

APRIL 2023

YOUR OFFICIAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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VALLEY



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VOLUME 191

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**SCAN HERE TO VIEW ADDITIONAL  
HIDDEN VALLEY CONTENT**

**News, Events,  
& More**



**Crime  
Statistics**



**Real Estate  
Statistics**



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## Other Ways to Hear from the HVCA in 2023

Hello our newsletter readers! Did you know that the HVCA runs several forms of social media for more 'real time' information regarding our community?

We do! We have our website, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

If you are interested in viewing these platforms, please click this QR code that links to our LinkTree for all of our social media platforms.



## HIDDEN VALLEY HANSON RANCH Community Organizations

### Simons Creek Scouts

simonscreekscouts@yahoo.com

### Nitanisak Girl Guides

guiderkarlayyc@gmail.com

### Hidden Valley School Council

hiddenvalleyschoolcouncil@gmail.com

### Valley Creek School Council

vcschoolcouncil@gmail.com

## Community Resources

### Community Partnership Coordinator

Robert.Dickinson@calgary.ca

Robert Dickinson

### Ward 3 Councillor

ward03@calgary.ca

Jasmine Mian

### MLA Calgary – North

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Hon. Muhammad

Yaseen

### MLA Calgary – Beddington

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Josephine Pon

### MP Calgary – Nose Hill

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Michelle Rempel

Garner

### Public School Trustee

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Laura Hack

### Catholic School Trustee

linda.wellman@ccsd.ab.ca

Linda Wellman

### Community Liaison Officer

aaron.taylor@calgary.ca

Bruce Graham

### Neighbourhood Partnership Coordinator

aaron.taylor@calgary.ca

Aaron Taylor

## Hidden Valley Community Association Membership

### Join Your Community Association Today!

#### Benefits

Successful, healthy communities are those with active and sustained membership and involvement of community residents. Your support today is important and ensures new energy to continually address community issues.

#### Regular Membership - \$30 (Voting)

- Voting Regular Memberships must reside within boundaries of Hidden Valley and Hanson Ranch. Includes two adults and children in the residence.
- Regular Membership must provide adult ID with current address at the Annual General Meeting to vote. Valid January through December.

#### Associate Membership - \$30 (Non-Voting)

- Non-voting Associate Memberships are available for residents living outside our boundaries. Valid January through December.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone, I wanted to take the chance to share a quick message with you this month. I joined the board last September as the Vice-President. I became the president in February as our former President, Brian P., decided to focus on other pursuits. All the best to Brian, and thanks to him for his hard work on behalf of the HVCA.

The past few years have been interesting ones in our community and the world, as we've all had to pull together through unusual times. The HVCA has been quietly hard at work upgrading parks and continuing to improve our community through the efforts of Sarah P. We hadn't been able to host as many events, but that changed in September with our big Anniversary and Cultural Event! It was great to see you. Thank you for also joining us at the December Bake Sale and Craft Fair, and at the Board Game Bashes we've been holding monthly since November.

We have a whole list of events planned for you this year, including a Bike Repair Clinic, Sounds and Spirits, Food Trucks, and a Dog Meet-up. Keep checking our website at [hiddenhut.org](http://hiddenhut.org) and our Facebook, HVCA Hidden Valley Community Association and Instagram accounts (@hvcahiddenhut).

If these events sound interesting to you, you are always welcome to join us as a volunteer and as an HVCA community association member. We're looking forward to meeting you and we appreciate your contribution to our community.

*Vincent L.*

## Happy Birthday, Charlotte Brontë!



You've likely heard of at least one of the three Brontë sisters, all famous for their canonized novels. Born on April 21, 1816, Charlotte was the eldest and is best known for writing *Jane Eyre*. She was once urged by poet Robert Southey to abandon her writing because she was a woman. How fortunate that Charlotte didn't listen!



## 4-H Members Stay Healthy and Active During the Winter

*by Emmett Donner, Club Reporter*



To start, a big thank-you from the Prairie Winds 4-H Club to Cobs Bakery Sage Hill, Calgary Co-op Hamptons, Calgary Co-op Airdrie, Tim Hortons Sage Hill, and Real Canadian Superstore Country Hills, who all donated towards the

club public speaking event. Their contributions helped make the event a huge success for all involved.

