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NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



Dear Neighbours,

Ah, May! There is still snow on the ground as I type this, but by the time this newsletter makes it into your mailbox, summer will be well on its way! Our Pet of the Month feature is very popular and thanks for your submissions so far!

As always, I appreciate input from community members in regards to this newsletter so please feel free to email me any suggestions.

Until next time!

Jane Phillips, Editor

editor@kgca.ca



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Thinking About Joining the KGCA Community Garden?

Did you know that the KGCA rents out 23 garden plots at the hall every year? The garden program is a place where neighbours come together and put their veggie growing skills to work. We also look after the communal flower beds and the composting at the hall. Some of our members have a lot of experience and others are new, so come out and join us! We are currently assigning plots for the 2023 season, and we will have a garden orientation session in May where members of the garden program will talk about the garden and answer questions.

Rental Fees (must be a KGCA member in good standing): \$40 per plot.

The rental includes your own plot, some basic gardening tools, and water.

For more information, and to put your name on the waitlist, just email the garden coordinators, Chris and Dan at garden@kgca.ca.

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Safety Corner

Cyber Crime

In the past, I have shared my thoughts about how to be safe within the community through different topics each month. This month, I would like to share a topic that is sort of tied into what I have learned during the last 10 years.

As some of you may be aware, I work in the security industry as a tactical officer and occasional LPO. As such, I have also been doing some on-going research into cybersecurity and ways in which I can learn why hackers do what they do. So far, it's still ongoing, as cybercrime is always changing.

To begin with, let's ask ourselves a question: what is cybercrime? Using our friendly website, Wikipedia, "cybercrime is a crime involving a computer or a computer network. This type of crime can hurt a person's finances and other personal information."

During my research, there are many forms of cyberattacks using computers and computing networks. These forms include terrorism, fraud, and cyberextortion. In fact, one of the most famous forms of cybercrime is when hackers gain access to our private information. These hacks can include emails, social media sites, and online banking.

How can we combat cybercrime ourselves? There are numerous ways of doing so. While trying to consider the best answer to this question, I did more looking and found what I think is the best answer. Here are some ways, according to Internet Safety 101®, that we can make sure hackers cannot get into our more sensitive information.

1. Never do banking on unsecure Wi-Fi.
2. Always keep your mobile and computers up to date. This includes all apps as well.
3. Protect your sensitive information by using strong passwords. Cybercriminals look for weak passwords.

Debit and credit card fraud can be another form of cybercrime, as there are ways for hackers to get that information. One of the known ways is through card readers. These card readers are around, but we may not know which stores they are in. So, here are some tips to combat this form of cybercrime:

1. Change your online banking password once or twice a month.
2. Change your pin numbers on your credit and debit cards at least once every two months.

These are two ways to keep your information safe.

For further information, please don't hesitate to email me anytime.

Until next month,

Richard Bankert, KGCA Director – Safe Streets

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TO SUPPORT AND CONNECT OUR COMMUNITY.

HOW?

Through the creation and delivery of program, events, and strategic initiatives.

WHY?

To encourage involvement and to inspire pride in both our residents and visitors.



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Hilary Stout	Vice President	vp@kgca.ca
Darren Munnich	Treasurer	treasurer@KGCA.ca
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Kristi Mulrain	Business Outreach	bizoutreach@kgca.ca
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HALL STAFF

Natalie Palmer	General Manager	gm@kgca.ca
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KILLARNEY-GLENGARRY VOLUNTEERS

Brown Bag for Kids	Allie Ronellenfitch	aronellenfitch@gmail.com
Tot Time	Elena Gadaeva	secretary@kgca.ca
Community Garden	Chris Knobel and Dan Hauser	garden@KGCA.ca
Newsletter Editor	Jane Phillips	editor@kgca.ca

KGCA Members That Inspire Community

KGCA is committed to supporting local. If you are a member with a local business that inspires community building, we want to hear about what you’re doing! Please email editor@kgca.ca or comms@kgca.ca with details!



