

OCTOBER 2026

DELIVERED MONTHLY TO 5,500 HOUSEHOLDS

BRIDGELANDRIVERSIDE

BRIDGES

THE OFFICIAL BRIDGELAND-RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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Support Victoria Fortuna and Her Family After a Tragic Highway Accident



In the early evening of February 8, 2026, the Fortuna family's life was forever altered by a devastating and senseless accident.

Victoria, a 21-year-old student at MacEwan University, and her father, Paul Fortuna, 53 years old, were the innocent victims of a horrific and tragic vehicle accident that occurred in Edmonton, Alberta. Sadly, her father, Paul, succumbed to his injuries at the scene, and Victoria has been left with catastrophic, life-threatening, and life-altering injuries. She is currently fighting for her life and receiving critical medical care at the University Hospital in Edmonton.

This GoFundMe, created in partnership with her family, is being established to help ease the inconceivable financial hardship they are facing.

The initial \$100,000 fundraising target will help cover immediate expenses, including lodging in Edmonton for Victoria's mother, Colleen (Cousens) Fortuna, and 16-year-old sister, Ariana, both from Calgary. This will also allow Colleen to take necessary time away from work during this period of immense hardship and profound change to focus on Victoria's medical journey and to help her daughters through the unimaginable grief of the sudden, tragic loss of their father.

In the days, months, and years ahead, Victoria will require additional surgeries, extensive rehabilitation, specialized leg prosthetics, intensive mental health support, and enduring general medical care. The financial impact will be significant and ongoing, with future fundraising goals evolving as a result of these needs.

The family is deeply grateful for the kindness, prayers, and support they have already received. Your generosity, through a donation or by sharing this GoFundMe, will allow them to focus on supporting their beloved Victoria through her long recovery journey. It takes a village and every donation counts.

Thank you for standing with them during this unimaginably difficult time.

Scan to donate or visit gofund.me/31fdeef6f

Any help is appreciated ♥



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Before you sign your renewal offer, see how refinancing could help you:

- ✓ Lower payments
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- ✓ Save thousands over time

Your lender gave you an offer — not necessarily the best one.




ANITA RUSSELL **403-771-8771**
anita@anitamortgage.ca

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SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE SOLUTION



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MEMBERSHIP FORM

New and returning members, please apply online at brcacalgary.org/ membership or use this form and mail or drop off along with cheque made out to:

Bridgeland-Riverside Community Association
917 Centre Ave NE
Calgary AB T2E 0C6

Membership type: (please check one)

Individual ☐

Family ☐

Senior ☐



Member information: (please print clearly, attach additional family member names)

Last name: _____

First name: _____

Address: _____

Postal code: _____

Email: _____

Phone number: _____

Or, please feel free to communicate with us about community events at events@BRCAcalgary.org

Bridges contains editorial content and information provided by Bridgeland-Riverside Community Association and is distributed free to community residents and businesses 12 times per year. Circulation is approximately 5,500.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Alex MacWilliam

Hello neighbours,

We have had a busy summer of events in and around the community and the fall promises to be just as active.

On August 27, approximately 500 people gathered on the west side of Murdoch Park to enjoy a screening of "The Sandlot". Thanks to the efforts of BRCA Director Cath Larson and her crew of volunteers, the evening was a huge success. Cath managed to arrange for beautiful weather and the entire event was very enjoyable. I also want to thank the businesses who supported our Movie in the Park and all of you who attended.

We also held a second successful Pub Night at the Hall in early September and will have a third and final event on October 1 to coincide with the last Farmers' Market for the year. Come out to meet your neighbours over a refreshing beverage.

The BRCA has been holding events to officially dedicate the naming of our previously anonymous green spaces. This is the culmination of a great amount of work done over several years by our Beautification Committee and the many volunteers who donated their time and efforts to the Park Naming Project. A report on the September 12 dedication of Helen's Garden is in this issue. By the time this issue reaches you we will have also held events to recognize the naming of Annie Gale Park and Schule Park.

