Community Matters

Proudly serving Patricia Heights • Rio Terrace • Quesnell Heights

2016 Edition

Living on the BRIGHT side of the freeway

Message From our CL **President**

VIBRANT. A thoughtful and kind graphic designer is creating a visual identity for our community - a logo, of sorts, that can be used in our publications, letterhead, etc. She asked the Community League Board to provide a list of words that describe our three neighbourhoods, our one community. Vibrant, ravine, trees, children, seniors, parkland, community, connected, exclusive, history, friendly, families, wildlife, and water were some of the brainstormed descriptors of what comprises our community. This is an incredible place to live!

I am continually reminded of the beauty and good spirit in our community and our relationships with neighbours. When making connections with residents, I feel a deep sense of purpose in my community. Through my involvement, I am able to view my community in a unique, personalized, and impactful way. I believe I am an active participant in creating community bonds and building unity among people I meet.

In these newsletter pages, you will come across many events and happenings that create and support our vibrant community. Perhaps you want to engage in making an impact for yourself, your family and your neighbours? In September, at our Annual General Meeting, you can become actively involved in our community by committing your skills and expertise to our Community League Board, through an elected position or by expressing interest in initiatives you'd like to be involved in.

Board positions that will be open for election this year include Vice President, Treasurer, Programs Director, and Membership Director. As well, we hope for involvement in positions of Secretary, Maintenance (assistants), Newsletter Circulation, and Signs.

If you would like to pursue active engagement in our community, please contact Tony Andrzejewski, Past-President, at <u>andrze@telus.net</u> to express interest prior to September 8. I hope to see you at our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, September 28th at 7:00 p.m.

Lance Burns President, Rio Terrace Community League **RIO TERRACE** COMMUNITY LEAGUE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Will be held on: Wednesday, **September 28, 2016** 7:00 PM

(in the Community League Hall)

Upcoming Community Events

Rio Terrace Community Ice Cream Stand Daily through Sept 5, 3 – 9 pm Rio Terrace Church **Rockin' Rio Summer Party**

August 27, 4 pm – 9 pm Community Hall **Alberta Potluck**

September II, 5 pm *Rio Terrace Church*

Party in the Park

September 17, 5:30 pm *Rio Terrace Church* Community League Annual General Meeting

September 28, 7 pm Rio Terrace Community Hall

Movie Night in Rio

September 16, 9 pm Rio Terrace Community Hall

Big Bin Event

September 24, 9 am - 4 pm Community Hall Community League Annual General Meeting September 28, 7 pm Rio Terrace Community Hall

Pie in the Park

October 8, 2 pm Rio Terrace Playground Running in Rio Family Fun Run

October 29 Rio Terrace Community Hall

CONNECT WITH US!

www.rioterrace.ca

@RioTerrace



COMMUNITY LEAGUE MATTERS



Community News

Editing & Advertising: Carlene Nohas & D-L Duffy Power

Distribution: Diane Harrington

Published in:
February / May
August / November
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Rio Terrace Community League.

Proudly serving the neighbourhoods of Rio Terrace, Quesnell Heights, and Patricia Heights.

> 15500 76 Avenue NW Edmonton, Alberta T5R 4L8 780-487-0610 www.rioterrace.ca

A member of the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues www.efcl.org

Proud to be part of one of the best cities anywhere! www.edmonton.ca

League Membership Rates 2015-16

Single/Couple: \$20 Single-Parent Family: \$20 Family: \$40 Single Seniors: \$5 Seniors: \$10

Memberships can now be purchased at Mac's (9am-5pm)

Newsletter Advertising Rates 2016

Business Card: \$22 Quarter Page: \$40 Half Page: \$70 Full Page: \$135 Back Page: \$160

Classified ads also available. Contact one of our co-editors for more information or to book your ad.

Next Issue: November 2016 & Submission Deadline: TBA

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enewman@ualberta.ca

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Sign YOUR NAME HERE Rink Tanner, Alex and Dan

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COMMUNITY SOCCER MATTERS

Community Indoor Soccer - Register Now !!!

Registration for the EMSA 2016/2017 Indoor community level soccer season is now underway. There are five steps in the on-line registration process.

Step 1 - Review the Soccer Program information on the Rio Terrace Community League website

www.rioterrace.ca/programs/soccer.

Step 2 - Ensure that you have or obtain a valid (current) community league membership. Most likely you will need to purchase a new membership as August 31 is the expiry date of the current memberships. New memberships can be purchased at the Mac Store (7636 – 156 St NW) or online at www.efcl.org/memberships You may also purchase directly from the community league by contacting the membership director.

