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RANGLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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PROGRAM CONTACTS

Ranchlands Food Pantry	Contact RCA Office www.ranchlandscommunity.com/RFP
Skating Rink Coordinator	Darren Angell Contact RCA Office
186th Ranchlands Scouts	186thRanchlandsScouts@gmail.com
Girl Guides of Canada: Wichewakn District	register.girlguides.ca/web/en/unit

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Ranchlands Elementary School	403-777-6350 ranchlands@cbe.ab.ca
St. Rita's Catholic Elementary School	Cindy De Paoli 403-500-2083 stritas@cssd.ab.ca
Rise Calgary	403-204-8280 info@risecalgary.ca
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Board Bytes: Meet Mike Liunge



Meet Mike—a member of the RCA Board and a familiar face around Ranchlands for over 15 years. Alongside his wife and son, Mike has proudly called the community home while dedicating countless hours to helping make it even better. From upgrading the Community Centre with energy-saving LED lights to volunteering at local events, Mike is always ready to lend a hand.

By trade, Mike is a journeyman plumber and gasfitter, but his skills go far beyond that—including converting an ambulance into a camper! He has a love for unique cars, once owned a DeLorean, and is currently restoring a 1956 Morris. When he's not tinkering in the garage, you might find him enjoying a cup of tea, baking a delicious pecan pie, or sharing stories about the time he jumped from the Stratosphere Hotel in Las Vegas... just for fun. So, if you spot Mike at a community event, don't hesitate to say hi!

Quick Questions with Mike

- **Morning Brew:** Early gray with a splash of milk.
- **Movie Buff:** *Back to the Future* and any Adam Sandler movie.
- **Travel Tales:** My favourite trip was going to Long Beach and spending the night on RMS Queen Mary. Because I'm a huge RMS Titanic fan.
- **Hidden Talents:** I like fixing and working on vehicles, I'm rebuilding a 1956 Morris Minor.
- **Furry Friends:** I have two cats (Peach and Squeeks). Squeeks is a three-legged cat.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jane's Walk - May 2

Maybe you saw us? We had 15 people join the Ranchlands Ramble on May 2 at 1:00 pm. We started at the hall, trekked up the hill, even with a stroller along, got the great view, continued along the pathways over to Rancho Park, and then meandered back to the hall. As I chatted about the neighbourhood, I shared how nice it is to be 'contained' in that when people come into our neighbourhood, they are coming to be in Ranchlands—we don't have shortcuts to get to other neighbourhoods. We talked of the mural on our building, our food pantry program, playground improvements, the nice walkways we have, the ebb and flow of our community demographic, along with other tidbits. One of our guests commented that she was impressed with my obvious pride in Ranchlands. I have taken that for granted, but she was right! I am proud of our neighbourhood and the way we support each other.

Community Cleanup - May 23

This event should be in the past as you read this. I will have chatted with many of you as we continue to keep our neighbourhood tidy and appealing. The planning to have these events happen and our neighbours get together, even if only for a few minutes, takes some effort. We are grateful for Tracy and Anita in the office who do the behind the scenes work to book the necessary support and round up the volunteers.

Happy Summer! Neighbour Day - June 20

This event should be in the future as you read this. I look forward to seeing many people at our Neighbour Day celebration. The activities to plan, to organize, to apply for grants, to obtain permits, and the recruiting of volunteers are again credited to our RCA staff. There will be something for everyone, including an 'adult only' beer garden area. Come and meet some new people!

Keep an eye on our Facebook page and website as new programs are being tested out to find the right ones to support our Ranchlands residents and their guests. As always, we are happy to hear your ideas.

Regards,

Kathy Ervin

President, Ranchlands Community Association



Rise Calgary (formerly Bowwest Community Services): 14 – 1840 Ranchlands Way NW

Westview Baptist Church: 1313 Ranchlands Way NW

St. James Anglican Church: 6351 Ranchview Drive NW

Islamic Association of NW Calgary: 7750 Ranchview Drive NW

Al-Salam Centre: 6415 Ranchview Drive NW

Good Food Box: Ranchlands' Depot is St. James Anglican Church

Come On In — Let's Chat

Ever walk by the rink and notice the 'Open' sign on at the community centre? That's your cue to come on in. Whether you'd like to say hello, check the bulletin board, grab some bread from the bread shelf, use the restroom, or just warm up for a few minutes, you're always welcome.

