

The Mission STATEMENT

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CLIFF BUNGALOW - MISSION COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

www.cliffbungalowmission.com

JULY / AUGUST 2011



LONG-TIME COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER AND SUPPORTER PASSES

BY BOB LANG

MARY LYNAS PASSED away on Friday, May 20th at the age of 89 years. Her roots in Calgary go deep. Her grandfather was Colonel James Walker of the NWMP who came to Calgary in 1882. He settled in Inglewood where the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary is located. By comparison, Father Lacombe obtained the land grant for the Mission District in 1883.

Mary moved into Cliff Bungalow-Mission in 1973 about five years before I did. Both our lives would become intertwined with the Community Association over the years and we became very good friends. In those early years, there were many threats to the future of our community and Mary was a staunch supporter of our efforts. Much of what we did involved the creation of the first Cliff Bungalow Area Redevelopment Plan. Those were tumultuous years full of tension and intrigue as absentee landowners tried to justify basically tearing down all of this historic community while community residents saw the diamond in the rough that it really was and its historic value to the City as whole. It was a tough uphill battle but Mary was there attending community and City Council meetings and doing many things to help support our cause.

As we gradually made progress in regard to those issues and established a Community Centre in the Cliff Bungalow School building in 1988, Mary continued her involvement. She was always there to help with community socials, flea mar-



MARY LYNAS

kets, casinos, and the Lilac Festival just to name a few. Mary helped at the community table at the first Lilac Festival held on June 2, 1990 and for many years afterward. She also was on the Board for many years. I always valued her sharp grasp of things and her input. We had some great times over the years and Mary was always there to help.

Mary was busy in many other things in Calgary. For example, when Cliff Bungalow School was open, she would speak to the students about growing up in Calgary and about her grandfather and father. She actually grew up in Colonel Walker's

house which is in the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary. She was close to her grandfather who was named Calgary's Citizen of the Century in 1975. Her father, Selby Walker, was an early environmentalist and was instrumental in the creation of the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary.

Mary loved to travel and was a season ticket holder for many of the arts groups in Calgary. She worked in the bookselling industry at the Hudson's Bay, Carmen Moore Books and Sandpiper Books and was well respected in her field. She was a long-time member of Knox United Church and through that got involved with Inn from the Cold. The list goes on and on.

More recently, Mary was a supporter of the Promenade along 26th Avenue. Eilish Hiebert videotaped an interview in which Mary talked about the Elbow River that would flood every spring before the Glenmore Dam was built. She was a living encyclopaedia of how things were in Calgary many years ago. She lived the history and knew those who were a part of Calgary's history.

I personally will miss Mary a lot. She used to look after my house and my cats over the years when I went away. We worked together on so many community activities and projects. We used to talk in her living room and either solve or analyse the problems of the world including our community over a drink. I was blessed to have her as a friend. This community and Calgary as whole has truly lost a great friend and supporter. ☘

I WANTED TO TAKE this opportunity to thank my readers, writers, and advertisers for their interest in the Mission Statement; thank you for your consistent contributions and e-mailing to say how much you enjoy this publication. Caitlin Mercer writes:

Hi, I moved into Mission about 8 months ago and love it. Thank you for the great newsletter, I love hearing about what's going on in the community.

Caitlin continues with a remark about our editing:

Just one quick comment. Both last month and this month I noticed a small error. Last month I noticed a 2010 instead of 2011 on the date of an event, and this month there's one on page 7 - the Community Cleanup says it's happening on September 11, 2010.

I just want our readers to know that the committee does the best it can to catch errors. With 5 volunteers to proofread draft after draft after draft, it's never 100 percent foolproof. So with that in mind please bear with us as we scramble to get every issue out in a timely manner. We are volunteers who take the time out of their professional and personal lives to keep this community connected and as much as we enjoy it (seriously, why else would we do it?), the minor errors that we realize we missed, actually disappoint us. We want nothing more than to put out an interesting, enjoyable and accurate newsletter so if you notice an error, by all means, let us know; but also understand that while the error seems obvious to you, it can easily be overlooked by our busy eyes!

