

ELBOWPARK

G A Z E T T E

Elbow Park Residents' Association www.elbowpark.com

WINTER 2008/2009

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DECEMBER 2008

As we went through the EPRA budgeting process this year it dawned on me that many Elbow Park residents probably do not appreciate what the EPRA is responsible for. Most people believe that the City of Calgary maintains the EPRA facilities and the grounds. That is not the case. We lease the facilities and the park area from the City for nominal rent but we are responsible for maintenance on the buildings, tennis courts and the grounds, security, utilities, set-up and maintenance of the skating rinks, landscaping, removal of danger trees and significant portions of the funding of various initiatives such as traffic calming measures, beautification of Elbow Drive and Sifton Boulevard, repair of the tennis courts. Our total expenses just to tread water are approximately \$40,000, the bulk of which is funded by the sale of community association memberships, donations (yes we are set up to issue tax receipts), rental of the Clubhouse, tennis and hockey facilities, the sale of advertising in the Gazette and fundraising events. Clearly we have access to provincial, municipal and corporate grant programs which allow funding of certain required maintenance and improvement projects, but they typically provide only about half the funding required.

The short and long of this note is to highlight the importance of purchasing your EPRA membership and participating in the fundraising efforts (or making donations to the EPRA) which allow us to continue to provide and maintain the facilities that we have in Elbow Park. Equally important is volunteering to help out - we can always use additional help. We are presently looking for community members to assist with a number of one-off projects and if anyone has any interest I would encourage them to contact me directly.

Merry Christmas!

Robert Lehodey, Q.C.
EPRA President

A GET TOGETHER WITH A PURPOSE

Residents make the most of a great day, and give back to our community.

About a month ago our family and a family from Red Deer whom we have known for about 23 years decided that it was time for a gathering again. In past years we have gone on all kinds of adventurous holidays together, but with the kids all grown up it becomes more difficult to plan something we can all attend. After some e-mails back & forth a date was set. Then my friend suggested that maybe we could do some volunteer work together. Great idea! we all thought. With 11 of us we really could make a difference. We quickly started looking for suitable opportunities but the obvious charitable organizations like the Food Bank & Habitat did not need anybody that day. As the weather forecast sounded pretty good for that day I contacted the River Valley Committee and Susan immediately replied enthusiastically that the riverbanks really could use some clean-up. This way we could enjoy the gorgeous day, get some fresh air & exercise and feel good about doing something for the community.

So, on November 1 we all grabbed some garbage bags & rubber gloves and set off towards Sandy Beaches. The 11 of us walked & bushwhacked around Sandy Beaches and along the river & pathway back to Elbow Drive for about 3 hours. We hauled out quite a few bags of garbage and had a great time visiting with each other. Afterwards we gathered at our house for some well earned wine, beer & dinner.

It was a great way to spend the day together!

Margo Coppus.

GREAT OPPORTUNITY IN ELBOW PARK!!

The EPRA is looking to hire a clubhouse manager! This paid position would involve duties such as daily opening and closing of the facilities, regular maintenance checks, basic cleaning, snow removal, and mail monitoring. As well, this position will offer the ability to spearhead new and exciting programs based directly around the clubhouse.

We are offering competitive rates, and flexible hours. Please apply directly to president@elbowpark.com.

YOGA IN THE PARK

Fill your bowl to the brim and it will spill.

Keep sharpening your knife and it will blunt.

*Chase after money and security and
your heart will never unclench.*

*Care about other people's approval and
you will be their prisoner.*

Do your work and then step back – the only path to serenity.

Lao Tsu's 'Dao Te Ching'

JANUARY - MARCH 2009

MONDAY

Hatha Yoga

(Glenda) 6-7:30 pm

Hatha Yoga

(Glenda) 7:45- 9:15 pm

TUESDAY

Hatha Yoga Multi-level

(Glenda) 9:30 -11 am

WEDNESDAY

Flow Yoga

(Theresa) 9:15-10:45 am

Pilates Beg/Int Class

(Christy) 11 am - 12 noon

THURSDAY

Early Morning Flow Yoga

(Theresa) 6:15-7:30 am

Run, Walk and Yoga

(Theresa) 9:15-10:45 am

Pilates Intermediate Class

(Christy) 11 am - 12 noon

Belly Dance Beginner

(Afsana) 6:30-7:45 pm

Belly Dance Intermediate

(Afsana) 8-9:30 pm

FRIDAY

Restorative Yoga

(Mary Lynn) 9:30-11 am

For details please contact the instructors:

