



SPRINGTIME IN MCCAULEY ▲ 5



REMEMBERING EMILE MOISAN ▲ 7



LUNAR NEW YEAR AT THE RAM ▲ 7



HOTC PROFILE: DENIS FRIGON ▲ 12

Boyle McCauley News

✉ BMCNEWS.ORG/NEWSLETTER @BMCNEWS @BMCNEWS.BSKY.SOCIAL CIRCULATION 5000 • APRIL-MAY 2026 BMCNEWS.ORG

VOL. 47 NO. 2 VOICE OF THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1979 PUBLISHED ON TREATY 6 TERRITORY FREE

Club 97 Enters The Quarters

New venue in Boyle Street reactivates a former arts space.

CORINE DEMAS

On February 28th, fellow Heart of the City organizer (and *Boyle McCauley News* board member) Rachael Roberts and I walked in the door for the opening night of Club 97, located in the old Brittany's Lounge space at 10225 97th Street in the Shoctor Building.

After walking through a long corridor past the door, we turned and entered the club. The house was packed, with standing room only. Everyone was dressed to the nines for a Caribbean Reggae show featuring Skystar and the comedy of Sterling Scott. Rachael and I danced and mingled and had a lovely night listening to live music in the new performance space.

The opening of Club 97 was a big success for Colin Campbell, who has been working on getting the club ready for months. I sat down with Colin before the opening and talked about his desire to animate The Quarters.

"In five years we hope that Club 97 can be a staple, and influence more and more venues to open in The Quarters." Colin said, "We believe that this could be the start of something special, to really kickstart The Quarters as the arts district that this [area was] always meant to be."

"We are doing this on a limited budget. That is the beauty of grassroots projects that you can do



Colin Campbell at Club 97's opening night. Corine Demas

a lot on a small budget. We believe that we can activate spaces with not a lot of capital. Grassroots projects come with people who have ideas and passion and a drive to do with little and see how it grows over time."

Colin added, "We will be having a jazz jam to honour the history of Brittany's. We have a grand piano. We are going to be doing music and art events, it will be a multidisciplinary arts space."

Colin's space is offering an open jam every Monday night starting at 8 p.m. and as of the publication of this article the club will host a weekly slam poetry night called,



Sterling Scott. Corine Demas

"Tuesday Slam" starting at 7 p.m. and running until 10 p.m. Slam is competitive poetry. There will be an open stage and a slam in which poets will have the chance to compete for the glory of being the ultimate slam champion at the end of the season.

"We believe that we can activate spaces with not a lot of capital. Grassroots projects come with people who have ideas and passion and a drive to do with little and see how it grows over time."

Colin is open to talking to folks who are looking for space to run arts and cultural events. "We want to work with grassroots organizations. We will be working with equity seeking groups. The Quarters was always promised to be a place for the arts. It takes a lot of time and understanding to get backers. Equity groups could really take over and make this the coolest neighbourhood in the city."

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



DINING OUT: BOA & HARE

■ PAGE 6

TWO DECADES LATER

"What has stayed constant during these decades is the commitment of the community towards the paper.

■ PAGE 3

SPRING REFLECTIONS

"City Council spent time over the winter thinking about the priorities that will guide us in the term ahead.

■ PAGE 4

MEETING OUR COMMUNITY'S NEEDS

"... I know that we have a long way to go, and a lot of work to do, to meet the needs of everyone in our community.

■ PAGE 11



Spring in McCauley

The McCauley Community League is glad to continue connecting neighbourhood residents. We have a friendly, safe place for children, teens, and adults. **Look for more information at the community league space (10755 96th Street - entrance at the SE corner)**

The McCauley Rink space will be open for sports and gardening as much as possible.

WECAN Food Basket Society distribution from the rink space on the third Thursday of the month. For more information visit wecanfood.com.

McCauley Community League AGM will be hosted soon. Look for posters around the neighbourhood or updates on Facebook (@mccauleycommunityleague).

Become a member for free online at mccauleycl.com

Look for details on MCL's website (mccauleycl.com) or updates on Facebook (@mccauleycommunityleague)

You are invited and welcome!

MCCAULEYCL.COM
league@mccauleycl.com | 780-224-5087

ADVERTISE WITH US!