— Sarah Hbeichi, CBMCA Newsletter Editor



Did you Witness?

On or before Monday, June 13, someone took the community's sandwich board that was on the northwest corner of 4th Street and 22nd Avenue SW. If you witnessed this being done or if you have seen it elsewhere in the community, please contact Bob Lang at rvlang@aol.com.



THE MISSION STATEMENT
JULY / AUGUST 2011

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The views expressed by contributors to The Mission Statement are not necessarily those of the CBMCA board or its associates.

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Cliff Bungalow-Mission Community Garden invites you to a

Garden Party

Sunday, September 11th, 2011, 2-4 pm at 24th Avenue & 1st Street SW
(in William Aberhart Park, south of Holy Cross Centre)

Come enjoy some light refreshments in our local park

Please bring along a lawn chair or blanket to sit on.

We may have a jam singalong, if you'd like to bring an instrument and/or your voice!

Enjoy our 14-year-old Community Garden in full bloom!
Garden guided tours 3-4 pm



GREAT WEATHER FOR LILAC FESTIVAL

BY BOB LANG

WE FINALLY HAD some good weather for this year's Lilac Festival held on Sunday, May 29th. It was a little reminiscent of the first Lilac Festival held in 1990. It rained much of the time leading up to the day but the sun came out on the day of the Festival. In both cases, people had been cooped up inside for days and when the sun came out, they were ready to get out and enjoy themselves. From my perspective that was one of reasons for the success of the first Lilac Festival, and it encouraged us to do more.

A big thank you goes to all the people who put up and took down the tent, got the table organized and helped by meeting and greeting visitors at our booth including: Jim Bowman, Sharon Cibrankewitch, Trafford Crump, Sarah Hbeichi, Eilish Hiebert, Georgia Hoffman, Rudy Labuhn, Natasha Pashak, Jan Pugh, Judith Theroux and Howard Zarvie.

BOARD MEMBERS ATTEND COMMUNITY CONFERENCE

Three Board members, Jan Pugh, Mark Mycyk and myself, attended the "Making Connections" community conference held on April 29 and 30. This event was organized by the Federation of Calgary Communities and Community & Neighbourhood Services, The City of Calgary. Mayor Nenshi was the keynote speaker for the kickoff of the conference. There was lots of opportunity to network and to learn about what other communities have done to engage their communities in various projects. These types of events are very useful to community association volunteers, including our own.

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BOARD

Things are still changing on our Community Association Board. Due to a new demanding job, Bil Hetherington,

our Social Director, stepped down from the Board. Also due to many demands on his time, Travis Oslanski, our Crime & Safety Director, stepped down. In the last issue of The Mission Statement, I should have also noted that Angela McKinnon resigned from the Board due to other demands in her life. We really appreciate all that these people have done for the Community Association and for the community as a whole.

This, of course, leaves some vacancies on the Board: Secretary, Social Director, and Crime & Safety Director. If you would like to explore what these positions entail, please contact me at rvlang@aol.com. I might note that many of the social activities are continuing as there are subcommittees looking after them.

I hope you have a great summer. ☺



TOP: THE CBMCA BOOTH AT LILAC FESTIVAL (FROM LEFT) JOHN GILPIN, EILISH HEIBERT, JAN PUGH, SARAH HBEICHI

ABOVE: (FROM LEFT) MARK MYCYK AND JAN PUGH WITH MAYOR NENSHI. PHOTOGRAPH BY JAN PUGH.

ADVERTISE

in the

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	1 issue:	1 year (6 issues):
Eighth page:	\$97	\$476
Quarter page:	\$148	\$720
Half page:	\$244	\$1,175

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Sizes (in inches)

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Half vertical:	3.81	9.66
Half horizontal:	7.75	4.66



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Ads are accepted from businesses and other organizations within the community or in close proximity or from Calgary-based cultural organizations.

SIGN THE PETITION

BY NATASHA PASHAK

Bill 205 was read for the first time in the Spring 2011 Session of the Alberta Legislature. It remains on the Order Papers for the Fall 2011 Session.