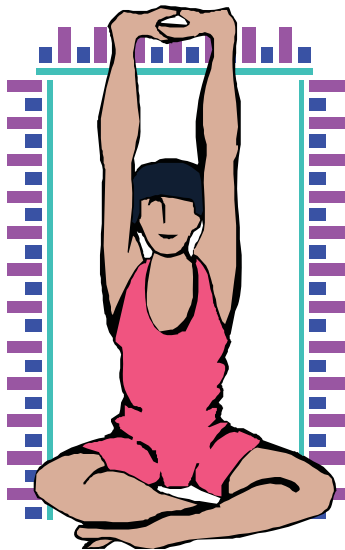
Glenda Morrison 287-0568

Mary Lynn Hood 243-5701

Theresa Morin 243-4691

Christy Hayne 243-7306

Afsana afsana@sistrumdance.com



TRAFFIC REPORT

The main focus of the Traffic Committee continues to be finding a solution to the problem of excessive amounts of traffic flowing through the community. Despite the completion of the Glenmore Trail upgrade, congestion continues to occur during peak traffic hours on our east/west "collectors", Sifton Blvd and 30th Ave. Frustrated drivers are finding their way onto our "local" streets by means of both legal and illegal maneuvers. We expect east/west flow of traffic to increase significantly as the development of the CFB West lands progresses. The committee has initiated discussions with a traffic consultant with a view to arriving at a comprehensive traffic plan for the community in advance of the CFB West development that would keep through traffic on the collectors and traveling through the community in as safe a manner as possible.

Two representatives of the Calgary Police Force attended our most recent traffic meeting to speak to us about traffic enforcement in Elbow Park. The message we received was that police officers are tied up dealing with criminal activity and unfortunately have very little time left to enforce traffic laws. We were further advised that increases in police personnel in the future will not likely translate into more traffic enforcement. We do, however, encourage community members to report traffic infractions and truck violations (both Elbow Drive and Sifton Blvd. are not truck routes, meaning trucks over 5500 kgms should not be on them unless going to a destination within the community) to Constable Martin Courte, our community liaison officer, at 403-567-6200 or by e-mail at pol3779@calgarypolice.ca. Reports should include the licence number of the vehicle and in the case of a truck violation a description of the truck including the name of the business, and the details of the infraction. If nothing else this provides data on the frequency of infractions and might result in a followup call from the police.

Tracy Beaumont, EPRA Traffic Committee



WISHING YOU ALL THE BEST OF HEALTH, SUCCESS AND PROSPERITY



MICHELE, SHAWN & NICOLE'S PLATINUM HOME SELLING SYSTEM

Michele Duce
Shawn Duce P.Eng



403-863-7532
www.micheleandshawn.com

Nicole Laurin
Adm. St., Soc. B.A.



403-860-4240 
www.nicolelaurin.com
Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialist

Attention Home Owner,

We currently implement 49 highly successful marketing strategies which guarantee to attract "Real Buyers."

We start with the most in-depth home analysis system which assesses your wants and needs and bring you up-to-date on current market trends.

Our "Home Improvement" specialists will suggest cosmetic changes to enhance your home in preparation to:

**SELL YOUR HOME FASTER!
FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH!**

P.S. We have families looking for a home in this neighbourhood. Please call us if you are interested in selling your home.



"It's All About Marketing Your Home !!!"



THINK OF PARKING AS PRACTICE FOR SPOTTING

THE PERFECT GIFT

PARK AT THE BACK

CHINOOK
CENTRE

REPORT CRIME ONLINE

YOUR GUIDE TO THE CALGARY POLICE SERVICE ONLINE REPORT SYSTEM

Did you know that you can report certain types of crimes to the Calgary Police Service online? When you use the CPS Citizen Online Police Report System, you can submit a report about a crime immediately and print a copy of the police report for free.

When you use the quick and easy online reporting system, it can help you by providing reports for your records. It also helps the police to identify and address crime trends in your area.

WHAT CAN I REPORT ONLINE?

The online reporting system currently takes reports about the following crimes, as long as their value is less than \$5,000 (Canadian), there's no known suspect, and the incident happened within Calgary's city limits:

- Lost Property
- Theft
- Damage/Mischief to Property
- Theft from Vehicle
- Damage/Mischief to Vehicle

WHEN SHOULD I CALL POLICE INSTEAD?

- Emergencies (always call 9-1-1 for emergencies)
- Crimes where there's a known suspect
- Crimes where someone broke into your house or business
- Motor vehicle collisions
- Theft or attempted theft of a vehicle or vehicle license plate
- Theft or loss of a firearm
- Theft or loss of a passport, VISA immigration document, citizenship card or government-issued funds

Please report incidents like these by phone using the police general number at 403-266-1234, or in person at your local police district office.

HOW DO I REPORT A CRIME ONLINE?

To report crime online, go to www.calgarypolice.ca, and click on "Citizen Online Police Report System." Follow the screen prompts to fill in the information and submit your report. If you have a problem with the system, there's 24-hour support available at 403-206-8318. When you're finished, you can print a copy of the police report to keep for your records. Police will review your case, and will contact you if needed.