Our Seniors programs are gearing up again, with yoga and art classes resuming and the always popular Seniors Luncheon scheduled for October 5.

BRCA Safe Community Director Ron Bettin and I recently took a representative of Ward 9 Councillor Harrison Clark's office on a walking tour throughout the neighbourhood to point out areas we feel have safety concerns. We are hoping that this will lead to a more formal "Safety Walk" involving representatives of the community, the City and the Calgary Police Service.

The BRCA is always happy to receive feedback from members of the community. Contact information for Board members is set out in each issue of this newsletter.



SAFE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING

Creating a safer community through
building strong community connections

We meet on the
first Tuesday of each month
(except July & August)

Tuesday, Oct 6
6:30 PM

Contact:

safecommunity@brcacalgary.org



HELP KEEP
YOUR COMMUNITY CLEAN



Gutter Doctor Home Exterior Services

Gutter Clean/Fix/Install • Leaf Screens
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Seniors Luncheon

Beacon Original Art returns to the BRCA Hall on October 17 and 18 for its Annual Fall Art Show and Sale. Shop over 40 local artists, with different artists each day from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Free admission, draws, and no GST.

Beacon Original Art

Annual Fall Show & Sale

Saturday October 17

Sunday October 18, 2026

10am - 4pm



Different Artists in Attendance Each Day!!
Painting - Jewelry - Glass - Photography
Ceramics - Sculpture - Textiles



BRCA Hall 917 Centre Ave NE Calgary
Free Parking & Admission, Draws & No GST

Beacon Original Art



Fall Art Exhibition & Sale

Saturday October 17, 2026

Sunday October 18, 2026

10am - 4pm

Different Artists Each Day!!

Bridgeland Riverside Community Association
 917 Centre Ave NE Calgary

Free Parking & Admission, Draws & No GST



Painting Jewelry Glass Photography Ceramics Sculpture Textiles



Neighbourhood Grant

Do you live in the **Bridgeland Neighbourhood**?

Small actions can make big impacts.
 Our grants help residents take action to
 build inclusive neighbourhoods.

Grants up to \$1000 are provided for activities in neighbourhoods
 that focus on

**Social Inclusion, Economic Participation,
 Anti-Racism, or Truth and Reconciliation**

For More Information, Contact:

Community Social Worker Twyla Moon at
twyla.moon@calgary.ca or (403) 703-5104

Learn More At:

calgary.ca/communities/grant-programs



PUB NIGHT

Bridgeland-Riverside

Sponsored by
 Alberta's Original Anderson
 Plumbing HVAC Electrical

September 3rd
 & October 1st

4pm to 9pm

BRCA Hall
 917 Centre Ave NE

Stop in
 anytime

Join us for a Pub Night at the community hall
 to raise funds for your
Bridgeland-Riverside Community Association.



Must be a member
 of the association



Memberships
 available at the door
 at no cost
 (donations welcome!)

EMAIL
communications@brccalgary.org

BRCCALGARY.ORG

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 COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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Seniors GAMES Days

BRCA Seniors Games Days is back!
Join us Wednesdays 1-2pm
BRCA Hall - upstairs Lantern room

Sept 9 * Sept 23
Oct 7 * Oct 21

No need to register, just show up!
Play cards and board games, bring your own too.
Bring your own refreshments.

www.brcacalgary.org
Email: Programs@brcacalgary.org

TRUNK OR TREAT

A Spooky Good Time!

BRCA

October 31st, 5 PM - 8 PM
Bridgeland Community Hall

BRIDGELAND-RIVERSIDE
Senior's Exercise
CLASS SCHEDULE

ALL CLASSES ARE NOW \$30

All classes take place at the downstairs BRCA Hall (917 Centre Ave NE). Class size is limited to 20 participants.