Step 3 - Complete the actual on-line registration of players at www.emsawest.com/play/register/indoor-registration. When completing the registration for each of your children, please be sure to specify requesting to play on a Rio Terrace team, and indicate 'play with' requests for friends and/or coaches. If you have not previously registered any family members for soccer using this website, you will first have to complete a family account set-up and then proceed with registering individual players. Please also be sure to indicate any parental help available for coaching, etc.

Step 4 - Pay the EMSAWEST registration fee either on-line or in-person to the EMSAWEST office (15430 - 93 Ave NW). Please check on the EMSAWEST.com website to confirm hours that the office is open to receive your payment. Please note that player registration is not complete until the payment of the registration fees has been completed. Step 5 - Make payment to Rio Terrace Community League of the individual player fee and the uniform deposit. Rio Terrace charges a player fee for players on teams that are U10 aged and older for the Indoor season of \$45 per player to cover Soccer Program costs incurred by Rio Terrace. A uniform deposit (cheque post-dated to Feb 28, 2017) of \$30 for U8 through U12 and \$60 for U14 through U18 is also payable – this will be cashed only if the jerseys supplied by Rio Terrace are not returned at the end of the season. A date for paying the Rio Terrace portion of the fees will be arranged for the latter part of Sept. Visit the RTCL website in Sept to see when the payment session has been scheduled.

Indoor soccer season starts in mid-October and runs to the end of February. Teams have one game a week on the weekend. Coaches of teams U10 and older with generally have one practice a week in a school gym on a weekday evening.

The age groupings and game days for the Indoor soccer season are as follows:

Age			
<u>Group</u>	<u>Birth Years</u>	Games Played	Reg Fee
U4	2013	Sat morning	\$110
U5 & U6	2011 & 2012	Saturday	\$200
U8	2009 & 2010	Saturday	\$200
U10	2007 & 2008	Saturday	\$260
U12	2005 & 2006	Sunday	\$270
U14	2003 & 2004	Sunday	\$290
U16	2001 & 2002	Sunday	\$290
U18	1999 & 2000	Sunday	\$300

Any questions on registration for the Outdoor Soccer season can be sent to me at director@rioterracesoccer.ca

2016 Outdoor Soccer - another great season

The Rio Terrace 2016 outdoor soccer season was a great success. Our community program hosted 16 teams in the U8 through U18 age groups and we had 8 teams play in our Inhouse U6 FunSoccer program. This means over 300 children played on Rio Terrace based soccer teams this season!! Rio Terrace continues to be a soccer hotbed in both number of participants and the success of our teams. Several of our teams participated in the Intercities Championships at the end of the season, and we had one team - the Rio Terrace (Schmaus) team - advance to Tier IV Provincials where they finished $6^{\rm th}$. Congratulations to all of the Rio Terrace teams for their successes on and off the field.

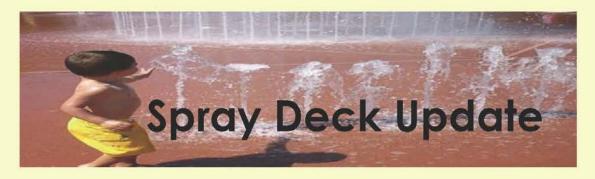
Of course we would not have been able to accommodate so many teams and players without the very important assistance from all of the parents who volunteered their time to be coaches, managers and drivers for all of these players. We as a community are very fortunate to have so many people who are willing to invest their time and knowledge so that our youth can develop their skills and make new friends in such a fun filled sporting environment. We all like to see a winning outcome on the scoreboard, but it is the fun, learning, skill development and friendship development that is most important.

We were fortunate to be able to welcome 16 new to Canada Syrian children to our soccer program this season. This was a great experience for everyone as these new Canadians were embraced by their new teammates and all benefited from the opportunity to learn from each other. Special thanks to all who helped as coaches, drivers, soccer gear suppliers and those who provided translation assistance. These extra efforts were a large part of the success of this unique opportunity that we had.

2017 Outdoor soccer registration will take place in February 2017. Watch for more on this in January on the RTCL website as well as a future edition of the Newsletter.

COMMUNITY SPRAY DECK MATTERS









It takes a village ... to build a spray deck!!

