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Sandstone/MacEwan Community Association Meetings

are held the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Berkshire Citadel-Sandarac Drive NW. Everyone is welcome to attend.

How to 'Hold Space' for Someone

by Nancy Bergeron, R.Psych. | info@nancybergeron.ca



As a therapist I do many things that are educational, directive, and methodological. However, there is a magic that happens in the room when I seem to do nothing at all. All it looks like is a slight nodding of my head and/ or a concerned expression on my face. But what's really happening is that I am holding space for my client.

To hold space for someone means to offer them your presence, attention, and support without judgement or interruption. It involves creating a safe and accepting environment for them to express themselves fully, without feeling rushed or invalidated. It's about being fully present for someone, and allowing them to share their thoughts, feelings, and experiences openly.

People are starving for a witness to their existence. Why do you think Instagram and TikTok are so popular? Sometimes the therapist is just there to listen, not to fix anything. A majority of the time, the answers lie within my clients. We live in a society where we praise those who are always talking and say so little about those who are great at listening.

Therapists hold space by actively listening, being empathetic, and creating a safe environment for our clients. We provide unconditional support and encouragement for our clients to explore their thoughts, feelings, and experiences. Therapists also offer validation, understanding, and guidance as needed, while allowing our clients to lead the conversation and

set their own pace for their healing journey. We live in a fast paced, fix it, task-oriented world, and we miss the opportunities to hold space.

Many times, my first session starts with a client stating their problem and asking me how to fix it. That's my cue to slow things down. When they say, "what do you think I should do?" I like to answer with "how do you see this unfolding, or what are your thoughts on some of the choices you've thought about?" Most times, just slowing things down and allowing folks to feel relaxed, safe, and heard, they can come to their own decisions and empowerment. They truly just needed to feel okay with being in their emotions and that I will listen without judgement.

How can you hold space for the people in your life? Be present. Your physical presence can be more powerful than any words. Listen actively by not interrupting and allowing them to express their feelings. When they are done pouring out their heart, validate the feelings they shared. Do not engage in clichés as they can feel dismissing. Respect their process of working through intense feelings. Check in with them regularly. And finally, offer practical support by asking if you can take over a specific task. Asking them to reach out to you if they need anything falls flat as they are in their emotional brain and do not have the capacity to constructively think about what they actually need help with.

Sleep and Headaches

by Alberta Health Services

Headaches and sleep issues often go hand in hand, with one condition leading to the other or vice versa. Individuals with headaches are two to eight times more likely to have sleep disorders compared to those without headaches. This connection is especially common in people with chronic headaches, occurring 15 or more days per month, compared to those with episodic headaches, which occur 14 days or less per month.

Research indicates that similar brain regions control both sleep and pain, and that inadequate or excessive sleep can trigger headaches, particularly migraines. Sleep can potentially alleviate a headache attack, while poor sleep may exacerbate an episodic headache into a chronic pattern.

Migraines and cluster headaches often occur during rapid eye movement (REM) sleep and can lead to lower levels of melatonin. Conditions such as sleep apnea and depression are common in individuals who wake up with headaches or migraines and suffer from sleep problems.

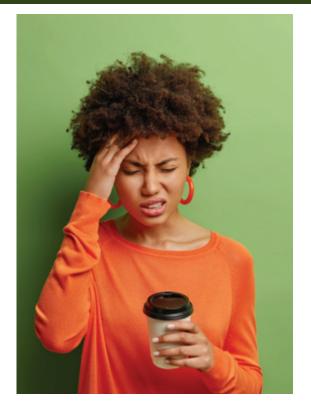
Common Sleep Problems for People with Headaches There are several common sleep problems among people with headaches. Those include:

Insomnia – The most common sleep issue for people with headaches is insomnia. Insomnia occurs when an individual has a difficult time falling asleep and/ or staying asleep, waking up too early and not being able to get back to sleep, or not feeling refreshed when waking up.

Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) – The second most common sleep issue for people with headaches is OSA which is when a person stops breathing for short periods while they sleep. This happens because their airway doesn't stay open like it is supposed to. OSA is more common in men than women.