MONDAY 10:30-11:30AM
BEGINNER YOGA WITH VLADA
November 2 - December 7

BEGINNER STRENGTH TRAINING WITH KIM
November 3 - December 8

TUESDAY 2:30 - 3:30PM

WEDNESDAY 1:00 - 2:00PM
ADVANCED YOGA WITH VLADA
November 4 - December 16 - No Class Nov 11

QIGONG WITH KIM
November 4 - December 16 - No Class Nov 11

WEDNESDAY 2:30 - 3:30PM

FRIDAY 10:30-11:30AM
INTERMEDIATE STRENGTH TRAINING WITH KIM
November 6 - December 11

REGISTER ONLINE AT BRCACALGARY.ORG

You can also register, or ask to be put on a waitlist for a 2nd class, by calling 403-283-5755 or emailing programs@brcacalgary.org. Please reach out if you do not get a confirmation email from the Amila system.

Classes are subsidized by grant funding. If you need financial support, please contact programs@brcacalgary.org. For cancellations, refunds minus 5% available for cancellations over 7 days; no refunds will be given for cancellations within 7 days of the start date.

GRAFFITI FREE YYC

MAKE YOUR COMMUTE GRAFFITI FREE

SEE IT. REPORT IT. ERADICATE IT.

Together, we can make every route better.

REPORT IT IN THE 311 APP

THE COMMUTER CHALLENGE
ERADICATE YOUR ROUTE. ONE REPORT AT A TIME.

CHOOSE YOUR ROUTE
Walk, Bike, Drive, or Commute.

REPORT GRAFFITI
Use the Calgary 311 app.

SEE THE CHANGE
Cleaner streets. Stronger community. Better commutes.

YOUR ROUTE. OUR CITY. ZERO TOLERANCE FOR GRAFFITI.

From start to finish—let's clean every stop.

EVERY REPORT COUNTS

- 1 Cleaner neighborhoods
- 2 Safer communities
- 3 Pride in our city

TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE YYC GRAFFITI FREE.

JOIN THE CHALLENGE!
Commit to your commute. Make your route graffiti free. Challenge a friend. Challenge our city.

LET'S MAKE YYC GRAFFITI FREE.

CLEANER YYC STARTS WITH YOU

EASY. FAST. MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

DOWNLOAD THE CALGARY 311 APP

SCAN TO DOWNLOAD THE APP

GRAFFITI-FREE YYC

A CLEAN CITY IS A STRONG COMMUNITY. THANK YOU FOR DOING YOUR PART. | calgary.ca/311

Staying Safe as the Nights Draw In

by Lynne Croker, BRCA Safe Community Committee Member

As summer fades and the days shorten, many of us find ourselves heading out in the dark, whether it's the school run, a morning dog walk, or an evening stroll. A little preparation can make a big difference in keeping you and your loved ones safe. Here's what Bridgeland residents need to know this season.

Spot a Faulty Streetlight? Report It!

Dark stretches of road or pathway are more than just inconvenient — they can be a real safety hazard for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers alike. The good news is that reporting a faulty streetlight in Calgary is quick and easy.

The City aims to repair most reported outages within 30 days, and many are fixed even sooner. Here's how to report one:

Online (fastest)

Use the City's dedicated Streetlight Outage Map at streetlightoutage.calgary.ca. Simply zoom in, find the light on the map, click it, and select the issue: whether it's out completely, flickering, or staying on during daylight hours.

3-1-1 App

Open the Calgary 3-1-1 app on your smartphone, select the streetlight category, add a photo if you can, and drop a pin on the map. You can track the status of your report right in the app.

By Phone

Call 3-1-1 anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If you're calling from outside Calgary, dial 403-268-2489. TTY users can dial 7-1-1 and request 3-1-1.

If a streetlight has been out for more than 30 days with no repair, you can escalate your report directly on the outage map or by contacting 3-1-1 again.