If the sign is on, the Ranchlands Community Association office is open and happy to see you. It's a good time to stop by, ask a question, share an idea, or let us know what's working well in the community—or what could be better. We love hearing from our neighbours.

The office is open Monday and Tuesday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm and Wednesday from 12:00 to 5:00 pm, unless otherwise posted.

Community Centre Reminder!

We would like to kindly remind residents that the garbage bins at the Ranchlands Community Association are for RCA use only. We pay for private garbage collection services and schedule pickups based on our facility rentals and programming needs. When additional garbage is dumped in our bins, it can quickly exceed our capacity and results in extra pickup fees for the association.

Unfortunately, we have recently seen an increase in illegal dumping in our bins and parking lot area. Please be aware that our parking lot is monitored by cameras, and illegal dumping may be reported.

That said, we are always happy to support those helping keep our community clean. If you are disposing of small amounts of litter collected from the parks or cleaning up after a pet while visiting the area, you are more than welcome to use our bins. We truly appreciate the residents who go above and beyond to help care for our community.

Thank you for your understanding, cooperation, and continued support in helping keep Ranchlands clean and welcoming for everyone.



The first full moon of summer is called a Strawberry Moon! It may occasionally appear to have a reddish hue when close to the horizon. This year, the Strawberry Moon will peak on June 29!

It Takes a Village



Sometimes it takes a village, and over the past year, we've seen just how true that really is.

The Ranchlands Food Pantry is supporting more families than ever before, including a growing number of households with children. As the cost of living continues to rise, we know more neighbours are feeling the strain.

In April 2025, the Ranchlands Food Pantry distributed 17 hampers—this April, that number rose to 26, with some weeks reaching as many as eight or nine hampers. The need is growing, and behind every hamper is a family doing their best to get by.

With the school year coming to an end, we anticipate even greater demand. For many families, the loss of school meal programs over the summer, combined with the high cost of childcare, can make it harder to stay afloat.

We are incredibly grateful for the support we receive—from Ranchlands residents, as well as our partners Community Natural Foods, Paris Baguette, Shoppers Drug Mart, MLA Hayter, and donation organizations like Food Rescue and Hungry Harvest. Your generosity helps make this program possible.

At times, however, we are still not able to meet the demand for every hamper, every week. Dietary restrictions, both for religious and medical reasons, can make it challenging to rely solely on donated items, and we often purchase specific foods to ensure families with these needs are supported.



We're asking our community to come together to help meet this growing need. Our goal is to increase monthly financial donations by \$100 to provide more stability and help us keep up with demand. Ongoing support, no matter the amount, allows us to plan ahead and continue offering reliable assistance.

Non-perishable food donations are always needed as well. Even a few extra items added to your regular grocery trip can make a meaningful difference.

Thank you for being part of the village and for continuing to support your neighbours.

Freezie Fridays

Swing by the community center
Fridays 12–5pm and
chill out with a
free Freezie!



Starts
June 26

School's Out for Summer!

Go ahead—give yourself a pat on the back. You made it through another school year! Parents, this absolutely includes you. And teachers? Take that deep breath... you've more than earned it.

Now that summer is here, routines tend to fly right out the window—and honestly, that's part of the fun. Longer days, later nights, and a whole lot more time outside. Before everyone dives headfirst into summer mode, here are a few friendly reminders to help keep things fun and safe:

Watch out, drivers! Kids are out in full force—daytime, evenings, and everywhere in between. Balls, bikes, and scooters can appear out of nowhere, so keep those eyes peeled and speeds in check.

Helmet hair is cool. Safety is cooler. Bikes, scooters, skateboards, rollerblades (yes, they still exist!)—whatever the ride, wear a helmet. Kids and adults alike—protect that brain, you'll need it in September!

Make a new friend. Summer is prime time for meeting new people. Whether it's at the playground or exploring those fun wooded areas, say hi and join in. You never know who you'll click with.

