



NEW ARTWORK IN CHINATOWN AND AREA 6 ▲



PROBLEM PROPERTIES UPDATE 7 ▲



DR. BOB MCKEON RECEIVES LEADERSHIP AWARD 7 ▲



HOTC ARTIST PROFILE: MIKE SIEK 12 ▲

Boyle McCauley News

@BMCVIEWS @BMCNEWS FB.COM/BMCNEWS CIRCULATION 5000 • DECEMBER 2023-JANUARY 2024 BMCNEWS.ORG free

VOL. 44 NO. 6 PUBLISHED ON TREATY 6 TERRITORY VOICE OF THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1979

Italian Bakery Reopens on 97th Street

Success based on family solidarity and staff appreciation - and providing hockey fans with hot dog buns for decades.

ANITA JENKINS

The newly-constructed Italian Bakery at 10644 - 97th Street opened for business on October 2nd. This was a major event, as the original building had burned to the ground in 2020. Between a devastating fire and the pandemic that arrived at about the same time, this long-time, three-generation family business (see sidebar) was severely challenged. There were material shortages and contractor challenges related to COVID-19.

But the outcome is a larger and more extensive range of products and services in an exceptionally attractive and functional space. The new bakery, of course, offers the traditional wide array of pastries and bread and doughnuts. It has also expanded to include fresh pasta and pizza, as well as ice cream and deli/grocery items, including ice cream and milk.

A visitor immediately senses the collegial relationship among staff and their interest in offering a "happy" customer experience. Co-owner Rosaly DeVenz says they run their business like a family. They are a family, as her partner in the business is her brother Renato Frattin and several employees past and present are relatives. "It's in the blood," DeVenz says.

The employees are unconditionally respected and supported and therefore often continue to work for the bakery for decades.



Italian Bakery co-owner Rosaly DeVenz in the rebuilt store on 97th Street. Supplied

"For us, it is natural to take care of staff," DeVenz says. "If a single mom has a sick child, we send her home to look after her family. If you do that,

the employees will give you 20 times more when they are back on the job. You are nothing without your staff."

When asked about secrets of success, DeVenz mentions hard work and good recipes. "Wholesale contracts have kept us in business," she says. "As just one example, since the 1970s we have been providing the hot dog buns for Northlands and now Rogers Place."

Anita Jenkins is a retired writer and editor who lives in Boyle Street.

An Italian Bakery in Chinatown

Why is an Italian bakery in the middle of what is now Chinatown?

Antonio and Aurora Frattin opened a small bakery on 93rd Street in 1960, and in 1962 moved to the current location on 97th Street. At the time, many recent Italian immigrants like the Frattins lived, worked, and played in that neighbourhood. The 97th Street location included an apartment above the business, which was the Frattin family's home. Five children grew up in the apartment and helped to operate the family business from their earliest years.

The new structure includes an apartment that was meant to be a retirement residence for Antonio and Aurora. Sadly, though, they both died in 2022.



Dining Out: Viet Huong Noodle House

■ PAGE 6

PROPERTY OWNERS RESPONSIBLE FOR ABANDONED TRASH AND SNOW

“Property owners are responsible for cleaning up the garbage even if they didn’t put it there.

■ PAGE 5

HEART OF THE CITY: REBOOTING IN THE NEW YEAR

“We have been hard at work this year with our chosen theme: Reboot.

■ PAGE 5

ACCESSIBILITY ON THE VALLEY LINE

“I was honoured to be involved with the consultation on accessibility from the start of the Valley Line construction . . .

■ PAGE 9



TIMELY & TIMELESS, RARE & SPECTACULAR

QUALITY USED BOOKS
BOUGHT & SOLDCOME
VISIT10825 95 St
in The Piazza(Right across
from Zocalo!)

paperbirchbooks.ca

@paperbirchbooks

587-400-3207

TONY'S PIZZA PALACE AND ITALIAN RESTAURANT
9605 111 AVENUE • (780) 424-8777 • TONYSPIZZAPALACE.COMEnjoying pictures of your
neighbourhood? Loving stories
about your community?**bmcnews.org/donate****Micro-donate just \$2/month** to
keep Boyle McCauley News going
strong. That's less than the price of
a cup of coffee!

New Mural and Bakery at Italian Centre Shop



The Italian Centre Shop celebrated the grand opening of its Little Italy Bakery as well as the unveiling of this new mural in September. Pictured is artist Theo Harasymiw (left) with Italian Centre Shop owner Teresa Spinelli. Supplied by the Italian Centre Shop

Walk with Bissell on the
Coldest Night of the Year 2024

Coldest Night of the Year is an annual walkathon held in hundreds of cities across the country by organizations working with people affected by poverty. Teams of folks join in to raise money and walk in their neighbourhood in solidarity with those who have no choice but to stay outside all night long.

On February 24, Bissell Centre is hosting a Coldest Night of the Year walk in the downtown core to support our life-changing programs. Put together a team or join solo, start collecting donations, and help us raise a record setting \$200,000.Make your New Year's Resolution to do more for your community. Visit bissellcentre.org/cnoy24 to learn how you can participate in our first major fundraiser of 2024.bissellcentre.org/cnoy24

Taking Those Long Shots



PAULA E. KIRMAN • BMC News Staff

MCCAULEY MUSINGS

Last year, I began doing something that was both new for me and out of character: I began playing organized sports.

I'm the athletic one in the family. If any of you know my family (or at least know me well enough), this should elicit peals of laughter. My feats of athleticism have been limited to walks, bike rides, and shooting baskets by myself in schoolyards near my home.

Last year, in an effort to meet new people and make some healthier life choices, I joined a non-competitive women's basketball group. We don't keep score, we have no referee, and body contact is not permitted (at least, not deliberately). Once a week I join with other ma-

ture women in a public school gymnasium as we dribble, pass, and shoot. In fact, I've gotten a reputation for making baskets from as far back as the foul line. However, in reality I miss as many baskets as I make.

Which got me thinking: if I didn't take any shots, then I would at once never miss, yet always miss. As the saying goes, which is believed to originate with hockey legend Wayne Gretzky, you miss 100% of the shots you never take.

That saying can be applied as a metaphor to many opportunities that life presents us: applying for jobs, going back to school, or simply trying something new. I've known many people who avoided doing something out of fear of failure. Or maybe what holds someone back is a fear of success. But if you don't try, you will never know what the outcome ultimately would have been.

So I am going to continue taking those long shots. When I make a basket I will celebrate, and when I miss I will shrug it off and try to do better next time.

Boyle McCauley News

Boyle McCauley News is a non-profit newspaper published six times yearly by the Boyle Street McCauley Community Newspaper Society. The Society is made up of the people who live and work in the Boyle Street and McCauley neighbourhoods.