Report crime online at www.calgarypolice.ca



Interior Design
That Expresses Your Personality



Viki Fairbairn
Redfair Design
403-850-1322

CHRIST CHURCH

DEBUT NEW CHRISTMAS EVE TABLEAU FOR CHILDREN

Dress warmly and see Christmas as it really was at Christ Church on Christmas Eve. Instead of the traditional "indoor" children's service at 4.30 p.m. on Christmas Eve, Christ Church will present an outdoor tableau depicting familiar events in the Christmas story. Children can see Mary and Joseph, Angels and Shepherds, and even animals in the four scenes. Groups will be "shepherded" through the tableau beginning at 4.30 p.m. The last group will enter the tableau at 5 p.m., so come to the church door on 8 Street anytime between 4.30 and 5.00 p.m. The guided walk-through will last approximately 20 minutes. After visiting the four scenes, all will be invited to warm themselves and sing carols in the sacred circle of fellowship around an outdoor fireplace. Hot chocolate will be served.

Christ Church also will offer traditional Christmas services in the church on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT CHRIST CHURCH

Saturday, December 20, 2008

4:30 pm Lessons & Carols

Christmas Eve, December 24, 2008

4:30 pm Outdoor Christmas Tableau for Children

7:30 pm Holy Eucharist (Sung with Choir)

10:30 pm Procession and Holy Eucharist
(Sung with Choir)

Christmas Day, December 25, 2008

8:00 am Holy Eucharist

10:30 am Holy Eucharist (Sung with Choir)

ELBOW PARK CASINO NIGHTS

As a non-profit organization, the EPRA relies heavily on the volunteer efforts of our community. As in years past, we are happy to announce that we will again be hosting casino fundraiser nights in 2009, but we are in need of some volunteers!!! The nights are scheduled for Feb 28 and March 9, and are hosted by the Stampede Casino. If you would like to donate a few hours of your time, please contact Belinda at secretary@elbowpark.com

ENMAX LIGHTS UP OUR RINKS

As in years past, the EPRA would like to thank Enmax for their continued support with the "Rinklighter Grant Program". It is through grants like this that the EPRA can keep the lights on our community rinks all winter long.

GROWING SAFETY CONCERNS

As our community continues to grow, so does the need to monitor safety. As a new initiative, the EPRA Board is looking for a team of volunteers to not only identify possible safety issues, but also implement and continually evaluate safety measures. This is an exciting opportunity to become actively involved in the community, without the "full-time" commitment of a committee position.

If interested, please contact Mike Tweedie at Gazette@elbowpark.com

BRAZILy

**Laser Hair Removal
Laser Vein Treatment
Laser Facial**

**#3, 1114 - 11 Street SW
Calgary, Alberta**

**403-457-2955
20% OFF
December 2008**

POLITICALLY SPEAKING

Here we are in early December – and threaded through the hustle and bustle of preparing for a hearty and warm holiday season is a sense of nostalgia for the year past. Perhaps it’s the weather, perhaps it’s all the warm cocoa by the fire but this time of year is infused with a sense of reflection.

Looking back, the most recent – and contentious – item was this year’s budget negotiations. In the hopes shedding some light on how we arrive at a budget, I wanted to talk a little about that process.

For several months prior to the official budget meetings in November - Council holds several special meetings of Council wherein we hear from each of the City’s main Business areas about the particular achievements, challenges and projected concerns they face. I listened carefully to each portfolio and, over many hours of presentation and discussion and in collaboration with my Council colleagues we defined a set of priorities for each business area. We arrived at a carefully considered set of values which we put forward as guidelines to maintain the quality of life that we in Calgary are privileged to enjoy.

Once priorities are defined, Administration has the inevitable task of putting dollar numbers to those items – and once the proposed budget is put together – it is the time for Council to roll up their sleeves and do the hard work of negotiating what stays and what gets cut.

In my case every decision is a tug of war between the price tag for today and the price tag for tomorrow. To put this in perspective – imagine you have a leaky roof. Do you put in a patch? Or two? Or three? At what point does the investment of hiring a professional and re-doing the roof outweigh the incremental costs of doing inadequate repairs? Sometimes the one approach makes the most sense – sometimes the other; this is the thinking that I bring to my votes on spending.

One area many of you contact me about concerns spending more tax monies on programs that feed our hungry, improve our schools, help people get and stay off of the street...the challenge here is that children attend school in our communities, the homelessness walk the same city streets we do; however our health, welfare and educational leadership, programming and funding is spearheaded by the Province. This forces me to act on your behalf at arms length – which can be frustrating! However, it is important to you – as evidenced by your correspondence to me and it is the reason I continue to leverage my role as your alderman at AUMA (Alberta Urban Municipalities Association) and FCM (Federation of Canadian Municipalities) so that I can, in as direct a way as I’m afforded – represent your concerns and valuable comments to your Provincial and Federal representatives.

