

FEBRUARY 2024

YOUR OFFICIAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

HIDDEN VALLEY HANSON RANCH



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COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
Hidden Valley & Hanson Ranch

VOLUME 201

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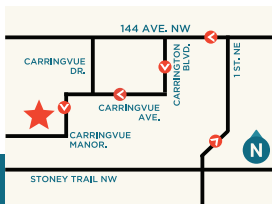


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HIDDEN VALLEY CONTENT**

**News, Events,
& More**



**Crime
Statistics**



**Real Estate
Statistics**



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HVCA – Beautification Update

This past summer, HVCA purchased new summer inserts which were displayed at the 14 Street and Hidden Creek Drive entrances. It was great to see the decorations appreciated by the community. For Hanson Ranch, this was a new location for the inserts, which has been well received. The winter inserts are now out on display. There are six planters to fill (two in Hanson Ranch and four at 14 Street). Previously, HVCA only had four winter and four summer inserts. Through grant application efforts, HVCA was able to obtain funding to purchase two additional winter and summer inserts. This will enable HVCA to have every planter filled.

It's important to note that HVCA operates with the support of the community. It is through volunteer effort that Hidden Valley and Hanson Ranch place makers are created and maintained. In 2023, Hidden Valley community members supported by maintaining the horses on Hidden Valley drive, a local lawn maintenance company cleaned the shrubs and grasses surrounding the horses, local residents did an extensive cleanup at the Hanson Ranch sign, the Little Library at Hidden Hut doors were fixed, and the 14 Street entrance lights returned courtesy of a local company.

Want to support HVCA efforts in the community? Feel free to reach out or, alternatively, purchase a membership.

HVCA – Facilities Update

The Hidden Hut facility has been with Hidden Valley for so many years that likely most of the community doesn't give it a second thought. Some community members may be more familiar as they visit during the summer to use the rink for ball hockey, mobile skate park, or other activities. There are also the winter users who are there for recreational youth hockey or skating. Likely, the Hut is a building you see, but aren't sure of its purpose.

Hidden Hut was built in 2000 (wow 24 years). Over the years, the facility has allowed HVCA to run youth sport programs, maintain the outdoor rink, and other community events, including the Sounds and Music festival this past summer. It is important to note that HVCA is responsible for the care the maintenance of Hidden Hut. HVCA assets (Hidden Hut and outdoor rink) are maintained by the community association under an agreement with the City.

Stewardship of the facility in 2023 included electrical, plumbing, and cleaning. Although not outwardly visible, the HVCA board has been planning and completing minor updates to the facility to support future activities. HVCA hired a local plumber and electrician to complete work at the Hut this past summer. Maintenance of the hut not only ensures HVCA is in compliance with regulations, but also the safety of all users.

In addition to the Hut, HVCA is responsible for the garbage receptacles and port-a-potty on site. If you have visited the outdoor rink or accessible playground, you likely used one of the garbage cans. HVCA uses a local company to remove waste.

If you appreciate the amenities provided, please support via a membership purchase.

YYC West Runway Rehabilitation community information sessions

February 20, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. - Brentwood
Community Centre (1520B Northmount Drive NW)

February 22, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. - Vivo for Healthier
Generations (11950 Country Village Link NE)

February 27, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. - Genesis Centre
(7555 Falconridge Blvd NE)

February 28, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. - Beddington
Theatre Arts Centre (375 Bermuda Dr NW)

YYC CALGARY
AIRPORT
AUTHORITY

More information:
Plus d'informations :



yyc.com/WestRunway

Session d'information publique : Réhabilitation de la piste ouest de YYC

20 février de 18:30 à 20:30 p.m. - Brentwood
Community Centre (1520B Northmount Drive NW)

22 février de 18:30 à 20:30 p.m. - Vivo for Healthier
Generations (11950 Country Village Link NE)

27 février de 18:30 à 20:30 p.m. - Genesis Centre
(7555 Falconridge Blvd NE)