Opinions expressed in the newspaper are not necessarily those of the Board of Directors. Any submissions may be subject to editing for length and suitability.

Advertisements from political parties and politicians are paid for. Boyle McCauley News does not support or endorse any political party or viewpoint.

Circulation 5000 • Since 1979 • www.bmcnews.org

VOL. 44 NO. 6 DECEMBER 2023-JANUARY 2024

9613 – 111 Avenue NW, Edmonton AB, T5G 0A9

P: (780) 425-3475 E: info@bmcnews.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Megan Elizabeth, John Kolkman, Richard Nguyen, Alan Schietzsch, Mike Siek, Deborah Stewart, Beth Storheim, Diana van der Stoel

CONTACT THE BOARD AT BOARD@BMCNEWS.ORG

STAFF

EDITOR

Paula E. Kirman
editor@bmcnews.org

VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Colleen Chapman, Paula E. Kirman
volunteer@bmcnews.org

LAYOUT AND DESIGN

Vikki Wiercinski
design@bmcnews.org

ADVERTISING

Vikki Wiercinski
ads@bmcnews.org

ACCOUNTING

Rosalie Gelderman

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

Colleen Chapman

ASSISTANT DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

Barry Marienhoff

Funded by the
Government
of Canada

Canada

WRITERS & PHOTOGRAPHERS

Jayden Eric Beaudoin, City of Edmonton, Corine Demas, Jacqueline Duttenhoffer, Edmonton Intercultural Centre, Janis Irwin, Italian Centre Shop, Anita Jenkins, Paula E. Kirman, Newman Theological College, Phil O'Hara, Alan Schietzsch, Ian Young

BLOCK CARRIERS, APARTMENT AMBASSADORS & CONDO CONNECTORS

Sandra Barnes, Anna Beaulieu, Brockman Family, Roseanne Carter, Michelle Cumming, Barry Daniels, Jack Davis & Georgie Davis, Larry Derkach, John Gee, Regan Gee, Rosalie Gelderman, Rich Gossen & Anne Fitzpatrick, Mayumi Hara, Eelim Hermay, Ann-Marie Johnson, Kimberly Lockert & Dwayne Alward, Dan Knauss & Dana Wylie, Bob McKeon, Richard Nguyen, Phil O'Hara, Kate Quinn, Joelle & Maddy Reiniger, Ruth Sorochan, Kelley Stein, Pharrell Waititu, John-West Family, Ian Young

Our goal is to report issues fairly and provide a variety of perspectives on issues affecting this community. The opinions expressed in Boyle McCauley News are those of the people named as the authors of the articles, and do not necessarily reflect those of the Board, staff, or Editorial Committee of the paper.

EDITOR'S NOTES

Welcome to our final issue of 2023! First, some expressions of gratitude. After serving the maximum number of terms in a row, John Gee and Karen Matthews have stepped down from the paper's Board of Directors. Anita Jenkins has also decided to step down after five years on our board. I thank all of them for their invaluable service as volunteers.

We also welcome Diana van der Stoel, Beth Storheim, and John Kolkman to our board. Diana and Beth are new to the paper, while John has a long history that goes back almost to the paper's beginnings. Thank you all for stepping up to serve on the board.

OUR NEXT ISSUE. . .

Volume 45, Issue 1 will be published February 1st, 2024. Articles and photos concerning community news, events, and opinions are welcome. We also accept submissions of poetry and cartoons. Deadline: January 12th, 2024. Send submissions to: editor@bmcnews.org. Articles should be 400 words or less and accompanied by photographs (JPG, in high resolution) whenever possible.

Speaking of volunteers, if you would like to sign up for a shift (or two) for our casino coming up on February 28th and 29th at Pure Casino Yellowhead, send me a message at editor@bmcnews.org and I will forward your information to Colleen Chapman, our Volunteer Coordinator who is organizing the casino.

For exclusive news and content concerning community news and events, please visit bmcnews.org regularly, where you can subscribe to our free e-newsletter. You can also sign up to become a member of the society that operates the paper - it's free and you will occasionally receive information specifically for members.

Enjoy the issue. Have a wonderful holiday season and new year.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Do you want to respond to something that you read in these pages or that is going on in the community? Share your thoughts with a Letter to the Editor. Send your letters to editor@bmcnews.org. Letters should be no longer than 300 words, and may be edited for length or clarity. Publication is not guaranteed. The deadline for letters for our next print issue is January 12th, 2024.

BOYLE STREET AND MCCAULEY CRIME & SAFETY RESOURCES

- **24/7 Crisis Diversion:** Call #211 + press 3 when you see a person in distress
- **Needle Debris:** public property: 311
- **Needle Debris:** free clean-up on private and public property:
Boyle Street Ventures: (780) 426-0500
- **Sharps Containers:** free sharps containers:
Radius 780-422-7333 or Streetworks 780-424-4106
- **Litter/Graffiti:** 311 or capitalcitycleanup@edmonton.ca
- **Problem Properties:** To report a problem property call 311, contact 311 online or use the confidential reporting form at edmonton.ca/problemproperties
- **To report an unsecured vacant property:**
Call 311 or email: communitypropertysafetyteam@edmonton.ca
- **EPS Healthy Streets Operation Centre (HSOC)** teams are regularly and proactively patrolling several downtown neighbourhoods to combat crime and disorder. Citizens are encouraged to speak with officers in person when they are available.
- **EPS Non-Emergency:** (780) 423-4567
- **EPS Non-Emergency mobile access:** #377
- **EPS Emergency:** 911
- **EPS Website:** edmontonpolice.ca
- **EPS Crime Prevention:** Facebook @[epscrimeprevention](https://www.facebook.com/epscrimeprevention)
- **Crime Stoppers:** 1-800-222-8477
- **Report Gang Activity:** (780) 414-GANG (4264)
- **Stay informed & get involved:** safermccauley.ca and on Facebook @[safermccauley](https://www.facebook.com/safermccauley)

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

PROOFREADERS

Glen Argan, Rosalie Gelderman, Colleen Chapman

MLA UPDATE

Community Care and Action

JANIS IRWIN

Dear friends,

I know that things can feel heavy these days, both globally and here closer to home. Caring for ourselves and our loved ones feels more important than ever right now. But we know that it's also so important to care for our neighbours and our local communities, and to build and strengthen our community ties.

I've been thinking a lot lately about community care, something that we see a lot of throughout our neighbourhoods of Boyle Street and McCauley. This comes in many forms, like checking in on neighbours or sharing a meal. For people on the receiving end, these moments of care can make all the difference.

I've also seen folks in our community fight tirelessly for change, whether through advocating for their unhoused neighbours, pushing for accessible healthcare for all, or standing together against bigotry and hate. It's these things that make me prouder than ever to be your MLA, and it's truly an honour to work alongside you to make our communities, and our world, safer, more equitable, and better for everyone.