During the cold winter months, it can be challenging to stay active, and in turn, healthy. However, for 4-H members, they are given fun and engaging opportunities. One of these opportunities that recently happened was the Calgary Region Curling Funspiel. Four members from our club attended the event. They all had minimal curling experience but they really followed the 4-H motto of "learn to do by doing." All teams at the Funspiel played two games. Then depending on the outcome of those games the teams played in one more match. There were trophies presented for the top teams. Unfortunately, our club's members didn't place, but they did come back with some unforgettable memories.

Another project offered this year for the Prairie Winds 4-H Club is the Health and Fitness Project. In the last month, the group has had two meetings. The first one was a virtual planning session. The project has many interesting activities for the rest of the year. The group is planning on visiting a farmer's market and a fitness centre for a tour. The other meeting was an insightful mobility and flexibility workshop. Members first had a healthy, nutritious snack and then were led through some basic movements. Overall, 4-H has provided a way for members to stay fit, but we all look forward to warmer weather so we can get outside!

## GAMES & PUZZLES

### Trivia: Calgary Edition

1. What year did the Calgary Flames win the Stanley Cup?
2. What was Calgary's original name?
3. What iconic indie pop duo hails from Calgary?
4. In 1969, what cocktail did Walter Chell invent in Calgary?
5. Who was Canada's flag bearer at Calgary's 1988 Winter Olympics?



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## Meet Your Board Members

We wanted to take the opportunity to introduce ourselves to you over the coming months as we publish small profiles of our board members.

Please meet Vincent L., your new HVCA President! He's been a resident of Hidden Valley for nineteen years. He moved here because, being a Francophone, having French Immersion as a school option was very important to him. Hidden Valley's K to 9 dual track schools were a major attraction!

Vincent is a manager at a local utility company. He's passionate about cycling and started commuting to his workplace by bike last year. Working with the city to help improve Hidden Valley's pathway network is something that's important to him. When he's not working or doing things for the HVCA, he can be found chasing after his very busy five-year-old son.

His favourite Hidden Valley story isn't one specific event, but instead he spoke about what it's been like to see our community grow from a place that was really on the outskirts of northern Calgary (with coyotes howling every night, no Stoney Trail, and Shaganappi Trail becoming a gravel road past Hidden Valley Drive) to the vibrant community we share today. If you'd like to meet Vincent, he's always at our monthly Board Game Bash event at the Hamptons Co-op.



## Community Cleanup

**May 27, 2023**

We will be host to a 2023 cleanup date of May 27! Our cleanup will take place from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Hidden Hut.

In years past, we have provided assistance in unloading your vehicle with you, but please only bring what you can manage on your own in a timely manner.

We will have a more comprehensive list of items that will not be accepted, but here is a preliminary list.

- Tires
- Home appliances
- Paint
- Household chemicals
- Propane tanks
- Car batteries
- Home electronics
- Liquids
- Metals
- Glass

We will be working to try and get additional vendors there to accept things like metal and technology items, but we have not confirmed those yet.

Please keep an eye on our social media to get more information regarding our 2023 Community Cleanup!



## The Quietest Place on Earth

A laboratory in Minneapolis has the quietest room in the world! As an anechoic chamber, it prevents the reverberation of sound waves. It's said to be so quiet inside that you can hear your bodily functions, such as the blood circulating in your veins. Being in this room is so off-putting to the senses that no one has stayed inside for longer than 45 minutes!





## Gardening

The days are becoming longer, and we are experiencing warmer weather, it's time to think about spring planting. Calgary is now a zone 4a (previously zone 3) for weather, which means we have more options when selecting plants. Of course, Hidden Valley Hanson Ranch has its own microclimate. There have been days where we have had snow, and it has been raining south of Country Hills Blvd. The NW section of Calgary is the coolest, with the SE being the warmest. A North/South facing yard, landscaping, and windbreaks will determine what is successful on your property. If you have a vegetable garden, whether it is above or at ground level will also be a deciding factor on vegetables and water usage. Unfortunately, gardening and landscaping can be trial and error. I've noted consistent perennials that perform well in Hidden Valley Hanson Ranch: Devil Ninebark, Salvia, Hens and Chicks, Yellow Gem Potentilla, Catmint, Japanese Barberry, and Turkish Burning Bush. Soil care is also important, it needs to be replenished in order to maintain a healthy lawn. Fertilizer can help, but providing your lawn with a layer of soil raked in in spring will help keep the lawn healthy. A healthy lawn can fight off weeds. Walking though Hidden Valley Hanson Ranch is definitely one of the perks of living here and I continue to be inspired by our neighbours.