28 février de 18:30 à 20:30 p.m. - Beddington
Theatre Arts Centre (375 Bermuda Dr NW)

YYC L'ADMINISTRATION
AÉROPORTUAIRE
DE CALGARY

Winter Cart Placement Tips



Follow these winter tips to keep your cart collection safe and on schedule:

- Clear snow and ice to put your carts on even ground. Don't place carts behind or on top of snowbanks.
- Leave enough space around your carts to easily walk between and around them.
- Store carts in a sheltered spot and move them out on collection day, so they don't freeze to the ground. Move carts back by 7:00 pm on collection day.
- Clear snow off your carts and keep lids closed. Snow in your blue cart ruins recyclables and makes them difficult to sort at the facility, meaning they can't be turned into new products.
- Prevent food and yard waste from freezing inside your green cart. Use compostable bags or place crumpled newspaper or a pizza box at the bottom of the cart.



Family Day

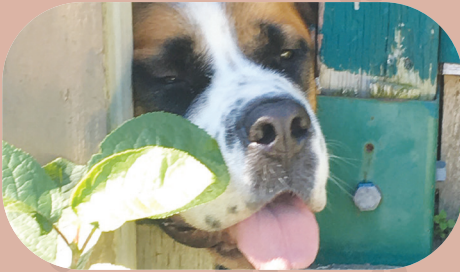
Family Day in Calgary offers a fantastic opportunity to bond with your loved ones while exploring the diverse activities the city has to offer. Here are some fun ways to spend the Family Day holiday in Calgary:

- **Outdoor Adventure at Nose Hill Park:** Embrace the winter wonderland by taking your family to Nose Hill Park. Enjoy a day of outdoor activities like sledding, snowshoeing, or simply building snowmen. The expansive park provides a beautiful backdrop for a day of family fun.
- **Ice Skating at Olympic Plaza:** Strap on your skates and head to Olympic Plaza for a classic Canadian winter activity. The outdoor rink is a perfect spot for family members of all ages and skill levels to enjoy some quality time gliding on the ice.
- **Winter Hike in Fish Creek Provincial Park:** Take a family-friendly winter hike in Fish Creek Provincial Park. The snow-covered trails provide a serene setting for a nature walk, and the park's natural beauty is accentuated during the winter months.

Remember to check for any special Family Day events or discounts offered by local attractions and venues. By mixing outdoor adventures with indoor experiences, you can create a well-rounded and memorable Family Day celebration in Calgary.



Cats, Canines, & Critters of Calgary



Holly, Elboya



Luna, Canyon Meadows



Otto, Crescent Heights



Spook and TenSoon, Crescent Heights

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Girl Guides

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The 25th Calgary Guides have had an exciting start to our guiding year. We asked the girls to tell us what they liked about being in Girl Guides, and they enjoy learning new hobbies and working in a team.

In late fall, our unit went camping and we joined with a Pathfinder unit out at Camp Jubilee in Cochrane! They learned about first aid, enjoyed spending time with friends, participated in a campfire sing-along, and continued to build their camp skills. At camp, the girls learned how to cook on tin can stoves, which uses a heat source underneath, to make grilled cheese. The girls had to be patient cooking as it took longer than it normally does on a regular kitchen stove.

In addition to camp, the 25th Guides have participated in many fun activities this year, including yoga, many different fun, and interesting crafts and of course cookie selling.

Coming up, we look forward to learning how to hula hoop and keep safe, and many more fun activities, including another fun camp in the spring. In Guiding, there are always new adventures to be experienced, new crafts to learn and friendships to be made.



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Embracing Tradition: Chinese New Year Celebrations in Canada



Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, is a time of joy, family reunions, and vibrant festivities. While traditionally celebrated in China, the spirit of the festival has transcended borders and taken root in various parts of the world, including Canada. The multicultural landscape of Canada provides a unique backdrop for the fusion of traditional Chinese customs with the diversity of Canadian culture.

