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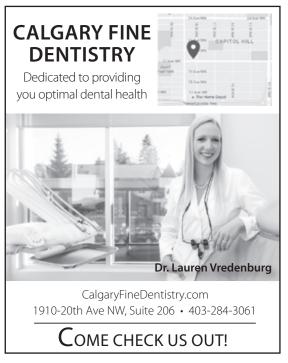
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VICE-PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I was asked last week how it feels to be a part of the MCA board. I responded, "exciting." We are changing and growing; we are adapting to the new needs of our community. It is exciting to be a small part of this change.

I came on board the MCA board just before Christmas. Ten months. Mostly, I've worked alongside the teams that have presented some fun family pub and senior social events at the hall. We are still learning and tweaking, but those who I have spoken with have had fun. This, for me, is the point.

Going forward into 2024, we haven't settled on the actual event days of the month yet, but we are creating some exciting new programming, working with new partners and resources for families, singles, and seniors in our community.

I've watched our awesome staff of Abi, David, Ali, and Michelle do their beyond awesome thing daily (gracias!). We have got some top shelf number crunchers onboard right now, a good thing while we struggle to come up for air like most organizations after the last few years.

We are actively researching a few weekday anchor tenants, and we feel we have an option that will contribute to Montgomery and blend with our exciting new programming.

I have witnessed my compadres on the board, our committees, and our tireless MCA volunteer teams work together to complete and tweak the bike park, the garden, the playground, and the upgrade work on the hall itself. But those are just the facilities that we can be proud of and utilize. The heart of MCA is truly her people. You.

We are looking for a few people, maybe you, for some roles on our community board. We are adding a new director, in the role of planning; more details here soon. Thank you, Neal Greywall, for all you did while here. Best of luck on your new adventures!

We are looking for people in the roles of history, membership, BIA liaison, fundraising, and some more general duties, too. Are you interested in helping and getting to know your community better? Maybe not a director (yet!), but a go-to volunteer? For a start, we could really use your help at our Community Cleanup on September 17. Let's get to know each other then! Go to the sign-up link if you haven't already connected.

In this newsletter, there is a list of directors. My email and others' are there. You are welcome to reach out; we are your MCA board. If you are not sure who to approach, your best bet is Ali at engagement@mcapeople.com. She is remarkable at hunting us down.

I hope that you are having an excellent September and that you too are going out of your way to support our local Montgomery businesses!

Nature's Ottoman Capybaras, the largest rodents on Earth,

world. They're referred to as "nature's ottomans" because they'll allow birds, monkeys, rabbits, and other small critters to cuddle with them or hitch a ride on their backs. Capybaras will even befriend crocodiles and ride on their backs!





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MontgomeryCA

@mcapeople

MONTGOMERY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

MICA DINECI	UNI						
Executive							
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Vice-President, Events	Michael "Spike" Richards						
Treasurer		Anita Hennig					
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Community Engagement		Abi Harker					
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Building and Maintenance	The state of the s						
C		building@mcapeople.com					
Community Engagement Ali MacQu engagement@mcapeople							
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Director	Eli-	zabeth Laishley					
Director	Kayla Doiron						
Director, Planning Co-Chair		Vacant					
Director, Events	Michael "	Spike" Richards					
Director, Events		ncapeople.com					
Director, Seniors' Social		Kim Olsen					
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MLA Calgary Bow	Demetrios Nicolaides	403-216-5400					
MP	Len Webber	403-220-0888					
Contacts							
Community Liaison Officer	David Down						
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Public	Patricia Bolger	403-817-7918					
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	Ali MacQuarrie and Abi Harker: engagement@mcapeople.com						
	Newsletter Submissions						
David Hoskyn: editor@mcapeople.com 5003 16 Avenue NW T3B 0N2							
403-247-3116							
(2)							

MCA Main Hall, Boardroom, and Kitchen

The main hall is available for events with up to 301 people (238 if there is liquor service). Active members of the Community Association will receive 10% off full rentals. The hall measures 40 feet by 80 feet and has direct level access from the parking lot. The board room is available for meetings and small gatherings of up to 25 people. The board room measures approximately 22 feet by 12 feet. A

MCA's AHS-approved kitchen is included with main hall rentals and is available to rent independently. Email manager@mcapeople.com for more details!

projector and screen are available for use.

Rental Rates

Please contact the office at 403-247-3116 or email manager@mcapeople.com for hourly and daily rental rates.

Community Newsletter

The Montgomery Messenger is a publication of the Montgomery Community Association and Great News Media.