## New Chance to Join Your Community Association

by Stacey Lemire

I've really appreciated the opportunity to meet many of you over the months I've been the Membership Director for the HVCA. Something I keep hearing from folks is, "I'm not a member, but I really should be..." or "I've been meaning to, but..." and I can absolutely relate to that. We're all busy, and one more task on the to-do list gets pushed back and forgotten.

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to speak to me at different events this year. It's been great to see your smiles and hear what you love about Hidden Valley. We're all thrilled to welcome every single new member. You are the heart of what makes our community such a great place to live and when you support us, we can only get better together.

We're working hard to organize some new events and opportunities this year and we'd love to have you on board for them! You can join us today by scanning the QR code below with your smart phone, and it'll take you straight to our website. We'd love to have you be a part of what we're creating for Hidden Valley.



**the Gutter Doctor**

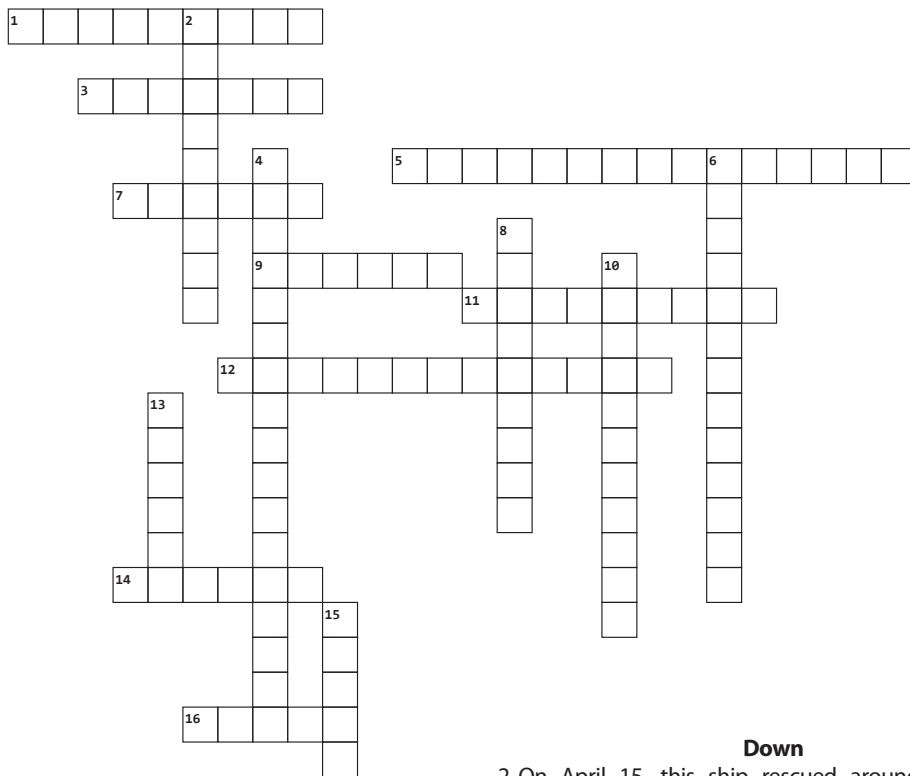
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# April Crossword Puzzle



## Across

- The smell that is caused by the mixture of rainwater and various earthly compounds.
- Kids will leave these out for the Easter bunny in case he gets hungry.
- Born on April 15, 1452, this artist's painting was famously stolen.
- On April 11, this national observance advocates against animal violence and cruelty.
- The Latin root for the word 'April'.
- This Calgary-born competitive pair skater won gold at the 2002 Olympics with her partner David Pellettier.
- This Vancouver-born actress is best-known for playing Robin Scherbatsky on the CBS sitcom *How I Met Your Mother*.
- Literature lovers will know that April is National \_\_\_\_\_ Month.
- A colourful and popular marshmallow Easter treat.