You may have OSA if:

- you snore
- you feel very tired during the day
- someone has noticed that you seem to stop breathing during the night



Some risk factors for OSA are:

- obesity
- long-term use of alcohol, sedatives, muscle relaxants, or medicine with codeine or morphine

When OSA is diagnosed and treated, both OSA and headaches can get better. OSA is usually diagnosed with an overnight sleep study. Many people with sleep apnea must use a continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) machine at night. The CPAP machine helps keep the airway open. If you think you may have sleep apnea, talk to your doctor, who may refer you to a sleep specialist.

Other breathing problems – Other breathing problems at night such as snoring and upper airway resistance syndrome (UARS) have also been linked to headaches. With UARS, the airway narrows, and the lungs and diaphragm have to work harder. If UARS isn't treated, it may turn into sleep apnea. Treatments for UARS include mouth splints, surgery, weight loss, and sleeping on the side instead of the back.

Managing Your Headache Could Affect Your Sleep

Headache researchers Ong and Park say other factors affect sleep according to the popular Biobehavioural Model. The model says that a person may already have issues (predisposing factors) like anxiety which, when combined with stress or daily hassles (precipitating factors), may cause short-term sleep problems. The person may then try to find short-term ways to cope (e.g., take naps, take sleep medicine at night, or use caffeine during the day). These ways of coping may become factors themselves (perpetuating factors), which can make sleep problems continue. This model may have special meaning for people with headaches. This is because some perpetuating factors are common ways to manage headaches, like:

- using caffeine to stop a headache
- napping during the day to sleep off a headache

If people aren't careful, regular use of these strategies might lead to chronic sleep and chronic headache problems. A better solution is to learn ways to manage stress and to use sleep hygiene strategies.

Ways to Improve Sleep and Headaches

There are many ways to improve your sleep patterns and, potentially, alleviate headaches caused by sleep issues.

Some examples include:

- Using a headache diary to find your triggers. Notice any patterns that occur in correlation to your sleep or how rested you feel.
- Keep regular sleep patterns. Sleeping too much or too little can trigger headaches. If you do get a headache when your sleep pattern has changed, this may be a trigger that you can control.
- Manage stress. Exercise and eat nourishing food on a regular schedule.
- Seek treatment if you have depression or anxiety, which can both contribute to poor quality of sleep and headaches.
- Practice good posture to reduce neck strain. Reduce eye strain from computers at work and at home. Be mindful of jaw clenching, which can cause muscle tension in your face.

Visit 'Headache Management: Sleep Strategies' or talk to your healthcare provider for more information on the correlation between headaches and sleep.

Rink Rebuild Update

Goodbye old rink! In the space of two days, the boards, fencing, and supporting metal frame has been removed. Next up – Westcor and team continue to demolish the asphalt and other structures/spaces to prepare the site for the new rink that will be installed over the coming months. Stay up-to-date on the progress of the rink rebuild with our online blog at sandstonemacewan.com or follow us on social @sandstonemacewan.



GAMES & PUZZLES

Guess The Drink!

- 1. On August 28, 1898, Caleb Bradham invented this sweet, carbonated drink originally called "Brad's Drink" which was used to relieve dyspepsia (indigestion).
- 2. In 1969, Walter Chell invented this drink in Calgary which is typically made from Clamato juice, Worcestershire sauce, spices, and vodka.
- 3. This non-alcoholic drink is named after an iconic 1930s Hollywood child actress.
- 4. This drink has been around for thousands of years. Legend has it that in 2737 BC, Chinese emperor Shen Nung discovered it while sitting underneath a tree with boiling water.
- 5. This sparkling wine is named after the region from which it is produced.
- 6. This caffeinated energy drink from Austria "gives you wings".