Ahh...the Joy of Spring

By May, all gardeners' fingers are itching to get into the sweet-smelling earth. We've dreamt all winter and poured over gardening books and seed catalogues for new ideas for our gardens. The decisions are endless: what colours, where to plant that new plant or shrub, what new ideas are there for our planters. Oh, the dilemmas!

One of the big conundrums is how to revitalize the soil in your old plant pots. You can save money and reinvigorate your soil with a half hour of work. Haul out the wheelbarrow, put a screen across the top (use an old household screener or the top of an old double boiler) and voila, you're in business.

Pull the old plants out and any mulch you may have had on top and put that in the City of Calgary compost bin. Some of the roots may already be composted; remove any pests that you come across. Remember that spider mites don't survive the winter. Whew!

Screen the soil into the wheelbarrow and remove the larger roots, though it's not essential. If you find good earthworms, keep them in the soil. If you've been using your pots and soil for a few years, it's a good idea to amend the soil with peat moss or coconut coir, available at garden centres or Lee Valley. To hold the water in the pot, add some new potting soil and compost you may have made or purchased: three portions of soil to one of compost.

Add a little mycorrhiza, which provides an intimate association between the tubular filaments of a fungus and the plant's root; it's a great addition to your soil. Many garden centres will double the length of your guarantee on your shrubs if you use mycorrhiza when you plant them.

Another great way to keep your potted plants healthy is by adding a layer of horticultural charcoal to the pot. This absorbs excess water from the roots of your plant and keeps the soil "sweet" by guarding against bacteria, fungus, and rot.

Plants need organic and inorganic material to thrive. An addition of a little sand, silt, or clay adds the mineral nutrients that plants require. Happily, Calgary has clay in abundance. The clay, sand, or silt acts as a binding agent

between soil particles and gives soil elasticity. It also provides calcium, magnesium, and potassium that plants need to thrive.

Thoroughly enjoy getting your hands dirty in this magical mixture!

Joey Stewart has an award-winning garden in Glengarry.

THE EMERALD

The emerald is May's official birthstone. Unlike some birthstones, emerald is classified as one of four precious gemstones. Although the oldest emeralds date back 2.97 billion years and were first mined in Egypt, emeralds have been found in Canada, although they're rare. Canada's first emeralds were found in 1998 in Yukon Territory!

GAMES & PUZZLES

Guess That Movie!

1. On Amity Island, beachgoers are harassed by a bloodthirsty sea beast.
2. An unlikely chef fulfills his dream of working in a famous Parisian restaurant.
3. A visit to a theme park full of genetically modified creatures goes very wrong.
4. The anti-social protagonist embarks on a journey to rescue a princess and save his home.
5. An overwhelmed princess escapes her duties and explores Rome with a stranger.



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FOR THE ANSWERS!**





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Tuna Tostadas

by Jennifer Puri



To fold or not to fold is the difference between a tostada and a taco.

The decision to stuff toppings into a taco or pile toppings on a tostada is up to you.

The early Mexicans determined that the best way to extend the shelf life of a stale tortilla was to toast it. It appears that avoiding food waste was as important then as it is now.

There are many popular Mexican food options, but the taco is an international favourite, and there are few better ways to achieve a combination of flavours in one bite.

A tortilla fried or toasted is a delicious crunch base and can be topped with refried beans, cheese, Mexican rice, lettuce, tomatoes, ground beef, shredded chicken, or ahi tuna used in the recipe for tuna tostadas.

