that waiting times had not caused Motta's death. A Fatality Inquiry supported this conclusion. Judge Manfred Delong, who headed the inquiry, made a number of recommendations for change. Along with his recommendations, Judge Delong criticized the Calgary Health Region, saying the Region failed to understand its responsibilities to the inquiry. The Calgary Health Region initiated a review. Tavender concluded in his June 24, 2003 report that the Region and its personnel acted appropriately at every turn. Tavender argues that the process itself is flawed. He says the provincial government should consider amending the Fatality Inquiries Act. The Calgary Health Region has learned a great deal from this tragedy and changes are being made. The result will be better services and better access in all of the Region's emergency departments.

The Calgary Health Region and its partners are celebrating the construction of a new diagnostic and treatment centre (DTC) in south Calgary. The facility in the community of Sundance will provide accessible and integrated community health services for Calgarians south of Anderson Road. The South DTC will offer primary care, urgent and episodic care, and provide access to other Calgary Health Region services. A partnership between the Calgary Health Region and Bentall Real Estate Services is facilitating construction of the three storey, 130,000 square foot building that will host the South DTC. The Region will lease back approximately 60,000 square feet. The South DTC is slated for completion in the spring of 2004 and will provide a service delivery model for similar facilities in other geographic regions of the city. The partnership follows the direction of the Mazankowski report that health regions need to move toward more solid, effective partnerships with the private sector. By working with Bentall, the Calgary Health Region can ensure Calgarians receive access to increased services in a timely manner. Planning will continue for a diagnostic and treatment centre in the north and a similar facility downtown over the next 16 months.

For more information, please visit www.calgaryhealthregion.ca.



Questions and Answers with Dr. Brent Friesen

What is West Nile virus?

West Nile virus is a virus carried by mosquitoes that can cause infection in humans and some other animals. The virus has been found in Africa, West and Central Asia, and the Middle East. In 1999, West Nile virus came to North America, initially to the New York City area, and has spread from there.

Has West Nile virus been detected in Canada?

The virus was first reported in birds in Canada in 2001. In 2002, it was found in birds in several Canadian provinces (Ontario, Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Nova Scotia), and in horses in Ontario, Quebec, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. In early September 2002, Ontario public health authorities confirmed the first human West Nile virus infection in Canada. In 2002, there were 325 confirmed and 84 probable human cases in Canada. Alberta had 2 of these cases, but it is believed they were infected while traveling outside Alberta.

Has West Nile virus been detected in Alberta?

Yes. West Nile virus is now present in Alberta, with the report of two magpies positive for the virus on July 9 and 11, 2003. More positive birds are expected throughout the province this summer, and monitoring will continue for the virus in mosquitoes, horses and humans.

How do people become infected with West Nile virus?

The most likely way that people get West Nile virus is from the bite of a mosquito that carries the virus. A mosquito becomes infected when it bites an infected bird. Not all of the 43 species of mosquito present in Alberta will feed on humans, and only a small number of those species actually carry the disease. West Nile virus is not spread by direct person-to-person contact or from birds or other animals to people.

West Nile virus can also be transmitted through blood transfusions or organ transplants, but the risk is low. The benefits of blood transfusions and organ transplants outweigh the risk of becoming infected with West Nile virus. It is also possible for an infected woman to pass West Nile virus to her unborn baby or to pass the virus to her infant through breast milk.

What are the symptoms associated with West Nile virus infection?

Most people who become infected with West Nile virus will have no symptoms at all and will not become ill. Symptoms, if seen, occur three to 15 days following the bite of an infected mosquito. A small number of infected persons may get West Nile fever, and will experience mild illness, such as a fever, headache, and body aches. Usually they recover fully in a few days. Occasionally, a skin rash on the trunk of the body, swollen lymph glands or conjunctivitis (irritated eyes) may occur.

In some individuals, particularly the elderly, West Nile virus can cause serious disease that affects the brain. Symptoms

of serious disease or West Nile neurological syndrome (e.g., encephalitis or meningitis) include rapid onset of high fever, severe headache and stiff neck, stupor and disorientation, muscle weakness and paralysis, and coma. West Nile neurological syndrome can cause permanent neurological damage, and be fatal.

