







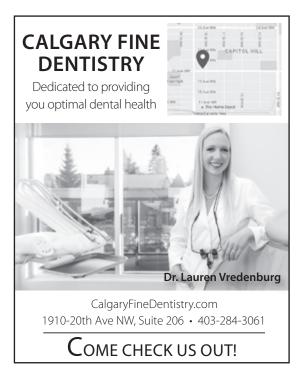


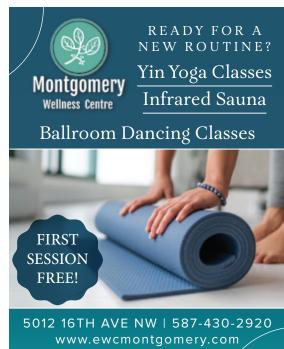
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Treasurer	Anita Hennig	
Secretary		Teigan Owen
Staff		A1
Community Engagement		Abi Harker
and Facility Manager	manager@n	ncapeople.com
Building and Maintenance	huilding@m	David Hoskyn ncapeople.com
Community Engagement	<b>3</b> -	Ali MacOuarrie
community Engagement	engagement@mcapeople.com	
Directors	<u> </u>	
Director		Gideon Ong
Director, Planning Co-Chair	Neal Greywall	
Director	Paula Au	
Director	Carl Bateson	
Director, Events	Mike "Spike" Richards	
	events@n	ncapeople.com
Director, Seniors' Social		Kim Olsen
Elected Representatives		
City Councillor	Terry Wong	403-268-2430
MLA Calgary Bow	Demetrios Nicolaides	403-216-5400
MP	Len Webber	403-220-0888
Contacts		
Community Liaison Officer	David Down	
	pol3847@calgarypolice.ca	403-428-6200
School Board Trustees		
Public	Patricia Bolger	403-817-7918
Separate	Pamela Rath	403-500-2761
Stay Connected With Montgomery		

General Email Inquiries: manager@mcapeople.com **Community Engagement Coordinator** 

Ali MacQuarrie and Abi Harker: engagement@mcapeople.com

**Newsletter Submissions** 

David Hoskyn: editor@mcapeople.com

5003 16 Avenue NW T3B 0N2

403-247-3116

www.mcapeople.com

MontgomeryCA

@mcapeople

#### MCA Main Hall, Boardroom, and Kitchen

The main hall is available for events with up to 301 people (238 if there is liquor service). Active members of the Community Association will receive 10% off full rentals. The hall measures 40 feet by 80 feet and has direct level access from the parking lot.

The board room is available for meetings and small gatherings of up to 25 people. The board room measures approximately 22 feet by 12 feet. A projector and screen are available for use.

MCA's AHS-approved kitchen is included with main hall rentals and is available to rent independently. Email manager@mcapeople.com for more details!

#### **Rental Rates**

Please contact the office at 403-247-3116 or email manager@mcapeople.com for hourly and daily rental rates.

### **Community Newsletter**

The Montgomery Messenger is a publication of the Montgomery Community Association and Great News Media.

Published year round for mail delivery in the middle of every month. Content from the public is welcome and invited. To inquire about submitting content please email editor@mcapeople.com or phone 403-247-3116.

All advertising inquiries should be directed to Great News Media.

Editorial deadline for content submissions is the first of month, for the following month's issue. All submissions should be as Word documents, and sent to editor@ mcapeople.com. High quality photos are also welcome.

### **Virtual Registrations**

The following are available online at www.mcapeople.com:

MCA Family and Business Memberships

MCA Community Garden Registration

Visit www.mcapeople.com for more information!





### SENIORS' SOCIAL

Next Seniors' Social Thursday, January 19, 11:30 am to 3:00 pm



















Unsecured food waste attracts wildlife. Keep clever coyotes hunting in the wild by ensuring garbage, compost, and recycling are in secure bins.

Calgary Wildlife is a registered charity and the only wildlife hospital within the City of Calgary. We promote positive wildlife—human interactions by giving educational talks at schools, community groups, and associations throughout the city.

Please visit www.calgarywildlife.org for more information.