Prep Time: 20 minutes

Cook Time: 8 minutes

Servings: 4

Ingredients:

- 500 gm ahi tuna
- 2 cups thawed mango chunks
- 1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and chopped
- 3 tbsp. chopped coriander leaves
- ½ cup red onion, finely chopped
- 1 cup chopped cucumber
- 3 tbsp. extra virgin olive oil
- 2 tbsp. freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 6 tbp. mayonnaise
- 2 chipotle peppers in adobo sauce, finely chopped
- 4 x 6-inch corn or flour tortillas
- 4 tbsp. vegetable oil

Directions:

- Slice ahi tuna into bite size pieces and set aside.
- Cut mango chunks into half-inch pieces and place in a medium size mixing bowl. Add chopped, de-seeded jalapeno, red onion, cucumber, coriander leaves, lemon juice, and olive oil. Now add ahi tuna pieces and gently blend together, cover, and set aside.
- Prepare the adobo mayo dressing by combining the chopped chipotle peppers and a little of the adobo sauce with the mayonnaise.
- In a heated frying pan or skillet, place a tablespoon of vegetable oil and one tortilla. Fry tortilla, flipping once or twice until crispy, approximately one to two minutes. Remove from pan and place on paper towel to drain of any excess oil. Repeat process with remaining tortillas.
- Place individual tostadas on dinner plates and top with ahi tuna mixture. Garnish with a tablespoon of adobo mayo dressing, a few coriander leaves, and serve.

Bon Appétit!



Hen-Keeping is Even More Than it's Cracked Up to Be

from the City of Calgary



To Chris Huston, a City of Calgary employee, hen-keeping started as an interest in sustainability that developed into a passion for animals, his community, and cooking. "Each one of the hens has its own distinct personality," he said with a smile.

Huston participated in Calgary's urban hen-keeping pilot program last year and has made countless omelettes since last spring. "Collecting the eggs from the nests will never get old. We even invite the neighbours and their kids to visit the chickens and feed them," said Huston.

Before Huston built his coop, he talked to his neighbours; they were concerned they'd be woken first thing by a rooster. That is a common misconception about hen-keeping, but roosters are not permitted under the Responsible Pet Ownership bylaw, meaning nobody will be subjected to early morning 'cock-a-doodle-doo's' because hens are female chickens, and they are more polite neighbours than roosters.

Aside from producing eggs, Huston's hens, Tia and Tamera, have kept him busy with their home renovations: Pollo Palace, his coop, has had many additions since it was initially built. "I know my place in the pecking order," Huston joked. While his tone is jovial, the point is clear: hen-keeping is an ongoing responsibility that requires your attention and effort to keep them happy and safe.

If you're interested in hen-keeping, the City of Calgary is re-opening the program this year, and an unlimited number of licences are available from spring to fall. Visit us at calgary.ca/pets/licences/urban-hens to learn more.



Meet your neighbour, Eli! He is a two-year-old German shepherd border collie mix who likes keeping the squirrels away and is the "24/7 neighbourhood watch."



This is George Clooney, a female Pyredoodle. She is two years old and weighs a whopping 95 pounds, however, she does not shed. She loves the snow but hates wearing her boots. She was out walking one day and met a pup named Tina Turner. Georgie is a gentle giant and they had a great time playing.

Here is a picture of a handsome old kitty named Max. He is 16 years old and loves to go outside for some fresh air when it's warm enough. He loves to play hide and seek with his family and is quite a talker! He responds when greeted with a hello with a low 'double meow' (like mreow mreow), his version of a hello! When his cat-mom meditates, he lays on her chest and purrs – it's very relaxing! He is grumpy toward other cats but quite friendly toward humans.



If you would like your pet featured as the KGCA Pet of the Month, please email a photo and description of your pet to editor@kgca.ca.

How to BEE a Community Scientist Help us document the different pollinators in Calgary!

- 1 Go to inaturalist.ca or download the app.
- 2 Take 2 clear photos of an insect and 1-2 photos of the plant/flower that it is visiting.
- 3 Upload your photos to iNaturalist and add your insect observations to the Calgary Pollinators Project.



sustain@ucalgary.ca

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A Collaborative Approach to Enhancing Traffic Safety in Residential Communities

by Cst. Jeff Leimer #3503, Calgary Police Service, CPS, Traffic Section, Residential Traffic Safety Unit, RTSU

This article is to re-introduce The Residential Traffic Safety Unit (RTSU), a unit created to specifically address residential traffic issues. Our strategy is to utilize citizen feedback to develop our operational response. We focus on playground zones, pedestrian rich areas, and other high-risk locations identified through collision data analysis. The RTSU is attached to the Traffic Section of the Calgary Police Service.