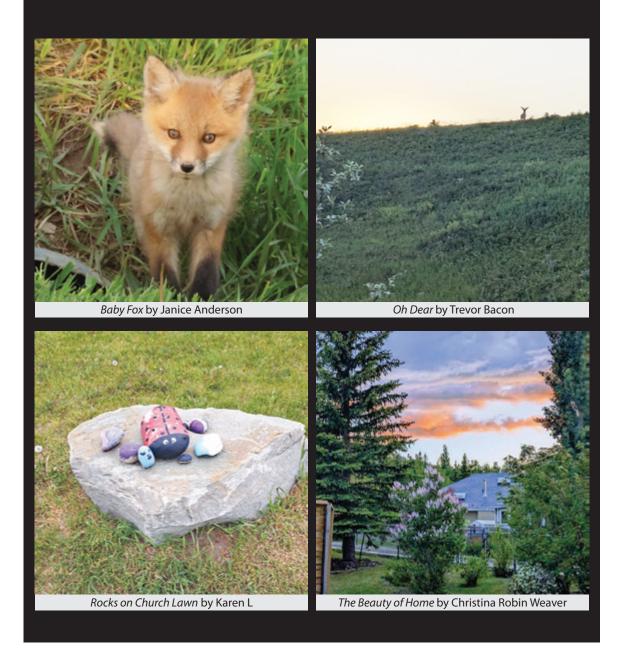








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YOUR CITY OF CALGARY

Declutter and Discover! Join Us for the Citywide Treasure Hunt: A Fun Event for All Ages!

by The City of Calgary, Waste and Recycling Services

We are excited to announce the upcoming Curbside Treasure Hunt, taking place across Calgary on September 7 and 8. This is a fantastic community event where residents can set out items they no longer need, giving others a chance to find a hidden gem.

Event Details:

- Dates: September 7 and 8
- Look through your home and gather any reusable items that you no longer need.
- Mark them with a "Free" label and place them at the curb on the designated event days.
- Treasure hunters rejoice! Anyone can come and pick up these items for their own use – it's like a free garage sale right at your doorstep!
- If it's still on the curb, let's keep the community tidy and donate it!

The Treasure Hunt encourages Calgarians to explore their neighbourhoods, find unique items, and meet new people. It's a wonderful opportunity to strengthen our community ties and supports our goal of reducing environmental impacts by reducing waste. Participants can place items they no longer need at the curb for others to pick up, fostering a spirit of sharing and community engagement.

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Creamy Potato Salad

by Jennifer Puri

Potatoes are normally used in place of bread, pasta, or rice. More than a billion people consume potatoes, and they are considered the third most valuable food crop around the world.

Potatoes contain several important vitamins and are 99% fat-free. They also contain half the number of calories of an equivalent portion of cooked rice or pasta as they have a high-water content.

To get the most antioxidants out of potatoes, leave the skins on and choose colourful varieties like red or purple. Baked potato skin is a good source of potassium, magnesium, and fiber which is beneficial for digestive health.

Raw potatoes contain a lot of water making them unsuitable for freezing so only cooked or partially cooked potatoes should be frozen.

Boiled, roasted, or mashed potatoes can be found in soups, casseroles, latkes, gnocchi, samosas, or curries to name a few, or as shown in this crowd-pleasing recipe below.

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Cook Time: 20 minutes

Servings: 4 to 6

Ingredients:

- 2 lbs. mixed red, purple, or golden baby potatoes
- 1 cup thinly sliced celery
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced green onions
- 1/2 cup chopped dill pickles
- 1 cup mayonnaise or veganaise
- 2 tbsp. whole grain Dijon mustard
- 34 tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. coarsely ground black pepper
- 4 hard boiled eggs, peeled and quartered
- 1 cup whole black or green pitted olives
- Juice of half a lime
- 1 tsp. paprika (optional)



Directions:

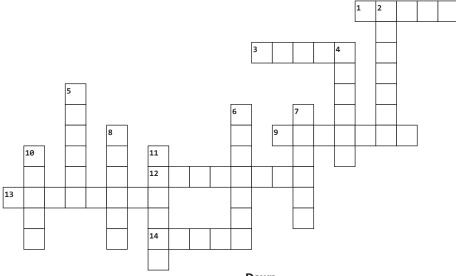
- Place potatoes in a large saucepan or pot and add enough salted water to cover. Bring to a boil and then reduce heat and simmer covered for about 15 minutes or until potatoes are tender. Drain and set aside to allow potatoes to cool.
- In a medium sized bowl, add mayonnaise or veganaise, mustard, dill pickles, salt, pepper, olives, celery, green onions, and the lime juice. Next slice the cooked potatoes in halves (leaving the skins on) and add to the dressing.
- Finally, gently stir in the cooked eggs until potatoes and eggs are nicely covered. Cover with saran wrap and allow potato salad to chill in the refrigerator for a minimum of six hours, preferably overnight.
- Prior to serving, garnish the creamy potato salad with green onions and smoked paprika if desired.