### Join the MCA Board of Directors!

Montgomery community is looking for engaged, motivated members of our community to join the board in the following positions:

- Fundraising Coordinator
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Events Coordinator
- Communications Director

Board meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month from September to June. Directors participate in community events like our Christmas Market, Community Cleanup, upcoming Seniors' Social, and coming soon, monthly family-friendly pub nights!

Email Jason Sokolosky at president@mcapeople. com for more information.



MONTGOMERY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

# February 28 at

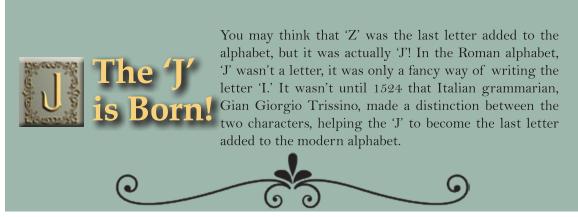
MONTGOMERY COMMUNITY CENTRE MAIN HALL 5003-16TH AVE NW CORNER OF HOME ROAD & 16TH AVE NW

### International Sweatpants Day

In the 1920s, French designer Émile Camuset invented sweatpants to keep athletes warm while training outdoors. These days, sweats aren't just for athletes; there's a pair for every occasion, whether it's for everyday use, lounging, or even to walk a fashion runway. This January 21, it's only "fitting" to observe International Sweatpants Day by donning your favourite sweats!







### Tuesdays at the Montgomery Community Association



### **Parent-Child Mother Goose**

**Build** positive routines with your children through songs, rhymes and stories

FREE 10 week program starting in January for parents with children 0-3

Registration required



### **Parent-Child Mother Goose for Babies**

Learn songs, rhymes and stories to soothe, teach and play with baby

> FREE 7 week program starting in January for parents with babies

Registration required



### **Infant Massage**

Learn massage techniques and how they benefit your baby

FREE 3 week program starting in January for parents with babies

Registration required



### **Drop-In Play**

Drop by for coffee and play time in the gym! Suitable for caregivers with children 0-6

**Every Tuesday starting** January 10 10:00-11:30

Bowmont Families Together offers FREE programs where neighbours from Bowness, Montgomery and Greenwood Village can connect, learn and play in a welcoming space!

For more information and registration email: BFT@caryacalgary.ca

- Remove valuables & garage door openers from vehicles
- Lock vehicles
- Close overhead garage door
- Lock door between garage & house
- **CHECKLIST** 
  - Close & lock all external doors
  - Ensure windows are shut
  - Turn on exterior light



### YOUR PRODUCTIVITY GURU

# How to Stir Up an Isolated Corporate Culture

by Karl Plesz

One of the hardest things that can affect the culture of a company is physical compartmentalization.

If you work in a big company, you have probably come to the realization that teams and departments get siloed. You know your colleagues and their roles and processes. But the rest of the firm is a mystery. Your team's problems remain your team's problems because they can't see how similar everyone's issues are, and they can't comprehend how one team's problems have a domino effect on the company as a whole. Never mind the communications gaps, process inconsistencies, cultural isolation and the inevitable cliques.

This is unlikely to be solved by management, because they'd also have realized it was happening in the first place and it would have already been solved by now. Sorry management, you likely can't fix a siloed company if you're only responsible for one of the silos.

After reading an article by Ryan Holmes, CEO of Hootsuite, it hit me like a pot of coffee. One way to become familiar with other teams and departments is to become familiar with their people. This isn't likely to happen during company social events like holiday parties and barbeques though, because people tend to sit with their own.

What if you were willing to engage with people from other teams? And if you were willing, you could just sign up on a web site. Then you would sit back and let the web site match you up with a random person from another department. For a coffee. Blind date style.

Sounds like a possible way to stir things up a little. The people at Hootsuite had the same problem, and they created a web site that allows people to register their name, email and department, then wait for the inevitable random coffee invite. Except they did something grand. They made the site available to everyone! It's called RandomCoffee.

The idea is that you get set up with a random employee from a department other than yours. Then you meet and talk about stuff. You're likely to bring up issues at work, sooner or later. And because you'll be looking at things from different perspectives, solutions will probably fall out of those discussions.