What a gorgeous summer we are having! I can hardly wait to have our new spray deck up and running for all the neighborhood kids to enjoy! If all goes according to plan this will happen next summer!! I am just amazed by the generosity of giving spirit within this community. However we still have a ways to go - in terms of fundraising and in terms of needing volunteers. But before I get into the details I want to take moment to talk about the Spray Deck Committee. We are a group on Moms - some of us work, some of us stay home. We have one child, several children, and babies on the way. We have husbands that work out of town, are business owners, work from home ... What I am getting at is we are a diverse group of women brought together by one thing - we want to make a mark on our community by making a fun, safe place for our kids to play. We want to give something to our community that will last for generations of children to come. Someone has to build the parks where our children and future children will play. We work hard, but we have fun too – and we would love to have you join us!! You can email us at: rioterracespraypark@gmail.com

We desperately **NEED ROCKIN' RIO SUMMER SOCIAL** volunteers to make this event a success – to sign up please go to: https://signup.com/login/entry/736238604043

More fundraising planned to meet \$100k goal

The total cost for the spray deck is around \$375,000. We have successfully won the NPDP grant for \$125,000. We have applied for the provincial CFEP grant of \$125,000 and a federal grant (Canada 150). We will hear in the late fall if we were successful. Thanks to your generosity we have raised close to \$62,000!! This is so amazing. We are so close – another \$38,000 to go (plus successful award of the grants) and we get our spray deck!

Contact us: rioterracespraypark@gmail.com

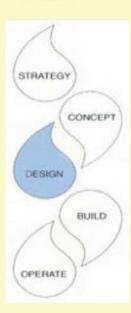
COMMUNITY SPRAY DECK MATTERS

IF you have a unique fundraising idea that has been successful, please contact us.

Are you a business owner in the community? Contact us to discuss potential sponsorship or consider making a donation to our silent auction.

We are always looking for new committee members. Contact us if you are interested in joining!

5 Phases to Enjoyment! Our progress:



Save the Date! Upcoming fundraisers

August 27th 4-9 PM Rockin' Rio Summer Social (BBQ, beer garden, silent auction and so much more) See newsletter ad and website for more details.

September 24th – Big Bin and Bottle Drive – you can drop them off at the hall during the Big Bin event or leave them out 11 am -3:30 pm for pickup.

October 29th Running in Rio: 5km Fun Run and 1 km kids run. See newsletter ad for more details

Fall Billyco Junction Root Cellar order. Don't miss this chance to stock your freezer, pantry, and fridge from a local farm. See the website for more details.

Late fall – we will be having another Chapters "FUND" raiser. This is when you come shop at Chapters on a specific date and Chapters gives us 10% back from your purchases. Look for updates on the website, community sign and Facebook.

Thanks for your support!

A huge thank-you to all who supported our bottle drive, newsletter donation campaign and Pink Potty campaign!! Your financial support and words of encouragement mean so much!!

Spray Deck Location



Contact us: rioterracespraypark@gmail.com

If you're not actively involved in getting what you want, you don't really want it.

Rio Terrace Infill Update

Hello Neighbours,

It has been awhile since our meetings on May 14th and we felt we should take this opportunity to share with you our progress on this very important issue in our neighbourhood. As mentioned at the meetings there are 500 homes in Rio Terrace and our goal is to speak to every home owner about the advantages of participating and signing the Restrictive Covenant that will prevent lot splitting and the building of 2 skinny houses on a single lot. To date we have knocked on the doors of around 250 homes and have received 125 signed forms along with at least another 25 commitments from people who are willing to sign. Another 50 are giving the matter their serious consideration. It is not a quick process as we find people are busy with their lives, their children's activities and of course now enjoying summer holidays. We find in some cases we have to call back up to 5 or 6 times before we connect. The neighbours who have agreed to help with door knocking must be congratulated for going above and beyond to help preserve the integrity and beauty of our neighbourhood.

GOING FORWARD: A number of people have asked when we will be signing the legal document. Good question, when we met with Chris Bowie, our lawyer, he indicated he could have the documents prepared for an initial signing around the middle to late September. This will require those residents planning to participate and have not yet completed and signed their forms to please do so by the end of August so we can give them to the lawyers to have the legal document prepared. No payment is necessary until the final document signing. However, for those of you who provided cash or cheques, the funds are being held in trust at the lawyer's office. Those who provided a credit card number, payment was recently processed and will appear on your forthcoming statement. All credit card proceeds will also be held in trust.

Please give your forms to your local neighbour that has been canvasing your street or call one of the following numbers and we will arrange to pop by and pick up your form: Peggy 780 487- 8207 or Gary 780 487-4058.

We encourage you to talk to your neighbours about this very important matter. It has been through collaboration and consideration for each other that has resulted in good support to date. However, much work remains to be done and we ask for your help in maintaining our wonderful neighbourhood.