I hear from you every day that you want to see action on a number of issues: the

housing crisis, mental health, the drug poisoning crisis, climate change, public healthcare, a robust education system, and other vital ground-level supports. I couldn't agree more, and I'm proud that I'm a part of the Alberta NDP team that is in the Legislature right now fighting for these very things.

This session, we're proposing real action on these issues. We're tabling legislation on class sizes through reinstating class size reporting. We're standing up for our public healthcare system, and the workers who support it, by fighting the government's plans to balloon the bureaucracy and add more layers. And as the Official Opposition Critic for Housing, I'm so proud to be introducing a private member's bill that includes greater investments in affordable housing and action on skyrocketing rents.

As always, I want to hear from you. Please reach out, and know that as always, I'm here.

Take good care of yourselves and each other.

Janis Irwin, MLA for
Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood

Email: Edmonton.Highlands.Norwood@assembly.ab.ca

Phone: 780-414-0682

ADVERTISE WITH US!

BMCNEWS.ORG/ADVERTISE

REACH 5000+ READERS MONTHLY IN YOUR COMMUNITY

NEW TO BOYLE STREET OR MCCAULEY?

Do You Have Your Stadium Parking Permit?

Call 311 or email RestrictedParkingPermits@edmonton.ca for annual Stadium parking permits, or ParkingAssets@edmonton.ca for temporary parking permits.

Save yourself, and your guests, the pain of a very expensive parking ticket and possibility of being towed.

Get the paper...in your email!

Sign up to our email newsletter and get the latest on your community in your inbox.

bmcnews.org/newsletter

Where to Find Boyle McCauley News

Boyle McCauley News is delivered by our volunteer Block Carriers (in McCauley) and Apartment Ambassadors/Condo Connectors (in Boyle Street) to approximately 2500 homes in the area.

If you do not receive the paper at your home, there are numerous places where you can pick up a copy:

NEWSPAPER BOX LOCATIONS

10844 95 Street (near Sorrentino's)
86 Street & Jasper Avenue (by Riverside Towers)
Boyle Street Plaza (by main entrance)
97 Street & 103 Avenue (near Farmers Market)
97 Street & 107 Avenue (near Lucky Supermarket)

BUSINESSES

We also drop off copies at a number of businesses in and around the area, including:

Sprucewood Library (11555 95 St.)	Tony's Pizza (9605 111 Ave.)
Felice Cafe (10930 84 St.)	Italian Centre (10878 95 St.)
Panini's (8544 Jasper Ave.)	Zocalo (10826 95 St.)
The Moth (9449 Jasper Ave.)	Paper Birch Books (10825 95 St.)
Lucky Supermarket (10725 97 St.)	

VOLUNTEER TO DELIVER THE PAPER

Would you like to volunteer to help deliver the paper to your block or building?

Contact editor@bmcnews.org for more information.



Enjoying pictures of your neighbourhood? Loving stories about your community?

bmcnews.org/donate

Micro-donate just \$2/month to keep Boyle McCauley News going strong. That's less than the price of a cup of coffee!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thanks for the Opportunity

I filed my 50th article for the paper on November 12th. This current piece is about the rebuilding of a bigger and better Italian Bakery on 97th Street after a devastating fire. My first contribution, in March of 2017, was about the new Hyatt Place Hotel (now DoubleTree by Hilton).

All of the other interviews and research I did over the years have allowed me to meet talented and interesting members of this neighbourhood and to learn more about Boyle Street and McCauley's unique culture and history.

At times, there was uncomfortable or sensitive controversy and debate. More commonly, it was just difficult to track down the right people to interview. But it has all been well worth the effort.

For various reasons, I am now planning to contribute less regularly, or perhaps not at all. So I want to thank **Boyle McCauley News** for giving a retiree a great volunteer opportunity. Much better (for me) than bridge tournaments or playing pickleball!

-Anita Jenkins

Property Owners Responsible for Abandoned Trash and Snow Shovelling

PHIL O'HARA

The City of Edmonton has rules about who is responsible for cleaning up abandoned trash and snow/ice removal on boulevards and sidewalks. The Community Standards Bylaw requires property owners to manage the garbage and remove the snow and ice on the sidewalk and boulevard near their property.

Property owners are responsible for cleaning up the garbage even if they didn't put it there. Owners are also responsible for cutting the grass and maintaining the boulevards in front of their property.

Property owners include owners of private property and businesses as well as non-profit organizations, such as churches, social agencies, etc.

If a property owner fails to maintain the boulevard near their property, or remove abandoned trash near their property, or clear the nearby sidewalk of snow and ice, you can complain to the City by calling 311. If a City Bylaw Officer validates your complaint, the City may clean up the site of garbage and remove the ice and snow and charge the property owner with the cost of the clean-up and/or issue a ticket.

When a property is located beside a laneway, the owner is also responsible for maintaining the area to the centre of the laneway. The property owner on the other side of the laneway is responsible for maintaining the area to the middle of the laneway.

All property owners are responsible for ensuring the sidewalks around their property and the area between the boulevard and half-way into the street are free from garbage. The bottom line is that if someone abandons a mattress or other garbage on the sidewalk near a property or on the boulevard or on the street in front of the property, the owner is responsible for removing it.

The Community Standards Bylaw also requires property owners to clear sidewalks of snow and ice around their property as soon as possible after it snows. However, there is no timeframe for when snow and ice must be removed.

The City standard for a "clean" sidewalk is that all the snow and ice is cleared to the cement/asphalt for the entire width and length of the sidewalk. Sand, gravel, and/or ice melt can be spread on the sidewalk as a temporary measure while the snow and ice is being removed.

Failure to maintain your sidewalks free of ice and snow could result in a \$100 fine plus the cost of their removal. Fines can be appealed.

Free sand is available in a box by the rink on 96th Street. Seniors needing help with snow and ice removal can call 311 or 211 to connect with the Edmonton Seniors Home Support Program. You can also access information about the program at https://www.edmonton.ca/programs_services/for_seniors/help-around-the-home.

Phil lives in McCauley.

MCCAULEY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

McCauley Community League Seeks Volunteers for Building Project Committee

Are you looking for a way to volunteer in your community? Are you passionate about creating welcoming gathering spaces? Do you want to be part of something with lasting impact?

The McCauley Community League (MCL) is very excited to share that we are moving into the next phase of planning and design to replace our current rink shack with a new

pavilion. We'd like to invite interested residents to be part of the project committee to help make it happen. A wide range of skills and experience are needed and welcome including project management, building design and construction, grant writing, administration, fundraising, communications, and more.

Please contact Corine Demas at league@mccauleycl.com.

