# RIDGE review

THE OFFICIAL DISCOVERY RIDGE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER DISCOVERY RIDGE Cover Photo by Jim Thomson

### David knows the Westside.





403-869-7971 | david@davidpellettier.ca | davidpellettier.ca

### **Epilepsy Awareness Month**

Shine a Light on Epilepsy

This March, let's unite in support of the 30,000 individuals living with epilepsy in Southern Alberta. Together, we can make a meaningful impact. Wear purple, light up spaces, and be part of the movement!





**Light up the Night in Violet Vibes!** Light up your homes,
offices, and public spaces in
purple to show your solidarity.

**Dress in Grape Glory!** Show your support by wearing purple clothing or accessories on March 26th.

**Spark a Purple Revolution!** Be a part of the change! Donate or start a fundraiser.



Share your purple moments using #postyourpurple













ROARD OF DIRECTORS

## **DISCOVERY RIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (DRCA) EXECUTIVE (2025)**

DUAND OF DINECTORS					
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Volunteer	Hend Elkaliouby	volunteer@discoveryridge.cor			
Planning			ning@discoveryridge.com		
Recreation Facility	Paul Decloux and Darrell Martindale				

### DRCA Channels of Communication

Our community association has several channels to communicate to you, and for you to communicate with us!

#### Member Emails

Get a membership and provide your email for 'what's new' updates

#### **Ridge Review Newsletter**

Twelve publications per year

#### Website

www.discoveryridge.com

#### Facebook

Discovery Ridge Community Association

#### X (Twitter)

@DiscoveryRidge1

#### **Email Us**

See listing or the website 'contact us' page for contacts

### SCAN HERE TO VIEW ADDITIONAL DISCOVERY RIDGE CONTENT

News, Events, & More





**Disclaimer:** The opinions expressed within any published article, report, or submission reflect those of the author and should not be considered to reflect those of Great News Media or the Community and/or Residents' Association. The information contained in this newsletter is believed to be accurate but is not warranted to be so.

Great News Media and the Community and/or Residents' Association do not endorse any person or persons advertising in this newsletter. Publication of any advertisements should not be considered an endorsement of any goods or services.



- March 3 at 7:30 pm DRCA Regular Board Meeting
- March 22 at 8:30 to 9:30 pm Earth Hour Turn off your lights to support reducing our energy and environmental impact.
- April 7 at 7:30 pm DRCA Regular Board Meeting

Did you know that board meetings happen monthly and all DRCA members are welcome to attend?

Please contact the DRCA to learn more about what we do for the community and our future plans. Email drca\_pres@discoveryridge.com for more information on the DRCA and if you wish to attend upcoming meetings.

#### **LETTER FROM THE BOARD**

Dear Discovery Ridge neighbours,

Recent wildfires in places such as Jasper, Kelowna, and California have highlighted the importance of a proactive approach to fire risk management in Griffith Woods and Discovery Ridge.

The DRCA has heard from many residents with concerns, questions, and offers to help. A Wildfire Safety Committee was formed to try and liaise with the City and Province to reduce fire risk for Discovery Ridge community using available community capacities and leveraging government resources. The following initial issues were identified:

- The considerable amount of deadwood as fuel in Griffith Woods.
- Prolonged hot, dry periods, leading to dry bush and ground cover.
- People lighting fires in the woods (and lack of signage and monitoring to prevent this).
- The proximity of housing to Griffith Woods.
- Home designs, construction, and landscaping are not risk informed.
- Low community awareness of the risk factors and the seriousness of this situation.
- Lack of joint early warning system between the City of Calgary and the Tsuut'ina Nation.
- Lack of emergency readiness/preparedness, response, and evacuation plans.
- Absence of fire risk mitigation hardware in Griffith Woods, such as sprinkler systems.
- Misalignment of efforts between the Calgary Fire Department, City Parks, and the Province.
- Concern about cigarette smoking in the woods beside the Wedgewood property.

Based on these identified concerns, the Committee has done and continues to do research on wildfires and wildfire safety organized into the following categories:

- Vegetation Management
- Construction
- · Human Behaviour
- Emergency Preparedness Planning
- Fire Suppression Hardware
- Community Awareness and Communication
- Coordination, Implementation, and Representation

The DRCA Committee has pursued many avenues including the City of Calgary, Calgary Fire Department (CFD), Calgary Emergency Management Agency (CEMA), and more. A group meeting was arranged with all key departments at the table. We were told that Griffith Woods does present significant concerns. We were also told there are emergency plans in place for locations such as Discovery Ridge but that they cannot be shared with us.