The city's goal is 25% infill which means in ten years every 4th house could be replaced by two infill houses. People did not purchase their home in Rio Terrace to have our neighbourhood impacted with an abundance of infill. The city will not stop infill; we are the only people that can so we encourage you to participate by agreeing to sign the Restrictive Covenant.

We extend our thanks to everyone who has agreed to sign up for the Restrictive Covenant. For those that are still giving it some thought we are hopeful you will join in and for those we haven't had a chance to speak to we look forward to doing so as soon as possible.



Ladies Shinny Ringette

Fun and fitness on the Ice!
Join us Monday nights
October to mid-March at
Crestwood Arena 8:45 pm 9:45 pm. No ringette or
hockey experience required.
Wide range of skills and ages.
Equipment is required.
Contact Christine at
780-436-6819 or
chrisk2@telus.net



Ringette for Girls

Ringette is a great way for girls to learn to skate and it is also a fun and exciting game to play and watch. At the older age levels, it is a fast-paced game requiring finesse and agility. There are free Come Try Ringette sessions in August and September.

Go to www.edmonton-ringette.com for more information on ringette in Edmonton.

Go to www.ringete.ca and watch the "What is Ringette" video for more information on the game.

Lot Splitting and the character of our neighbourhoods

We cannot easily illustrate what lot splitting and the ensuing "tall skinny" houses will do to our neighbourhoods because, up to now, lot splitting is happening in neighbourhoods where there are back lanes and where garages are accessed from these lanes. You will find below a picture of the house currently on the new famous Lot 51. Besides it, you will find a picture of two houses in the Magrath neighbourhood. This is not an accurate representation of what we would see in our neighbourhoods because their lots are wider than the half lots that will result from splitting our lots.





Even with these wider lots, it is obvious that there is less room for vegetation in favour of concrete and garage doors. Not all neighbourhoods need to be like that, and there are already plenty of these. Neighbourhoods with open space and more vegetation such as ours are also desirable. This is why many of us own or rent a house here. This is why we see so many renovations. By preserving the character of our neighbourhoods we preserve their desirability, hence the value of our properties.

Quesnell Heights properties are already protected against lot splitting by a restrictive covenant established by the initial developer. This covenant was recently used to successfully fend off a lot subdivision application. Rio Terrace and Patricia Heights properties do not currently have this protection, hence the need to join with your neighbours and protect each other.

Yves Forté for Protect Rio

THE RIO TERRACE COMMUNITY LEAGUE HAS PASSED A MOTION

INDICATING THAT WE REMAIN NEUTRAL ON THE ISSUE OF

LOT SPLITTING AND INFILL. THE ABOVE TWO ARTICLES DO NOT REFLECT THE POSITION OF THE RTCL.

IN THE PARK AFTER DARK

FREE Family Event with Popcorn Included

Fri. Sept 16th

9:00PM

Come to the soccer field at Rio Terroce Community Hall 15501-76 Avenue & Enjoy a movie with the community. See sure to bring your own blanket & Lawn Chair.

Laziness is nothing more than the habit of resting before you get tired.

YOGA and MEDITATION



Stretch, Breathe, Relax!

Rio Terrace Hall
September 12-December 8,2016
Monday 7-8pm
Tuesday 7-8pm
Thursday 9-10am

Beginners are welcome. We also have 2 spaces open on our Yoga Retreat to India 2017!

Contact Karen Hamdon SYT 780-489-5920

www.ceescieesyegg.erg



Crestwood Turns 100!

In March of 2017 our community will be celebrating a very special birthday; We are turning 100 years old!

The Community League is working to create a published book to commemorate Crestwood's exciting, and quite interesting, past 100 years. In order to help make this book a success, we need your help. If you have pictures, home videos, memories, stories, or experiences that you would like to share, we want to hear from you! We would love to hear from all ages about any and all aspects of our extraordinary community.

We are looking for people who have stories about Crestwood to be interviewed and photographed. Please contact Diana at Dianasteele@shaw.ca to share your Crestwood stories.

We look forward to hearing from you, and please pass along to anyone who may have lived in Crestwood at some point in their lives.

Thanks!

Diana Steele

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Green Corner by Sandra Gangel

Activism takes many forms. Some require more commitment—of time, money, physical and/or emotional effort—than others. Sometimes, it's a monthly automatic withdrawal to fund a worthy non-profit. Other times, it's walking a protest march on a sub-zero day in January. For activism to be sustainable, it has to suit one's temperament, one's values, one's abilities, etc.