All of this said; I would like to close by sincerely thanking you for your input - directly to my office, through your community association, and in participation at the many open houses and forums that have taken place in Ward 11 communities over the year. Getting to know you all as a ward has been a kaleidoscope of challenge, inspiration and reward. We, as a ward, are a dynamic, involved, hard-headed, compassionate and vocal group; it is an honour to represent you!

Brian Pincott
Alderman, Ward 11
www.ward11calgary.ca

	<h2 style="text-align: center;">My Service Commitment to you:</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All services are Private, Professional and Confidential• Provide ongoing updates all the way to closing• “Mortgage Check Up” with no obligation• Will offer you a choice in mortgage financing by individually tailoring financing to your needs <p style="text-align: center;">OFFERING YOU MORTGAGE OPTIONS</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"><p style="font-size: small;">Banking can be this comfortable</p></div>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Kristen Dorland Manager, Residential Mortgages Tel: 403 618 0454 Fax: 403 770 8934</p>
--	--	--

POLITICALLY SPEAKING

A MESSAGE FROM JON MAR

As you are aware, this past week City Council approved an operating budget increase of 5.3%. In speaking with many of my constituents, the overwhelming opinion was to have a budget closer to the municipal inflation rate of 5%. Under the Municipal Government Act of Alberta Sec 353(1), the 2010 and 2011 budgets are not approved until their respective years and currently the proposed tax increase for those years are used as guidelines only. Council will have at least two opportunities for adjustments; once in April and again in November.

During my campaign of 2007, I spoke of the need to increase front line security by adding more police officers. This budget will allow the Calgary Police Service to equip, recruit and train an additional 242 officers, 77 of them to be located in the Downtown and Beltline areas. In addition, 130 new fire fighters will join the ranks of the Calgary Fire Department.

In addition to front line security, The City of Calgary will be providing much needed curbside recycling for 300,000 homes and Public Transit will be adding 290,000 hours of additional service.

Council has also implemented a \$3 Park-N-Ride user fee, which is designed to help pay for increased security and continue maintenance at the 33 sites located throughout Calgary. Currently, the City maintains 14,000 spaces, with more and more non-Calgarians using the space and infrastructure free of charge. This daily user fee will prevent it from being subsidized by the tax rate. It should be noted that no Park-N-Rides exist within Ward 8.

When the debate around the 2009 budget began, the original proposal called for a 9.6% increase. Several of my colleagues and I were deeply disturbed by this, given the economic uncertainty we now find ourselves in today.

Given this turmoil, Council reduced the overall proposed operating budget by \$35 million in 2009, \$45 million in 2010 and \$51 million in 2011.

This has been a difficult, and interesting, time for all of us engaged in serving the citizens of Calgary. The approval of the budget is significant for our City, and it speaks to both the City's needs and citizen concerns about tax increases during the economic instability we are currently experiencing. In a city such as ours, with new Calgarians still moving here daily and our boundaries continuing to expand, providing essential services was paramount.

CRIME & SAFETY UPDATE-- WHAT ARE WE DOING TO ADDRESS YOUR CONCERNS

As you may recall, during my election campaign, I recognized Safety as an emerging issue in Ward 8. In response, I called for 400 new Police Officers for Calgary and earlier this month Calgary City Council approved a re-allocation of \$25,000,000 to recruit, train and equip an additional 201 new Police Officers over the next three years.

The Province thus far has committed to fund 100 new police officers (over three years), and is in the process of examining the need for additional funding through Crime Reduction and Safe Communities Task Force.

In addition, October 1st marked the first day of the Safe Communities and Neighbourhoods Act (SCAN). The Act was implemented by the Provincial Government to help curb targeted activities in neighborhoods and communities. The Act allows the Provincial Government to give residents a way to register complaints and to put an end to illegal activities that adversely affect or harm a neighborhood.

As more and more communities in Calgary have witnessed, our law enforcement agencies are seeing an increase in drug and prostitution-related criminal activity. The Safer Communities and Neighborhoods Act promotes peaceful communities and neighborhoods by increasing public safety. The legislation is designed to improve community safety by targeting and, if necessary, shutting down residential and commercial buildings and land which are habitually used for illegal activities such as producing, selling or using illegal drugs, as well as prostitution.

This legislation is just one more step that will provide our police forces the support they need to begin the battle against these types of crimes, and as a government, we will work with them as they put residents first and continue to focus on public safety issues.

If there's a suspicious property in your neighborhood, do not investigate it yourself or approach the occupants. Please call our Alberta Sheriffs SCAN teams immediately, toll free at 1-866-960-SCAN (7226).