## Down

- On April 15, this ship rescued around 705 people from a famous shipwreck 595 km off the coast of Newfoundland.
- What makes April 9, 1917, an important date to many Canadians?
- It is said that this day began in 1852 when France started using the Gregorian calendar and the new year no longer began on April 1.
- Born on April 21, 1816, she is the oldest Brontë sister and author of *Jane Eyre*.
- This Chilean-American *The Last of Us* actor was born on April 2, 1975.
- In the United States, spring is said to have arrived when this bird comes to town.
- One of April's birth flowers that comes from the Old English phrase 'dægeseage'.

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THE ANSWER KEY



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## HVCA Fun Facts

Greetings neighbours!

I thought it would be fun to review some fun facts about Hidden Valley Hanson Ranch.

First fun fact most people don't know – HVCA includes both Hanson Ranch and Hidden Valley.

As of the 2016 census, including both Hanson Ranch and Hidden Valley, we had:

- 11,915 people living in our community in 3,845 households.
- Most of us own our homes – 91% (compared to 71% for the rest of Calgary).
- 71% of us have mortgages.
- 72% of us are age 15 to 64 years.
- 82% of take a car to work, and for most of us our commute is about 15 to 44 minutes.
- 38% of us identify as a visible minority.
- 31% of us are immigrants, with half immigrating to Canada in the last 20 years.
- 2% of us are Indigenous, with 73% identifying as Métis and 24% identifying as First Nations.
- 60% of us have children at home (compared to 48% for the rest of Calgary) – (Not sure how they define “child” though...some/many of us have adult children living at home).

Our neighbourhood is a vibrant, active community. We hope you enjoyed this quick overview of our community, brought to us by the City of Calgary 2016 census: <https://www.calgary.ca/communities/profiles/hidden-valley.html>.



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## Scouts

38th Simons Creek Scouts have been very busy these last couple months with preparing for the Southern Alberta winter camp skills held in Diamond Valley. With these cold





temperatures we have been seeing, it's great to see our youth excited to winter tent camp, learn new skills, and improve on the ones they already know. The youth learned basic first aid along with how to pack their bags for a hike and what essential items are needed. The youth were taught how to care for a person experiencing hypothermia, how to tie different knots, start a fire, and how to boil snow for fresh drinking water. These camps are important to our youth for not just survival skills but life skills as well. Way to go Scouts for having a fun-filled weekend and meeting different scouts from all over Alberta.



Thank you to our community for your support in our Scouts bottle drives. Bottle drives help with the cost for camps, adventures, and guest speakers. Your support is amazing. We are looking for new adventure youth, and parents are always welcome in all sections, Beaver to Vents. Check out [myscouts.ca](http://myscouts.ca) or contact our group at [simonscreekscouts@yahoo.com](mailto:simonscreekscouts@yahoo.com) and come out to a Thursday night meeting.

*Y15 38th Simons Creek Scouts*

## The Day's Eyes



The daisy is April's birth flower, and its name is more than just pretty; it's symbolic. 'Daisy' comes from the Old English phrase 'dæges-eage,' which means 'day's eyes.' This is because each night as the sun goes down, daisies close their 'eyes' by pulling their petals inwards. In the morning, they reopen their petals, or 'eyes,' as the sun rises.







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November	22	6	13	\$524,900	\$540,000
October	22	10	11	\$529,500	\$518,500
September	22	12	22	\$499,450	\$495,000
August	22	26	12	\$433,950	\$423,277
July	22	13	20	\$487,450	\$497,500
June	22	18	26	\$528,950	\$523,000
May	22	28	22	\$462,494	\$458,600
April	22	28	20	\$509,400	\$535,450
March	22	27	26	\$499,900	\$556,900

To view more detailed information that comprise the above  
MLS averages please visit [hid.mycalgary.com](http://hid.mycalgary.com)



## Is It a Bobcat or a Lynx?



You may be seeing a larger-sized cat with long, tufted ears and a short, bobbed tail strutting their stuff through our neighbourhood and wondering if it's a bobcat or a lynx. Oddly enough no matter what you thought, you are right!

While bobcats and lynxes are separate species, they do belong to the same genus, which, coincidentally, happens to be the *Lynx* genus. There are four different species belonging to the *Lynx* genus: the Eurasian lynx, the Spanish (or Iberian) lynx, the Canadian lynx, and finally the bobcat.

The bobcat looks a bit like an overgrown house cat with extra-long tufts of fur on its ears and a shaggy mane of fur around its cheeks. Their short, rounded tails appear to be cut, or "bobbed", and is completed by a band with black stripes ending in black at the top of the tip and white at the bottom.