The Residential Traffic Safety Unit (RTSU) has four sworn Calgary Police officers and four photo radar operators that work strictly days from Monday to Friday. Each week, we work on a quadrant of the city and at the beginning of that week, we review all the Traffic Service Requests (TSRs) that have been submitted. We review the TSRs and pick the ones that affect the residential areas mostly, such as playground zones. The ones that appear to be on the major roadways and outside the Monday to Friday schedule we pass onto the district offices and the Traffic Response Unit (TRU) teams.

We strongly emphasize public awareness and education, facilitating citizen engagement by attending community association board meetings to discuss the Traffic Service Request System (TSR). The TSR is a key tool to help Calgary Police Service monitor and track traffic safety issues. We encourage communities to offer this link in newsletters and on community web pages. You can submit a TSR through this link: <https://www.calgary.ca/cps/traffic/traffic-service-requests.html>.

Anyone can use the TSR program and if the complainant is unable to access it, we welcome a third party to complete it but to include the original person's contact information so that officers can reach out for further details. Each TSR is provided with a unique number for tracking. The officer will include dates and times that they contacted the complainant, enforcement duration, and stats. This tracking can be used to direct members of the districts and TRU teams when best to conduct enforcement and/or for the City to see if additional changes of signage, roadway engineering, or traffic calming measures are needed.

We at the RTSU also conduct school blitzes weekly at schools we know to have considerable issues with parking, jaywalking, and unsafe driving habits. We also receive TSRs from the schools either by staff or parents. These blitzes include cooperation with the Calgary Parking Authority (CPA).

The RTSU also utilizes strong collaborative relationships with City partners on traffic concerns requiring resolutions other than enforcement (sign changes, installation of crosswalks, rectangular rapid flashing beacons, extension of playground zones, etc.).

We can further assist by liaising with established community partnerships. This includes MLA offices, City Councillor offices, and neighborhood committee coordinators as we continue to expand events attended by the RTSU.

Motorcycles

So it begins that we must become more aware of those quick and tiny two-wheeled objects. However, this awareness must be for both drivers.

As a motorcycle rider, we must retune our riding skills from the lost months of winter while watching out for the debris on the roadway. And as a motorist, we must remember that the bike is a smaller object that can accelerate and stop faster than most cars.

A rider must have a class 6 license to ride on their own and obtaining this takes two tests, an aptitude and a practical. As a first-time inexperienced rider looking for a bike to buy, don't extend your skills and get a large bike, start off and gain that important experience on a smaller one.

Like cars and trucks, the motorcycle must have the license plate clear and visible (not tucked under the seat). Signal and brake lights are not to be as one unit. The signal lights must be separated and defined as separate. A helmet must be either ECE, DOT, or Snell approved, which will be clearly marked.

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RESIDENT PERSPECTIVES

Stargazing with Pat J

How Come We Don't Have a Lunar or Solar Eclipse Every Month?

by Patricia Jeffery © 2023, Calgary Centre of the Royal
Astronomical Society of Canada

Let's take a trip down memory lane and imagine that our solar system is an old-style music record album with the Sun in the middle and each song representing a planet's orbit.

As the planets formed at the same time, about 4.6 billion years ago, they were all pretty much level with each other. Astronomers refer to this flat disk as the ecliptic plane.

Now, considering its traumatic birth was the result of a Mars-sized object smashing into Earth, our Moon has never been one to follow the crowd.

First off, over the course of each month, the Moon's orbit around Earth varies from 5 degrees above the ecliptic plane to 5 degrees below.



A full moon takes place when the Earth is between the Moon and the Sun. If the Sun, Earth, and Moon all line up perfectly, with the Moon smack dab on the ecliptic plane, the Moon will enter the Earth's shadow and a lunar eclipse will occur.