Heart of the City Festival: Rebooting in the New Year

JACQUELINE DUTTENHOFFER

Seasons Greetings from Heart of the City (HOTC)! We have been hard at work this year with our chosen theme: Reboot. We took advantage of courses and webinars available online and through the Alberta non-profit learning centre. We connected with community leagues and collectives who share common core values to discuss the future growth of the Heart of the City Festival and how we can improve. We continue to discuss the upcoming 20th anniversary in 2024.

HOTC will announce the exact date for our AGM in February, so make sure you are following us on all of our socials or visit our website in the coming weeks. Our website is www.heartcityfest.com, and we're @heartcityfest on Facebook, X, and Instagram.

For National Volunteer Week coming up in April, we have plans in the works for a volunteer-focused event so we can celebrate and show appreciation for all of our volunteers: past, present, and future! For almost 20 years Heart of the City has been run completely by volunteers - community members with full-time jobs, commitments, families, and challenges. The festival's many years of growth and success are thanks to each volunteer who has

donated their time and skill, even just for a couple of hours.

In 2017, when I had far too many jobs, a friend reached out in search of volunteers for the Heart of the City Music and Arts Festival. I didn't really have the availability, but this friend was impossible to say no to. Before I knew it, I was side stage, working as an assistant stage manager, something I thought I'd never get the chance to do. I did not hesitate to accept an offer to join the board, and I will be forever grateful that I did. I have learned so much over the years, made new friends, and gained experience in an industry I am passionate about.

I am so happy that James Jarvis was that person who was impossible to refuse. James passed away suddenly in October. James, thank you for your many years as a volunteer and board member, and your never-ending support to the festival. We will miss you greatly.

We here at Heart of the City hope the readers of **Boyle McCauley News** and all community members find time for joy this holiday season and we wish you all the best in the new year.

Jacqueline is the Producer and Director of Marketing and Communications with HOTC.

An Extensive Menu of Comfort Food

Viet Hung Noodle House features a welcoming atmosphere and reasonable prices.

DINING OUT

Viet Hung Noodle House

10715 98th Street
Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Tuesday through Sunday
Phone: (780) 424-9910

ALAN SCHIETZSCH

Edmontonians often think of only 97th Street as being “Chinatown”, but Boyle Street and McCauley residents know that there are plenty of interesting places to eat clustered just a block west on 98th Street. While there are some new or renewed ones, such as Van Loc and Delicious Pho which we mentioned in previous issues, there are also some old school places that have built a steady clientele over many years.

One such original restaurant that I've been returning to is Viet Hung Noodle House, just south of 107th Avenue at 10715 98th Street. Relaxed and homey, Viet Hung is hidden in plain sight. Due to recent construction works in front, you might not immediately see it, but parking is available just a little further along, and rear parking will still be accessible.

Inside is a fairly large space with



A table of food at Viet Hung. Alan Schietzsch

all sizes of tables in ebony-coloured wood, as well as a TV and an aquarium. On the left you'll see an ATM and BitCoin machine, which is handy because it's cash-only, as many small restaurants are. Fridays and weekends are their busiest times (even for Vietnamese breakfast or a leisurely and social Sunday afternoon), but it's never crowded. I find it's a wonderful home-like spot where you can enjoy long uncrowded conversations with no rush at all. When I say “home-like,” that compliment applies not only to the atmosphere, but also to the hospitality and flavours.

The owner is very friendly and wel-

coming, treating guests like family, with warmth and relaxed respect. When I spilled my tea all over the table, he was quick to wipe it up for us. While I was embarrassed at my clumsy mess, he was not at all upset, instead caring and only wanting to make it clean and comfortable for us again.

Comfortable is the theme here. I'd certainly call the cuisine Vietnamese comfort food.

We started with spring rolls, which were small and crispy, the filling having a contrasting creaminess. We couldn't figure out what created the texture, but we enjoyed how

it felt similar to the way that cream cheese or mashed potatoes are comforting. I also ordered a green onion cake, and it arrived perfectly golden. With a sweet hot chill sauce on the side it was ideal during the recent cold weather.

The menu is quite extensive, especially for soups, so we chose Thai Noodle Soup with Seafood (Sour & Spicy), as there's more than just Vietnamese. The fish balls were plentiful, as were fine noodles covered by a fish-based broth with red chili oil shimmering above. We also tried seafood pho for a non-spicy alternative. It had just the right amount of sea-saltiness, as well as some sorrel or gai lan for a green touch next to the shrimp. Next up was Beef Fried in Lemongrass with Spring Rolls and Vermicelli. This combination of tangy grilled meat, crispy salad, and noodles makes a terrific one-person meal, as you get everything in one big bowl.

And finally (followed by endless tea), for another hearty and complete meal in itself was the rice plate with a fried egg and pork prepared three ways: shredded, grilled, and as a patty, accompanied by plenty of green scallions.

Prices are very reasonable, with most items being \$16 or less. A very relaxing and friendly spot indeed!

Alan lives in McCauley. He is the Chair of the paper's Board of Directors.

New Artwork at China Marble Restaurant, Pacific Mall, and Kinistinnâw Park



Two new murals went up in Chinatown this past fall. “White Tiger of the West”, behind China Marble Restaurant (10566 97th Street), was created by Branden Cha (Instagram: @busyrawk). A new mural on the front of Pacific Mall (9700 105th Avenue) was created by artist Ray Dak Lam (Instagram: @raydaklam). Meanwhile, over in Kinistinnâw Park (102nd Avenue and 96th Street), “Invisible Gate” made its debut in late October. The artwork is intended to represent the lions from the dismantled Harbin Gate on 97th Street. The art was created by Toronto's Studio F Minus in consultation with local community organizer Shawn Tse, and supported by the Edmonton Arts Council. Paula E. Kirman

New Resources Addressing Issues at Problem Properties

Problem properties are occupied or vacant properties that have serious negative impacts on the community, as well as on the people living or working there. They cause frequent and serious safety concerns and complaints to the City of Edmonton.

Edmonton's Problem Property Initiative (PPI) coordinates several teams to address issues at problem properties. These teams are composed of representatives from multiple City departments, the Edmonton Police Service, Alberta Health Services, and the Government of Alberta.

Increased funding, more resources, faster action

In 2022, City Council approved funding to implement the long term strategy to address problem properties. Since then, the PPI's teams have expanded and more problem property files are being resolved.

The Problem Properties Team (PPT) is composed of Municipal Enforcement Officers (MEOs) dedicated to the neighbourhoods most affected by problem properties. These officers can issue enforcement orders related to a variety of nuisance conditions. Between August 2022 and September 2023, the team conducted approximately 2,300 inspections and issued 862 enforcement orders.