In my case, writing this Green Corner column is one of my forms of activism. I also volunteer for a social enterprise that gives people a platform through which to express their individual environmentalism (more on that in a different column). I'm also infamous for refusing staples for my receipts (staples are one-time-use items that can't be recycled and only end up in the landfill); for refusing to use twist ties (see staples); and for not using plastic bags to separate my wet produce (why recycle more plastic? I use a designated reusable grocery bag that gets regular drying and cleaning).

Depending on your opinion, these examples are big or little acts of activism. Maybe you've never considered your own activist potential before. Maybe you're already a "green warrior" who votes and marches for environmental causes. Maybe, like many of us, you fall somewhere on the spectrum in between. We can all be activists in one way or another, in multiple or singular ways. It's the action part that's the key to activism.

So, if you want to take even just one small action to combat climate change, I invite you to visit the Environment Canada website http://letstalkclimateaction.ca/ideas.

There, you can submit your ideas about what our federal government can do to battle climate change. You can also read ideas and comments already submitted by other people across the country. There's no age threshold to submit; every Canadian is welcome to submit and potentially, to have their ideas be included in some form in policies the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna, and her team create.

I submit here in this column that *activism* is not a dirty word, as I've seen it used in media. It's not political. It's not radical. It's also not difficult. Activism is a way of interacting with the world that asserts your agency and your power.

Sometimes, it simply looks like speaking up.

Hello from Rio Terrace Community Preschool

I am so excited about our upcoming year at Rio Terrace Community Preschool. I am thrilled to welcome our new Teaching Assistant, Naoko Henkel to the team. I have had the privilege of working with Naoko over the last three years through her work with Community Options. Naoko shares my passion for the importance of early education and will be a wonderful addition to the preschool.

There have been so many people involved in supporting the preschool this past year, from the Rio Terrace Community League, to the parent executive board, to all of the preschool families. Thanks to this awesome team that I am so proud to be a part of, the preschool has full enrollment! We have a wait list started and I would encourage families who are interested in enrolling their child at Rio Terrace Community Preschool to contact one of our Registrars to have their name put on the list. There are often spaces that become available in August and September.

We have an exciting year of learning planned with field trips, in class visitors, parties and lots of play! Keep an eye out for information about our fantastic Silent Auction happening in November.

I am so proud to be part of this amazing community and I cannot wait to welcome our newest little learners to Rio Terrace Community Preschool in September!

Playfully yours,

Shaylene Saxton rtpreschool@telus.net
Janna Yopyk (Registrar 3 yr) 780-554-7990
Bronwyn Appleyard (Registrar 4 yr) 780-244-6036
Rio Terrace Community Preschool 780-487-0610
www.rioterracepreschool.com

Fun & frolic with **Ladies Sports Nite** - drop-in basketball for women 18 to 108. Thursday evenings, 6:45 to 8:00.





Lynnwood School (15451-84 Ave). Not competitive (we don't keep score). Contact Jay (780-484-2482 or jayspix@gmail.com) for more info. We look forward to seeing you! All you need in this life is ignorance and confidence, and then success is sure.

Edmonton Tai Chi



The Edmonton Tai Chi
Association will be starting a
beginner class in the
neighbourhood this September.
The class will be covering the
108 movement Tai Chi set.
Usual length of time for the
course is approximately 5
months. Come and learn the
internal art of Tai Chi. Please
note this is an adult only class.

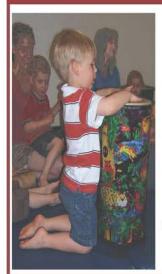
For more information please see our web page at edmontontaichi.ca or contact Bill at 780-429-1129

Rhythm, Story Time



A musical adventure for you and your preschooler! (ages 0-5

www.EdmontonPreschoolMusic.com



A local music program, where we share, music, art and instrument exploration!

Laurier Heights Community Hall Tuesdays (9:30am-11am) Cost: \$90/8wks

For more information, or to register please visit:

www.EdmontonPreschool Music.com

corrinemacdonald3@gmail.com 780.497.7767

Some 2016-2017 Spaces Available!

Westend Community Playschool



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- No Parent Duty Days

3 yr old Programs

- Mon & Wed: 9AM 11:15AM
- Tues & Thurs: 9AM 11:15AM

4 yr old Programs

- Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 9AM - 11:30AM
- Mon, Tues, Wed: 1PM - 3:15PM

Look us up on Facebook or Twitter: @wecpedmonton

780.444.0221

15108 - 76 Ave NW www.wecp.ca



We Need You





Gardening Maintenance

The small gardens at the front of our community hall need some love and attention. Could you provide some time to weed and tidy up the area? Contact Lance at 780-444-6684.