Who is at risk of getting West Nile neurological syndrome?

The risk of getting West Nile neurological syndrome is limited to persons in areas where the virus is present. Persons 50 years of age and older, or those with weak immune systems, have the highest risk of serious disease, though anyone can develop this syndrome if bitten by an infected mosquito. A 1999 survey of residents in the most affected area of New York City showed that about 3 percent of residents had been infected with West Nile virus, but they either had no symptoms or only a mild illness.

Is there a treatment for West Nile neurological syndrome?

No, there is no specific therapy for West Nile neurological syndrome. In more severe cases, intensive supportive therapy is indicated, possibly involving hospitalization, intravenous (IV) fluids, airway management, respiratory support (ventilator) if needed, prevention of secondary infections (pneumonia, urinary tract, etc.) and good nursing care.

Is there a vaccine for West Nile neurological syndrome?

No vaccine for West Nile virus has been approved for use in humans at this time. A vaccine has been licensed in Canada for use in horses only.

If I am in an area where birds with West Nile virus have been reported and I am bitten by a mosquito, am I likely to get sick?

No. Even in areas where mosquitoes do carry the virus, very few mosquitoes will be infected. Less than one per cent of humans bitten by an infected mosquito will develop serious illness. To reduce this risk even further, people should avoid mosquito bites by wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants, limiting time outdoors when mosquito biting is at its peak, and using an insect repellent containing DEET or other approved ingredient.

If bitten by a mosquito, should I be tested for West Nile virus?

No. Illnesses related to mosquito bites are rare. However, you should see a doctor immediately if you develop symptoms such as high fever, confusion, muscle weakness or severe headaches. Persons with mild symptoms are likely to recover completely and do not require any specific medication or laboratory testing.

Can West Nile infection be prevented?

The best way to reduce risk of infection is to reduce contact with mosquitoes. Persons of all ages can take the following steps to reduce their risk of West Nile virus infection.

- Consider staying indoors at dawn, dusk and early evenings which are peak mosquito biting times.
- Wear light-coloured long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and a hat when outdoors.
- Apply insect repellent containing DEET or other approved

- ingredient sparingly to exposed skin or to clothing.
- Choose a repellent that provides protection for amount of time outdoors. Follow manufacturer's DIRECTIONS FOR USE, as printed on product label.
- Repellents may irritate eyes and mouth, so avoid applying repellent to these areas or to hands or faces of children. Do not use repellents on wounds or irritated skin (rash or sunburn).
- DEET-based insect repellents:
- Children under 6 months - **DO NOT USE DEET.**
- Children 6 months to 2 years - use least concentrated product (10% DEET or less) once a day when risk of complications from insect bites is high.
- Children 2 to 12 years - use least concentrated product (10% DEET or less) up to 3 times daily as needed.
- 12 years to adult - use concentrations up to 30% (if outside for more than 4-6 hours) and reapply as needed.
- Higher concentrations of DEET protect for longer periods of time.
- Place mosquito netting over infant carriers when infants are outdoors.
- Install or repair window and door screens so that mosquitoes cannot get indoors.

Adult females of some mosquito species will lay their eggs in shallow pools of warm, sunlit standing water. Take steps to prevent this on your property;

- Regularly drain standing water from items like pool covers, saucers under flowerpots, recycle bins, garbage cans.
- Remove old unused items such as old tires that collect water.
- Change water in wading pools, birdbaths, pet bowls and livestock watering tanks at least once a week.
- Cover rain barrel openings with screens.
- Clean out eaves troughs regularly to prevent pooling of water.
- For ornamental ponds, consider aeration or using fish that will eat mosquito larvae.

For detailed information about using repellents, check Health Canada website at

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/pmra-arla/english/pdf/pnotes/deet-e.pdf>

What is being done in Alberta to prepare for West Nile virus?

Surveillance for the virus in crows, horses, mosquitoes and humans is being carried out, and information will be posted on the Alberta Health and Wellness website. Physicians who suspect West Nile infection in a patient will order appropriate testing and report the case to public health officials. In addition, Alberta Health and Wellness is providing information to all Albertans on ways to reduce risk of infection.

Can you get West Nile virus directly from birds?