This Private Member's Bill was developed by Dave Taylor, MLA for Calgary-Currie. It seeks to amend the Municipal Government Act to allow municipalities to better regulate construction within their boundaries, and to ensure projects are not significantly stalled, suspended or delayed for unreasonable lengths of time. The Bill will give municipalities clear authority to intervene when construction sites become significantly stalled, suspended or delayed. In these cases, municipalities should have the authority to require the landowner to improve the appearance of the site within a specified timeframe.

Bill 205 comes as a response to a number of stalled developments in the province – most notably the Strategic site at 4th Street and 21st Avenue SW in Calgary. Delayed developments hamper the vitality of communities, lessen their desirability for businesses and reduce the ability of residents to fully enjoy and experience their surrounds. Bill 205 would allow municipalities to protect the economic and societal interests of communities existing near to such construction sites.

Please sign the petition and support Bill 205. Go to www.cliffbungalowmission.com



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LOTS OF ACTIVITIES PLANNED

BY BOB LANG

WHILE THERE WILL be fewer activities during the summer, there are lots of activities planned starting in September. Many take place at the Community Centre that has become a hub of community life in Cliff Bungalow-Mission. It is located at 2201 Cliff Street SW.

CLIFF BUNGALOW-MISSION JAZZ SERIES

These performances take place on the first Wednesday of the month from September to June. This is great jazz music right in your own back yard. Top Calgary jazz groups provide you jazz on a budget. Doors open at 7:30 pm while the performances start at 8.

COMMUNITY POT LUCKS

A great way to meet and break bread with your neighbours. They happen every second Saturday at 6 pm. Bring a starter, main dish, salad or dessert to share. Free for all members and \$5 for non-members (hint: a membership costs \$5). Enjoy eclectic gourmet food without the gourmet cost!

ACOUSTIC MUSIC JAMS

These occur on the last Saturday of the month (except December) from 2 to 4 pm. There are no age or skill criteria. Come out and play and sing with others in the neighbourhood. If you have an instrument, bring it along but even if you do not have an instrument, come out anyway and sing or play one of the percussion instruments that are available. It is a great way to spend a Saturday afternoon in the 'hood.

MOVIE NIGHTS

These happen on the last Sundays except in December and because of other happenings on May 13. They have become well known beyond our borders. We have an interesting movie followed by a community discussion. Plus there is pop and popcorn. Such a deal!

MEET OUR NEIGHBOUR DAY (MONDAY)

This is a great way to really see the community and meet some of its people. Meet at 7 pm every Monday at the corner of 4th Street and 22nd Avenue SW (two blocks east of the Community Centre).

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

The second annual community clean up is scheduled for Saturday, September 10 from 9 am to 2 pm. It takes place in the parking lot of former Holy Angels School (now the Cliff Bungalow-Mission Arts Centre). A great way to get rid of unwanted larger items and to recycle electronic equipment.

GARDEN PARTY

Come out on Sunday, September 11 from 2 to 4 pm and enjoy light refreshments while viewing the great results of the many gardeners of our community garden located in the William Aberhart Park in the 200 block of 24th Avenue SW. ☺

MOVIE NIGHTS

BY EILISH HIEBERT

MOVIE NIGHTS WILL resume September 25th, and will continue on the last Sunday of every month (except December) at 7 pm until May 2012.

We owe many thanks to CBMCA Social Committee, who launched and gradually developed this highly successful free monthly Sunday night movie initiative. Since these movies began, with neighbours meeting and chatting over popcorn and snacks, additions have included a new projector & screen, blinds for our sunlit windows, and invited speakers for stimulating after-movie circle discussions for those who choose to stay and participate. Movie picks have ranged from impressive urbanization in Curitiba, Brazil; global food production; biking in Vancouver; and local city initiatives; to 'Black Gold', chronicling coffee production in Ethiopia.

While we have in place a movie committee and framework for the next year, if anyone out there would like to make popcorn and look after snacks and drinks for the planned eight movie nights, we'd love to hear from you at rvlang@aol.com.

Do plan to come September 25th. Movie listings for the year will be in the September-October Mission Statement.