As Ryan puts it: "The process is pretty straightforward. Once a company is registered, employees sign up on the site using their company email address. They then get an invitation email that asks for pertinent info: name, department, location, even an "icebreaker URL" (like a link to a LinkedIn profile or personal website). The algorithm matches up pairs and alerts them via email, in a message with some basic tips and instructions. Then, it's up to the recipients to follow through and set a date and time to meet with their partners.

The level of enthusiasm has been eye-opening. What I've learned is that employees genuinely want to get to know their colleagues better, and it turns out a simple cup of coffee (helped along by a little technology) can provide the opening. It's the kind of growth and culture hack that costs almost nothing and pays immediate returns — in terms not just of cross-departmental cooperation but overall morale."

What I find ingenious about this idea is that the employees get to transform the culture. It's a bottom-up initiative that only involves those who want to be an instrument of change.







# One Odd Animal

Platypuses are one odd but cute animal! They share genes with birds, reptiles, and mammals. This might have been why when the first stuffed platypus was brought from Australia to Europe, people thought that the creature was a hoax. To them, it looked like several animals had been expertly sewn together by a taxidermist!



### **DOLLARS & SENSE**

### Fly Safely on Your Vacation

from the Better Business Bureau

Are you thinking about traveling by air for a few days?

### Before Clicking the Button to Buy Tickets, BBB Recommends the Following:

- · Check current requirements for domestic and international travel. In Canada, look for Canadian travel advisories.
- · Make sure everyone who is traveling has the appropriate ID. Make certain parties traveling together have a current compliant ID as required by the provinces or countries you're traveling to.
- Read all cancellation policies carefully. Not all situations require a full refund of the ticket value and fees if your flight is canceled. Each online travel agency, airline, and broker is different.
- Book tickets only after reviewing travel restrictions. Save time and stress by reading the updated status of restrictions on the Health Canada website.
- Consider trip insurance. Have a complete understanding of what the policy does and does not cover.
- Be an informed traveler. Refer to the Department of Transportation website for details on consumer issues, filing complaints, and other aviation information.
- Avoid hidden fees. Read the fine print!

Flying isn't the only aspect of your trip to consider.

#### Here Are Some Other Travel-Related Resources from BBB:

- Rental cars: Make your next car rental experience a little easier.
- Hotel rooms: Learn what to keep in mind when booking a hotel room.
- Travel agents: Know what to look for in a travel agent and find one near you.

During the holiday or any time of year, find ways to travel safely and avoid scams. If you plan to travel to or from Canada, check for travel advisories. Remember to report any suspicious activities to BBB Scam Tracker and sign up for Scam Alerts.

For more information go to BBB.org.

### **Let's Talk About Music**

Happiest of New Year wishes to everyone! What are your resolutions and goals for this year? Mine are about live music, no surprise. I have picked up a new acoustic guitar and I plan on having in my hands a lot around campfires and backyard barbeques. I have made a commitment to get out there and support twelve local venues that support live music that I have not been to yet. I am committed to volunteering for at least two music festivals (we have so many in Calgary to choose from now!). And, most exciting to me, I am working closely with the MCA to bring some local and live music talent to you and yours. Our plans for a monthly Family Pub Night will be moving forward in late February. More info here next month, but I do want to hear from you if you would like to sit in on a few all-ages jam nights we will be hosting in 2023. There is so much talent in our community!

Our Seniors Social series is continuing January 19, with Gord Barge presenting some timeless classics to sing along with. That is how I would describe Gord, "timeless" and "classic". He and his family's contributions to both Montgomery and Bowness have been nothing less than remarkable. I feel proud to know him personally, and I am looking forward to hearing him in our updated hall.

If you would like to volunteer for either the Seniors Socials, or upcoming MCA Pub Nights, please send me a note at events@mcapeople.com, we would love to have you as a part of our team. Please do get out there and support the rooms that support the local and live music this month and into 2023.

**Disclaimer:** The opinions expressed within any published article, report, or submission reflect those of the author and should not be considered to reflect those of Great News Media or the Community and/or Residents' Association. The information contained in this newsletter is believed to be accurate but is not warranted to be so.