A very constructive meeting was subsequently held with our contact from the CFD Fire Chief's Office, and they have committed to developing an educational campaign for Discovery Ridge this spring, a review of fuel management will be looked at in conjunction with the Parks department and we are hoping to get involved with a "Climate Resistant Communities" initiative.

The DRCA will continue to advocate for our community and push for the experts to initiate measures to protect and educate our community.









#### Services

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#### YOUR CITY OF CALGARY

### What Goes Where?

by The City of Calgary



Sorting can be tricky, but every decision counts, and we're here to help you become a sorting pro.

Green bins are for food scraps and yard waste, and your blue bin is for acceptable household paper, cardboard, and container packaging.



Some old and broken household items don't always have to end up in the black bin, there are a range of programs and services to help divert waste from our landfills and give items a second life.

Together, we can make a big impact and become recycling and composting champions.

If you're unsure where an item belongs, visit calgary.ca/whatgoeswhere to find the 'Right Bin for the Win!'

#### **Snapshots of Discovery**

This photo was submitted by Jim Thomson and taken from a safe distance without threatening the animal. Send us your photos of our beautiful neighbourhood. Adult and children's submissions are welcome.



## Calgary 🎂

## Griffith Woods Park Winter Wilderness







Griffith Woods sits on the North shore of the Elbow River, at the west edge of Calgary, Bordering the community of Discovery Ridge, Griffith Woods was created in 2000 and named after Wilbur and Betty Griffith, who donated a portion of their estate to The City to be set aside as a nature preserve. The resulting wildlife park is full of natural flora and fauna, more reminiscent of Kananaskis Country than many city parks. We do ask that all our park users keep that in mind when they are in the park, and stay on the designated trails, respecting trail closures, helping keep the park habitat healthy.

Griffith Woods is situated on Treaty 7 land and borders the Tsuut'ina Nation. Park users should stay within the park boundaries while they are enjoying the park and avoid trespassing on Tsuut'ina private property. Starting in 2023, undesignated trails close to the boundary with Tsuut'ina Nation were closed and repaired, and a fence was erected to reduce trespassing.

One of Griffith Woods highlights is the sheer amount of wildlife you can find within the park. February is a great time to go out with your binoculars and find some of our year-round resident birds who make the park home. Within a short walk from the parking lot, you can find yourself in a white spruce forest full of Black-capped and Boreal Chickadees, Woodpeckers, including the rare Piliated Woodpecker, Mallard ducks, Canada Geese, even a Bald Eagle can be found at times perched high in the trees.

In addition to the birds, lots of other wildlife call Griffith Woods home. You can find deer, coyotes, porcupines, beavers, and even moose throughout the winter. With all this wildlife present it is very important to keep your dogs on a leash when you go for a walk, and to properly clean up after them, so that the dog waste isn't an attractant for wildlife.

For more information on Griffith Woods go to https://www.calgary.ca/parks/griffith-woods-park.html.

#### Benefits of DRCA **Membership**

#### What does the DRCA do for me?

- Organizes social events such as Music in the Park, annual Stampede Round Up, Santa event.
- Coordinates the Ridge Review community newsletter.
- Provides up-to-date information about issues affecting you and the community through member only email provides updates on important items for all at www.discoveryridge.com.
- · Communicates regularly with the Ward 6 Office on community and city related issues.
- Provides effective representation and advocacy to external third parties about issues of concern to the community, including public safety, development and the natural environment.
- Attains and works casinos to fundraise for the community.
- Creates a sense of community pride through participation in community activities.

#### Membership Perks!

Did you know that only up-to-date DRCA Members receive regular community emails informing them of events and ongoing activities in your community? Visit discoveryridge.com to purchase your \$25 membership or see the membership form.

Visit www.discoveryridge.com.

#### **DRCA MEMBERSHIP FORM** • New Membership • Renewal Membership DISCOVERY RIDGE Name(s): Address: Postal Code: I can volunteer for: • General assistance Membership ○ Communications Environment Special Events Skating Rink maintenance Sponsorship Payment: \$25 O Cheque O Cash O CC O Pay online at www.discoveryridge.com/membership Membership runs from September 1 to August 31 each fiscal year. Make cheques payable to Discovery Ridge Community Association. Mail to: Discovery Ridge Community Association - 160 Discovery Ridge Blvd - T3H 4Y3 Undersigned hereby consents to: (1) the collection of the personal information on this form; (2) the use of the information for the following purposes: to solicit volunteers for DRCA's programs and activities; to recruit members and solicit renewal of membership in DRCA; to solicit participation or membership in programs or activities provided by DRCA; to provide information to you on the DRCA programs and activities; (3) disclosure of the information in the DRCA register of members which is available for review by various members of the public as required by law. The purpose of collection of the information is

to provide contact and registration information for DRCA and to use in and disclose it as described above. The DRCA does not sell membership lists. Designated members of the board of the DRCA are able to answer questions about the collection of the information.