Summer Social Support

The Rockin' Rio Summer Social Party needs some help to make it a successful event. Check out the sign up at https://signup.com/ login/entry/736238604043

Building a Shed

Can you wield a hammer and successfully nail things together? Help build a shed to store community necessities. Contact Gary at middlekeith@gmail.com.



Beautify the Community Hall

Occasionally, some youth testing their artistic talents decorate our community hall. Give some time to remove or paint over their creations to restore our hall. Contact Lance at 780-444-6684.



Weeds, weeds, weeds

Please make these disappear around our rink and hall! Do you have talents to remove or destroy weeds? Contact Lance at 780-444-6684.



Big Bin, Big Muscle

A successful big bin event in September needs strong support... like, muscle power. Can you contribute 2 hours of time on Saturday, September 24? Contact Lance at 780-444-6684.

COMMUNITY FAMILY RUN MATTERS



HAIL STORM OF 2004 BP ORGANIC SHINGLES SETTLEMENT

Did you have your roof re-shingled following the Great West Edmonton Hail Storm of 2004? Are you finding that your shingles are deteriorating after just 12 years? If so, you may want to read the following website to see if you may be eligible for a settlement. www.bpshinglesettlement.com



RUNNING IN RIO -A FAMILY FUN RUN

Join the inaugural family fun run and enjoy scenic a walk/jog/run in Edmonton's west end on a brisk fall morning then join us for hot chocolate / coffee and treats



October 29, 2016

Start/Finish at Rio Terrace Community League

10.30 a.m. Warm Up Activities

11.00 a.m. 1 km kiddies run (\$15)

11.30 a.m. 5 km everyone else (\$40)

12.30 p.m. Course Closes

Race Package Pick Up All participants get a toque and medal Callingwood Running Room, October 28 from 4-8 p.m. Rio Terrace Community League, October 29 from 9-10 a.m. All money raised will go to the CL Spray Park Fund

Humans of all ages and levels are welcome. Rain, Snow or Shine we Run



Register Online - Sign Up at https://www.events.runningroom.com//

COMMUNITY SPRAY DECK FUNDRAISING MATTERS







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780-484-5918



To be or not to be. That's not really a question.

Jean-Luc Godard

Questions About Feeding Wild Birds

By Dave Cleary of Wild Birds Unlimited



Q: How can I get Chickadees to eat from my hand?

It takes some time for this to happen if you have chickadees in your back yard. Usually we hear of

chickadees eating from a person's hand at public places where there are feeders for the public to fill. We have done this ourselves. In Hawrelak Park and the Whitemud Ravine in Edmonton, for example, chickadees have learned that people will feed them from their hands. The chickadees have become acclimated to people being nearby. Some people have, basically, trained the birds to eat from their hands by patiently offering sunflower seeds to them and waiting for them to come. If you go into your yard frequently when chickadees are present, and if you move without making sudden movements, they will become accustomed to your presence. It is a matter of building their confidence that you are not a threat. Then begin standing patiently in their vicinity. They spend their days searching for food, and so eventually you may be successful in having them feed from your hand. In the meantime, you could go to one of these two parks with some Black Oil Sunflower seeds and see how it works with some experienced chickadees!

Q:What happens to animals during wildfires?

According to the Wildlife Rehabilitation Society of Edmonton at the time of the Fort McMurray wildfire, "Some animals would have young such as owls and squirrels and sadly, if still in the nest, these animals would not survive. Wildlife is resilient and will often respond to pressures such as this by increasing the number of young in subsequent breeding seasons. Deer had not had their fawns yet nor moose their calves. Ducks were just starting to lay eggs and if nests were destroyed, they still had time to start again. Wildlife is finely tuned to changes in their environment and don't wait for the flames before fleeing to escape." Like humans, birds and other animals are displaced when they lose habitat. Wildfires play a role in forest rejuvenation and birds have a part to play in this process. Fire often causes the release of seeds from cone bearing trees. Woodpeckers will fly in and feast on bark beetles in dead and dying trees. The holes that woodpeckers make in dead trees eventually become homes for other birds, chipmunks and squirrels that spread seeds in forests.

Some species of birds have evolved to live in young forests re-growing after a fire and these forests are an opportunity for them. A year-old forest will have a different set of plants and animals living in it than a forest that's 40 years old. It takes two or three years for burned forests to regenerate to the point where birds and other animals can move back. In the meantime birds, like humans, will have to find other places to live until their native habitats become available again. Researchers from the U of A were already studying the forests around Fort McMurray before the fire, and now they have an opportunity to see the forest regenerate. They say the first to return to the burned areas is the longhorn beetle, which comes back even before the smoke settles. The beetles lay their eggs in the warm wood and thrive in burned areas. Shortly after, birds like the Common Nighthawk arrive. This bird is considered a post fire specialist in the boreal forest, and it's also on Canada's threatened species list. The open woodland created after a wildfire is its preferred habitat—it chooses the area for the abundance of food. As the forest grows and matures, the beetles and the birds that follow move on to more freshly burned areas.