In other related news, a deployment Center has just opened and will serve as a base for Calgary Transit's Public Safety and Enforcement Officers. The office will be located in the TELUS Convention Centre space on the C-Train platform and will enable police and Transit peace officers to work together daily, while developing integrated policing solutions designed to enhance public safety. This will help combat crime and social disorder in the downtown core and help maintain public safety in the area.

During the pilot project, the office will be open for general public inquiries from 8 a.m. to 1 a.m. on weekdays and from 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. on weekends.

If I can be of assistance on any civic matter do not hesitate to contact my office by phone (403) 268-2430, fax (403) 269-3823 or at www.calgary.ca/alderman/ward8.

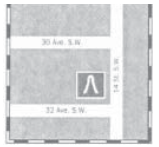
I pledge to be an accessible, responsive, and strong advocate for the people of Ward 8.

Jon Mar, Alderman, Ward 8



ALEXANDER CALHOUN BRANCH LIBRARY

3223 14 Street, S.W. Phone: 221-2010
Monday - Thursday 10 am - 9 pm
Friday and Saturday 10 am - 5 pm
Sunday 12 noon - 5 pm



Connect to your community register for free Alexander Calhoun Library programs today!

ALL LIBRARIES WILL CLOSE AT 4 PM ON:

Wednesday, December 24
Wednesday, December 31

ALL LIBRARIES WILL BE CLOSED ON:

Thursday, December 25
Friday, December 26
Thursday, January 1

- Program guides for the January to April programming season will available mid-December.
- Registration for most programs begins Monday, December 22.
- Registration for children's storytimes begins Tuesday, January 6.
- A current library card is needed to register and registration can be done online at calgarypubliclibrary.com, by phone at 260-2620, or in person at any branch.

If you're going away over the holidays or if you're having company make sure you suspend your holds so they don't come in for you. There is a \$2 hold lapsed fee for each hold not picked-up within the 7 day holding period.

NEW AT THE CENTRAL LIBRARY!

Introducing:
CREATION STATION
Six computers with...

Adobe Photoshop Elements
Edit photos
Create slideshows

Adobe Premiere Elements
Edit video
Create movies

Adobe Audition
Edit sound clips
Create soundtracks

- Photo and photo negative scanners available!
- Download from email, digital camera, digital video camera, or cell phone!
- Upload to email or web site!
- Burn CDs or DVDs!



Ray Riley.com

(403) 270-7601 • rayriley@shaw.ca



Elbow Park -
\$ 1,275,000

Wentworth Estates -
\$1,588,000

Call Ray Riley to view
either of these fine properties. All
calls are strictly confidential!



Award Winning Service & Results!

Royal LePage Foothills

This is not intended to solicit homes already listed for sale.

Bylaw Bulletin

www.calgary.ca/animal-services

WHO ARE WE?

The work of the City of Calgary Animal & Bylaw Services touches many aspects of a citizen's daily life. This is because we are involved in developing bylaws that relate to issues such as pets in our city, the condition of a person's property, snow and ice, behaviour on pathways and smoking, to name a few.

In developing the bylaws, citizens are consulted so that the bylaws reflect the values of the community. Animal & Bylaw Services then partners with various organizations, community associations and citizens to inform and educate the public.

Bylaws in Calgary serve to protect our health and safety, the environment and the orderly appearance of public and private property. They are created because they help us live together as neighbours based on agreed upon rules. Municipal bylaws set a minimum standard of acceptable behaviour.

ROLE OF ANIMAL SERVICES

- Enforcing The Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw
- Licensing of cats and dogs
- Sheltering and caring for impounded animals
- Operating an adoption program

ROLE OF BYLAW SERVICES

- Enforcement of 23 bylaws including:
 - Community Standards
 - Street
 - Parks and Pathways
 - Smoking
 - Temporary Signs
 - Public Behaviour

Through public engagement, bylaws are developed to protect citizens, public and private property, the environment and to enhance the liveability of our city. To learn more about City of Calgary bylaws, visit www.calgary.ca/animalservices.

The City of Calgary Animal & Bylaw Services



2008-1166

**Partnering with Calgarians
to encourage responsible
pet ownership.**

**Lost a pet or want to
adopt one? Contact us.**

calgary.ca/animalservices | call 3-1-1



THE CITY OF
CALGARY

ANIMAL & BYLAW SERVICES



Lee Richardson

Member of Parliament
Calgary Centre

THANK YOU...

The active engagement of Canadian citizens is essential to the health of our democratic system and I thank each and every one of you who voted in the recent federal election. Your interest and participation are the backbone of our democracy.

I am also thankful that for the third consecutive election a majority of Calgary Centre voters have placed their trust in me to serve as Member of Parliament. It is an honour and privilege to serve and I thank you for your support.

The road ahead...

Canadians expect the next parliament to address the country's issues in a constructive and co-operative manner. Our party has been given a strengthened mandate to proceed with cautious, pragmatic and affordable change and to manage our economy through the current international financial crisis.