Keeping Children Visible on the School Run

With school mornings often starting before sunrise in autumn and winter, helping your child be seen is just as important as getting them out the door on time. Here are some easy, practical steps:

- **Bright and Reflective Clothing:** Swap dark jackets for brightly coloured ones or add reflective strips and

patches to their existing gear. Many school bags now come with built-in reflective panels.

- **Clip-on Lights and Hi-Vis Vests:** Small, lightweight LED clip-on lights are inexpensive and can be attached to a backpack or coat. Hi-vis vests worn over a jacket are highly effective.
- **Flashlights and Headlamps:** A small torch or headlamp lets your child see where they're going and makes them visible to drivers. Headlamps are especially handy for keeping hands free.
- **Stick to Lit Routes:** Walk your child's school route together and identify the best-lit path. Avoid shortcuts through unlit alleys or parks, even if they save a few minutes.
- **Walk With Others:** Buddy up with neighbours — there's safety in numbers, and it's a great way to build community.

Walking Pets Safely in the Dark

Our four-legged family members need to stay visible too. If you're walking your dog in the early morning or after work, here's how to keep you both safe:

- Use an LED dog collar or clip a flashing light to their harness. These are widely available at pet stores and are easy to recharge.
- Opt for a reflective leash so drivers can see both you and your dog.
- Wear your own reflective gear or a light-coloured jacket — don't rely solely on your pet's visibility.
- Keep dogs on a leash. In low-light conditions, unexpected encounters with other animals or vehicles are harder to manage.

Halloween Safety: Keeping Little Trick-or-Treaters Visible

Halloween is one of the most exciting nights of the year for children, but with kids out after dark in busy streets, often wearing dark costumes, visibility is absolutely critical. Here's how to make sure your little ghosts and goblins are seen:

- Choose bright or light-coloured costumes. Where possible, opt for costumes in bright colours. If your child has their heart set on a dark costume, add reflective tape or iron-on reflective patches. They're inexpensive and highly effective.
- Glow sticks and LED accessories. Glow sticks are a Halloween favourite for good reason. They're fun, safe, and make children instantly visible. LED wands,

light-up jewellery, and flashing badges are great additions to any costume.

- Carry a flashlight or wear a headlamp. A torch helps children see where they're going on uneven paths and driveways and makes them visible to drivers. Headlamps are great for older kids as they keep hands free for the all-important candy bag!
- Check that masks don't obstruct vision. Masks with small or poorly positioned eye holes can seriously limit what children can see. Consider face paint as a safer alternative, or make sure the mask fits well and allows a clear field of vision.
- Stick to well-lit streets and familiar neighbourhoods. Plan your route in advance and keep to streets with good lighting. Avoid cutting through parks, alleys, or unlit areas, no matter how tempting the shortcut!
- Cross safely at crossings. Halloween excitement can lead to children darting across roads. Remind them to always cross at marked crossings or corners, look both ways, and make eye contact with drivers before stepping out.

Calgary Resources

Report a streetlight: streetlightoutage.calgary.ca.

3-1-1 Online: calgary.ca/311.

3-1-1 by Phone: Dial 3-1-1 (within Calgary) or 403-268-2489 (outside Calgary) — available 24/7.

9-1-1 Emergency Services (For emergencies or crimes in progress).

403-266-1234 Calgary Police Non-Emergency Line.

The BRCA Safe Community Committee exists to enhance the safety, security, and well-being of Bridgeland residents through collaboration, community connection, and proactive initiatives. We believe the safest communities are those where all members feel welcome and included, supported by a strong sense of belonging, active engagement, and regular interaction with one another. If you are interested in contributing to the safety of Bridgeland, please contact us at safecommunity@BRCAcalgary.org and join us for our meetings at 6:30 pm on the first Tuesday of each month.

A well-lit neighbourhood is a safer neighbourhood — and we all play a part. By reporting outages promptly and making sure our families and pets are visible, we help keep Calgary's streets safer for everyone this season. Stay bright out there!