The bobcats diet includes rabbit, hare, and small prey like birds and mice. Bobcats are opportunistic hunters so keeping cats indoors and supervising small dogs when they are in the yard are ways you can keep your animals safe.

Remember:

- Do not feed wildlife.
- Keep your garbage in containers with tight-fitting lids.
- Put your garbage and recycling out only on the morning of collection, not earlier.
- Do not leave pet food outdoors.
- Do not approach the bobcats – they are wild animals.

The bobcats are our neighbours so it's important that we learn how to safety co-exist.



## News from the Friends of Nose Hill

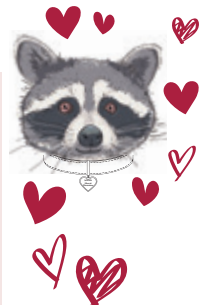
by Anne Burke

There is an annual global community science competition to document urban diversity. Public bioblitzes will be held across Calgary with local stewardship groups. The challenge engages citizen scientists in finding and documenting plants, animals, and other living organism in urban areas. The 2023 City Nature Challenge involves taking pictures between April 28 and May 1 and then identifying them. Results will be announced on May 8. This will be the fifth year for Calgary region participation and there are awards for the top cities. For more information, go to [inaturalist.ca/projects/city-nature-challenge-2023-calgary-metropolitan-region](https://inaturalist.ca/projects/city-nature-challenge-2023-calgary-metropolitan-region).

Although the City introduced two new program, Green Leader and Water Steward, its decision to temporarily discontinue its Adopt-a-Park program was unpopular. Now you can join the Parks Environmental Education team on a Green Initiative project to restore habitat with tree and shrub planting, tree wiring, weed pulling, or painting projects. These group projects are seasonal (May to October) and typically require a 3-to-4-hour commitment. A screening policy is in place, which may include checks by police. Once accepted, volunteers receive orientation, training, and other support. For more information and to register, please call 3-1-1.

### Presidential Raccoon

In 1926, US President Calvin Coolidge was sent a raccoon who was supposed to be cooked for Thanksgiving dinner! Coolidge decided instead to adopt the critter. The family named her 'Rebecca' and gifted her with an engraved collar saying, "White House Raccoon."



# Preparing or Updating Your Will



Vilma Mydliar, LLB

It is important for everyone to have a will—people often have more assets than they think. An important part of estate planning is having a will along with an *Enduring Power of Attorney* (EPA) and a *Personal Directive* (PD).

To prepare a will you need to decide who your executor(s) will be, name a guardian for your children if they are under the age of 18, and who will benefit from your estate. You can prepare a will at any time and existing wills should be updated especially if there are major changes in your life, such as getting married, starting a family, the death of a

family member or a divorce. We make this process easy and help to ease your mind.

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Councillor, Ward 3

**Jasmine Mian**

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📧 @jasmine\_mian

# BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS

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Spring is just around the corner! Here are some topics and questions we've received from residents this past month. For more information or to contact my office directly, visit [jasminemian.com](http://jasminemian.com).

## Q: Any Update on the Hanson Ranch Wetlands?

A: You may have noticed that throughout March, crews were out working on the wetland. Although construction is expected to begin in 2024, preliminary work is being done for permitting purposes. Investigate site work and environmental monitoring will continue periodically. Visit [calgary.ca/hansonranchwetland](http://calgary.ca/hansonranchwetland) for more information.

## Keeping Storm Drains Clear This Spring

Storm drains (or catchbasins) are the main way stormwater gets into our underground pipes AKA our stormwater management system, so it's important we keep them clear! There are about 60,000 storm drains in Calgary which capture water off sidewalks, streets, and roads. The City has an online map that shows where storm drains are located and how to care for them: [calgary.ca/stormdrains](http://calgary.ca/stormdrains).

## Green Calgary Rain Barrels

With springtime rain around the corner, rain barrel sales are happening right in Ward 3. Capturing rainwater keeps dirt and contaminants out of our rivers and helps our community stay resilient during dry weather by cutting down on water use. Grab yours for a discount on Saturday, June 10 at VIVO between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. Pre-order at [greencalgary.org](http://greencalgary.org) starting April 1, 2023.

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### ☑ CHECKLIST

**9 PM ROUTINE**



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



# Introductory One-Month Special

**\$49**  
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