Hydration = summer superpower. When the heat hits, water is your best friend. Grab your favourite bottle and take it everywhere—consider it your trusty sidekick.

Need a break from the sun? We've got you. Kids are welcome to join us at the community center every Friday from 1:30 to 4:30 pm for Lego Club. It's the perfect mix of creativity, hanging out, and cooling off indoors.

Sleep still matters. We get it—it's bright out until 10:00 pm and no one wants to go to bed. But a little sleep goes a long way in keeping summer fun instead of cranky.

Be brave and try something new. New things can feel a little intimidating—but that's where the magic happens. Try a new sport, challenge yourself to finally make it across those monkey bars, pick up a paintbrush, join a club, or lend a hand by volunteering. No matter your age, stepping outside your comfort zone is how new adventures begin.

Here's to a summer full of laughter, sunshine, new adventures, and maybe just a little bit of mischief. Enjoy every minute—you've earned it!



Step Right Up: Ranchlands Carnival Neighbour Day!

Get ready—our biggest event of the year is rolling in, and this time it's bigger, and more fun than ever! Neighbour Day is getting a full-on carnival takeover, and you won't want to miss it.

Bring the whole family and dive into a day packed with excitement—carnival games, a craft station, bouncy house, petting zoo, and a mouthwatering BBQ. Grown-ups can kick back in the beer garden while the fun keeps rolling. And keep your eyes open... we've got a few surprises up our sleeves to make this our best event yet!

Want to be part of the action? We're on the lookout for awesome volunteers to help run games and grill up burgers. If you're ready to join the fun, contact the office—we'd love to have you on the team!

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SCAN ME

Could Ranchlands Use a Few Wombles?



When I was a kid growing up in the UK, I loved *The Wombles*—a classic British children’s television show about friendly characters who quietly cleaned up litter and cared for their community. Their motto was to “make good use of bad rubbish,” and they became famous for leaving places a little better than they found them.

That spirit of community pride and caring for shared spaces is inspiring a new idea here in Ranchlands.

We are beginning to explore a neighbourhood initiative that encourages residents—young and old alike—to safely help tidy up litter around the community. The idea is simple: while you are out walking, biking, heading to the park, or enjoying the pathways, why not pick up a few pieces of litter along the way? Small actions by many people can make a big difference.

The city will be helping out by providing gloves and garbage bags, and more details will be shared as the plan develops. But even before everything is officially launched, we wanted to put out the call: Ranchlands is the kind of community where people care about where they live.

This is not about creating work—it is about creating pride, connection, and a sense of shared ownership. Children can take part with parents, neighbours can work together on a block, and individuals can simply do a little while out on a walk. Every small effort matters.

So perhaps it is time for Ranchlands to channel a little Womble spirit—helping out, pitching in, and leaving the community just a little better than we found it.

More details—and perhaps even a fun community name for the initiative—will be coming soon!



by Anne Burke

The City Nature Challenge is a global community citizen science event wherein community groups, experts, and residents collaborate to find all types of nature around them. In the Calgary Metropolitan Region, the top 150 users in 2024 surpassed 10,000 observations. By then, they had uploaded a total of nearly 40,000 observations of Calgary’s local flora and fauna. The year marked the tenth anniversary of both iNaturalist and the City Nature Challenge. For the Calgary Area, in 2025, there were 15,923 observations, 28,462 identifications, 891 species, 659 identifiers, and 356 observers. In 2026, the eighth annual Calgary City Nature Challenge focused on data quality for plants, insects, fungi, and wildlife. All information on Calgary’s natural areas posted on iNaturalist can be used to revise and update the 1980 Calgary “Green Book” by 2030. Although you do not need an expert to lead a nature walk, John McFaul of Nature Calgary, in cooperation with Bird Friendly Alberta, guided field trips on Nose Hill. The group met near the 64 Ave and 14 Street NW parking lot. Much of their trip was off paved trails and on unlevel ground. A previous walk started at the Berkley Gate and 14 Street NW entrance. Calgary was one of the first certified Nature Canada Bird Friendly Cities. Injured birds can be rescued, in early morning and at night, but, of course, prevention is preferred. The aim is to identify and reduce threats since, in an urban environment, city lights and reflections cause collisions. Window treatments can help. Also turning off unnecessary lights. During fall and spring migrations, downtown is unsafe due to tall buildings, especially at night. Wildlife cameras examine how birds travel and weather radar is used to predict flight directions to support conservation and research. Learn more at <https://birdcast.org/>.