Published year round for mail delivery in the middle of every month. Content from the public is welcome and invited. To inquire about submitting content please email editor@mcapeople.com or phone 403-247-3116.

All advertising inquiries should be directed to Great News Media.

Editorial deadline for content submissions is the first of month, for the following month's issue. All submissions should be as Word documents, and sent to editor@ mcapeople.com. High quality photos are also welcome.

Virtual Registrations

The following are available online at www.mcapeople.com:

MCA Family and Business Memberships

MCA Community Garden Registration

Visit www.mcapeople.com for more information!

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Park in the 2nd parkade for access to the clinic

Monday to Friday 9:30 am - 6:00 pm Saturday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Kid Zone

A really special thank-you to our new partners from the City of Calgary, a team of energetic young mentors who will be providing interactive crafts, games, and bless them all to heck, hands on supervision of our smurfs as we attend our upcoming all ages MCA Monty's Pub Nights. Including and involving your children at our MCA hosted events is an important part of our programming going forward. Thank you for your support!



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SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE SOLUTION





SEPTEMBER SENIORS' SOCIAL

Thursday, September 21, 2023 11:30 AM to 3:00 PM MCA: 5003 16th Ave NW

JOIN YOUR NEIGHBOURS FOR A LIGHT POTLUCK LUNCH AND AN AFTERNOON OF GAMES, MUSIC, SOCIALIZING AND FUN.

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE FROM SOUND ADVICE **BARBERSHOP QUARTET!**

\$5 Donation Requested to Attend





Scruffyfish Concert Recap

In mid-July, MCA brought in local percussion masters Scruffyfish to spend a couple of very entertaining sets up on our raised stage. It was a really fun show! The feedback from you was positive, and it is becoming clear to us that this is the kind of family friendly "pub night" presentation that we need to share more often at the hall. We hope to see you on Saturday, September 16 at noon for Tim Williams... and tacos.









by Anne Burke

What Happened 50 Years Ago to Preserve Nose Hill?

The Calgary Council of Women wanted a legacy. In 1973, the City created the park after a lengthy debate. Council rejected a development application when communities favoured a major natural environment park. "Citizens for Nose Hill" presented a "Citizens' Brief." Then a steering committee produced the "Nose Hill Design Brief."

A rezoning challenge was only one of the obstacles because much of the land was privately owned. It was urgent to preserve it because some was already sold to developers, with a parcel to a homebuilder.

Community leaders and concerned citizens collected over 5,000 signatures on a petition opposing the rezoning. They organized a march along John Laurie Boulevard in defence of Nose Hill. There was even a children's petition, and their voices were heard.

City Council voted against any rezoning. However, the City still needed more time to buy up the land. The Supreme Court of Canada gave Calgary the right to purchase land on Nose Hill at its own pace. The provincial government agreed and declared that the Nose Hill lands be retained as a public open space in perpetuity.







For more information contact BFT@caryacalgary.ca

YOUR PRODUCTIVITY GURU

Possip and Other Feedback

bv Karl Plesz

Gossip is bad; possip (positive gossip) is great. This is a term coined by Michael Kerr and I love it. When you hear positive feedback about a team member, let them know about it right away.

It's yet another example of the recognition that is needed in a workplace. Everyone feels better when we show appreciation for their efforts. I'm a big believer in acknowledging good things in front of the team, but there are folks who can't stand the embarrassment surrounding public kudos. You can give them subtle thank-you messages instead, in fact, this is perfect for evervone who deserves it.

For key people on your team, collect tidbits of information that you hear about them for future inspiration. For example, if you hear about a snack they love, imagine how they would feel if that snack magically appeared on their desk one day with a note. You could ask your favourite AI we site to create a poem about them and their job (Al can do that). Even a thankyou sticky note on the team's bulletin board is a nice gesture.

Be creative and think about how you can make your reward different enough that it actually stands out as a part of your culture. Some startups and businesses have portraits painted of staff members who have achieved a certain number of years, letting the staff have fun with how they are depicted. Others bring in caricaturists.

Whether you take your staff out to lunch in groups (large or small) or individually to talk about how the job is going, it gets them out of the workplace and shows them that they have your ear. Sometimes talking about ideas for work is easier when you're not sitting in the boss's office, but across the table over a shake, burger, and fries. I've even seen companies rent BBQ gear and have a cookout at lunch with picnic tables.



FFCA SCHOOL UPDATE

Hello Montgomery Community,

We hope that you have had a great summer! Our students returned to classes as of Tuesday, August 29 and we are excited to be back!

We appreciate that our high school is not a usual neighbourhood school as our students come to us from across NW and NE Calgary. As guests within Montgomery, we are always eager to partner well and so we want to let you know a little more about us and recommend some communication avenues.