The Community Property Safety Team (CPST) reduces fire risk in Edmonton by ensuring vacant properties are se-



Before and after images of a demolition coordinated by PPT in Boyle Street. Supplied by the City of Edmonton

cured at the landowner's expense. Between April 2022 and September 2023, the team inspected 593 properties that were known or suspected to be unsecured vacant properties (UVPs), issued 295 enforcement orders, and secured 320 UVPs.

Demolitions eliminate unsafe vacant buildings

PPI partners bring different regulations and enforcement approaches to the initiative. This helps create multiple pathways to demolish unsafe, vacant buildings.

Enforcement orders issued by PPT and CPST are making it increasingly costly for owners to neglect their problem properties. As a result, many unsafe, va-



cant properties are being demolished by their owners.

Where owners continue to neglect their properties, PPT can now facilitate the demolition of smaller buildings such as garages that are in extreme states of disrepair. And the PPI's Demolition Assessment and Response Committee (DARC) is combining the resources of four City areas to speed up the demolition of larger, unsafe structures.

All vacant buildings, including those in the process towards demolition, are monitored to ensure that they are secure and inaccessible to the public. When needed, fencing and 24-hour security can be ordered at the property owner's expense.

New tax subclass increases taxes at derelict residential properties

On October 5th, 2023, City Council approved a new tax subclass for derelict residential properties in mature areas. Edmonton is the first city in Canada to make a subclass specifically for derelict properties as part of a larger effort to combat problem properties and encourage community vibrancy.

Starting in 2024, the new derelict tax subclass can be applied to residential properties in mature neighbourhoods that show serious signs of neglect, are dilapidated, are falling into significant disrepair, or are unlivable. The subclass will allow the City to charge a higher tax rate to owners of such properties.

"The derelict tax subclass is a new tool in the City's toolbox for addressing the harmful impact that derelict and problem residential properties can have," said Cate Watt, Branch Manager, Assessment and Taxation. "Managing derelict properties often comes with additional costs to the City and a higher tax rate will help to cover those costs while encouraging property owners to clean up derelict houses. We hope this will play a role in improving the vibrancy of mature neighbourhoods in the long run."

For more information:
edmonton.ca/ProblemProperties
edmonton.ca/DerelictSubclass

Information provided by the City of Edmonton.

Dr. Bob McKeon Receives Leadership Award

Dr. Bob McKeon received the 2023 Kevin Carr Christian Leadership Award at a ceremony and luncheon hosted at the Santa Maria Goretti Centre on October 24th. Kevin Carr was the seventh president of Newman Theological College (1993-2001), the first layperson appointed to the position. The award recognizes individuals whose outstanding Christian leadership, witness, and service reflect the qualities exhibited by Kevin Carr in his work.

A lifelong advocate for social justice, Bob has served on numerous boards, created new initiatives, and consistently volunteered to help others, especially in the areas of housing and food security. Among his many contributions, he is a founding member of the Edmonton Food Bank (formerly the Edmonton Gleaners Association), the Right at Home Society (formerly Edmonton Inner City Housing), and the Inn Roads Housing Cooperative.

Bob was a long-time resident of McCauley, was an instrumental part of this community newspaper from its



From left: Dr. Bob McKeon and Justice Kevin Feehan, Chancellor of Newman Theological College.

Supplied by Newman Theological College

inception, and continues to volunteer with *Boyle McCauley News* as a Block Carrier.

Bob was nominated by McCauley resident Kate Quinn who has served alongside Bob in many community capacities.

With information provided by Newman Theological College.

Standing Together Community Walk



For the second year in a row, the Standing Together Orange Shirt Day Community Walk took place on September 30th, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (also known as Orange Shirt Day). Participants gathered at Mary Burle Park, then walked to Giovanni Caboto Park for a gathering. The walk was supported by YWCA Edmonton, Bissell Centre, and the City of Edmonton. Paula E. Kirman

WISHING YOU
AND YOURS
THE BEST OF
THE SEASON

Councillor

ANNE STEVENSON

Serving Ward O-day'min

anne.stevenson@edmonton.ca
780-496-8333

@edmontonanne
 /edmontonanne

share - create - give - sip - savour - enjoy - cultivate - grow

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF COLOURFUL IDEAS

**pots
gifts
plants
flowers
tabletop
cafe**

Zocalo

OPEN:
TUESDAY TO
SUNDAY 10-5

IN EDMONTON'S LITTLE ITALY 10826-95 STREET, EDMONTON, AB

(780)428-0754
 @ZOCALOEDM
 ZOCALO.CA
 info@zocalo.ca

A Look at **Food Insecurity**

When you know, you can start to make change.

Food insecurity is when a household has inadequate or insecure access to food due to financial constraints.

It's on the rise:

In 2011, **12.3%** of Albertans were experiencing food insecurity. In 2022 that number jumped to **20.3%**.

Some experience it more than others:

- 21.7%** of children (people under the age of 18) lived in food insecure households in Alberta. (2021)
- 28.9%** of Black households living with food insecurity compared to **11.1%** of white households. (2017-2018)
- 30.7%** of Indigenous households in Canada were experiencing food insecurity, twice the amount of white households. (2022)

School nutrition programs in Edmonton provided more than **96,000 students** with meals between 2017 and 2020.

Between 2000 and 2020, the **average grocery bill** has **increased by 70%**.

VitalSigns®
Community foundations taking the pulse of Canadian communities.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS OF CANADA
all for community.

The 2023 Vital Signs report is out now.

Discover more about local food insecurity with Vital Signs.
Read Now.

EDMONTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION Give. Grow. Transform.
ECFoundation.org • 780.426.0015

edmonton SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Edmonton Vital Signs is an annual checkup conducted by Edmonton Community Foundation, in partnership with Edmonton Social Planning Council, to measure how the community is doing.

EDMONTON INTERCULTURAL CENTRE

Multicultural Family Resource Society (MFRS)

The Edmonton Intercultural Centre (EIC) is a community full of love, caring, and support. In this and future articles, we will inform readers of the non-profit organizations operating in the EIC facility in order to bring light to their many good deeds.

MFRS was founded in 2005 out of the aspirations of parents from numerous ethnocultural communities that identified the need for group programs to assist with integration into Canadian culture, which was culturally responsive and linguistically specific. Eighteen years later, THRIVE (ethnocultural parent-child programs) is still going strong providing groups for nine ethnocultural linguistic communities in Edmonton.

MFRS programming has expanded over the years and now includes English for Community Integration classes. There, participants improve their English skills and their ability to use numbers in a safe and welcoming environment. Those new skills improve their confidence and self-esteem, and help them integrate into the community.

MFRS provides an innovative model of holistic support for newcomers facing complex barriers and challenges at the MFRS Family Support Office located in North Central Edmonton at 13026 97th Street.