**REACH 5000+ READERS MONTHLY
IN YOUR COMMUNITY**

bmcnews.org/advertise



ALBERTA'S HEALTHCARE SYSTEM IS IN CRISIS

They're hoping we'll stay quiet while they sell off our care.

REBUILDOURHEALTHCARE.CA



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

A DOSE OF NEWS AND PHOTOS FROM EVERY ISSUE!

bmcnews.org/newsletter

LINKS TO NEW STORIES DIRECTLY TO YOUR INBOX!



Micro-donate just \$2/month to keep Boyle McCauley News going strong.

That's less than the price of a cup of coffee!

bmcnews.org/donate

FIND US ONLINE!

Find exclusive stories plus more photos, classifieds, and community information.

BMCNEWS.ORG

Two Decades Later



PAULA E. KIRMAN • BMC News Staff

MCCAULEY MUSINGS

The April-May 2026 edition of *Boyle McCauley News* officially marks 20 years of me becoming Editor of this independent, non-profit, community newspaper. It was April 1st, 2006 when I received a phone call from a board member to inform me that I had been selected for the position. Sometimes I still shake my head and wonder if it was really an April Fool's joke.

Over these past two decades I have seen a lot of change in the area. Still, these neighbourhoods continue to have a character that remains unique in this city. To that, I credit the people here who are passionate about McCauley and Boyle Street. The area continues to

attract residents and visitors because of its unique, diverse, historical nature.

The paper itself has changed over the years. When I began, it only had spot colour on a few select pages. Now, we print in full colour. Our "website" was one page connected to the McCauley Community League's site at the time. Today, we have a fully functional website with extra stories, a searchable archive, and many other features.

What has stayed constant during these decades is the commitment of the community towards the paper. Volunteers remain at the heart of the organization. Whenever we have faced a financial crisis, the community has come together to help save the paper.

As the paper approaches its 50th anniversary, we will have a lot to celebrate. I'm honoured have been a part of it for this length of 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. 47 NO. 2 APRIL - MAY 2026

PO Box 34024, RPO Kingsway Mall, Edmonton AB, T5G 3G4
P: (780) 425-3475 E: info@bmcnews.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Corine Demas, John Kolkman, Richard Nguyen,
Rachael Roberts, Alan Schietzsch, Deborah Stewart

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
accounting@bmcnews.org

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

Colleen Chapman

ASSISTANT DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

Barry Marienhoff

WRITERS & PHOTOGRAPHERS

Bissell Centre, Corine Demas, Candas Jane Dorsey, Dan Hempel, Janis Irwin, Megan Johnson, Paula E. Kirman, Jon Lai, Manual Focus Photography - Ruth Ng & Wesley Ng, Julia McGhan, Rachael Roberts, Alan Schietzsch, Gail Silvius, Ruth Sorochan, Anne Stevenson, Larry Wong, Ian Young

BLOCK CARRIERS, APARTMENT AMBASSADORS & CONDO CONNECTORS

Sandra Barnes, Brockman Family, Roseanne Carter, Colleen Chapman & Barry Marienhoff, Michelle Cumming, Barry Daniels, Jack Davis & Georgie Davis, Larry Derkach, John Gee, Regan Gee, Rosalie Gelderman, Mayumi Hara, Nate Hupka, Ann-Marie Johnson, Kimberly Lockert & Dwayne Alward, Bob McKeon, Richard Nguyen, Phil O'Hara, Kate Quinn, Austin Rajzyngier, Joelle & Maddy Reiniger, Ruth Alexandra Sorochan & Maia Ameer Scheffer-Sorochan, Roma Stephaniuk, 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

By the time this issue hits the stands, spring will officially be here. However, at the time I am writing this, we are in the midst of "false spring" - that time when temperatures rise, snow melts, and hopes that spring is actually here are dashed when "second winter" returns.

That said, I want to give a shout-out to the Block Carriers who deliver the paper in all weather. Some of our carriers have been with us for decades, while others recently joined the team. No matter how long you have been helping get *Boyle McCauley News* delivered to our readers, thank you!

If you would like to become a Block Carrier, you can let me know at

editor@bmcnews.org and I can let you know when (and where) routes become available. You can also contact me if you are interested in writing or photographing for the paper.