There is no evidence that a person can get the virus from handling live or dead infected birds. However, persons should avoid barehanded contact when handling any dead animals and use gloves or double plastic bags to dispose of the carcass in the garbage can.

What should I do if I find a dead bird?

At this time, Fish and Wildlife are testing dead crows mainly, but will also test magpies, ravens or jays (Corvid species). They are also interested in reports of large numbers of dead

birds in a flock. In order to be suitable for testing, crows or other corvids must be freshly dead, with no signs of decomposition. There must not be signs of another cause of death such as trauma or injury. Call your local Fish and Wildlife office for further instructions for bringing in dead crows. Call 310-0000 for closest office or call:
 Fish and Wildlife Offices (regular work hours only)
 Calgary 297-6423
 High River 652-8330
 Canmore 678-5500
 Strathmore 934-3422
 Banff National Park inquiries 762-1470
 Dead birds should not be handled with bare hands. Using gloves or plastic bags over the hands, place the dead bird into a plastic bag that is then tightly closed, and then place into another plastic bag that is closed. If the Fish and Wildlife office is not open, the bird can be placed into a freezer until contact with the office can be made. Persons should contact the Fish and Wildlife office prior to bringing in any dead birds.

What about water on farms and acreages?

Dugouts are designed to hold water, are deep and have steep sides, so they don't generally support mosquito larvae. Water in drainage ditches and canals should be kept moving. Check for mosquito larvae in any standing water that has leaked from irrigation canals, reservoirs, waste disposal ponds or septic fields that cannot be drained. Domestic granular insecticides for mosquito larvae control are available at some hardware stores. These products contain an active biological agent called Bti, which is best used on warm days when larvae are feeding, and should only be applied around the margins of larger bodies of water. Insecticides should not be used in or near water used for human or animal consumption.

Should spraying of adult mosquitoes be done?

Insecticide spraying or fogging of adult mosquitoes is not considered to be the best form of control. Mosquitoes can easily avoid contact with the insecticide, and repeat applications are necessary. As well, these insecticides may cause human health problems, and may kill other insect species. If mosquito control is to be done, it is better to apply insecticide to pools where larvae of the species of concern are known to be located. These mosquito control programs can only be carried out by skilled persons who are certified to apply commercial insecticides.

Where can I get more information on West Nile virus?

- Calgary Health Region - www.calgaryhealthregion.ca
- Health Canada - <http://nile.healthcanada.net>
- Insect repellent safety tips - <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/pmra-arla/english/pdf/pnotes/deet-e.pdf>
- Alberta Health and Wellness - www.health.gov.ab.ca
- Birds - Alberta Sustainable Resources Development, Fish and Wildlife - <http://www3.gov.ab.ca/srd/fw/diseases/WNV/index.html>
- Horses - Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development - [http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/afs4377](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/afs4377)
- Mosquitoes - Alberta Environment - <http://www3.gov.ab.ca/env/resedu/mosquito.cfm>
- Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre - <http://wildlife.usask.ca/english/frameWestNile.htm>

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,
Community Liaison Officer;**

**Dan Johrig Badge #1763
Inspector;**

**Brian Kijowski Badge # 2153
Foot patrol;**

Ted Gard Badge # 2127.

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 20th of the preceding month. Please email your contributions, comments, advertisements and articles to: Ramsay-News@yahoogroups.com or drop it off at the Ramsay Community Hall.

Advertising Rates

| Ad size | Per month |
|---------------|-----------|
| business card | \$35 |
| 1/4 page | \$65 |
| 1/2 page | \$100 |
| Full page | \$175 |

Internet Ads are an additional \$25 per month. Pre-printed inserts are \$75 per month, not including printing and paper.

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.



Ramsay Community BLOCK WATCH

For More Information

Call

Teresa Young

263-7127

Ramsay Block Watch Program

Thank you,

Teresa Young



COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIP

Contact Darrel Larsen at: 265-1306



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Calgary, Alberta
T2G 2Z7**

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YOUR NAME: _____ SPOUSE'S NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

| CHILDREN | NAME | AGE |
|----------|-------|-------|
| 1. | _____ | _____ |
| 2. | _____ | _____ |
| 3. | _____ | _____ |

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Beautification
 Help out as required
 Other: (Technology)