Bon Appétit!



August Crossword





Across

- 1. One of two birth flowers for August, this flower symbolizes remembrance and is often used to honour veterans who have passed away in war.
- 3. On August 28, 1963, in Washington D.C., civil rights activist and reverend, Martin Luther King Jr. gave his inspiring "I Have a ______" speech.
- 9. This yellowish-green gemstone is one of three birthstones for August, the others being the spinel and sardonyx.
- 12. On the first Monday in August, Albertans celebrate _____ Day, which recognizes the multicultural landscape of the province.
- 13. In August of 1896, George Carmack was the first to find gold at Bonanza Creek, Yukon, sparking the Gold Rush.
- 14. The Summer Olympics takes place in which French city from July 26 to August 11 this year?





Down

- 2. Canadian filmmaker James Cameron, famous for movies such as *Titanic, Avatar*, and *The Terminator*, was born on August 16, 1954, in Kapuskasing, _____.
- 4. The fantasy novel *A Game of Thrones*, written by George R.R. _____, was first published in August of 1996.
- 5. August is a popular name for boys in this Scandinavian country.
- 6. On August 8, 1969, The ______, took to the street to take the cover photo for their album Abbey Road which featured songs such as "Here Comes the Sun", "Come Together", and "Octopus's Garden".
- 7. The Perseid _____ shower is one of the best shooting stars displays which Canadians can view on the eve of August 12 this year.
- 8. The saying "The Dog Days of Summer" is linked to the rising of the star called _____, also known as the Dog Star.
- 10. Canadian actress, Evangeline _____, famous for her role as Kate Austen in the drama series *Lost*, was born on August 3, 1979, in Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta.
- 11. Michael ______ set the record for the most gold medals by an athlete in a single Olympic Games in Beijing, 2008.

SAFE AND SOUND

Accidental Poisoning

by Alberta Health Services

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) would like to remind parents and caregivers of precautions to prevent accidental childhood poisonings around the home. Ingesting prescription or over the counter (OTC) medications is a significant cause of accidental childhood poisonings. Other causes of poisoning include ingesting or coming into contact with household items such as dishwasher tablets, mouthwash, or chemicals such as paints, solvents and cleaning products.

Medication Storage

- Place all medications in locked containers and store in an area inaccessible to children.
- For easy identification, store all medications in their original packaging; do not mix multiple medications in a single bottle.
- Install child locks on all cabinets, or drawers where medications are stored.

Safety Tips

- Child-resistant medication bottles are not child proof.
 They can still be opened by a child.
- Take extra precaution with medicines designed to appeal to children such as chewable vitamins or flavored cough and cold syrups.
- Promptly dispose of any medications or toxic household products no longer in use.

Prevention

- Store household products, cleaning supplies, and cosmetics in locked cabinets or drawers.
- Install child latches on cabinets children might also access by climbing on counters or chairs.
- Label all plants in and around your home and garden.
- Antifreeze, windshield washer fluid, and pesticides are extremely poisonous. Even small amounts of these can cause serious illness if ingested.

Poisoning information can be obtained by calling the Poison and Drug Information Service (PADIS) at: 1-800-332-1414.

In case of a poisoning emergency, call 9-1-1. Provide the name of the product ingested and, if it is safe to do so, a sample of the substance for EMS to inspect on their arrival.







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by Anne Burke

Urban green spaces enhance our lives in cities. Parks serve as spaces for physical activity, mental health, social contact, and connection with nature across Canada. As sanctuaries, they strengthen our bonds with nature and promote biodiversity. According to the 2023 Canadian City Parks Report, parks had high use and reflected great value during the period studied. Indeed, 94% of cities reported increased use of parks in the last year. Parks were also used more in the winter for 50% of Canadians and 73% expected this use to continue. Of all park types, Canadians say they preferred to visit local neighbourhood parks (71%), natural areas (61%), and trails (60%) for nearby green spaces. Community Park groups continued to use their local parks across the country.