Residents of McCauley and Boyle Street (and active volunteers with us regardless of location) can apply for a free membership at our website. Members occasionally receive information and have a vote at our AGM. More info: bmcnews.org/membership.

Visit our website (bmcnews.org) for exclusive content, an archive of back issues, to sign-up to receive our free e-newsletter, and more. On social media you can follow us on X (formerly Twitter) at [@bmcnews](https://twitter.com/bmcnews) and Bluesky at [@bmcnews.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/bmcnews.bsky.social).

OUR NEXT ISSUE. . .

Volume 47, Issue 3 (June-July 2026) will be published June 1st, 2026. Articles and photos concerning community news, events, and opinions are welcome for both our print and online editions. We also occasionally accept submissions of poetry and cartoons. Deadline for the print edition: May 12th, 2026. Send submissions to: editor@bmcnews.org. Articles should be 400 words or less and accompanied by photographs (JPG format, in high resolution) whenever possible.

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 and opinions with a Letter to the Editor. Send your letters to editor@bmcnews.org. Letters should be 200 words maximum, may be edited for length or clarity, and include a full name and contact information. Publication is not guaranteed. The deadline for letters for our next print issue is May 12th, 2026.

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

Crime Stoppers: 1-800-222-8477

Report Gang Activity: (780) 414-GANG (4264)

Stay informed & get involved: safermccauley.ca and on Facebook @safermccauley

UPDATE FROM CITY COUNCIL

Spring Reflections

ANNE STEVENSON

As we start to see signs of spring around us, I'm reflecting on how the warmth of community helped me through the dark months of winter. A highlight for me was the many Lunar New Year celebrations as we welcomed the Year of the Horse. Events across Chinatown and surrounding neighbourhoods brought vibrant energy, cultural performances, and community connections. The Year of the Horse symbolizes resilience, determination, and forward movement - all qualities I see reflected in the community around me and that I hope help shape the year in front of us!

City Council spent time over the winter thinking about the priorities that will guide us in the term ahead. Together we identified four key focus areas: Economic Development, Growth Management, Safety, and Quality Services. These priorities will be grounded in three guiding principles: fiscal sustainability, affordability, and relationship-driven decision-making. Together, they provide a framework for how we invest in our neighbourhoods and support communities like Boyle Street and McCauley.

Economic development is about building a vibrant city where Edmontonians have access to the jobs and services they need. Commercial and industrial development also provides property tax revenue to support City services while reducing pressure on household taxes. Initiatives such as the Chinatown Vibrancy Fund are helping strengthen local businesses and cultural spaces, while continued collaboration with small businesses in Chinatown, Little Italy, and surrounding districts help strengthen our communities.

When it comes to growth management, Council is focused on ensuring our city is built sustainably. This means making sure that new suburban neighbourhoods pay for themselves, and it also means supporting new homes in existing neighbourhoods to help decrease sprawl. This approach to growth can help make our city more affordable and make better

use of existing infrastructure.

Safety continues to be a major focus and I know is something top of mind for many in Boyle Street and McCauley. The City is taking a range of approaches to ensure safety for all. We are continuing to invest in housing solutions, and are working with the Province to relocate emergency shelter beds from the Hope Mission and Herb Jamieson buildings to other parts of Edmonton. This can help relieve pressure in McCauley while also providing smaller and more dignified shelter for those in need. We are also investing in a Blueprint for Violence prevention and other community-based safety initiatives such as Neighbourhood Empowerment Teams (NET). I'm also hoping to fund safety attendants in transit spaces to support riders and improve safety.

Finally, quality services remain essential to everyday life in our neighbourhoods. Residents have consistently told us that snow clearing and neighbourhood cleanliness matter. The City continues working to improve these basic services, particularly in areas like McCauley and Boyle Street where walkability and accessibility are critical for residents, businesses, and visitors alike.

Together, these priorities reflect Council's commitment to building strong neighbourhoods, supporting local businesses, and ensuring that Edmonton grows in ways that are sustainable, safe, and welcoming for everyone. I look forward to reporting back to you on how we're advancing these priorities in the years ahead.

As always, thank you to the many community members, organizations, and businesses who continue to contribute to the life of our communities. If you have ideas, concerns, or feedback, please don't hesitate to reach out to our office and be sure to sign up for our quarterly newsletter at annestevenson.ca!