As always, I welcome your views and comments. Input from constituents is essential to ensure that the issues and ideas that matter to Calgary Centre residents are heard from and represented in Ottawa.

CONTACT US...

Calgary Centre residents requiring assistance may contact my office by mail, phone, fax, e-mail or appointment. Our constituency office contact information is:

Lee Richardson, M.P.
Suite 105, 1410 11th Ave SW
Calgary, AB T3C 0M8
Phone: (403) 244-1880
Fax: (403) 245-3468
E-mail: Richardson.L@parl.gc.ca
Website: www.leerichardson.ca

HOLIDAY SAFETY

TOYS AND GIFTS

- Be sure any gifts you give young children will not present a choking hazard, and cannot get caught in their ears or nose.
- Avoid toys with small parts that can be pulled apart or broken off.
- If you are giving toys to several children in one family, consider their age differences and the chances that younger children will want to play with older kids' toys.
- Never leave toys on stairs or other high traffic areas where they can cause preventable falls and injury.

CANDLES

- Use sturdy candle holders that will not easily tip over.
- Keep matches and lighters out of reach of children at all times.
- Keep burning candles away from trees, decorations, and wrapping paper.
- Never leave candles unattended, or within reach of children.
- If candles are used in a centerpiece be sure they don't burn low enough to ignite the decorations.
- Cut candle wicks short to prevent a high flame.

PLANTS

- Small children may think that holiday plants look good enough to eat, but many plants can cause severe stomach problems and some may be toxic.
- Plants to watch out for include: mistletoe, holly berries, Jerusalem cherry, and amaryllis.
- Poinsettias are not toxic. However, they are not edible, either. If ingested, they may cause nausea and vomiting.
- If you suspect someone may be poisoned contact the Alberta Poison Centre at (403) 944-1414 for advice, or dial 9-1-1 for emergency medical care.

The City of Calgary Emergency Medical Services would like to remind everyone about the importance of safe driving habits this winter.

Allow more time for all driving maneuvers – stopping, changing lanes, passing, or crossing an intersection. In addition, being a responsible party host, or guest, should include appropriate choices concerning serving and consuming alcohol. Use designated drivers or other transportation alternatives– do not drink and drive!

There is no place you need to be that is worth risking your safety or the well being of others. Enjoying the holiday season starts with arriving safe and sound.



WHERE THE RIVER RUNS THROUGH...

The life of the Elbow River is a central feature of our community. When snow melt and spring rains create a tumbling cascade of water that breaches the riverbanks, we pause and recall June floods of years past – wondering just how high the water will flow this time. Photographs from the early part of the 20th century show lower Elbow Park completely under water. For many years, the Glenmore Dam has held back these flood waters, but it is important to remember that Elbow Park takes its name from the river that runs through. It is for this reason that the Elbow Park Community Charter contains several principles designed to protect and restore the vitality of the Elbow River valley. These principles also establish a working relationship with the River Valleys Committee, a City Council advisory group associated with the Parks Foundation Calgary.

In Elbow Park, we are blessed with a river that provides a constant reminder of natural beauty and health – despite the daily trials of the urban world. A walk along the riverside pathways gives us a welcome retreat to a more pastoral and peaceful world. So it is with great passion that many environmental groups such as Cows and Fish, S2G, and the River Valleys Committee attempt to raise community awareness and support projects that curtail the growing neglect of this precious natural resource. Residential and commercial development and even City projects threaten the ability of the river to heal itself and remain a vital asset for us all.

The complex nature of our rivers and valleys -- and a recognized need to protect that nature – led to the creation of the River Valleys Committee in 1990. This city-funded committee includes representatives from environmental, educational, recreational, and community organizations, including the Calgary Zoo, CPAC, and Calgary Stampede. Our newly-elected EPRA Vice President, Jamie Noakes, represents the Calgary Field Naturalists Society on the RVC Executive Council. This RVC also has a Board of Advisors, including city staff from Parks, Planning, Environmental Management and Water Resources, and City Council. The Ward 11 alderman, Brian Pincott, is the current Council representative. Because the City of Calgary does not own the river, federal and provincial interests are represented by members from Alberta Environment and Fisheries & Oceans Canada.

A central task of the RVC is to raise awareness and advise City Hall and the general public about the implications of developments or activities that could impact the city's rivers, wetlands, creeks, and escarpments. To this end, the RVC Land Use & Development Subcommittee reviews new and ongoing projects from an ecological/urban planning perspective. Over lunch on the fourth Thursday every month, the RVC-LUD gathers at the Parks Foundation for a lively discussion of the latest proposals. If you think you might be interested in joining in (or just observing) our next meeting, you are warmly encouraged to contact Mac Hickley, RVC Manager, at 974-0747 or mhickley@parksfdn.com.