BRCA
BRIDGELAND RIVERSIDE
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

FALL SENIORS LUNCHEON

OCTOBER 5TH
12-2PM

BRCA HALL - 917 CENTRE AVE NE

Entry is free - must register
Email: programs@brcacalgary.org
Phone: 403-263-5755
Please note any dietary restrictions

www.brcacalgary.org



BRCA
BRIDGELAND RIVERSIDE
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

BRCA SENIOR Art Program

6 - WEEK ART PROGRAM

Join us **Fridays 1:00-2:30pm**
SEPT 11, 18, OCT 2, 9, 16, 23
(No class Sept 25)
Instructor: Whitney Hoiberg

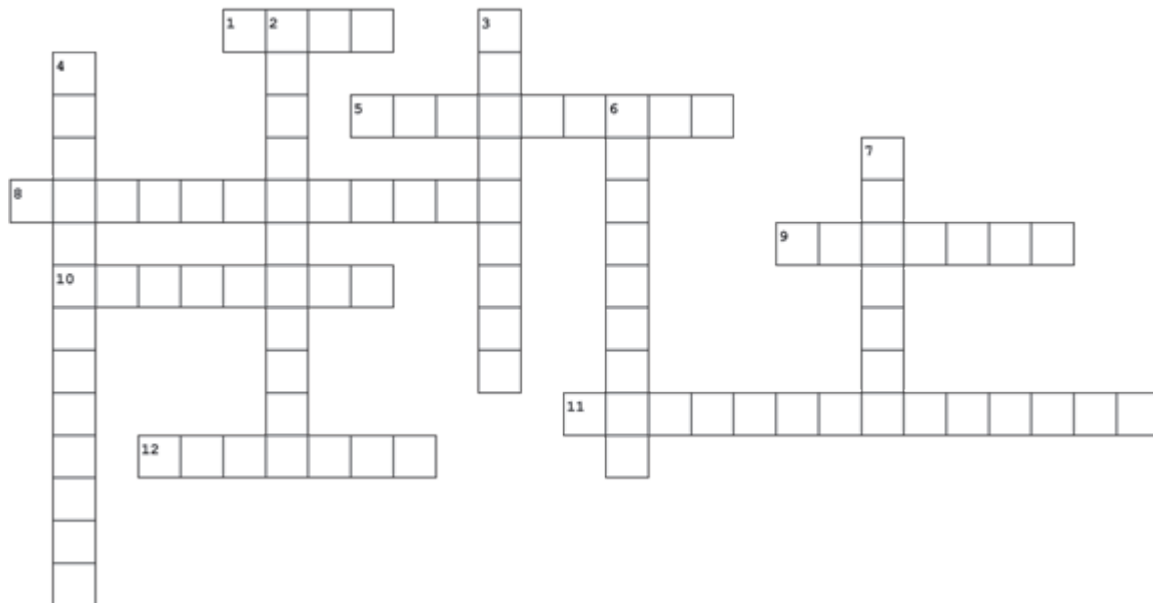
This class will explore six different mediums over the weeks, coming together to create one large collaborative mosaic. We will work on colour theory and build technique and skills to make a piece celebrating our community.

FREE - Must register, Max 20 people
Email: programs@brcacalgary.org
Phone: 403-263-5755

BRCA Hall - 917 Centre Ave NE

www.brcacalgary.org

October Crossword



Across

1. Known as October's birth stone, this iridescent gem is sometimes worn by artists to inspire creativity.
5. These tall, friendly faces are full of straw and often seen in the middle of corn fields.
8. Celebrated this year on October 12, this holiday encourages generosity, connection, and the consumption of a delicious meal.
9. This large orange squash is traditionally carved the night before Halloween
10. Twists and turns; this fall activity is generally held in large fields of a certain tall grain.
11. This Oscar-winning actress was the "final girl" in the classic horror movie series, *Halloween*.
12. Known as the Greek Goddess of harvest, she is the mother to Persephone.