Anne Stevenson, City Councillor for Ward O-day'min

Email:
anne.stevenson@edmonton.ca

Phone: 780-496-8333

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 UPDATE

The City of Edmonton has discontinued permitting privately-owned newspaper racks on City property following a review of its Newsrack Program, as well as community feedback. If you have a business and are willing to be a distribution location for the paper, please contact us!

BUSINESSES

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

Tony's Pizza (9605 111 Ave.)	The Moth (9449 Jasper Ave.)	Kim Fat Market (9905 107 Ave.)
Italian Centre (10878 95 St.)	Betty's Corner 9208 Jasper Ave.	Little BonBon Ice Cream (seasonal) (9660 106 Ave.)
Lucky Supermarket (10725 97 St.)	Boa & Hare (10520 97 St.)	Earth's Refillery Coop 10831 95 St.
Sprucewood Library (11555 95 St.)	Zocalo (10826 95 St.)	Chai Coffee Day 9665 101A Ave.
Felice Cafe (10930 84 St.)	Paper Birch Books (10825 95 St.)	
Panini's (8544 Jasper Ave.)	Van Loc (10648 98 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.

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. Or, visit edmonton.ca and search "parking permits" to apply online. Save yourself, and your guests, the pain of a very expensive parking ticket and possibility of being towed.

MCCAULEY COMMUNITY LEAGUE UPDATE

Springtime in McCauley

Upcoming events in the neighbourhood.

RUTH SOROCHAN

Hello Neighbours!

We are all treaty people. Our neighbourhood of McCauley in Amiskwaciwâskahikan, also known as Edmonton, is on Treaty 6 territory.

The late winter/early spring season in Edmonton is a back-and-forth of temperatures from cold to warm. Even so, the past winter season at the rink was enjoyable even when it was -20 degrees.

The variation in temperature made it difficult to predict how to best open the rink space as much as possible. We would like to thank Dan Glugosh, Roma Stephaniuk, and Gail Silvius for the immense amount of work, organizational effort, and heartfelt emotional time spent in creating this special space. There were some really good days there for our community.

This spring and early summer, there will be gardening opportunities at the rink space centred in part on the English as Another Language classes that happened in the winter. There will be a few garden beds dedicated to foods/herbs that are chosen by class and are culturally desirable. There is still space for you! This is for long term



A horse-drawn wagon ride during the rescheduled Family Day event at the rink on February 22nd. Paula E. Kirman

residents and newcomers alike.

The McCauley Community League and rink space will continue to operate as a depot for the WECAN Food Basket Society. If you are interested in participating or volunteering, please get in touch with operators at the rink space (10755 96th Street, entrance on the southeast corner) on the third Thursday of the month (10 a.m. - 2 p.m.) or via the WECAN website (wecanfood.com).

The McCauley Community League AGM will be coming up soon. Keep your eyes peeled for an announcement. This will be on Facebook (@

[mccauleycommunityleague](https://www.facebook.com/mccauleycommunityleague)), the *Boyle McCauley News* website, and via email. There will also be posters throughout the neighbourhood at various locations. You are invited and welcome to attend.

The board is currently seeking more members and actively encouraging programming inquiries.

The McCauley Community League is one of a number of groups that is sponsoring a homegrown festival called the Heart of the City. The festival celebrates inner city talent and the joyful spirit of communities connecting together. It usually hap-

pens in June.

This summer, the McCauley Community League will host a garage sale and block party. This will be at and around the rink space.

There will be a number of opportunities for community cafés and collaborations with Sustainable Food Edmonton - McCauley Community Orchard. If you can help with any of these events and opportunities please let us know via email or in person at an event.

McCauley Community League will host a Bannock Tea in summer at the rink space with the specific date not yet set. This will be in recognition of the signing of Treaty No. 6 on August 23rd, 1876, by the Plains Cree, Woods Cree, Nakota Sioux, Saulteaux, and Dene people with Crown representatives at Fort Carlton in Saskatchewan, and the adhesion to Treaty No. 6 by Chiefs at Edmonton, on August 21st, 1877.