Hop Into Fun, Ranchlands!

While out walking my puppy recently, I came across something that instantly made me smile—a giant chalk hopscotch winding its way down the sidewalk. With messages like “Start Here,” “Pop the Bubbles,” and “Slide on the Snake,” it turned an ordinary walk into something playful, creative, and joyful.

What a wonderful reminder that community spaces are not just for passing through—they can also be places where people connect, laugh, move, and play. A simple box of sidewalk chalk became an invitation for children (and probably a few adults too!) to stop, explore, and have fun.

Small acts of creativity like this help make Ranchlands feel welcoming and alive. Whether it is sidewalk art, painted rocks, little free libraries, front yard music, neighbourhood games, or spontaneous acts of kindness, these moments add colour and energy to community life. They encourage neighbours to slow down, interact, and enjoy the place we call home.

As spring and summer arrive, maybe this is the perfect time for all of us to think about simple ways we can bring a little extra fun and connection to our streets and pathways. Creativity does not need to be expensive or complicated—sometimes all it takes is chalk, imagination, and the willingness to share a smile with the community.

So here is a challenge for Ranchlands residents: How can you help make our community a little more playful, welcoming, and fun this summer?



Surely You Joust?

The official sport of the state of Maryland is jousting! Maryland was the first state to adopt an official sport back in 1962 and still holds jousting tournaments to this day!



Backyard Play Safety

by Emergency Health Services



Emergency Health Services (EHS) Alberta would like to encourage parents and caregivers to ensure that their backyard play area(s) is made safe for children. Although direct supervision is the best method to reduce the chance of injury, always ensure play equipment in your yard is in good repair and is suited to the age and skill of the children using it. Check the equipment often; replace or repair any worn or broken parts.

Lawn and Garden Tools

- Keep young children away from outdoor power equipment.
- Serious burns may result from touching hot engine surfaces.
- Ensure that all sharp tools, fuel, chemicals, and other hazardous substances are stored in a secure, locked area. A simple latch may not be sufficient.

Water Hazards

- Drowning contributes to unintentional injury-related death among young children.

- Children can drown in just a few centimetres of water if it covers their mouth and nose.
- Ensure all backyard swimming pools are fenced. The fence must be at least 1.8 metres high and have a self-latching, self-closing, and lockable gate.

Insect Bites and Stings

- Minimize the risk of attracting insects by not wearing strong perfumes or scented lotions.
- Avoid wearing brightly coloured clothing outdoors.
- Consider destroying or relocating hives and nests situated near your home.
- To avoid injury through inadvertently stepping on a stinging insect, always wear footwear outdoors.
- If your child has received an 'EpiPen Junior' prescription from your physician (for anaphylactic reactions) ensure they understand when and how to use it.
- If your child experiences a severe reaction to an insect sting, or other environmental cause, seek medical attention or call 9-1-1.

St. Rita Students End the Year on a High Note



St. Rita students are finishing the year strong, with field trips to Telus Spark and the Calgary Zoo to balance out all the hard work they put into their learning. Grade 6s write the Provincial Achievement Tests in June, and the safety patrols will be enjoying the Patroller's Picnic at Heritage Park. The girls of St. Rita learned all about baseball through the Girls at Bat program sponsored by the Blue Jays. In Music, the djembe drums return to the school for a few weeks of West African drumming. The choir performed at the open house to rave reviews, and students have been playing the recorders and ukuleles as well! Gymnastics equipment was set up for two weeks and the students grew in strength, agility, and balance through the lessons.

Our students and families now have the opportunity to rest and relax during July and August after a year of learning and playing together. We welcome all interested families to contact the school to learn about registration. The office re-opens in mid August. We look forward to seeing everyone back at school in the fall!