If you'd like to mark your calendar, the dates are: September 25th, October 30th, November 27th, January 29th, February 26th, March 25th, April 29th, May 13th.

We look forward to seeing you at the movies in the Fall. ☺

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MEET OUR NEIGHBOURS DAY (MONDAY)

BY SIMON CHAUVETTE

HOW MANY OF you know your neighbours? Imagine your neighbourhood full of people on the streets, conversing and making new friends. What a perfect example of a vibrant community! How can we, the neighbourhood of Mission and Cliff Bungalow, achieve this? It's simpler than you can imagine!

Meet Our Neighbours day (MONday) was started in Brentwood by a few CivicCampers in May 2009. We adapted their idea and brought MONdays to Cliff Bungalow-Mission on March 28th. The concept is incredibly simple: we meet every Monday at 7pm at the corner of 22nd Avenue and 4th Street SW and walk around the neighbourhood. When we get large enough, we could break down into smaller groups (or not) and discover different areas of the neighbourhood whilst getting to know one another. Alternatively, a group could decide to go for a beer or a coffee, stand on a street corner and chat, do a more structured walk, a fast walk, play cards - the more imaginative, the more people you attract!

In short, MONdays are a fun and informal way to get to know other members of the community (or people from nearby communities) and a great opportunity to (re)discover your neighbourhood while building community. Initiatives as such create sutures in the city – a social edge that sets the ideal conditions for similar ideas to flourish. As well, it helps solve problems like empty and unsafe streets and isolated individuals or families.

Take a look at the poster on the Facebook group or the community association's website www.cliffbungalowmission.com. Send the social committee an email (cbmca.social@gmail.com) and we will send you the poster so you can put it up in your building.

See you on Monday! ☺



INVENTORY OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS #6 — THE YOUNG BLOCK 2118/2120 4TH STREET SW

BY ROGER MARLER, PHOTOGRAPH BY JOAN LAWRENCE

THE YOUNG BLOCK was built around 1911/1912 by James W. Young to replace his original 3 year old home. Mr Young was a successful printer and had recently relocated his business from 209 8th Avenue SE. to the nearby Wright Block. The new building was constructed to take advantage of the real estate boom of the time and consisted of ground floor retail units with a large apartment on the second floor for the Young family.

Its style is considered to be Commercial and retains much of the original details and character: two-storey timber frame with brick cladding and sandstone details, a stylish cornice, a rear balcony, and oriel windows. However, the French doors on both levels and the second storey balconies are later modifications. It is today a significant landmark building for its style and representation of the commercial development of the time and retains a certain beautiful presence within our community.

The first retail tenants were The Producer's Outlet, a grocery store, and the U&I Pool Hall. Since then the ground floor use has changed over time to include a meat market and a couple of confectionery stores. Lately it has seen various forms of dining establishments: Pasta Frenzy, the Breadline, and it is now a franchise outlet of Original Joe's. The second storey has lately contained offices.

The current owner of the building, Bill Lister, recently changed its name to the Lister Block in honor of his father. The date 1918 was added to the cornice to commemorate his father's birthdate. Our Community Heritage Program has awarded it with a heritage plaque which can be viewed at the front of the building. ☺



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SCOLLEN BRIDGE FINALLY GETS ITS PLAQUE

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY BILL LONGSTAFF



SCOLLEN BRIDGE

Before the Mission District became part of Calgary in 1907, it was the village of Rouleauville. The streets had names instead of numbers. Twenty-fifth Avenue was called Scollen Street in honour of a man who tried to bridge the divide between Native peoples and European settlers.

Father Constantine Scollen was born in Ireland in 1841, where he was ordained as an Oblate priest. He came to Canada at the age of 21 and later worked with Father Albert Lacombe, the founder of Rouleauville. In 1873 Scollen established a mission among the Kainai (Blood) Nation south of Calgary. He played a key role in the signing of Treaties 6 and 7 as an interpreter and intermediary, and spent his last years ministering to and advocating for the Kainai.