Website: mccauleycl.com

Email: league@mccauleycl.com

Facebook:
@mccauleycommunityleague

Ruth Sorochan lives in McCauley with her family and is the Communications Director with the McCauley Community League.

Family Day at the Rink Rescheduled



This year, Family Day at the Rink did not actually happen on the Family Day weekend. Unseasonably warm temperatures resulted in ice maintenance issues at the McCauley Rink. Instead, the event was held the following weekend on February 22nd when colder weather allowed for better ice conditions. As always, the event featured horse-drawn wagon rides, a bonfire, skating, live music, and a community meal prepared by the Pagnotta-Mannarino family in memory of Albert Pagnotta. Pictured above: Steven Johnson (centre) entertains by the bonfire as Antonio Pagnotta (left) and Sandra Der enjoy the music. Paula E. Kirman

Blessing Chinatown Businesses



Although the annual outdoor Lunar New Year parade was cancelled due to extreme cold weather, several Lion Dance teams blessed the businesses along 97th Street and area on February 22nd. Pictured above is the Hong De Dragon and Lion Dance Association. This annual tradition was supported by the Chinatown Business Improvement Area (BIA). Manual Focus Photography - Ruth Ng

Hidden Sophistication on 97th Street

Boa & Hare: if you know, you know.

DINING OUT

Boa & Hare

#127 inside Pacific Mall
(97th Street at 105th Avenue)

ALAN SCHIETZSCH

In movies and novels, we often enjoy the fantasy of secret places known only to insiders: the “if you know, you know” hideouts of the most sophisticated.

Boa & Hare feels just like that fantasy world, a beautiful space hiding inside Pacific Mall in Chinatown that thousands pass by every day. Opened at the end of 2024, it's run by (brother and sister) Winnie and William Chen, and business partner Wilson Wong. All three have solid street cred: Winnie is chef at downtown hotspot Fu's Repair Shop, and William and Wilson together run Van Loc, a local favourite for lovers of Vietnamese Banh Mi sandwiches.

Wanting to revitalize Chinatown, they have created a space that keeps the area active in the day as a place to chat over fancy coffee creations, then turns up that momentum as it morphs into an upscale restaurant/cocktail bar in the evening. Being right along 97th Street, Boa and Hare is easy to walk or bus to, and there's a parking lot behind the Pacific Mall plus street parking in front.

Our group of four arrived



A selection of menu items at Boa and Hare. Alan Schietzsch

for dinner and drinks with an online reservation and were immediately taken by a constellation of warmly glowing lanterns hanging above the richly decorated lounge. We were seated at a marble-topped table with half-booth seating, along an elaborate mural which drew our eyes deeper into the room, creating an intimate, welcoming atmosphere.

Over fancy coffees while exploring the menu cards, appetizers were in order. The Night Market Popcorn Chicken was the Taiwanese dry style, with Chinese five-spice waking the taste buds, on a bed of crispy greens. The edamame was a level above usual, with soy and sesame oil replacing the typical salt. And the Vietnamese Ca Ri Chips were exquisite shoestring fries, with a side-dipping ramekin of curry gravy.

Those fancy appies readied us for the main course, my first

plate being Braised Black Pepper Pork. The meaty cubes were marinated in oyster sauce and soy. If that wasn't enough umami, they were accompanied by ajitsuke, a ramen-egg with creamy mirin-soy infused yolk. It was a total flavour bomb!

Speaking of ramen, my sweetie ordered the Viet Shaking Beef, but the kitchen was out, so she chose the Ca Ri Vermicelli. Delicate noodles glistened in a flavour-packed curry sauce, topped by two generous skewers of grilled chicken. Our companions also enjoyed the Shoyu-based ramen - and it's available in vegetarian or gluten-free options too! For dessert, we all shared thick rich banana bread, plated amid a ginger-strawberry sauce that had tangy contrast to the sweet banana - clever chef!

Boa & Hare has a great vibe for conversations, so we kept the evening going over some creative cocktails. One highlight was

the Lucky Biscuit, a creamy sip with the nuttiness of Amaretto almond and peanut butter blending with egg white, vanilla, and oat milk. I was delighted by the Ume Margarita. Umeshu is a plum-based liquor that joined with lime, Cointreau and tequila made a creative and posh Asian twist on the citrusy classic.