Ranchlands School

It's hard to believe that the school year is almost at an end. This has been a unique and eventful year, with labour action in the fall, everchanging weather, and many enriching trips and learning opportunities for our students.

We celebrated many memorable experiences, including Grade 5 Jube School, Grade 6 Outdoor School, Grade 1 wet felting, Kindergarten Clay for Kids, Grade 2 and 3 Science Centre trip, and a schoolwide residency with the Calgary Flames, where students enjoyed flag football and ball hockey to name just a few. It has truly been an exciting year of learning and growth.

As we move into June, students will be participating in Grade 6 Provincial Achievement Tests, Activity Day, and yearend celebrations. We would like to wish all of our students and families a wonderful summer. We hope you are able to spend time enjoying the outdoors, reading great stories, and creating meaningful moments together as a family.

Our last day of school is June 26. The school office will be open on June 29 and 30 before closing for the summer and will reopen for the next school year on August 26, 2026.

Have a safe, restful, and enjoyable summer.

Ranchlands School



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More Than a Membership: Why Joining the Ranchlands Community Association Matters

In a world where it's easy to feel disconnected, being part of a strong community makes a real difference.

Becoming a member of the Ranchlands Community Association is one of the simplest and most affordable ways to be part of something bigger. Yes, there are practical perks. Members receive free admission to many community programs and enjoy reduced rates on hall rentals. For families, those savings alone can more than cover the cost of a membership.

But the real value goes far beyond discounts.

When you become a member, you are investing in a neighbourhood where people know each other, look out for one another, and take pride in where they live. Engaged communities don't just happen—they are built by residents who choose to participate, support local initiatives, and create opportunities to connect.

Research consistently shows that neighbourhoods with active community associations tend to feel safer, more welcoming, and more vibrant. Kids have more opportunities to play and belong. Adults have more chances to meet neighbours, build friendships, and feel connected. Even small things—like attending an event, volunteering, or simply knowing what's happening nearby—help create a sense of belonging.

And it doesn't take much.

A Ranchlands Community Association membership is a low-cost way to support events, programs, and shared spaces that bring people together—whether it's the skating rink, local events, or new initiatives still to come. Your membership helps make those things possible.

You don't have to volunteer your time or attend every event to make a difference. Just becoming a member sends a message: that this community matters, and that you want to be part of keeping it strong.

In the end, it's not just about what you get—it's about what we build together.

Join today. Be part of Ranchlands.



With warmer weather settling in, June is a busy month for gardening, outdoor gatherings, and community events. Below are a few timely reminders to help you get the most out of the season by planning an event in your neighbourhood, how to keep your vehicle safe, and how to practice proper household waste disposal.

Preventing Automobile Theft

Vehicle theft continues to be a concern across the city, and small prevention steps can make a real difference. Always lock doors, close windows, and keep valuables out of sight. Avoid leaving documents or spare keys in your vehicle, never leave your car running unattended, and park in well-lit areas when possible.

Suspicious activity can be reported to police using the non-emergency line at 403-266-1234, or 9-1-1 in an emergency.

Planning An Event in Calgary? Don't Forget the Permits

Permits play an important role in keeping events safe and enjoyable for everyone. Depending on your event, you may need approvals for temporary structures, site use changes, electrical or gas work, business operations, or food and beverage service.

Applying early helps avoid delays and ensures your event meets safety requirements. A step-by-step guide to help you determine what permits may be needed is available at calgary.ca/tents.

How To Properly Dispose of Household Waste

Sorting items correctly helps protect workers and keeps Calgary's three-cart system running smoothly. Common issues include food scraps left in plastic packaging, unwashed containers in the blue cart, and items that damage sorting equipment.

Clothing, batteries, paint cans, and electronics should be taken to a City Eco Centre. If you're unsure where something belongs, visit calgary.ca/whatgoeswhere.

As always, my office is open if you have any questions or concerns. You can reach us at ward2@calgary.ca. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Jennifer

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Real Estate Statistics



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

Donate to this GoFundMe by scanning the QR code to help ease the inconceivable financial hardship the Fortuna family is facing.

Scan to donate or visit
gofund.me/31fdeef6f



Any help is appreciated ❤️



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