There were interviews with 44 senior parks staff from 30 municipalities, who shared challenges they are facing, the projects and people that inspire them, and the vision for the future of city parks. About 64% of city residents said they visit parks two to three times per week or more, including 29% who visit every day or almost every day; while 51% of city residents said they'd like to spend more time in parks than they currently do. Addressing impacts from climate change/extreme weather is one of the challenges for 94% of cities; 60% said they feel equipped with the knowledge and tools to address climate change through their work in parks. Only 57% of cities agreed that most parks are well-designed and planned to withstand the impacts of climate change, but 3% strongly agreed. When many informal parallel bike trails lead to the same place, "during certain periods of the year, maybe we close the park and allow wildlife to migrate through it." See: ccpr.parkpeople.ca/2023/ for more on this report.



Here are some updates related to Ward 3, the City of Calgary, and Council decisions.

Check Your Mailbox for My Annual Mailer!

Keep an eye out towards the end of the month for my annual ward-wide mailer. Every household will receive a copy in the mail that features updates about what's happening in Ward 3 and across the city. If you have any questions or don't receive your copy, reach out to my office at ward3@calgary.ca.

Secondary Suite Incentive Program Launch

To encourage safe and accessible housing, the City has launched its Secondary Suite Incentive Program as part of our official Housing Strategy. It provides qualifying homeowners with up to \$10,000 to cover a portion of costs to develop and register and safe suite. Only suites built within main dwellings are eligible to apply for the following:

- Earess windows
- Hardwired and interconnected smoke and carbon monoxide alarms
- Protected exiting
- Smoke-tight barriers
- Split heat/separate air

Additional funding is also available for accessibility and energy efficiency. View the full details and application process at calgary.ca/suite-incentive.

Seeking Time Capsule Contributors from 1999

In 1999, the City created a time-capsule and friendship quilt to celebrate the International Year of Older Persons. October 1 of 2024 marks the 25th anniversary of this occasion. Ahead of this, the city is seeking out the original participants from 1999 to hear their stories and invite them to participate in the celebrations later this year. If you or someone you know was a part of the original time capsule, reach out to agefriendlycalgary@ calgary.ca to get involved.



TAKE ON WELLNESS

Hydration and You

by Alberta Health Services

Water keeps every part of your body working properly. It helps your body flush waste and stay at the right temperature. It can help prevent kidney stones and constipation.

You lose water throughout the day through your breath, sweat, urine, and bowel movements. If you live somewhere hot, you could lose even more fluid.

It is important to replace this lost fluid to stay healthy. If you don't get enough water, you could become dehydrated. If you get very dehydrated, your body no longer has enough fluid to get blood to your organs which can be very dangerous.

What is the Right Amount of Water to Drink Each Day?

All liquids help you stay hydrated, but water is usually the best choice. A common recommendation is to drink six to eight glasses of water per day (250 ml or 8 fl oz). Some adults may need more depending on your overall health, how much you exercise, and how hot or dry the climate is.

Most people get enough fluid through the beverages they normally drink each day. You also get water through food. Some fruits and vegetables contain a lot of water, such as watermelon and lettuce.

Did you know? Experts say it is not true that beverages containing caffeine – coffee, tea, and cola drinks – are dehydrating. Healthy individuals who consume moderate amounts of caffeine do not lose more fluid than people



who don't have any caffeine. A moderate amount of caffeine is about 200 to 300 mg per day which is about two to four cups (250 ml or 8 fl oz) of coffee.

If you are feeling well, you urinate every few hours during the day, and are not feeling thirsty often, you are likely drinking enough water.

People with certain health problems, especially heart and kidney problems, need to speak with a doctor about how much water to drink.

Ways to Consume More Water During the Day

If you struggle with consuming water or remembering to drink enough throughout your day, these suggestions may help:

- Drink a glass of water when you get up in the morning, before drinking coffee or tea.
- Keep a cup or water bottle by your desk at work. Take several sips of water each hour. If you don't have a desk job, carry a container of water with you and take sips throughout the day.
- Take a sip whenever you pass a drinking fountain.
- Mix it up! Add sugarless flavouring to your water or a slice of lemon/lime. Alternate with sparkling water.



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