The cocktails capped our joyful evening, and we were surprised at how elegant and premium our experience was. We also were impressed that the Pacific Mall had a security guard who was attentive as we made our way back to our van. There's no question they're working to make Chinatown a destination, so we'll be back again with friends!

For reservations and event hosting visit boandhare.ca or email hello@boandhare.ca.

Alan Schietzsch lives in McCauley and is a member of the paper's Board of Directors.

Ceremonial Puck Drop at McCauley Cup



From left: EPS Chief Warren Driechel and Edmonton Oilers Alumni Al Hamilton and Georges Laroque drop the puck in the ceremonial face-off to begin the 15th annual McCauley Cup on January 24th. Paula E. Kirman

Shanghai Night at Emperor's Palace



The Chinatown Transformation Collaborative's Shanghai Night on January 31st welcomed the Year of the Horse with entertainment, food, and a 1930s Shanghai glamour dress theme. The sold-out event took place at the Emperor's Palace (10638 100th Street). Paula E. Kirman

Remembering Emile Moisan

March 22nd, 1962 - February 4th, 2026

CANDAS JANE DORSEY

We met Emile Moisan 20 years ago, when he came to ask if we had any empty bottles. We were soon regulars on his route.

He was a kind and gentle man with a sense of humour. He was homeless at first. The streets and shelters were not kind. He was beaten up badly more than once.

He had been in the trades but got injured, and after compensation ran out, he self-medicated for the pain with alcohol, a harsh mistress. But even the worse for wear, I never saw him anything but gentle. He was often bullied and suffered insults and slurs.

He found basic housing, and made a good friend Sammy. He and Sammy moved into Ambrose Place, and their health improved. They kept their client route. Sammy waited across the street, and Emile joked it was because he swore too much for me! Emile got a cell phone to check if we had bottles - a business update!

Sammy died, and Emile was consumed with grief, but he carried on. We still saw him regularly. He moved into less expensive housing, worked at a tire yard, and life improved.

However, Emile struggled with severe health issues, both from aging and years of hard street life. He coped with reasonably good humour, but sometimes became discouraged. His close friends were his sustenance at those times. He valued and

mostly enjoyed his life despite his troubles and losses.

Although we're poor by societal standards, we were rich compared with Emile. When he was in particular need (usually a benefits SNAFU), we added a few bucks or bus fare. We occasionally gave him a bit of homemade soup and other softer food. He in turn would bring gifts. Most recently, he brought me a little ornamental clock he'd found and fixed. He chose one of my paintings to take home. He knew our names but he called me Girl.

During the tough part of the pandemic Emile was in our "bubble," and kept his regular pickups. We'd talk about what was going on in our lives. In summer we'd sit on the front steps and joke about the vagaries of life. In winter we'd get him warm and dry, and then he'd head back out.

During that time, I wrote three crime novels set in Boyle Street. I asked Emile's permission to use elements of his and Sammy's story, changed for privacy, in *He Wasn't There Again Today* (ECW, 2023) and gave him a copy. I'm proud this book exists as an appreciation and partial memorial to Emile Moisan, a sweet human being who met the terrible vagaries of a vulnerable life with dignity, humour, generosity, and great courage.

Candas Jane Dorsey is a writer and visual artist who lives in Boyle Street with her partner, performer and writer Timothy J. Anderson, and Joffrey, a small bossy dog.



Emile Moisan. Candas Jane Dorsey



Emile's gift to Candas. Candas Jane Dorsey

Welcoming the Year of the Horse with Lunar New Year Celebrations at the RAM



The annual outdoor Lunar New Year parade on 97th Street was cancelled due to extreme cold weather, so the Chinatown Business Improvement Area (BIA) took all of the celebrations indoors at the Royal Alberta Museum on February 22nd. Left: the popular and colourful Lion Dance. Right: The event featured Indigenous drumming and dancing from Dancing Cree. This is the first year that Indigenous dancers danced with the drumming for the Lion Dance, and the Lions danced along with the Indigenous drums. Left photo: Larry Wong Right photo: Manual Focus Photography - Wesley Ng

Valentine's Day Memorial March



The annual Valentine's Day Memorial March happened on February 14th at Sacred Heart Church. The march commemorates missing and murdered Indigenous women in Alberta. Paula E. Kirman