In Canada, Chinese New Year is celebrated with great enthusiasm and involves a blend of ancient traditions and modern customs. Cities with significant Chinese communities, such as Toronto, Vancouver, and Montreal, come alive with colourful decorations, parades, and cultural events that showcase the rich heritage of the Chinese people.

One of the most anticipated aspects of Chinese New Year celebrations in Canada is the vibrant parades that take place in major urban centres. These parades feature traditional lion and dragon dances, martial arts demonstrations, and elaborate floats adorned with bright red and gold decorations. The energetic performances and the rhythmic beating of drums create a festive atmosphere that captivates both the Chinese community and the broader Canadian population.

Canadian cities also host various cultural events and festivals during the Chinese New Year season. These events often include traditional Chinese music and dance performances, art exhibitions, and culinary showcases. It's a time when Canadians from all backgrounds come together to appreciate and learn about the rich cultural tapestry of the Chinese community.

In addition to public celebrations, families across Canada mark Chinese New Year with private gatherings and feasts. The reunion dinner on New Year's Eve is a

cherished tradition, where generations gather to enjoy a feast of symbolic dishes that represent good luck and prosperity. Red envelopes, or "hongbao", containing money are exchanged as a gesture of good fortune and blessings for the upcoming year.

Moreover, many Canadian schools integrate Chinese New Year into their curriculum, introducing students to the customs and traditions associated with the festival. This educational aspect helps foster a sense of understanding and appreciation for cultural diversity among the younger generation.

In conclusion, Chinese New Year celebrations in Canada offer a harmonious blend of traditional customs and modern multiculturalism. The festivities not only provide a platform for the Chinese community to showcase their heritage but also serve as an opportunity for all Canadians to come together and celebrate the rich cultural mosaic that makes the country unique. As the lanterns light up the winter sky, the spirit of Chinese New Year continues to shine brightly across Canada, fostering unity and understanding among its diverse population.

BRAIN GAMES

SUDOKU

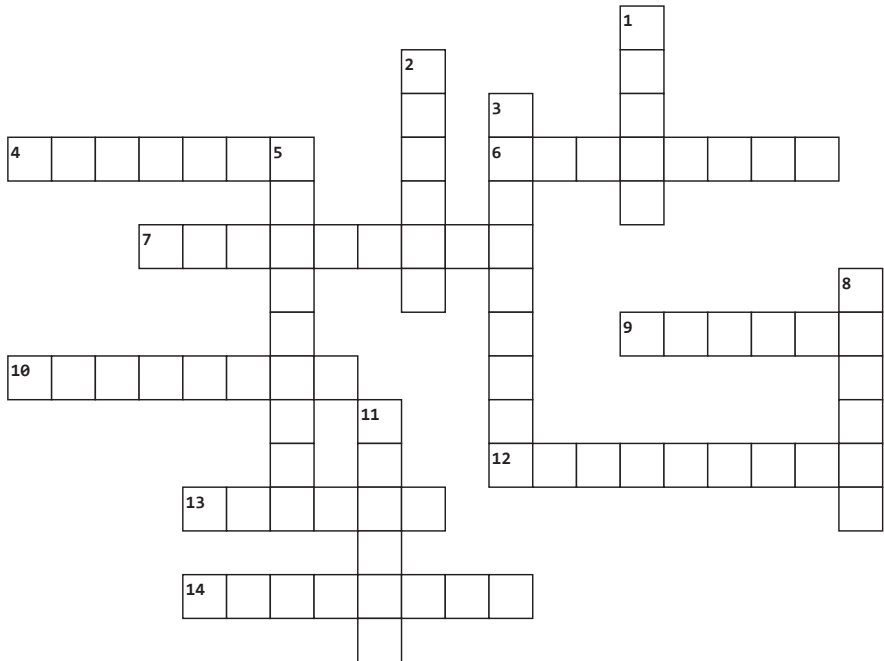
8			5		1			9
			6		9	7		
		4		7				5
4	8							6
		2				4		
9							1	8
6				8		3		
		3	1		6			
7			3		5			2