Albert Lacombe, founder of Rouleauville. In 1873, he established a mission among the Kainai (Blood) Nation south of Calgary. He played a key role in

In 2007, the CBMCA Heritage Committee recognized an opportunity to incorporate the little bridge over the Elbow River at 25th Avenue SW into the community's heritage. The bridge lacked a name. It was known to the City simply as #3205.

The appropriate name was obvious. In recent years, the Association has worked with the City to erect historic street signs in Cliff Bungalow-Mission that included the names before the area became part of Calgary and adopted the number system. The name of 25th Avenue when the Mission district was part of the village of Rouleauville was Scollen Street. "Scollen Bridge," therefore, was a natural extension of the street signs project and the historically appropriate termination of Scollen Street.

The name commemorates Father Constantine Scollen. Born in Ireland in 1841, where he was ordained as an Oblate priest, he came to Canada at the age of 21 and later worked with Father

the signing of Treaties 6 and 7 as an interpreter and intermediary, and spent his last years ministering to and advocating for the Kainai. He died in 1902.

The naming effort wound its way through the City bureaucracy, achieving success on May 25th, 2009, when City Council approved the name. Erecting a bronze plaque to tell the story behind the name was however delayed by major rehabilitation of the bridge. That work is now complete and finally the plaque takes its rightful place. The City kindly built a base for the plaque into the new railings which shows it off handsomely.

And the story does not stop here. The application to name the bridge inspired the City of Calgary's Heritage Planners to inventory all unnamed bridges in the city with a view to attaching appropriate historic names. We look forward to the results. ☺



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RIVER PATHWAY CLEAN-UP A BIG SUCCESS

BY MARK MYCYK

THERE IS SO MUCH going on with the Environment Committee these days that I want to share some of the key highlights with you. I will briefly mention the river clean-up, the mural project, and Landshare Canada here.

The annual river pathway clean-up was a great success for another year. Thanks to some good advertising and planning we had over 60 people show up and collect over 80 bags of garbage. One of the reasons for the increase in garbage was due to the larger area we covered than previous years. Teams of people worked on both sides of the river in an area starting at the Scollen Bridge (25th Avenue SW) through Lindsay Park past Macleod Trail and over to the south side of the Stampede Grounds. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to clean-up the pathways near the river in our community. I'm sure many of you will notice the difference!

Another positive aspect to the river pathway clean-up event is the community-building which takes place during the social-gathering afterwards. Several surrounding communities, including ours, partnered with the Talisman Centre to host a barbeque and games for the clean-up volunteers. The weather cooperated, Alderman Carra joined the festivities later in the day and a great time was had by all. I want to say a big 'thank-you' to the Erlton community for successfully leading this year's event.

By the time this article is published, we will have hosted a meeting for the new community garden which was an opportunity for you to learn more about the project and express your ideas for the proposed location, design

and operation. If you have any outstanding questions or ideas, please feel free to contact the Environment Committee at cbmca.environment@gmail.com.

On a similar topic as the community garden, I want to tell you about an exciting new opportunity that has arrived in Calgary in the form of a non-profit organization called Landshare Canada. It is basically an on-line forum that facilitates the matching of people who want to grow things with people who have land available. For more details you can read the article on page 10 and visit www.landsharecanada.com to sign up today!

Lastly, I want to tell you about a mural project for the construction pit along 4th Street, between 20th and 21st Avenues which is well underway. You will see some small boards installed on the corners of the hoarding shortly followed by larger murals extending along the 4th Street section later this spring/summer. Many community volunteers as well as local high school students from St. Mary's have contributed to the creation of the hand-painted murals. I hope you enjoy the temporary artwork and information on display while the overall objective for the construction site is to see it get developed as quickly as possible.

If you're interested in joining the Environment Committee at one of our upcoming events, please put the following dates on your calendar:

September 10th, 9 am-2 pm, Community Clean-up & Exchange (2105 Cliff Street)

September 11th, 2-4 pm, Garden Party will take place at 24th Avenue and 1st Street SW. ☛

Cliff Bungalow - Mission Community Cleanup

September 10, 2011 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY CLEANUP?