Date:		
Signature:		



Canada is home to 60% of the world's lakes, this equates to over 2 million shimmering bodies of water across this beautiful country we call home. But that's not all -Canada also has the longest coastline in the world stretching an astonishing length of 202,080 kilometres.

## Homeowners' Association (NDHA) News

Happy March everyone! As we wind down the winter season and look forward to spring (fingers crossed), NDHA's main priority continues to be clearing snow from community pathways. With the variable weather we often see in spring, we often see pathways melting during the day only to freeze overnight. We encourage you all to be very careful as you enjoy our neighbourhood pathways. Also please reach out to us if you see an area that you think needs attention.

#### 3-1-1 Issues

In recent weeks, several neighbours have noticed damage to the curb at the new level crosswalk on Discovery Ridge Boulevard. This is disappointing because this work was only completed in the fall of 2024. Infrastructure, like curbs and retaining walls, as well as trees in the public areas of Discovery Ridge are almost all the responsibility of the City of Calgary. If you see damage to this kind of infrastructure or a fallen tree, the NDHA Board encourages you to contact the City's 3-1-1 line. You can phone them at 3-1-1, reach out via the City's website (https://www.calgary.ca/311. html), or even download their app to your device. The City is fairly responsive to problems brought to their attention through 3-1-1. Also, the more connections they get about a given problem via 3-1-1, the more quickly they respond. If you see an issue that the City should fix, reach out to them via 3-1-1 and encourage your friends and neighbours to do the same.

#### **2025 Fees**

By now, you should have received your annual NDHA invoice. Your 2025 membership fee remains at \$325. For most homeowners, your invoice was sent to the email address registered on your membership account portal. Please check your "junk" folder if you have not seen it yet. If there is no email address set up in your portal, a paper invoice was sent to your on-file mailing address via Canada Post. We ask that you check your email address, mailing address, and other contact information is registered and up to date with the NDHA. Fee payments can be made by credit card, Interac E-Transfer, or by cheque. Please refer to your invoice for further payment information.

If you are unsure of your invoice or payment status, you can access this information via your membership portal

at www.ndha.ca. If you have questions or concerns, or require help accessing the membership portal, contact our Membership Director at NDHAmembership@ndha.ca.

\*Important: some people own multiple homes in Discovery Ridge; please indicate your full name and the address of the property in your email enquiry.

Thank you in advance for your timely payment!

The NDHA Board has established the 2025 budget that will guide us in determining what projects will be completed this growing season. The "to-do" list is always long, but we work to ensure a financially responsible approach to keep our community green spaces as beautiful as ever.

#### New Homeowner?

If you have moved to Discovery Ridge in the past year, welcome! If you ever wonder about the NDHA or the work we do in the community, a lot of information is on our website at www.ndha.ca. The monthly news articles on our homepage and the FAQ tab are great sources of important information.

If you do not know how to set up and access your membership portal, or have difficulty doing so, please email our Membership Director at NDHAmembership@ ndha.ca. We would really appreciate you taking a moment to do this - it is important that we have the correct owner information for your property in our files. It will also make a big difference in how much time our volunteers spend tracking down new owners. Lawyers in real estate purchases sometimes fail to contact us about ownership changes or status of fees. Annual fees should be sorted out upon sale and is the responsibility of the parties involved to correctly pro-rate paid (or outstanding) fees for each property. Please note that the annual fee is not optional. It is secured by the NDHA Encumbrance registered on your property title. Fee enquiries should be emailed to the NDHA treasurer at Accounts@ndha.ca.

We are always happy to hear from our NDHA members. You can contact us in various ways via our website at www.ndha.ca, send us an email at General@ndha. ca, or even call us at 403-237-9595. As always, if you are interested in helping the NDHA maintain one of the most beautifully landscaped communities in Calgary, reach out through our website or email us at NDHAmembership@ndha.ca.

#### **Burrito Beef and Bean Soup**

by Jennifer Puri



Beans and rice have been a staple dish around the world for centuries. If eaten together, the combination of rice and beans

creates a complete protein. They provide a healthy plantbased protein and eating more protein can help build muscle mass and help you maintain a healthy weight.