Their work across these programs is guided by four principles: being **Relational** and **Culturally Responsive**, fostering **Empowerment**, and using **Participatory** programming.

Relational: A way of interaction with and within the community in which they take time to listen, care, connect, and love to build mutual support hand in hand.

Culturally Responsive: Safe spaces to maintain a home culture and adapt to new connections and diversity; and develop a deeper understanding of cultures that are always changing.

Empowerment: Building community and working together to share space, opportunities, skills, and knowledge for mutual learning, self-determination, and ultimately, well-being.

Participatory: Participants identify what's important to them, what they need, and what they want to achieve. This program meets participants where they are at and supports them in reaching their goals.

For more information, visit: <https://mfrsedmonton.org/>

Information provided by the Edmonton Intercultural Centre.

Accessibility on the Valley Line

IAN YOUNG

ABILITY AND COMMUNITY

"Nothing about us without us." - A phrase originating from political movements in Poland in the 1500s and became used in disability activism in the 1990s.

The above phrase has been adopted by the disability community worldwide as a way to say that decisions about us should include us. And I'm very happy to say it is actively recognized in our city!

Consultations on upcoming civic building, renovations, and other developments now include persons with disabilities, whether they are physical, cognitive, or impairments with vision or hearing.

After a few hiccups, the Valley Line LRT has opened with a stop in The Quarters, part of our community, at 9516 102nd Avenue. The station provides transit to Mill Woods and in the other direction to 102nd Avenue and 102nd Street, just by City Centre Mall and Churchill Square.

I was honoured to be involved with the consultation on accessibility from the start of the Valley Line construction, along with several other accessibility advocates, representatives from organizations, everyday citizens, and members of municipal and provincial groups.

You will see many improvements in the Valley Line LRT trains and stations. There are tactile textures on the ground to let you know you are close to the track. My favourite change is that one no longer has to push a button to open the accessible doors to the train. Those doors open by themselves, while the other doors have a button. There is a red button with the International Symbol of Access at the accessible doors if you need a ramp. The ramp comes down quickly and does not have a big gap.

The seats are colour-coded. Green is for accessible seating and blue for regular. There are padded areas if you need to stand and lean. Every stop is equipped with ramps. The Davies stop, which is raised, has an elevator to get to street level. I find the ride to be very smooth. Crossing the Tawatinâ Bridge over the North Saskatchewan River is beautiful.

Edmonton Transit Service (ETS) offers the Mobility Choices Training Program. For information, visit: <https://transforming.edmonton.ca/accessibility-on-transit-ets-travel-training/>. You can also call 780-496-3000 or email ETSCustomerTraining@edmonton.ca. I can confirm from experience that this free program is great. Someone can ride along with you, teach you schedule planning, and make your ride on the bus or LRT pleasurable, accessible, and safe!

Ian is a columnist with the paper. He lives in the area.

ITALIAN BAKERY
Established in 1960

100% FRESH

EAT LOCAL

100% LOCAL

SEASONS GREETINGS

Come In, Say Hi, and Check Out Our Freshly Baked in Christmas Specialties

10644 97 Street

780-424-4830

www.italianbakeryedm.com

4118 118 Ave

780-474-2229



MARKET DRUGS MEDICAL

Products for Health and Wellness

Edmonton
10203 - 97 Street

Across from the Winspear Centre
marketdrugsmedical.com

422-1397

GET THE **LATEST ON YOUR COMMUNITY:**
SIGN UP FOR OUR EMAIL NEWSLETTER!

LINKS TO NEW STORIES DIRECTLY TO YOUR INBOX!

bmcnews.org/newsletter

A DOSE OF NEWS AND PHOTOS FROM EVERY ISSUE!

Community Classifieds

NEIGHBOURHOOD RESIDENTS GET FREE CLASSIFIED ADS! EMAIL FIVE LINES OR LESS TO EDITOR@BMCNEWS.ORG
WE FIT AS MANY ADS HERE AS WE CAN. FOR MORE CLASSIFIEDS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT BMCNEWS.ORG

CHURCH AND AGENCY SERVICES

ANSGAR DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
9554 - 108A Avenue
Pastor Lasse Hultberg
Sunday Service in English: 10:30 a.M.
Join us for worship and fellowship. Pastoral services available on request.
Tel: 780-422-8777

BISSELL CENTRE
780-423-2285 x 111 (General Inquiries)
Community Space: Closed to support operations at the Edmonton Convention Centre.
Bissell Centre Early Childhood Development Program
9331-105 Avenue Edmonton Alberta T5H 4E4
780-429-4126
Operating Hours: Monday to Friday full-time care 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Lunch provided by parents; centre provides a.m. and p.m. snacks
FREE Drop-in/respite spaces available Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Spaces are limited, please call ahead to reserve a space for your child.

RADIUS COMMUNITY HEALTH AND HEALING (Formerly Boyle McCauley Health Centre)
10628 – 96 Street
Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Dental: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Streetworks during clinic hours.

INNER CITY PASTORAL MINISTRY
10527-96 St. NW
(780) 424-7652
Pastor Quinn Strikwerda
Pastoral Assistant: Jim Gurnett
Sunday Service: 9:15 a.m.
Take-away snack bags Sunday at 10 a.m.
Visits and other pastoral services on request.
Contact us for information about conversation groups, Bible study, and individual support at info@icpmedmonton.ca or (780) 424-7652

THE ROCK OUTREACH
11004 – 96 Street NW
Phone (780) 426-1122
Breakfasts: Tuesday to Thursday 7-9 a.m.
Kids Club: Fourth Monday of the Month

THE SALVATION ARMY
Edmonton Centre of Hope
12520 140 Avenue
(780) 244-2962
Transitional Housing, Addictions Recovery, Stabilization, and Supported Housing.
Transitional Housing for Downtown
9304 103A Avenue
(780) 428-4405
For more information: www.salvationarmyedmonton.org

THE MUSTARD SEED
10635 – 96 Street
(780) 426-5600
The Mustard Seed Church Food Bank Depot is open Tuesday and Thursday, 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. The drop-in is permanently closed. For more information, call The Mustard Seed at (780) 426-5600 or visit: www.theseed.ca

HOPE MISSION
9908 106 Avenue
(780) 422-2018
HOPE MISSION MEALS:
Monday - Friday
Breakfast 7:30 - 8:15 a.m.
Lunch 12:00 - 12:45 p.m.

Supper 5:00 - 5:45 p.m.
Weekends & Holidays
Brunch 10:45 am - 11:30 a.m.
Supper 4:15 - 5:00 p.m.

HOPE MISSION SHELTER:
Men, Women, Youth
Doors open 8:30 p.m. - 12:00 p.m.

