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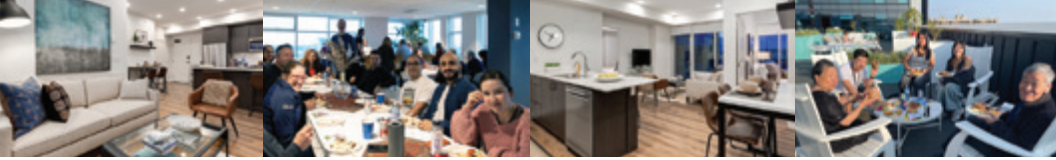


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Support Victoria Fortuna and Her Family After a Tragic Highway Accident



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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From Hesitant to Confident: A Growing Year for 4-H Intro Clubs



What happens when you give kids a welcoming place to try new things, make friends, and build confidence all in just six weeks?

This year, 4-H Alberta's Intro Clubs continued to grow across urban communities, with nine clubs hosted in Calgary and two in Edmonton. Two additional summer clubs, one in north Calgary and one in south Calgary, will wrap up the season at the end of July.



Although many people still associate 4-H with rural communities and livestock

projects, today's 4H programs offer a wide variety of opportunities for urban youth as well. From baking and science to leadership, communication, community service, and creative projects, 4-H helps young people build life skills through hands-on learning experiences.

Designed as a short-term introduction to 4-H, the Intro Clubs give youth the opportunity to experience friendship, leadership, responsibility, and community involvement in a welcoming environment for busy families.

For many participants, the experience became much more than just an after-school activity.

One parent shared that their son arrived nervous and unsure on the first day, but by the end of the program he was excited, enthusiastic, and sad to see it end. Another family described the program as "extraordinary" and praised both the hands-on learning and the welcoming atmosphere created by the leadership team.

A special part of this year's success was the involvement of 4-H Ambassador and member, Devyn, who worked



alongside club leaders to mentor younger members and help create a positive and encouraging environment.

Whether youth were presenting speeches, participating in community service, trying new activities, or simply making new friends, Intro Clubs helped families discover what 4-H is truly about: belonging, confidence, leadership, and learning by doing. Contact introclubs@4hab.com to find out more!



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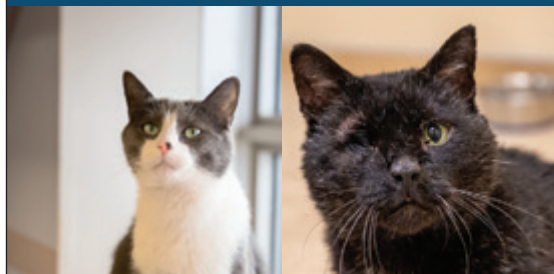
for the adoption of abandoned cats

MEOOW Foundation is dedicated to rescuing stray and
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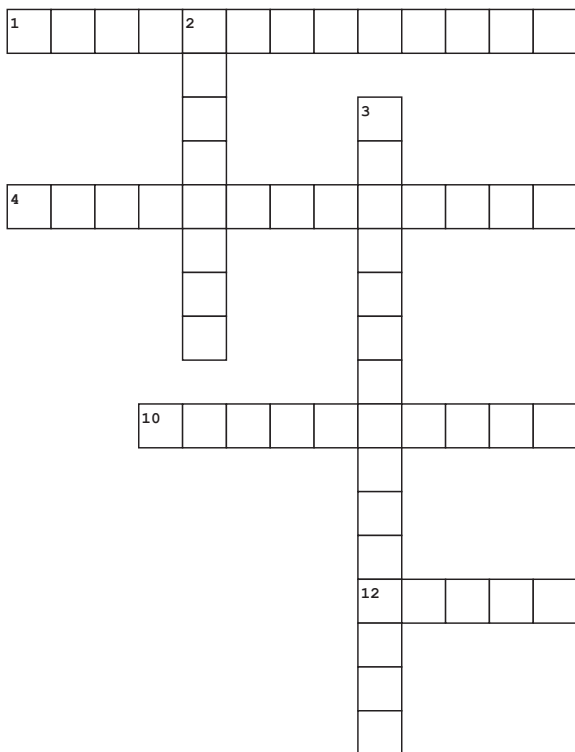
Your donation helps fund our essential community
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Together, we can give cats the second chance they deserve.