We hope that we are always good neighbours in the community! Our administration team consists of a Principal Educator, Mrs. Bharati Singh, and an Associate Principal, Mrs. Susan Boyd. Sometimes, the information you wish to share relates to a real time concern and can best be supported with a call to Calgary Police Service (CPS) in addition to the school. CPS has encouraged us to let our neighbours know that depending on the information you want to share (example: parking, driving concerns), you can call the Calgary Parking Authority at 403-537-7100, select option 2 and speak to a dispatch officer or for police concerns of a non-urgent nature, call the police non-emergency number at 403-266-1234.

Our high school is grades 9 to 12, with about 500 students and a staff of 39. Progress towards the new high school build continues as you can visibly see, and we hope to be in the new building in February 2024. Monday to Thursday, the school day begins for students at 8:30 am with buses beginning to arrive after 8:00 am. The lunch break is from 11:35 am to 12:20 pm, and buses leave at 3:28 pm. On Fridays, we have early dismissal with a nutrition break from 10:45 to 11:00 am, and buses leaving at 1:20 pm.

A bit more about us is that Foundations for the Future Charter Academy (FFCA) is a public charter school that currently has students in grades K to 12 at eight campus locations across Calgary. Our school system is 26 years old and we are the largest charter school system in Alberta with four elementary campuses, two middle schools, and two high schools.

Wishing you well,

Mrs. Singh - Principal Educator and Mrs. Boyd - Associate Principal





MONTGOMERY

Calgary (1885)

MCA PARKING LOT 5003 16TH AVE NW

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Community Garden Update

by Aleta Ambrose

Who doesn't love the glory days of summer and enjoying the rewards of the harvest in the fall? We have delicious carrots, beets, lettuce, peas, and onions. We are especially loving the squash crawling up the arch. A particularly unusual one is our long skinny tromboncino.

We are so thankful for all our volunteers who join the work bees and help the garden look so fabulous.











CALLING ALL VENDORS!

Drum Circle Recap

On July 23, we brought in One World Drumming to facilitate an interactive and educational djembe based Drum Circle. OWD has played our MCA hall before, hosting charity events for Haitian hurricane victims and Oaxacan indigenous school builds in the past. Yes, they are good people. Yes, you all have made it very clear that you had a blast, and that we will be hosting a few more circles in 2024, both inside and outside. Thank you, OWD!







Word of the Month

Metanoia: noun (met-uh-noi-uh)

A transformative change of heart.

"Upon finishing her book, Alice experienced a metanoia."



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- Ensure windows are shut
- Turn on exterior light





Let's Talk About Live Music!

by Spike Richards

Wow, what an incredible summer for live music in Calgary and area this summer, an absolute explosion of pent-up creative energy being heard and seen at our festivals! I hope you were able to get out and explore some new sounds and cherish some old favourite artists. A big thank-you to the organizers and volunteers who make our local festivals pop, bang, and run safely and smoothly for us all to enjoy.

On Saturday, September 16, we are excited to have story sharer and minstrel magnifico, Tim Williams, in the MCA house at the crack of noon, to raise a cervaza and an ariba for Mexican Independence Day. We have the taco magicians from Mikey's on 12th sharing their yummy offerings. Bring your appetite! This MCA hosted event is nino/nina friendly, so bring your smurfs.

On Sunday, September 17, if the 80s NYC band that used garbage can lids and buckets to present percussion opera is your thing, please do sign up and volunteer for our Community Cleanup; the day will be music to your ears!

On Thursday, September 21, the barbershop quartet Sound Advice (part of Accapella Road) will be at our noon Seniors' Social.

On Friday, October 27, we will have an all-ages full costume karaoke; no wait, it's a CreepyOke! Keep your night free for this family friendly spooktacular.

On Friday, November 24, McCool & the Fools and their friend Carol will be helping the festive feel flow freely. We will be hosting a long overdue MCA Volunteer Appreciation event on this evening. Please join us. Again, it's "all ages with wine."

I have been asked to create a regular live music jam at the hall. I am looking for input and people who would like to participate. There is both a youth and seniors' element that our MCA jams can provide that will be unique, and our community has a vibrant songwriter demographic that I am hoping we can showcase.

Please do reach out, say hi, tell me about a band we should host in 2024, tell me you want to play bass lines on a tuba to accompany an orchestral harp and do a tribute to Queen and Bob Marley, and tell me about your ideas about bringing more live music into our community for all to enjoy. I'm easily found at events@ mcapeople.com.





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News, Events, & More



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