Q: I have bird feeders in my yard. Is it okay to let my cat out of doors?

I like cats, having grown up on a dairy farm where we had lots of them that we loved to pat and play with. We had an old Tomcat who sat on the step of our milk house and caught Barn Swallows as they dive-bombed him. But I had no idea just how many birds die at the paws of cats each year. A 2013 study by Environment Canada showed that house cats and feral cats are responsible for 75% of the 270 million bird deaths caused annually due to humanrelated activities. The study determined that cats kill more than 100 million birds each year in Canada. Owners who wish to prevent their cats from attacking birds by putting bells on their collars have their hearts in the right place but studies have shown that bells are not effective in preventing cats from killing birds or other wildlife. Baby birds are especially vulnerable. Letting a cat outside is also dangerous for the cat as they are in danger from cars, other cats, and in some places from coyotes and other predators. Neighbours can become upset when they find cats have been using their garden as a litter box. If you want to let your cat outside, try what one of our customers does, who takes his cat for a walk every day. Keep Cats Safe and Save Bird Lives.

The mission of Wild Birds Unlimited is to bring people and nature together. See their website at www.wbu.com/edmonton, email: wbuedmonton@gmail.com or call them at 587-521-2473.

Get your facts first, then you can distort them as you please. Mark Twain









They are right here, in your community.

You may already know this, or maybe like me - you've never really given it a second thought. I was inspired to share this after an incident occurred right outside my home in **Rio Terrace**.

Monday June 20 6:55 AM my 14-year-old outdoor cat strolled down our driveway (76 Ave & 153 St) and intersected with a large coyote that was lurking in my next-door-neighbour's front yard. My

neighbour happened to be watching out the window and witnessed the attack and the dog take off with my pet down 76 Ave towards the ravine. I am thankful not to be left wondering where he disappeared to - but this event was obviously painful for our family, and not something we were prepared for.

Choosing to let your pet outdoors unsupervised is obviously debatable. There are many risks that you have to be prepared for, which we understood. A coyote attack was honestly not on our radar, and it should have been in hindsight. After talking to many neighboors

and other sources we've come to learn that **coyote sightings and attacks are more common than you think in our City.** Usually close to dusk or dawn, and typically close to the ravine....but **coyotes are becoming more conditioned to humans** and are venturing further in to our communities.

Thankfully there has been no violent incidents with humans (yet), but many small pets have been victims, in some reports right from their fenced yards. Whether YOU own a small pet or have small children or NOT URBAN COYOTES NEED YOUR HELP. Our area Wildlife Officers encourage us to be prepared by knowing what to do if you DO see one.



*don't feed covotes

* keep pet food inside

*secure your garbage in a garbage can

*clean up fallen fruit and spilled bird seed *keep your dog on-leash in areas frequented by coyotes

*don't leave cats out roaming *keep your dog on-leash in areas fr *don't leave a small pet out in the yard unattended for long periods of time

2. Aversive Conditioning (If possible)

*Making yourself appear large, arms overhead *Carry a whistle and blow it to startle the animal *Throw rocks, sticks or other objects to scare it away

*Carry dog spray in areas highly frequented by coyotes

*Shout in a deep voice and maintain eye contact *Do not turn away or run, it encourages chasing * If the coyote continues to approach, back away slowly and move toward buildings or human activity

3. Report a Coyote by phone to 311 if:

*the coyote has followed, chased or attacked someone or a pet *the coyote looks sick

*the coyote is acting aggressively or defensively

*reporting encounters is the key to tracking their activity, so please do it!

This article was not written out of fear, or to cause fear -- rather to create an awareness. We feel such regret not being more informed, and the fate it held for our innocent pet. If you let your pet roam, please consider the dangers of cars, poisonous substances, strangers and wildlife. It is also against City Bylaw to allow a pet off your property unsupervised.

A Fellow Rio Terrace Resident, Melissa Fraser

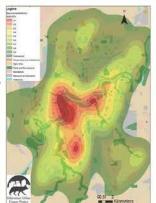












Do not worry about avoiding temptation.