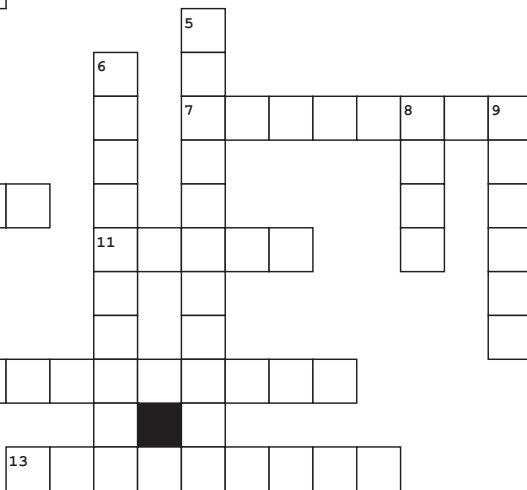
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July Crossword



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



Across

1. On July 20, 1969, this astronaut took humanity's first steps onto the surface of the moon.
4. This rom-com released on July 13, 2001, follows a very fashionable college student attending Harvard Law.
7. These ducks can be seen all over Calgary; identified by the male's green head.
10. This Noah Kahn song was released as a single in 2022 before appearing on his 2024 album with the same name.
11. Florence + The Machine released this album July 3, 2009, featuring the famous song, *Dog Days Are Over*.
12. This very popular member of the royal family married Prince Charles III on July 29, 1981.
12. This event on July 1 is normally celebrated with red and white fireworks.

Down

2. On July 6, Earth will reach this part of its orbit—the furthest distance from the sun.
3. This annual event is known as "The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth."
5. These tiny birds can fly backwards and upside down.
6. This Canadian author and illustrator is most known for his children's books, *I Want My Hat Back* and *The Skull*.
8. This fiery July birthstone was worn by Burmese warriors; they believed the stone made them invincible.
9. These tiny stickers were released to the public July 1, 1847, with the intention of preventing unpaid mail.



July 30 is National Cheesecake Day!



Try baking one of your own to celebrate!

Ingredients

- 2 cups of graham crumbs
- 1/2 cup of butter or margarine, melted
- 1/4 cup of white granulated sugar
- 2 tsp of nutmeg (optional, make it whatever flavour you would like)
- 2 blocks of cream cheese (6oz)
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 3/4 cups of white granulated sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 tbsp vanilla extract, or vanilla bean paste

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 325° F. The lower temperature will help the centre cook without burning the exterior.
2. In your 9' spring pan or baking dish, pour in your graham crumb, 1/4 cup of sugar and melted butter. Using your hands gently combine everything until it becomes equally incorporated. It should feel like wet sand. If mix seems too dry you can add a little more butter to help it stick.
3. Spread the mixture evenly across the base of the pan and firmly press down into an even layer. Feel free to use a heavy glass or another pan to help pack it down.
4. Set aside while preparing the filling.
5. In a large bowl add your cream cheese blocks, sour cream, nutmeg, and sugar.
6. Beat the two ingredients together either with a hand mixer on speed 2, or by hand if you prefer. We are looking for the mixture to be smooth and fluffy.
7. Add the eggs and vanilla and continue mixing. At the end you should have a smooth, thick batter that coats the blades of your mixer.
8. You've made it! This is the easy part. Simply pour your batter overtop of the prepared base, smooth out the top to make it as even as possible, and place it in the oven. Let it bake for 45 minutes to an hour. If you're feeling fancy, you can spray some water into the oven around the halfway point. This steams the oven and can give the cheesecake a more even tone. You know it is done when you gently shake the pan and there is little to no movement in the centre
9. Remove from the oven, rest at room temperature until completely cooled, and enjoy your delicious cheesecake.