Down

2. Bright red and sour, the seeds of this fruit were consumed by Persephone in Greek mythos.
3. These bright yellow and red flowers are the birth flowers of October, representing joy, warmth, and remembrance.
4. Horace Walpole's *The Castle of Otranto*, published in 1764, is most famously known as the first novel of this literary genre.
6. "In Rainbows" an album released October 10, 2007, was the seventh studio album for this alternative rock band.
7. This monster has a variety of features but is most often depicted with long fangs and red eyes.



Visit bit.ly/mycalgaryanswers or scan the QR code for the answers



Recycle More This October

Calgary, get ready to recycle more! Starting October

1, 2026, you'll be able to recycle more household packaging than ever before. This includes:

- Flexible bags like chip bags, granola wrappers, and coffee bags.
- Foam packaging like cushion blocks, meat trays, and egg cartons.
- Tubes like lotion tubes, deodorant, and toothpaste.
- Food and body aerosols like cooking spray, hair spray, and sunscreen.

Visit calgary.ca/recyclemore to see the full list of materials.

BRCA
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COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

DOGOS

DOGS & OWNERS GOING OUT FOR SAFETY

COMMUNITY WALKS

Join us for a walk with purpose! Meet new people while helping keep our community safe and clean by identifying and reporting issues along the way. Come prepared with comfortable walking shoes, a keen eye and feel free to bring a friend or a furry companion!

Third Wednesday of Each Month @ 7pm

2026 DATES	PLACE
August 19	Meet outside BRCA Community Hall Lantern Room (North doors)
September 23	
October 21	
November 25	

Scan to sign up or email DOGOS@brccalgary.org for more information

HELP OUR GARDEN GROW

Donate your gently used spades, forks, and rakes!

Contact BRCA rooftop garden at rooftopgarden@brccalgary.org to contribute.

BRCA ROOFTOP GARDEN
Plant Together ~ Grow Together

Halloween Safety

by Alberta Health Services



As a supporter of Calgary's Child Magazine's Partners for Safety initiative, Emergency Health Services (EHS) Alberta would like to remind parents and trick-or-treaters of important Halloween safety tips as October 31 approaches.

Partners for Safety vehicles will be out patrolling communities on Halloween night to provide a visible safety resource for parents and trick-or-treaters.

Trick-or-Treaters

- Remember: all regular pedestrian rules still apply. Be sure to cross the road at marked crosswalks or at well-lit corners. It is safest to work your way up one side of the street and then cross once to the other side.
- You may choose to avoid houses that are not well lit. Do not accept rides from strangers or enter any home where you feel unsafe.
- Let your parents know where you are going and what route you plan to take. Let them know if you will be late returning home.

Parents

- Be certain that an adult accompanies young trick-or-treaters. Older children should stay in groups.
- Predetermine the boundaries for trick-or-treating and

establish a time for children to return home.

- Advise children not to eat anything until they return home. Dispose of any items that have been tampered with or are not properly wrapped.

Costumes

- Choose brightly coloured costumes that are highly visible. Adding reflective tape to costumes can further increase visibility.
- Consider sending your children with a flashlight for additional safety and visibility.
- When purchasing or making costumes, look for materials and accessories labelled flame-resistant.
- All costume accessories, such as sticks, rods, or wands, should be soft and flexible, with no sharp edges.
- Consider using hypoallergenic makeup instead of masks that may impair breathing or vision.
- Be sure costumes are loose enough to be worn over warm clothing, but not so long that they become a tripping hazard. Costumes should not extend below your child's ankles.
- Ensure your child is wearing adequate footwear that takes the weather conditions and walking into consideration.



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News, Events, & More



Crime Statistics



Real Estate Statistics



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thrive, and make this
publication possible.