HOPE MISSION COMMUNITY CHURCH:
Sunday: 2:00 p.m. Hope Mission Centre - 9908 106 Avenue
7:00 p.m. Herb Jamieson Centre - 10014 105A Avenue

HOPE MISSION HEALTH CLINIC:
Hope Mission Health Centre
Family Doctor Monday to Friday
Walk-in: 9:00-3:00 p.m.
Psychiatrist Monday to Friday
by Appointment only - call 780-422-2018 Ext. 278

NICOTINE ANONYMOUS
RICK (780) 474-5593
GWYNN (780) 443-3020
Support for smokers who are trying to quit.
Call Nicotine Anonymous.

SACRED HEART CHURCH OF THE FIRST PEOPLES
Address: 10821-96 Street NW, Edmonton, Alberta, T5H 2J8, and Tel: (780) 422-3052.
Daily Mass:
Monday to Thursday and Saturday: 9 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples.
Friday evening at 7 p.m. Holy Mass and Adoration
Sunday Masses:
Sunday: 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 4:00 p.m., and 7:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples. All are welcome.
Monthly Baptism preparation class is available to prepare parents for their child's Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmations. Please call the office to register their names. For more information, please view our weekly bulletin, our webpage, and our Sacred Heart Facebook.

THE LEARNING CENTRE LITERACY ASSOCIATION is seeking volunteer tutors to help adults develop reading, writing and/or math skills. Volunteers participate in group learning, tutor one-to-one, or assist drop-in learners. Skills and Experience: High school level reading, writing, and/or math skills. Openness to tutor and learn with adults with various life experiences, including living with homelessness. For more information: <https://tlcla.org/get-involved-3/>
Call: 780-429-0675

NETWORKS ACTIVITY CENTRE
780-474-3363, EXT. 302. Volunteer! JOIN OUR TEAM! Networks Activity Centre provides adults with brain injury a program that promotes an active lifestyle through opportunities for social interaction, physical activity, and community involvement. Volunteering with Networks Activity Centre is a wonderful way to enrich your life and touch the lives of those we serve. If you are interested in joining our volunteer team please call 780-474-3363 ext. 302.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME TO JOIN MCCAULEY CLUB.
Kids from age 6 to 17 are invited join after school programs that run from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri., & from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Thurs. Programs include arts & culture, physical activity, health & nutrition, academic support, life skills, and leadership. Drop in at 9425 109A Ave. or call (780) 822-2549 for details. Offered free of charge .

P.A.L.S. PROJECT ADULT LITERACY SOCIETY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS
Work with adult students in the ESL - English as a Second Language program. Training, materials, and supplies provided. Call (780) 424-5514 for more information.

BUILDING BRIDGES
Building Bridges All Nations First Nations Fusion Church Services Sundays, 3 to 6 p.m. at St. Faith's Anglican Church, 11725-93 Street.

BOYLE STREET PLAZA/YMCA FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE WEEKLY COLLECTIVE KITCHEN CLASSES
Tues. 1-3 p.m.
Wed. 10 a.m.-noon
Thurs. 10 a.m.-noon
Fri.: 10 a.m.-noon
Cost \$4/portion
U/G Parking \$1/hr up to a maximum of four hours - access on 104 Avenue between 95 Street and 96 Street
For information and registration call 780-426-9265

CHILD AND YOUTH PROGRAMS
YMCA Boyle Street Plaza offers Sportball every Saturday! Visit bit.ly/sportballymca for more information and to register.

DROP-IN GYM
YMCA Boyle Street Plaza
9538-103A Avenue
Drop-In Fee: \$5
Badminton (ages 16+): Sundays: 1:30-4:30 p.m.
Fridays: 8:15-11:15 p.m.
Saturdays: 1-4 p.m.
Pickleball (ages 16+):
Sundays: 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Wednesdays: 1-3 p.m.
Fridays: 5-8 p.m.
For information call: 780-426-9265

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

FREE GUITAR LESSONS
Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. with Steven Johnson. Location: Boys and Girls Club (9425 109A Avenue). Bring your own guitar. Sponsored by the McCauley Community League.

DIRTY CARS NO MORE
Dirty car or filthy work truck? NINJATEC DETAILING is my small business and I can detail your vehicles either at home in the Boyle Street/McCauley area or out of my garage in the west end. Prices are about half of what you'd pay at those "other" shops, and I'm a lot more picky and thorough than they are because I do it the old fashioned hotrod way...BY HAND! (780) 566-2871
NINJATEC DETAILING - Make sure you check out my Facebook page!

SENIOR'S COMPANION
Home or Care Facility. Mature, creative, woman available for: conversation, activities, lght meal prep., errands, downsizing. NO PERSONAL CARE. \$25/hr, min. 2 hr.
ehlou@hotmail.com

FORTITUDE PLUMBING
Fortitude Plumbing can attend to your plumbing needs. We offer a furnace and hot water tank maintenance program. Contact us at 780-200-8546 or 780-914-1381. Visit us at www.fortplumb.com. Email us at fortplumb@gmail.com.



Drop-In Soccer
Thursdays 1-3 p.m.
YMCA Boyle Plaza (9538 103A Ave.)
Have some fun playing soccer with your neighbours! We warm up with some stretches, do a few foot-control drills, then we set up a scrimmage game or two. It's all for fun, friends, and exercise! All experience levels welcome. Snacks and cold drinks provided.

Traditional Approaches to Healing
St Faith's: 11725 93 Street
November 6 to December 18
Over 7 weeks we will practice a traditional process of sharing through ceremony and medicine with the guidance of an elder. The use of circle, story and song will help us to pursue our own healing and the healing of our communities. To register contact krambow@e4calberta.org

Neighbourhood Asset Mapping
Stay tuned for your opportunity to participate in a neighbourhood asset mapping process. Details are still being ironed out. Check the Boyle McCauley News website and look for posters in local businesses for further information!

WECAN Food Co-operative
Purchase inexpensive meat and produce for pickup once per month at McCauley Apartments (9541-108A Ave.). Visit wecanfood.com or call the e4c McCauley Office at 780-903-9661 if you are not able to use the website to order for any reason.

Please visit our Facebook page @e4cwellness for information on FREE sessions and groups, open to all. Contact Kathryn or Mike at the e4c McCauley office at 780-424-2870, or email krambow@e4calberta.org or msiek@e4calberta.org

SHE SAVED MY LIFE

Edmonton resident Dawn had been experiencing the painful side effects of peripheral neuropathy, "My feet and legs were extremely painful and my doctor told me there was nothing they could do. That I would have to take gabapentin for the rest of my life." Then she met Edmonton's very own Acupuncturist, Dr. Melanie Morrill Ac.