A number of projects have recently been undertaken in Elbow Park and nearby communities. Last spring, a riparian enhancement project was completed at Sandy Beach in order to stop bank erosion and to restore natural species to the area. This Cows & Fish project was funded by the City of Calgary and the Calgary Herald and involved a volunteer effort by many residents in the area. The yearly Elbow River Clean-Up was held in September, and Alberta Environment & Sustainable Resource Development conducted a spawning survey of trout spawning grounds this month. RVC and Elbow Park residents will soon be conducting an education and awareness project. We will be visiting residents who live on the river and sharing information with them. The RVC also offers in-school presentations on wetlands by request. Schools can contact RVC Educational Coordinator, Robin McLeod (974-1070) to arrange a visit. This fall, RVC-LUD has reviewed several residential development projects on Riverdale and in East Elbow Park on Edison Crescent. When it is clear that a project contributes to the destruction of the natural life of the river and the surrounding riparian environment, the RVC-LUD submits comments to City Planning or other agencies. In mid-November, RVC staff and your local RVC members attended a meeting at Water Resources to discuss problems associated with construction of a retaining wall on Edison Crescent. Concerns about resulting changes in river flows and major disturbances of fish and beaver habitat as well as potential bank destabilization on the opposite side of the river were discussed. While the old timber retaining wall needed replacement at this site, the design and notification process associated with this project were sharply criticized. RVC does not support the "hardening" of riverbanks and would have proposed a more river-friendly design if given enough time to respond. Other EPRA responses to this project might also have produced a better project, but here again the lack of response time was a significant problem. The RVC continues to press for better community input in all such river projects.

If you have concerns about the river, or would like to become involved in volunteer activities to support preservation of the Elbow River, please contact me at rivallees@elbowpark.com.

Susan Bennett
EPRA representative
River Valleys Committee Executive Council

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

FROM ECOLE ST. GERARD

Ecole St. Gerard is located in Haysboro, off of Elbow Drive and 96th Ave. The school has been around since the 1960's, and has been a Catholic French Immersion school since the 1970's. If you've driven past any time since June, you will have noticed the wonderful improvements we have made to the front of the school to compliment our playground (built in 2006). The landscape design and execution was orchestrated by Andrea Nicholas and her team of tireless parent volunteers.

We have an amazing group of parent volunteers, which is one of the reasons why many families join our school. While it is a Catholic French Immersion school, we are fortunate to have students from a great variety of backgrounds. Some are from Spanish-speaking countries and have chosen Ecole St. Gerard so that their children can learn French in the classroom and English on the playground. Some students have a person in their household who is either French, or who has been through French Immersion. The majority of our students, though, still come from the typical immersion background - one where no one in the household has a working knowledge of French.

The teachers at Ecole St. Gerard do an amazing job at prepping the kids for any homework that comes home. Assignments are sent home with English instructions, as per the school mandate that all communication with parents be in English. It is then up to the students to complete the homework, and discuss it with their teachers if they need help. Our job is to provide a quiet time and place for them and their job is to get it done. This empowering approach produces competent, problem-solving students and the parents keep involved in other ways through volunteer opportunities.

A second language is a gift, and the season of giving is upon us. Come and learn more about giving your child this gift at our Open House this January. This is an opportunity for anyone interested in learning more about Ecole St. Gerard and Catholic French Immersion to drop in and see the school first-hand. Keep checking our website for updates and announcements at: <http://www.cssd.ab.ca/schools/stgerard>.

We also want to thank all the community members who supported Ecole St. Gerard by coming in to buy the SUTP Coupon books this Fall, and remind anyone who is interested that we will begin pre-ordering again near the end of the school year.

Marie Frison Klassen,
PR Coordinator, Ecole St. Gerard



SEASON'S GREETINGS



FOR EXCELLENT SERVICE & RESULTS PLEASE CALL

GORDON W. ROSS TEAM · 403-216-1600

TOP 1% OF RE/MAX TEAMS NATIONALLY 2007

#1 RE/MAX TEAM IN CALGARY 2006

#1 RE/MAX AGENT IN WESTERN CANADA 2005

**Are you or someone you know thinking of
Selling or Buying a home now or in the near future?**

I have **QUALIFIED BUYERS** for your home

I SELL HOMES IN ALL AREAS OF THE CITY IN ALL PRICE RANGES!

gordonwross@shaw.ca www.gordonwross.com

Recently Sold:

3404 10 STREET SW · Offered at \$1,029,000 · Represented Seller & Buyer

4004 5 STREET SW · Offered at \$1,789,000 · Represented Seller



MOUNT ROYAL
Offered at \$895,900



MOUNT ROYAL
Offered at \$1,195,000



ELBOW PARK
Offered at \$2,595,000



ELBOW PARK
Offered at \$2,950,000

MASTER SALES AWARD RECIPIENT OF 2007!