The Pressure to Make Summer Count

by Rebecca Pink, Registered Provisional Psychologist



Summer is often associated with rest, joy, and freedom. Yet for many people, it can quietly become one of the busiest and most emotionally demanding seasons of the year. Between vacations, social events, family commitments, longer days, and the pressure to “make the most” of the season, summer can begin to feel surprisingly overwhelming.

As a mom of two teenage daughters, I can feel the pace of summer pick up quickly. Between schedules, activities, social plans, and the quiet pressure to make the most of the summer, it becomes very easy to confuse staying busy with actually being fulfilled. Even the things we genuinely look forward to can begin to feel overwhelming when there is little room left to simply slow down.

But a full calendar is not always the same thing as a fulfilling season.

When every weekend is booked and every sunny evening feels like something we should maximize, we

can lose the very thing many of us are craving most: genuine presence and restoration. Even seasons that are meant to feel light-hearted can be surprisingly demanding, and our nervous system still requires time to rest and recharge.

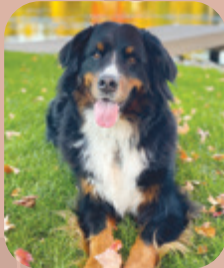
Sometimes, the healthiest thing we can do is leave room for slower moments; an unplanned evening, a quiet walk, time at home, or saying no to plans we do not truly have the capacity for.

In a culture that often equates busyness with success, choosing rest can feel uncomfortable. We may find ourselves trying to make the most of every moment, only to create the very stress we were hoping to escape. Building in time for rest, flexibility, and simply “being” supports emotional resilience and overall well-being. Rather than asking how much you can fit into your summer, consider asking what experiences will leave you feeling most restored, connected, and fulfilled. Here’s to a summer that feels less rushed, more intentional, and rich in the things that truly matter.

Cats, Canines, & Critters of Calgary



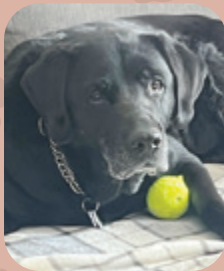
Casper, Huntington Hills



Chase, Wolf Willow



Echo, Acadia



Geo, Signal Hill



Holly, Millrise



Kabuki, Bridgeland



Mochie, Acadia



Oreo, Acadia

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News from the Friends of Nose Hill

by Anne Burke

The 1992 Master Plan Review recommended a Natural Area Management Plan for Nose Hill after a land use study. The job was to document compatible recreational opportunities because of native grasslands with some deciduous shrubs and trees. The Nose Hill Park Trail and Pathway Improvement Plan relied on the earlier research and did further consultation, before concluding that activities in the multi-use zone (top of the Hill) should be separated from all Park native vegetation. Over 86% was Western wheatgrass, Rough fescue - Parry oatgrass, Smooth brome, and Rough fescue-Golden bean. There was strong support to extend the multi-use zone towards the Edgemont entrance but increase habitat protection along the south side of Porcupine Valley. The earlier study assessed the sensitivity of vegetation from recreational trampling (foot traffic). Rough fescue-Golden bean has the greatest distribution in the Park and contributes almost 75% of the moderate to high at-risk areas. Most of the grassland is along the sloped areas of the Park's escarpment. Rough fescue grasslands are significant since they are in great abundance on Nose Hill (up to 35%) but have been lost in much of western Canada. Native Rough fescue grassland along the escarpment is prone to erosion due to more trails and off-trail uses, so having rules will help minimize impact and disturbance to reduce the invasion of non-native species (weeds). Due to its rarity, Nose Hill Park's Rough fescue is a nationally significant ecosite and preservation of the grassland is a great management concern. It is also important to consider that while the native grasslands have higher sensitivity to trampling, heavy recreational use and other disturbances also support the invasion of non-native species (weeds), for which natural recovery times could take several decades.