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Cats, Canines, & Critters of Calgary



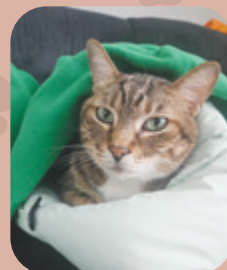
Bella, Tuscany



Cici, Ranchlands



Kiwi, McKenzie Lake



Lun, West Springs



Merlin, Acadia



Peaches, Tuscany



Rosie, Walden



Zeus, Evanston

To have your pet featured, email news@mycalgary.com

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BRIDGELAND MORTGAGE BROKER: Save a bunch of cash! As a Calgary mortgage broker, I have helped your neighbours navigate their purchase, refinance, and renewal options. If you are looking for expert mortgage advice, excellent rates, many options, and better financing, Call Anita at 403-771-8771 | anita@anitamortgage.ca | Licensed by Avenue Financial.

SNOW REMOVAL, CHRISTMAS LIGHTS, AND WINDOW CLEANING: Snow removal starting at \$160 per month. Christmas light installation starting at \$150. Early season discounts! Window and gutter cleaning starting at \$99; interior/exterior/screens. Mulch, rock, sod, and soil installation. A+ Member of BBB, Licensed. Insured. WCB. 403-265-4769 | YardBustersLandscaping.com.

NEIGHBOURHOOD CONFLICT? Community Mediation Calgary Society (CMCS) is a no-cost mediation and conflict coaching service that can help you resolve problems and restore peace! We help neighbours be neighbours again! www.communitymediation.ca, 403-269-2707.

EXPERT RENOVATIONS & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE SOLUTIONS: Interior/exterior; simple fixes to more complex projects. Plumbing & electrical fixes; full reno for bathrooms, basements, kitchen upgrades & more. Specializing in older homes, pre-sale updates, stone & tile work, Smart toilet installations, & general home maintenance. Local, licensed, insured. Call 403-992-5574. <https://everhaus.ca/>.

YOURS TRULY, JOHNNY DRYWALL: Drywall or texture repairs? In need of a handyman? No job too big or small, give me a call (or text) Brad 403-771-5228. Estimates and advice are always free.

PAINTER SERVICING BRIDGELAND: Experienced Calgary Painter - Transform your space with precision and style! Our professional painting services bring life to your home. Skilled in interior and exterior projects. Affordable rates with top-quality results. Contact Jonathan for a free estimate at 403-561-4338. Your trusted choice for a fresh, vibrant look. www.fivestarpainting.com.

JAKES TREE SERVICE: ISA Certified Arborist offering professional tree services in your area. Services include tree cutting and removal, tree/hedge pruning or maintenance, and stump grinding. For a free quote call or text 403-667-3878 or visit jakestreeservice.jobbersites.com.

GUTTER DOCTOR: Home Exterior Services. Gutter cleaning/repair/installation, window cleaning, gutter guards/leaf screens, fascia, soffit, siding, permanent outdoor holiday lighting, roofing, cladding, heat cables, pressure/soft washing. Local business since 2003 with more than 70,000 happy customers! Licensed, insured, WCB, A+ rated BBB member, multi award-winner. Quality work with a warranty! www.gutterdoctor.ca, 403-714-0711.



Winged Creatures

Did you know that bats are the only mammal that can fly? This is possible because of their elongated finger bones and thin skin that stretches across their bodies creating a wing.





Magic Carpet Ride

Family Literacy Program



A family that reads together, grows together.

The Magic Carpet Ride program is for 3-5 year olds and their parents or caregivers. We help families learn to use everyday activities to build a love of literacy and learning. Held at convenient locations across Calgary.



Reading



At-Home Activities



Singing

FREE! Contact us to learn more:

famlit@canlearnsociety.ca
(403) 686-9300 ext. 128



www.canlearnsociety.ca/magic-carpet-ride