As you grow older it will avoid you. Joey Adams





SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 12-5PM

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or call 780 452 1266



Ace Tennis Academy

Indoor Programs Start September 10th

Indoor Programs are at Progressive Academy (13212-106 avenue)

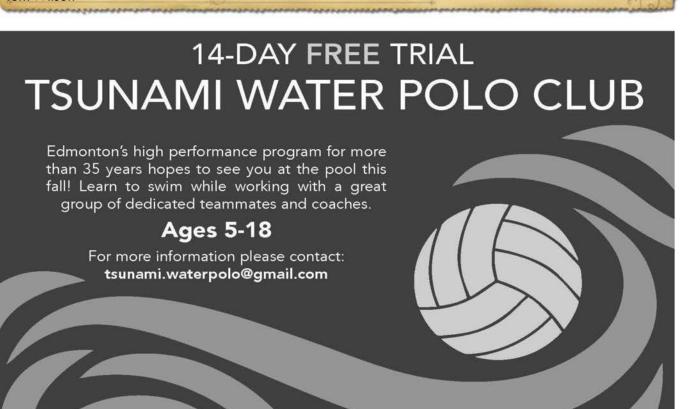
Little Aces Programs Junior Aces Programs

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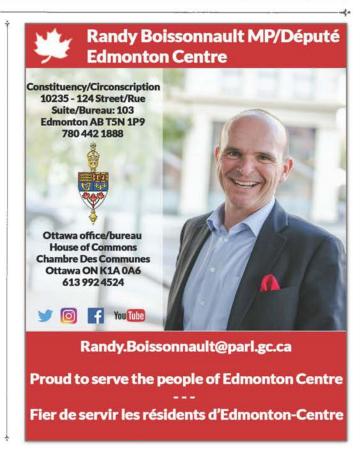


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Sept 24th, 9am - 4pm

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*Curb Side - \$100 or In home/Yard - \$200

*Loading & Removal must Fit within a 30 minute window of time & be a reasonable amount of material. (we can refuse your load)







PLEASE NOTE:

We cannot accept hazardous household waste, chemicals, paint, large appliances, car tires, batteries &/or electronics (i.e. monitors, printers & TV's etc.). These items should be taken to an ecostation for disposal.

*Rio Terrace Community Laague Membership Required

EMAIL: rioterracespraypark@gmail.com

COMMUNITY CHURCH MATTERS





Rio Terrace Church has been in the neighbourhood since 1962. We consider ourselves a community of "spiritual journeyers", composed of people from many different backgrounds and perspectives. We are rooted in Moravian Christianity, which emphasizes simplicity, peace, and justice. We hope that you will always find welcome here.

15108 76 Ave NW \cdot (780) 487-0211 \cdot RioTerraceMoravian@gmail.com RioTerraceChurch.org \cdot /RioTerraceChurch

Pastor: Rev. James Lavoy, jlavoy@gmail.com

pastor James is available with a listening ear, and would love to join you for coffee or a beer. He is also available for weddings, relationship coaching, and funerals.

Each Sunday @ Rio Terrace Church

Waffle Church - 9:30 am

waffle church is a messy church, where breakfast is served, for children and their loved ones. It offers spiritual formation with justice, community, and play.

Sunday Meeting – 10:30 am

our Sunday services are contemplative in nature, and are rooted in the message of Jesus. Hymns, old and new, prayer, and sermons are offered. Children are invited and welcome.

Rio Terrace Community Ice Cream Stand – Open Daily through Monday, September 5, 3 – 9 pm. Our Ice Cream Stand is a community builder, and a fundraiser for the Community Spray Park and the Church's Solar Project. **THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU,** to all who have been involved, as a volunteer or eater-of-ice-cream!

Made in Alberta Potluck – Sunday, September 11, 5 pm.

All are invited to this delicious potluck dinner. No need to register. Bring an entrée, appetizer, desert, or drink to share - and use ingredients sourced in Alberta.



6th Annual Party in the Park – Saturday, September 17 beginning @ 5:30

Party in the Park is our annual gift to the neighbourhood – a block party! It features food trucks, live music, children's activities, and ideas to get involved in the neighbourhood. Free. Join us!

2016 Illuminight Planning Committee – Tuesday, October 4, 7 pm

Save the Date! Illuminight 2016 will be held on Sunday, December 18. It is a wonderful evening full of light, carriage rides, and warm holiday cheer. It is a fundraiser for Jasper Place Wellness Centre, which works to mitigate the effects of poverty in West Edmonton. If you are interested in helping us to expand Illuminight further into the neighbourhood, please come to this planning meeting. RSVP to pastor James @ jlavoy@gmail.com or phone (780) 487-0211.