The City of Calgary is providing two packer trucks. Residents can bring unwanted household goods and yard waste (things that might otherwise fill your basement, yard, street, or alley) to the pickup site. We will also have an electronics recycling company on-site.

WHERE SHOULD YOU BRING YOUR STUFF?

The cleanup will take place in the parking lot of Holy Angels School at 2105 Cliff St. No items will be received after 1:45 p.m.

WHAT TO LEAVE AT HOME (items not accepted)

Tires • Large-Scale Furniture • Propane Tanks • Metals • Household Chemicals
Home Appliances • Paint • Car Batteries • Microwaves • Liquids

If you have questions or want to volunteer email the green team at cbmca.environment@gmail.com or consult the Cliff Bungalow Mission Community Association Website: www.cliffbungalowmission.com

See you at 2105 Cliff St (Enter off Royal Ave). If you have a few extra minutes, stick around and enjoy a coffee with your neighbours!

HYBRID INDIAN/MEXICAN RESTAURANT EXCELS AT NEITHER

BY JIM BOWMAN

I STOOD IN THE entryway of the restaurant for five minutes, as the servers and manager passed by, pretending not to see me, oblivious to my desire to give them money (in exchange for a meal). I was about to walk out when the scruffy teenaged busboy sneered, "Whaddya want? Mexican or East Indian?" So began my excruciating experience at The Wicked Chili, at 507 - 17th Avenue SW.

Admittedly, it was around 7:15 on a Saturday night. I wanted to have a quick dinner before doing my grocery shopping. It took two hours for a meal that should have taken less than an hour. The restaurant was just about full, but still, they should have anticipated that by having sufficient staff on hand.

My enthusiasm for it was dampened by the long waits between courses, but the meal itself was satisfactory. The vegetable pakoras (deep-fried croquettes made with chickpea flour, spinach, onions, and potato) were crisp and tasty, and were enhanced by a sweet dipping sauce apparently containing tamarind and tomato. The garlic naan was as it should be, flaky, fluffy, and butter-coated. To challenge my fear of hyper-spicy Indian dishes, I tried the lamb vindaloo and was pleased to find that the sauce was interesting and didn't overpower the flavor of the succulent cubes of lamb. It didn't include the potatoes advertised on the menu, though.

The ambient music was mostly Indian pop ballads, but around 8:45, the staff turned on the big-screen TV to share with the diners their interest in an American Gladiators-type program. Sheesh! With a domestic beer, but no dessert or coffee, the bill came to \$34. Considering the indifferent service and uninspired décor, I thought it was too much.

The restaurant space at 507 - 17th Avenue unfortunately has a stairwell in the middle of it, dividing it into two rooms. Last fall the owners decided to reinvent half of it as a Mexican restaurant, La Casita Mexicana. It has its own cooks and server, but shares the



kitchen and is under the management of The Wicked Chili.

On a night when I chose "Mexican", I had chips and salsa, three tacos, and a beer. Unlike most Mexican and Southwestern-American restaurants, the chips and salsa were not complimentary. The chips looked and tasted like they were made from wheat flour, not cornmeal. The salsa, consisting of diced tomatoes, onions, sweet peppers, and cilantro, was too coarse to make a good dipping sauce. The beef-filled cornmeal tacos were only six inches in diameter, and included no memorable condiments. Instead of authentic Spanish rice, there was bright yellow turmeric-dyed "saffron" rice. The unappetizing refried beans appeared to have come from a can.

Including a beer, the cost of this meal was \$26. I thought the portions were small, and didn't really feel full at the end of it. The server, an energetic Latina, was a little more efficient and friendly than the servers in the Indian side of the restaurant. The Mexican room is decorated with well-executed murals of the Mexico's national emblem and its national hero Emiliano Zapata, and features Mexican pop music in the background.

It's an interesting experiment, operating a restaurant that serves two widely-different ethnic cuisines and pretends to be two separate restaurants. I've never seen anything like it. I don't think it works very well. The owners seem to have big ambitions, but lack the understanding that hospitality and excellence are the most important components of the restaurant business. ☹️

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JULY - AUGUST 2011

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A Library is Born

Calgary author Brian Brennan previews his forthcoming centennial history of the Calgary Public Library. Included is a tour of some of the interesting historical features of the Memorial Park Library.