Outdoor Fire Safety

by The City of Calgary



As we enjoy the warm summer months, the Calgary Fire Department would like to remind you to take some measures to prevent outdoor fires and keep your loved ones and property safe. Our summers are becoming hotter and drier, increasing the potential for outdoor fires and wildfires.

Always check if a fire ban or fire advisory is in place before starting a fire. They are issued to inform citizens of conditions that pose a moderate to high fire risk, such as major wind events, unusually dry conditions, or hot temperatures. Each advisory or ban will include a list of prohibited fire types including fire pits, barbecues, and other forms of open flames.

To help reduce your outdoor fire risks:

- Never extinguish cigarettes in planters, peat moss, lawns, or gardens.
- Use fire pits, outdoor fireplaces, wood-burning ovens, and chimeneas properly.
- Do not store propane tanks, firewood, or yard waste next to your house.
- Prune tree branches within two metres of the ground.
- Plant new trees at least three metres apart.
- Assess hazards within 1.5 metres of the home, including debris, trees, and other structures.

Visit calgary.ca/firebans for more information.

Green Bins Are for Food Scraps and Yard Waste

by The City of Calgary, Waste and Recycling Services



Food scraps belong in the green cart, but packaging does not. Plastic does not compost and can break into small pieces during processing, which can contaminate the finished compost. All food scraps must be separated from packaging before composting, even if the packaging says it is biodegradable or compostable.

A few simple habits can make a big difference:

- Remove all plastic before putting food scraps in the green bin.
- Empty and clean plastic, glass, and metal containers go in the blue cart.
- Plastic wraps, foam, and other non-compostable packaging belong in the black cart.

Putting food scraps in the green cart and packaging in the right bin helps keep compost clean. If you are not sure where an item goes, visit <https://www.calgary.ca/waste/what-goes-where/default.html>.

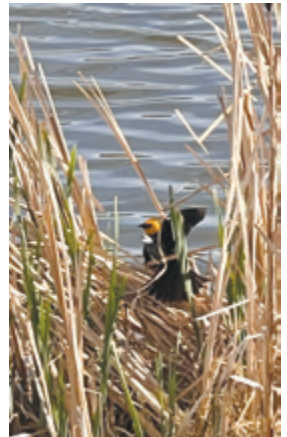
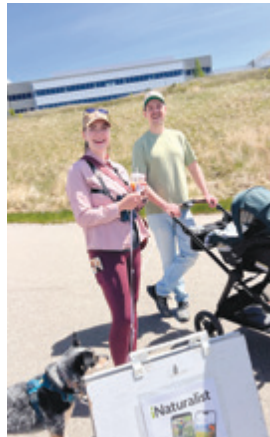


Nose Creek Preservation Society's First Annual Discovery Day Marked as a Success

We hosted our first public event to showcase the Nose Creek Valley, connect with our communities, and showcase the beauty and life that call it home. And we succeeded! Over fifty Calgarians popped by the district storm pond, and everyone commented they had no idea this natural space existed!

Everyone—including our wonderful exhibitors, local government reps, and two very young kids enjoying a planned playdate—enjoyed what turned into a beautiful day. Our soundtrack was the birdsong playing on repeat, no speaker required.

Thank you to everyone who attended. For those who couldn't make it, sign up online at savenosecreek.com for our newsletter to learn more about the Nose Creek Valley and details for the second annual Discovery Day sometime in May 2027!





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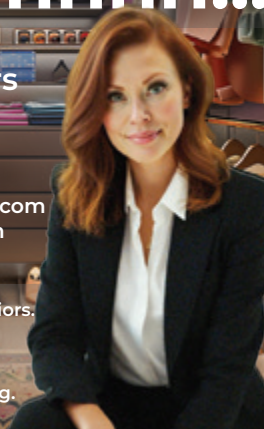
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