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE SOLUTION

February Crossword



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



Across

4. This historical fiction novel was released on February 10, 2009, and made into a major motion picture starring Viola Davis, Octavia Spencer, and Emma Stone.
6. A ring made with this birthstone had a carved image of Cupid and is said to be worn by St. Valentine.
7. This American painter, well-known for his artwork "American Gothic" was born on February 13, 1891.
9. On February 15, 1965, this country officially received its flag, 100 years after becoming a country.
10. Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir won gold in this category in February 2010 at the Vancouver Winter Olympics.
12. This well-known annual league championship takes place every year on the second Sunday in February. It will be played on February 11 at Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas this year.
13. The official flower that represents birthdays in February.
14. The popular heart-shaped candies with cute messages were originally used as _____.

Down

1. This dwarf planet was discovered on February 18, 1930, and was named by 11-year-old, Venetia Burney.
2. February 10, 2024, marks the beginning of the Year of the _____.
3. This festival, which takes place on the same day as Shrove Tuesday, celebrates the end of the pre-Lenten season with colourful masks and parades.
5. Released in February 1940, this Disney motion picture featuring the beloved character Figaro, was the first animated feature to win a competitive Academy Award.
8. In 1990, the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, Helen Hunley, introduced this day to celebrate and honour loved ones.
11. Abel Makkonen Tesfaye, better known as The _____, was born on February 16, 1990, in Scarborough.

Top Ten Winter Checklist for Your Home

1. **Heating System Inspection:** Ensure that your heating system is in good working condition. Schedule a professional inspection to clean and service your furnace or heating system to keep your home warm and energy-efficient throughout the winter.
2. **Seal Drafts and Insulate:** Check for drafts around windows and doors. Seal any gaps with weather-stripping or caulk to prevent cold air from entering and warm air from escaping. Consider adding additional insulation in the attic and walls for better energy efficiency.
3. **Gutter Maintenance:** Clean out gutters and downspouts to prevent ice dams and water damage. Trim overhanging branches that could potentially break under heavy snow, causing damage to your home.
4. **Roof Inspection:** Examine your roof for any loose or damaged shingles. Addressing roof issues before winter storms can prevent leaks and water damage.
5. **Pipe Insulation:** Protect your pipes from freezing by insulating them. Consider using pipe sleeves or heat tape in areas prone to cold temperatures. Make sure to disconnect and drain outdoor hoses.
6. **Chimney Cleaning:** If you have a fireplace, schedule a chimney cleaning and inspection. Creosote buildup can lead to chimney fires, so it's crucial to keep the chimney clean and safe for use.
7. **Emergency Kit Preparation:** Create an emergency kit with essentials like flashlights, batteries, blankets, non-perishable food items, and water. Be prepared for power outages or severe weather events.
8. **Snow Removal Equipment:** Check and maintain your snow removal equipment, such as snow blowers and shovels. Ensure they are in good working condition and ready for use when needed.

9. **Window Check:** Inspect windows for cracks or gaps. Consider using plastic film or adding heavy curtains to improve insulation and keep the cold air out.

10. **Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors:** Test and replace the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Ensure these life-saving devices are functioning correctly, as homes are sealed more tightly during the winter months, increasing the risk of carbon monoxide buildup.

By completing this winter checklist, you can enhance the comfort, safety, and energy efficiency of your home during the colder months. Regular maintenance helps prevent potential issues and ensures your home is well-prepared for winter weather challenges.



Leapers and Leaplings Special Day



Four million leap day babies? Did you know the odds of being born on February 29 is one in 1,461! Leap day babies are better-known as 'leapers' or 'leaplings'. Hats off to these time-defying, once-in-a-blue-moon birthday legends!

Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day, observed on February 14, has a rich history dating back centuries. Its origins are rooted in both ancient Roman traditions and Christian martyrdom, creating a celebration that has evolved over time.

One popular theory links Valentine's Day to the Roman festival of Lupercalia, celebrated in mid-February. This fertility festival involved rituals and activities that included the pairing of men and women through a lottery system. As Christianity spread, the church sought to Christianize pagan celebrations, and Lupercalia was eventually replaced by the feast of St. Valentine.

The identity of St. Valentine remains somewhat ambiguous, as there were multiple Christian martyrs named Valentine. One widely accepted account attributes the day to a priest named Valentine who defied the Roman Emperor Claudius II's decree against marriages for young men. Valentine continued to perform marriages in secret, believing in the sanctity of love. Another legend suggests that Valentine helped Christians escape persecution and was subsequently imprisoned and executed.

During the Middle Ages, the association between love and Valentine's Day gained traction. The poet Geoffrey Chaucer, in the 14th century, wrote of the day as a time when birds chose their mates. This notion of avian romance contributed to the idea of Valentine's Day as a day for expressing love.

The exchange of handwritten love notes became popular in 17th century England, marking the beginning of the tradition of sending valentines. By the 18th century, these notes evolved into commercially printed cards adorned with lace and ribbons.

In the 19th century, the mass production of Valentine's Day cards began in the United States, and the holiday transitioned into a more commercialized celebration of romantic love. Today, it has expanded beyond romantic partners to include expressions of love for friends and family, making Valentine's Day a widely celebrated and cherished occasion across the globe.



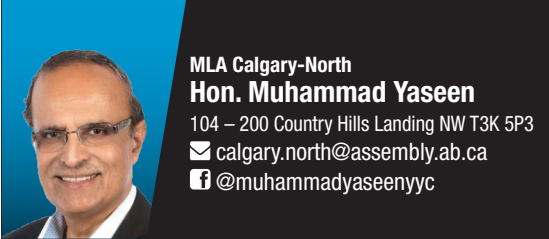
by Anne Burke

Some features produce a positive response in visitors, as a focus for passive recreation, education, and interpretation; they remain opportunities for interpretation of bedrock themes in the park. Among the landscape features are large sandstone boulders several metres across. Those in north slope coulees may contain fossil clam shells, as remnants of a wave cut terrace which tumbled onto valley glaciers.

The Nose Hill pre-glacial gravels in the eastern portion of the Hill extend throughout the hilltop. In the Burnco gravel pit - and the slopes leading to this area from 19 Street and from Charleswood Drive - several trails and junctions in the south-facing areas are where exposed gravel from the Hill use in the 1960s and 70s would have been visible unless remediation was done with nurse and native grasses, after re-rooting foot traffic while the repair was undertaken.

A review of land uses of Nose Hill revealed that areas more severely damaged by vehicles, horse and cattle grazing, and gravel extraction were slowly regenerating. Although rutted trails remained, some already had grass growing in them due to less traffic. Ravine trails were heavily overgrown by tall grasses, thistles, and nettles, so that people used them less.

Firefighting, weeding, and controlled burns with vehicles damaged the plateau and slopes above the Porcupine Valley bike path. Widened and two-track trails are from social use; trail braiding on steeper hillsides due to wet, icy, or poor conditions. An on-hill project was raking to prevent new desire lines. Work was needed on the old motorcross routes up the bluff south of Porcupine Valley and along the Many Owls Valley Road where the trails had been washed out or deeply grooved. Pedestrian use of old vehicle roads slowed regeneration and remediation was warranted.



Thank you to the teachers, staff, and parents for their continued work to support Alberta's world-class education system. The 2022 Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) results underscore Alberta's excellence in education, ranking first in Canada for reading, science, and second in math, just behind Quebec. Globally, Alberta secured the second spot in reading, science, and seventh in math. We should also be extremely proud of the 1,300 students that participated for their dedicated efforts.