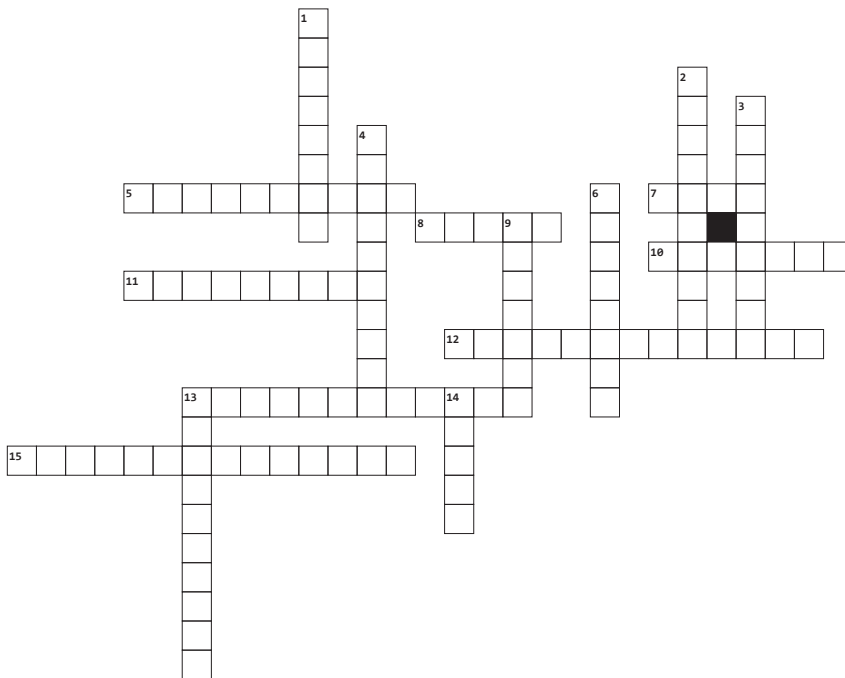
Conversely, a new moon happens when the Moon is between the Earth and the Sun. If all three align, with the Moon on the ecliptic, the Moon's shadow will move across the surface of the Earth and a solar eclipse will occur.



The reason we don't have a lunar or solar eclipse every month is because most of the time, the Moon's orbit is either above or below the ecliptic plane, which causes the Moon to miss Earth's large shadow or Earth to miss the Moon's tiny shadow.

A lunar eclipse occurs about three times a year while a total solar eclipse only happens every 18 months.

May Crossword Puzzle



Across

5. Originally from Nunavut, this artist has won both a Polaris Music Prize and a JUNO for her unique blend of throat singing with Western music genres.
7. In May of 1918, some women were given the ability to do this.
8. World _____ Day celebrates and raises awareness for this endangered water dwelling mammal.
10. On May 15, this band, hailing from Hamilton, Ontario won Group of the Year at the 2022 JUNO awards.
11. A *Star Wars* pun becomes very popular on this day.
12. This actor and ex-wrestler has both their American and Canadian citizenship, only getting the latter at the age of 37.
13. This classic children's toy was introduced on May 1, 1952, and was the first toy ever advertised on television.
15. On May 11, 2019, this novel by Eden Robinson won the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize.

Down

1. On May 17, 1642, this Canadian city was founded by Paul de Chomedey, Sieur de Maisonneuve.
2. At San Francisco's Grand Opera House, this was played for the first time on May 4, 1878.
3. This clothing item was patented 150 years ago.
4. Released 28 years ago, this film increased tourism in Scotland.
6. A solar eclipse on May 29, 1919, proved _____'s theory of general relativity.
9. Canada's first _____ was found in 1998 in Yukon Territory.
13. In the United States, the most phone calls are made on this holiday.
14. On May 30, 1966, the first full-disk image of _____ was taken.

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In 1919, John and Stella King, descendants of black American settlers, moved to Calgary's Hillhurst-Sunnyside. In 1929, their daughter Violet was born. She would later attend the University of Alberta and become Canada's first black woman lawyer. An advocate for women and racialized individuals, Violet's many accomplishments live on today.

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