The other benefit of eating rice and beans together is their fiber content which can help to improve digestion, maintain healthy blood sugar levels, and lower blood pressure and cholesterol.

The black bean is found in both Latino and Hispanic cultures and is served in a variety of Mexican dishes. It can be added to burritos, quesadillas, salsas, rice, salads, or soups like in the burrito beef and bean soup recipe below.

**Prep Time:** 20 minutes **Cook Time:** 60 minutes **Servings:** 6 to 8

#### **Ingredients:**

- 2 lbs lean ground beef
- 1 small yellow onion, chopped
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 3 tbsps of hot and spicy taco seasoning
- 2 cups of low sodium corn kernels drained and rinsed
- 2 cups black beans drained and rinsed
- 2 cups diced tomatoes
- 1 cup of un-cooked white or brown rice, rinsed
- 1 small can tomato puree
- 2 cartons beef broth
- Salt to taste
- Sour cream (optional)
- 2 ready to eat avocados (optional)
- Queso taco chips (optional)



#### Directions:

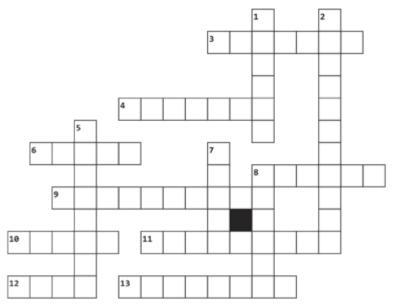
- 1. In a large pot or saucepan, sauté ground beef, garlic, and onion until the beef turns brown.
- Add taco seasoning and mix together. Next add the black beans, corn, diced tomatoes, tomato puree, and salt to taste. Stir all ingredients together and then add the rice and the beef stock.
- 3. Bring pot or saucepan to boil, then cover and let simmer for about 45 minutes. Check to see if rice is cooked, especially if using brown rice which takes longer to soften than white rice.
- Ladle soup into bowls and garnish with chopped avocado and sour cream. Serve queso taco chips on the side if desired.

Note: This recipe can also be made in a Slow Cooker which can be a big time saver for busy families. Add sautéed beef, vegetables, rice, and stock to a slow cooker and simmer on low setting for six to eight hours or on high for four to six hours.

Bon Appétit!



### **March Crossword**



#### Across

3. Known as the "Fight of the Century", on March 8, 1971, Muhammad Ali's 31-fight winning streak was ended by Joe in Madison Square Garden.
4. Nathan was born on March 27, 1971, in Edmonton, Alberta, and is best known for his role as Captain Malcolm on <i>Firefly</i> .
6. Pink's album <i>The Dark Side of the Moon</i> was released on March 1, 1973, and stayed on the Billboard Top 200 album charts for 741 weeks!
8. <i>A Life</i> , an emotional novel following the lives of four friends and written by Hanya Yanagihara, was first published on March 10, 2015.
9. This pale-blue gemstone is one of March's birthstones.

Joni Mitchell, and Neil Young in the past.

11. Known for her roles in *Schitt's Creek*, *Home Alone*, and *Beetlejuice*, O'Hara was born on March 4, 1954,

individuals such as Frida Kahlo, Franklin D. Roosevelt,

10. On March 26, 1953, Dr. Jonas Salk successfully tested a vaccine for this disease that has affected notable

12. The month of March is named after this Roman god of war.

13. This iconic film about a giant ape causing chaos in New York City first premiered on March 2, 1933, at Radio City Music Hall.

#### Down

1. Daylight	Time will	start on	Sunday,	March	9
this year.					

- 2. This national park with geothermal features spanning across Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho became the first national park in the world on March 1, 1872.
- 5. Daffodils and \_\_\_\_\_ are the official birth flowers of March.
- 7. March is officially \_\_\_\_\_\_ Heritage Month in Canada and celebrates the history and impact of individuals, past and present, from the country nicknamed the "Emerald Isle".
- 8. On March 2, 2024, \_\_\_\_\_ James made NBA history by becoming the first player to score 40,000 career points.



in Toronto, Ontario.

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9			3					
	SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE SOLUTION							

#### **GAMES & PUZZLES**

#### **Guess the Toy!**

- 1. This fashion doll, created by Ruth Handler, made her debut at the American Toy Fair on March 9, 1959.
- 2. This toy originates from the Swahili word "kujenga" which means "to build".
- 3. This was the first toy ever advertised on television, featuring parts that could be stuck into a fruit or vegetable.
- 4. Max Park holds the record for solving this 3D combination puzzle toy at 3.13 seconds.
- 5. This stretchy, bouncy, moldable toy was used aboard Apollo 8 to help secure tools and equipment in zero gravity.
- 6. This toy was named after Theodore Roosevelt who famously refused to shoot a captured animal during a hunting trip in 1902.





SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE ANSWERS!



MLA Calgary - West Mike Ellis

234 – 333 Aspen Glen Landing SW Calgary, AB T3H 0N6

403.216.5439

As Minister of Public Safey and Emergency Service, I have been taking swift action that will curb illegal border activities and strengthen the nation's border security. New measures will immediately crack down on illegal migrants and drug trafficking across the border.

Alberta's government has long recognized the need for additional capacity to patrol Alberta's vulnerable international borders, where any amount of illegal activity is too much. I look forward to working with our partners in law enforcement and across government as we send a clear message to prospective offenders that criminal activity, such as fentanyl trafficking, will not be tolerated at our borders or anywhere else in our province.

A new Interdiction Patrol Team (IPT) within the Alberta Sheriffs will crack down on drug smuggling, gun trafficking, and other illegal activities occurring along Alberta's 298-kilometre international boundary. This team will patrol to detect and intercept illicit drugs, illegal firearms, and unlawful attempts at illegal international border crossing.

To help build relationships with our American partners, I recently took a ministerial mission to Texas for several important meetings and learning opportunities. Along with Minister Amery, I met with officials from government, law enforcement, and non-government organizations in both Dallas and Austin to learn and exchange information on best practices in public safety, justice, and emergency management. Insights and information gathered over the course of these engagements may help inform the development of future policies, programs, and services in Alberta.

This was a great opportunity for me to represent Alberta, and, of course, Calgary-West, as I spoke about some of the great successes we have had at home when it comes to border security and building safer communities.

Through sharing experiences and strategies, we can enhance public safety and foster trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve.

Mike Ellis MLA, Calgary-West

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**NEIGHBOURHOOD CONFLICT?** Community Mediation Calgary Society (CMCS) is a no-cost mediation and conflict coaching service that can help you resolve problems and restore peace! We help neighbours be neighbours again! www.communitymediation.ca, 403-269-2707.

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## DISCOVERY RIDGE COMMUNITY REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY

		Properties		Media	n Price	
		<b>Listed Sold</b>		Listed	Sold	
January	25	13	8	\$513,500	\$510,000	
December	24	7	4	\$369,900	\$380,000	
November	24	7	7	\$469,000	\$464,000	
October	24	13	10	\$682,400	\$672,500	
September	24	7	8	\$889,750	\$870,500	
August	24	7	7	\$1,150,000	\$1,120,000	
July	24	13	8	\$522,500	\$525,500	
June	24	12	12	\$634,900	\$629,200	
May	24	14	10	\$849,900	\$860,500	
April	24	11	10	\$915,000	\$939,500	
March	24	6	10	\$639,950	\$635,000	
February	24	12	6	\$886,900	\$907,059	

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

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#### **This Canmore Wedding**

by Garth Paul Ukrainetz

Three Sisters over Canmore
O beautiful the bridesmaids
At the altar in the valley
Where the River Bow does run

Tall groomsmen of Mount Rundle Rugged handsome chiseled features Wearing spruce tree green tuxedos Faces flushed with rising sun

Proud Nakoda poised in middle
His true love will soon make entrance
Yes, at last they'll be united
Grassi tear wells in his eye

Though the bride is slow in coming
Patient bridal party waiting
Heaven knows this Canmore wedding
Stands majestic to the sky





## Why your neighbours choose David when it's time to sell their home.

David sells faster.

38% faster

When it's time to sell your home, David sells it **38% faster**. David's listings averaged **20 days on market** vs the rest of the market at 32 days, over the past 5 years.\* David sells for more.

100%

Over the past 5 years, David's listings have sold at **100%** of list price on average vs the rest of market at 99.4%.\*

David sells more.

 $490_{\text{sales}}$ 

With **490** sales dating back to 2012, David has established himself as the top producing Realtor here on the Westside.

David's sales represent more than twice the volume of his closest competitor over the past 10 years!

\* Detached homes – Listed & Sold – Calendar 2012 - 2024 – West Springs, Aspen Woods, Springbank Hill, Discovery Ridge, Signal Hill, Christie Park, Strathcona Park, Coach Hill, Patterson & Cougar Ridge

Friend
Neighbour
Realtor® **David**Pellettier