Recognizing primary health care as foundational, Alberta's government commits new, incremental funding of \$200 million over two years to enhance access to family physicians, aiming for widespread availability. A ten-year, \$24 billion health care agreement with the federal government in 2023 outlines the initial three years of funding. While beneficial, this funding falls short of requirements, prompting ongoing advocacy for increased federal health transfers aligning with the provinces and territories initial requests.

Alberta's government is taking decisive steps in addressing hate by expanding the Alberta Security Infrastructure Program (ASIP) grant to support Islamic and Jewish faith-based schools for up to 12 months with temporary access to funding for security enhancements. This expansion includes an increase of up to \$20,000 in grant funding to support targeted schools that identify short-term need for physical security on campus. Alberta Sheriffs will collaborate with law enforcement to bolster security presence at religious and cultural institutions where and when needed.

Thank you to my constituents for their support as I carry out my duties as your MLA.

Wishing you all a happy Family Day.



2024 is well underway. Here are some major updates related to Ward 3, the City of Calgary, and Council decisions.

City Building in Calgary

The City of Calgary is updating the plans that will shape our future. As our population climbs, the City has to prepare to support the growth. Right now, we're gathering feedback on three key areas:

1. The Calgary Plan will merge the Municipal Development Plan with our Transportation Plan.
2. The new Zoning Bylaw (A.K.A Land Use) will simplify the rules of governing and form of buildings throughout Calgary.
3. The new Street Manual will give direction on supporting all forms of safe travel for Calgarians.

Each document is created with public feedback in mind, so please share your input over the next two months at calgary.ca/citybuilding.

Secondary Suites Amnesty Extension

City Council voted unanimously to extend the very successful Secondary Suites Amnesty Program until the end of 2026. Under this program, charges for development permits and registration fees are waived, enabling owners to continue building safe and legal suites at a reduced cost. Visit calgary.ca/suites for more information.

Event Reminder: Chinook Blast

Calgary's annual winter festival returns this month and runs from February 2 to 19. This year's lineup features art installations, live shows and music, winter sports, local markets, and more. Mark your calendars and visit chinookblast.ca for all the event details.



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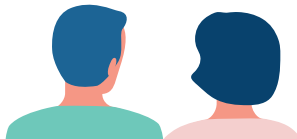
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GAMES & PUZZLES

Guess The Duo!

1. This love-hate duo is on a quest to save a princess while fighting a fire-breathing dragon.
2. These stepbrothers create zany projects to make the most of their summer vacation.
3. This pop duo from the 60s are well known for their song "I Got You Babe".
4. These frenemies, created by William Hanna and Joseph Barbera, have been playing cat and mouse since 1940.
5. This fantasy duo set out on a journey through the misty mountains to save Middle Earth.
6. This superhero duo attempts to thwart the evil plans of villains in Gotham.



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Don't Get Stung by the Bee!

The shortest month of the year is one of the most misspelled words in the English language. February is like that mischievous word that trips up even the most seasoned spellers! It's the spelling bee's sneaky little riddle, playing hide-and-seek with that elusive "r" and making a twisty-turny challenge out of a seemingly simple month!





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	Properties		Median Price	
	Listed	Sold	Listed	Sold
December 23	1	6	\$564,450	\$563,625
November 23	10	9	\$589,000	\$583,300
October 23	12	9	\$574,900	\$567,500
September 23	12	19	\$574,900	\$572,000
August 23	20	14	\$652,450	\$663,500
July 23	13	17	\$559,900	\$580,000
June 23	21	17	\$525,000	\$560,000
May 23	17	16	\$534,850	\$532,400
April 23	8	11	\$549,900	\$515,339
March 23	13	10	\$537,000	\$543,000
February 23	10	8	\$507,493	\$512,500
January 23	5	5	\$650,000	\$633,900

To view more detailed information that comprise the above
MLS averages please visit hid.mycalgary.com