I can help you achieve success with your:

Local Real Estate needs , Fernie B.C. Investments , and U.S. Vacation properties.

Contact me today and let's get started.



LORI
RUSSELL

Realtor®

www.LoriRussell.ca - lrussellrealestate@shaw.ca



BUS: 249-4322

CELL: 969-4379



PURVEYOR OF FINE PROPERTIES



Foundation to door knobs,
Design Factor Homes
are 100% custom - 100% you.



Great Homes • Great Locations • Great Builder

403.243.7038 | www.designfactorhomes.com
4008A - 16 Street SW, Calgary, AB T2T 4H4

ELBOW PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Please check out our website at www.elbowpark.com for upcoming activities, committee updates, ongoing initiatives and even some history of the area. You can become a member online or we've made it easy for you to just fill in this form and mail us your information. Its a great investment in your community!

FAMILY/SPORTS \$35

Family use of sports facilities including hockey, skating, tennis, basketball, etc. In addition to community projects including maintenance and enhancement of local area parks and buildings

SINGLE/ASSOCIATE \$25

Supports maintenance and enhancement of local parks, buildings, and community projects

NON-RESIDENT \$20

Non-Resident use of sports facilities including hockey, skating, tennis, basketball, etc.



2009 MEMBERSHIPS

Name(s) _____
(Please include first and last names of both partners for membership list.)

Address _____ Postal Code _____

Phone _____ E-mail (optional): _____

EPRM Membership (check applicable):

Family/Sports \$35 \$ _____

Single/Associate \$25 \$ _____

Non-Resident \$20 \$ _____

Additional Donation \$ _____ (tax receipt will be sent) \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Your financial support is appreciated. Please mail the completed form and cheque payable to
EPRM, c/o Rhonda Fulton, 3808 9th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta, T2T 3C9

ELBOW PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

800 - 34 Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alberta T2T 2A3

CLUBHOUSE HOTLINE: 403-243-3783

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

President	Robert Lehodey	403-260-7001	president@elbowpark.com
Past President	Barbara Mathies	403-243-2133	
Vice President	Dave Mackie	403-287-9989	vicepresident@elbowpark.com
Treasurer	Deborah Ambrose	403-287-9440	treasurer@elbowpark.com
Secretary	Belinda McDowell	403-287-7630	
Director, Traffic	Tom O'Leary	403-287-1533	traffic@elbowpark.com
Director, Social	Jane Virtue	403-243-0480	landscape@elbowpark.com
Director, Facilities	Jamie Noakes	403-243-7232	stpats@elbowpark.com
Director, Gazette	Michael Tweedie	403-253-4840	gazette@elbowpark.com
Director	Kathy Mendham		

OTHER OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Development	Donna Conway	403-243-6053	development@elbowpark.com
Membership	Rhonda Fulton	403-243-3538	membership@elbowpark.com
Tennis	Belinda Boleantu	403-243-3313	tennis@elbowpark.com
Casino	Tom Plunkett	403-243-0832	casino@elbowpark.com
River Valleys	Susan Bennett	403-247-0533	rivalleys@elbowpark.com
Trees & Landscapes	Don Terway		
Grants	Vacant		
Clubhouse Rental	Julie Clayton	403-287-1300	clubhouse@elbowpark.com
Gazette Advertising	Paulette Lutz		advertising@elbowpark.com

(The Glencoe Club publishes the Elbow Park newsletter as a service to the community.)

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND SPORTS

Hockey Association (EPMH)	Neil Gledhil		ngledhil@elmenenergy.com
Grassroots Hockey	Kevin Murray	403-244-PUCK	admin@grassrootshockey.ca
Elbow Valley Soccer	Donna Russell	403-796-5504	bswan@ucalgary.ca
Christ Church		403-243-4680	christchurch@telus.net
<i>(Preschool, Youth Club, 20's and 30's Club, 50+ Club, Inn from the Cold)</i>			
Ware on Earth Studio	Leanne Springer	403-243-0348	wonearth@telus.net
Brownies	Michelle Cooke	403-592 0221	michelle.cooke@calgary.ca
Yoga	Theresa Morin	403-243-4691	stiles@telus.net
	Cathie Simmons	403-243-2087	casn@shaw.ca
	Glenda Morrison	403-287-0568	glendamorrison@shaw.ca

CITY OF CALGARY CALL 3-1-1

Alderman Pincott	Ward 11	403-268-2430	brian.pincott@calgary.ca
Alderman Mar	Ward 8	403-268-2430	madeleine.king@calgary.ca
Calgary Police, liaison	Martin Courte	403-567-6200	mcourte@calgarypolice.ca

**THANK YOU TO THE GLENCOE CLUB
FOR PUBLISHING THE ELBOW PARK GAZETTE!**