Tues. July 26
 7:00-8:30pm

One Hundred Years of the Calgary Stampede

Enjoy fascinating stories of the Calgary Stampede, the heart of Calgary's heritage. Presented by a representative from the Calgary Stampede.

Thurs. July 28
 7:00-8:30pm

Register for programs by phone at 403-260-2620, online at www.calgarypubliclibrary.com, or in person at any Library branch. A valid Calgary Public Library card in your name is required to attend all programs.

CONNECTING GROWERS TO PEOPLE WITH LAND TO SHARE

BY SIMON CHAUVETTE AND TEJASWINEE JHUNJHUNWALA

WHO WOULD NOT want to eat fresh, organic, healthy, local food that's free?

One of the biggest drawbacks of living in a condo or apartment building is the lack of space to grow food. Community gardens are a great way of making land accessible to those people. However, even with the phenomenal rate at which these community gardens are being built around the city, a lot of their waiting lists still span over a couple of years, a long wait for potential growers.

On the other side of the fence, most homeowners in the city have a yard, lawn or an extra piece of land that they are often not using fully, and thus have some room to share. A lot of these landowners would love to have organic food grow out of their space, in the form of a food forest, a flower garden, an aquaculture pond, or bee hives - however not everyone has the time or expertise to do it.

Some helpers might be willing to share their knowledge through mentoring other enthusiastic gardeners while other helpers might just want to learn more about gardening.

Enter Landshare Canada - a free web platform that matches the needs of growers to the yields of people with land to share. It's an easy way to turn what can be a chore for some into a fun and rewarding learning experience. Better still, it's not just about eating organic, it also helps increase food security and local access to fresh and healthy food. Growing food is one of the smartest things one can do because of its tremendous impact on total water consumption, waste production as well as individual and collective health. And it's a lot of fun! It allows the whole group - landowners, growers and helpers - to set the example, increase their positive footprint and build a community of conscious consumers.

Landshare was originally started in 2009 in the UK and it now boasts of over 61,000 members. It resonates closely with the collaborative consumption movement, which emphasizes access to resources over ownership. In March 2011, Shared Earth (the biggest landsharing site in the United States), adopted the Landshare technology platform; Landshare Australia was launched in January 2011 and has already more than 900 members.

Landshare Canada, a registered not-for-profit organization was launched on May 5, 2011. The user-friendly interface also allows members to have their own blog where they can share pictures, information and ideas. They can set up groups and find helpful organizations like the Horticultural Societies and related local businesses. The forums and how-to guides make it even easier for beginners to get their hands dirty and the template agreements available help landowners and growers define how (or whether) they share the produce as well as how much time and effort each person is expected to put in.

This is a growing movement in Calgary. SPIN (small-plot intensive) farmers like Jester Suzuki (Sustainable Urban Food Farms) and Rod Olson and Chad Kile (Leaf and Lyre) are sharing land to grow produce on others' backyards and selling it at farmers markets.

Sign up, look for landowners/growers, meet with them and get growin'!

Join the movement at www.landsharecanada.com and follow us on Twitter and Facebook. ☘

CLIFF BUNGALOW-MISSION COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____ PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE:

- SINGLE (\$5) FULL (RESIDENTS ONLY)
 FAMILY (\$10) ASSOCIATE

PLEASE SEND THIS FORM AND CHEQUE

PAYABLE TO CBMCA TO:

462, 1919B - 4TH STREET SW CALGARY, ALBERTA T2S 1W4

NOTE: MEMBERSHIPS ARE VALID UNTIL THE NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Community Calendar

All events are at the Community Hall
(2201 Cliff Street SW) unless otherwise noted.