Peripheral neuropathy is the pain, discomfort and numbness caused by nerve damage to the peripheral nervous system. Dawn explained that daily tasks like opening doors and using the washroom were overwhelmingly painful.

"How can you live for the next 30 years when you don't even want to get out of bed to do the simple things?"

She was experiencing the burning, numbness, tingling, and sharp pains that those suffering from peripheral neuropathy often describe. The way that I would describe it, it's the equivalent to walking on glass." Dawn hadn't worn socks in five years and was wearing shoes two sizes too big so that nothing would "touch" her feet.

Unfortunately, Dawn's story is all too familiar for the over one million people in Canada suffering from peripheral neuropathy.

If you're unfortunate enough to be facing the same disheartening prognosis, you're not sleeping at night because of the burning in your feet. You have difficulty walking, shopping, or doing any activity for more than 30 minutes because of the pain. You're struggling with balance and living in fear that you might fall. Your doctor told you to, **"just live with the pain"** and you are taking medications that just aren't working or have uncomfortable side effects.

Fortunately, four months ago Dawn read an article about Dr. Melanie Morrill Ac. and the work she was doing to treat those suffering from peripheral neuropathy without invasive surgery or medication.

Doctor of Acupuncture, Dr. Melanie Morrill Ac. founder of Accessible Acupuncture in Edmonton, AB, is using the time-tested science of acupuncture and technology originally developed by NASA that assists in increasing blood flow and expediting recovery and healing to treat this debilitating disease.

"Now when I go to bed at night I don't have those shooting pains. I don't have the burning sensation. I don't have pain coming up my legs,"

Dawn enthusiastically describes life after receiving Melanie's treatments.

"I can wear socks and shoes!"

Dawn and her sister now operate a successful dog-walking business, sometimes covering 5 kilometres a day.

"It's life-altering. As far as I'm concerned Melanie saved my life!"

Dr. Melanie Morrill Ac. has been helping the senior community for over five years using the most cutting-edge and innovative integrative medicine, with a special interest in chronic pain and helping people who have been deemed 'hopeless' or 'untreatable', she consistently generates unparalleled results.

What was once a missing link in senior health care is now easily accessible to the residents of the Edmonton area including St. Albert and Sherwood Park.

If you have been missing too many tee times because of your pain or you've passed on dancing because you're afraid of calling it's time to call Dr. Melanie Morrill Ac and the staff at Accessible Acupuncture.

It's time you let your golden years BE GOLDEN!

Accessible Acupuncture is now accepting new patients but only 20 new neuropathy patients will be accepted in August.

Call 587-879-7122 to schedule today.



Peripheral Neuropathy?

SCHEDULE a consultation TODAY

CALL 587-879-7122

HYS Centre

600, 11010 101 st NW Edmonton, AB

AccessibleAcupuncture.ca

HEART OF THE CITY FESTIVAL SOCIETY ARTIST PROFILE SERIES

Mike Siek: “What sustains me as a musician is the music itself.”

CORINE DEMAS

Mike Siek moved to McCauley in 2008. He has worked for a local alternative newspaper and is a filmmaker. He began his work in community development when fellow Heart of the City (HOTC) board member, Rylan Kafara, hired him to work at Boyle Street Community Services. He is currently working at e4c as a Community Developer. Mike can't remember exactly how long he served on the board of Heart of the City. Our best guess is that he served for 12 years before he retired in 2022.

“When I moved into this neighbourhood, I moved away from the outskirts of the city where all the houses kind of look the same and nobody talks to each other,” Mike says. “As soon as I started working in the yard, I realized that everyone talks to each other here; there's constantly people chatting about the neighbourhood and talking about things. I started to meet the neighbours. Part of my goal in moving into the neighbourhood was to get involved in community and volunteering. You know - spend less time working and more time living.”



Mike Siek. Jayden Eric Beaudoin

Mike discovered the festival when he could hear it from his house, and began volunteering shortly thereafter. “I went over. I had a good time. Then I saw an article in the [Boyle McCauley News] that said if you'd like to be involved, come to the Boys and Girls Club.” He went and at that meeting became part

of the festival's Board of Directors.

When it comes to the kind of art he makes, Mike says, “I am mostly a musician. I do art otherwise, when the fancy strikes. I have a little space set up in my living room where I can do art, but for the most part I play guitar and noodle about recording and playing music with friends. That's my release.”

What sustains Mike as a musician “is the music itself. I'm mostly about creating music with other people and building in-the-moment musical relations. It's like a conversation or a game or a sport, all of these things combined, you're reading what this person has put out. You are trying to create with that person. You are building a language together. It's all really interesting. The process of making music is what sustains me.”

Mike has played in many Edmonton bands, including The Skips, Brother Octopus, Spring Crush, and, most recently, the band he founded with Patrick Pillay and John Aram called Funk Cove. At the time of writing this article, Funk Cove was scheduled to open for Boney M at

the River Cree Casino in late November. You can check Funk Cove out at their Facebook page (www.facebook.com/funkcove).

On volunteering in the community, Mike says, “I have an able body and some skills, so I try to make community events run more smoothly. Sometimes I'm a DJ at a Halloween event or I'm helping set up tables at another. Often I'm bringing folks from my work trying to get them involved and engaged in those events. It's pretty much whatever I can get my fingers into in a way that helps as best I can when I can.”

He adds, with his characteristic humility, “I do small things in small ways in a small community. I'm not doing anything amazing, just living. I'm just a human. I'm struggling and doing what I can. The types of things I like doing just happen to be art and community-based.”

Corine Demas lives in McCauley where she is the President of the McCauley Community League and a board member with Heart of the City.

Blake Desjarlais

Member of Parliament
Edmonton Griesbach

Constituency Office
10212 - 127th Avenue NW,
Suite 102
☎ 780-495-3261

BlakeDesjarlais.ndp.ca
✉ Blake.Desjarlais@parl.gc.ca
f @BlakeDesjarlaisNDP
t @DesjarlaisBlake



Boyle McCauley Pharmacy

We've Moved!

To Our Valued Customers:

Please note that as of September 1,
we have moved to:

#2, 10502 107 Avenue

We wish to thank the people of Boyle
Street and McCauley for their support
over the years.

Mon.-Fri.:

8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sat., Sun. & Holidays:

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Tel: 780-705-6333

Fax: 780-705-8633

boylemccauley3834@gmail.com

FREE DELIVERY All Over Edmonton Area

Janis Irwin, MLA

Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood

Follow Janis
on social media

780.414.0682
6519 112 Avenue

Edmonton.HighlandsNorwood@assembly.ab.ca



ITALIAN CENTRE SHOP

Your one-stop-shop for all things delicious.

Grocery. Bakery. Deli. Café. italiancentre.ca

EDMONTON | CALGARY | SHERWOOD PARK