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by Anne Burke

The Calgary Naturalists' Club was started in the late 1940s. Its activities included plant, bird, and star study groups. After the Calgary Bird Club was formed, the Calgary Naturalists' Club was discontinued, due to lack of support, since so many of its members had transferred their membership. The Calgary Bird Club evolved and became the Calgary Field Naturalists' Society, an advocate for the ongoing protection of parks and other natural areas by letters and through engagement with city officials.

According to the Provincial Archives of Alberta, when the first meeting of the Federation of Alberta Naturalists was held, it was attended by representatives from six regional naturalist clubs: the Calgary Field Naturalists' Society (now known as Nature Calgary), the Edmonton Bird Club, the Edmonton Natural History Club, the Lethbridge Natural History Society, the Alberta Natural History Society (of Red Deer), and the Bow Valley Naturalists. Membership in the Federation has since grown to include over 40 clubs, representing thousands of individuals.

The Federation (now known as Nature Alberta) was registered under the Societies Act to increase knowledge of natural history and understanding of ecological processes; to promote the exchange of information and views among natural history clubs and societies; and to foster and assist in the formation of additional natural history clubs and societies in Alberta. The aims are to promote new natural areas and nature reserves; to conserve and protect species, communities, or other features of interest; as well as to organize or coordinate conferences, field meetings, nature camps, research, and other activities. The group offers naturalists a forum in which questions relating to the conservation of the natural environment may be discussed, united positions are developed, and the means of translating these positions are put into action.





fireworks, and a ball drop at midnight. But did you know that the first New Year's celebration held in this square had a slightly different purpose? In 1904, Adolph Ochs organized the event to celebrate the new headquarters of his publishing company, The New York Times!



TO ALL WHO ATTENDED OUR FESTIVE ARTISAN MARKET

SPECIAL THANK-YOU TO:

ALL OF OUR WONDERFUL VENDORS
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BOWNESS SUPERSTORE LIQUOR
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ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS FACE PAINTING
ERIN BEACH AND THE CELLISTS
SANTA AND HIS ELF
AND ALL MCA STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS!





### Olympic Medals for Artists







The founder of the modern Olympic Games, Baron Pierre de Coubertin, believed that a true Olympian was not only athletic, but also artistic. As a result, for the first four decades of these international games, artists were awarded medals for painting, sculpture, architecture, literature, and music, so long as their work was inspired by athletic endeavours.



### YOUR CITY OF CALGARY

### Now is a Great Time to Sign Up for The City's Monthly Property Tax Payment Plan TIPP

from the City of Calgary

The City's Tax Instalment Payment Plan (TIPP) is the most popular payment method. You pay the same amount as your annual property tax levy, but instead of one large lump sum payment in June, you pay smaller monthly instalments. This makes budgeting easier, and you reduce the risk of late payment penalties.

Joining TIPP in January ensures your monthly payments are spread throughout the year. Signing up for TIPP is easy. There is no charge to join, and you don't need to re-apply each year.

To request your TIPP agreement, go to calgary.ca/TIPP or call 311.

If you're already on TIPP, you can visit calgary.ca/TIPP to learn how your monthly TIPP instalments are calculated and adjusted.



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### **SCAN HERE**

To View Additional Montgomery Content



New beginnings, new goals, and new achievements often come to mind as we plan the year ahead.



As we begin this new year, it is with great gratitude, I would like to say "Thank You" to our valued clients, neighbours, friends, and family who have all contributed to my ongoing success as the #1 Selling Realtor\*

in Bowness and Montgomery for 32 consecutive years\* and as a TOP selling real estate agent at RE/MAX Real Estate (Central), the #1 RE/MAX Office Worldwide for 23 years. \*\*

Your loyalty and support are always truly appreciated and mark my successes beyond measure! In 2023, I look forward to serving all of your real estate needs and welcome all new clients and referrals.

Ken Richter

Wishing you a healthy and prosperous year ahead and peace to all throughout the world!



### **CONSIDERING A MOVE?**

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