Meet Our Neighbour Day

Weekly on Mondays, 7 pm.
Meet at the SW Corner of 4th
St & 22nd Ave SW

Jazz Concerts

Fall series begins Wednesday
September 7 at 8 pm
(doors open 7:30 pm)

Community Clean Up

Saturday September 10, 9
am to 2 pm. Meet at Royal
Avenue and Cliff Street SW

Community Pot Lucks

Second Saturdays, 6 to 9
pm, beginning September 10

Community Garden Party

Sunday September 11, 2 to 4
pm at William Aberhart Park,
200 block 24th Avenue SW

Acoustic Jams

Fall series begins Saturday
September 24, 2 to 4 pm

Movie Nights

Fall series begins Sunday
September 25 at 7 pm

Deadline for Mission Statement Submissions

First Wednesday of every
2nd month

Next deadline is August 3

E-mail to
cbmca.editor@gmail.com



KICK BACK AND VEG

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPH BY NANCY TICE

BY LATE MAY, the large container out back had sprouted tiny Asian greens (senposai), 'Pot of Gold' chard, 'Ruby Streaks' mustard greens, and sorrel (of Teatro soup fame), and the lane-side rhubarb was producing tasty red leaf stems. The ornamental garden was thoroughly denuded of all its most cheerful tulip flowers which were nipped off and left, uneaten, on the ground. The squirrel, or magpie, or crow culprit showed no interest in blue or white flowers. Go figure. Gardening does provide a wide range of pleasures and frustrations. Occasionally, I'm amazed by unexpected success. Henryka grew a spectacular, spring-flowering 'Crown Imperial' Fritillaria in her small flower garden which is visible from 2nd Street SW. The enormous flower head resembled a vivid red-orange chandelier held aloft by a sturdy, thick stem. The bulb sent up foliage for years without flowering, testing the gardener's patience. The plant is not often seen in Calgary gardens. One of the joys of a slow walk through a pedestrian friendly neighbourhood is discovering delights such as this. Once again, residential gardeners will improve the local streetscape by indulging their creativity and love for colour.

With an average frost-free growing season of 112 days, aspiring urban farmers are likely to have success growing salad greens most of which mature in less than 70 days and require only a part sun location with 3-4 hours of sunshine. Salad greens are cool season crops which will not thrive in a hot, full sun location. "Full sun" is defined as at least 6 hours of sunshine. In contrast, the maturation process of heat loving vegetables is slowed by Calgary's cool summertime night temperatures. Commercial greenhouses offer a large variety of edibles growing in containers. Gardeners will have more reliable success in growing vegetables which require heat and full sun - such as tomatoes - if they purchase good-sized plants.

Given that growing vegetables entails a commitment of time and effort it makes sense to grow what you like to eat. If you're not fond of zucchini one plant is too many. And if you adore cherry tomatoes it's still worth considering just how many you'll want to eat when they all ripen at the same time. Urban agriculture is all the rage as various media encourage us to dig up the lawn in order to replace it with a small farm. With some beginner's luck, a first-time urban farmer could be astonished at how much food a small, intensively planted plot might produce, yet I know few young people who choose to spend their time canning an enormously successful harvest. It's a challenge to fit a dining table into many tiny, inner-city units which are often occupied by a single resident. I'd advise new gardeners to relax, start small, and enjoy your outdoor space while learning whether the process of gardening appeals to you.

Two excellent books which offer inspiration and information about vegetable gardening in limited urban spaces are: *Grow Great Grub* by Gayla Trail (check out her yougrowgirl.com website), and *Sugar Snaps and Strawberries* by Andrea



A CROP OF SUNFLOWER SEEDS RIPENS ON A SECOND STOREY IN CLIFF BUNGALOW LAST SUMMER.

Bellamy (founder of the Heavy Petal blog). No Guff Vegetable Gardening by Donna Balzer and Steve Biggs seems to favour larger gardens with the advantage of some local perspective from Donna Balzer. The latter book has been available at Shelf Life Books (1302 - 4th Street SW). Anyone who appreciates an excellent, independent book store needs to visit this one which is conveniently located within easy walking distance of Cliff Bungalow-Mission. ☘



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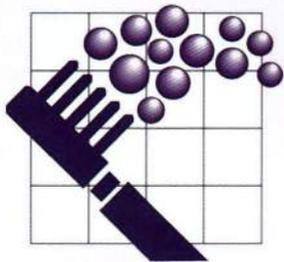
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