JJay Studio Gets Moving in McCauley



Jayelle Warken, founder of JJay Studio which opened on February 28th at 10816 95th Street, poses next to the studio's logo. She worked in mental health and addiction for the past eight years before following her dream of opening a neighbourhood studio. The studio's focus is on movement including yoga, Pilates, breathwork, Qigong, and somatic dance. Paula E. Kirman

Together Chinatown Gathers in New Location



The 2026 Together Chinatown Arts Festival took place on February 7th and 8th in a new location: Pacific Mall. The festival features local artists, organizations, and small businesses that are community-minded and represent diversity and inclusion. Paula E. Kirman



**Professional Service
Affordable Rates**

SupportAbility

Services for Seniors & Adults with Disabilities

Serving Edmonton & Surrounding Area

Providing community-based supports and residential care to help you stay independent and connected to your community!

Friendly, Professional Staff
Same Day Service
Fully Licensed & Insured

supportabilityedmonton.ca
825-461-9738



Giovanni Caboto Park Illuminated



The entrance to Giovanni Caboto Park lit up at night. Paula E. Kirman



ITALIA
EDMONTON

Festa Primavera

A CELEBRATION OF SPRING!
Saturday, May 23rd

12 - 4pm
Fun in Little Italy along 95th Street businesses and at the Piazza

Cannoli tasting ~ Yoga showcase ~ Kids crafts ~ Live music ~
Cycle workshop ~ Spring flower bouquet demonstrations and so much more!!!

10831 - 95th Street, Edmonton

April is Poetry Month

JON LAI

Reading is an
exercise for the mind
a way of travelling to vast and
different places

Putting yourself in the shoes of
others can be done this way
embodying how they live
the consequences of their actions
realities distinct from our own
you can have those experiences

Jon Lai (he/him) is a researcher, writer, and lifelong resident of Treaty 6 territory. His poems have been published in Happiness Reflected Vols. 1 & 4, Boyle McCauley News, NorthWord Literary Magazine, and Capital City Press Anthology Vols. 4 & 5. Jon believes everyone has creative abilities.

International Women's Day Luncheon



The Chinatown Transformation Collaborative Society hosted a luncheon on March 8th at The Lingnan Restaurant to celebrate International Women's Day with inspirational stories from women leaders representing different cultures and communities. From left: Teresa Spinelli of the Italian Centre Shop, Sandra Azocar (President of the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees), Donna Coombs-Montrose (Edmonton's Historian Laureate), and The Lingnan's Amy QUON. Dan Hempel

Colours Coming Out at Night



The colours of Boyle Street Community Services' okimaw peyesew kamik / King Thunderbird Centre after dark. Paula E. Kirman

It's Tax Time Again

IAN YOUNG

**ABILITY AND
COMMUNITY**

"The hardest thing in the world to understand in the world is the income tax." - Attributed to Albert Einstein (German-born physicist; March 14th, 1879- April 18th, 1955).

Yes, it is that time again. We all need to file our taxes. However, if a genius - a Nobel Prize winner in Physics - like Albert Einstein allegedly found income tax confusing, many of the rest of us can relate. March 2nd was the deadline for your T4 slips to be sent or made available (T4 is a statement from an employer or an agency that provides income support: AISH, the Income Support Alberta, or the Canada Pension Plan).

Filing your income tax is important because it allows you to receive refunds, as well as government benefits: the GST/HST credit, Canada Child Benefit, and Canada Workers Benefit. Filing also allows you to avoid penalties. Even if a person has no income, they still need to file to receive these benefits, as well as calculate tuition credits and maintain their eligibility for social programs when applicable. For extensive information about taxes and benefits, visit the Canada.ca website.

However, the process can be confusing (especially for me!). Thankfully, there are volunteers out there who can help file for low-income people. Here are some of the places where you can find tax help.

Boyle Street Community Services
(780) 424-4106
info@boylestreet.org

e4c

tax.e4calberta.org

This organization will only be doing walk-ins as of April 1st.

Voice of Albertans with Disabilities

780-488-9088

vad@vadsociety.ca

Bissell Centre

taxes@bissellcentre.org

bissellcentre.org/programs/
community/taxes/

Action For Healthy Communities

825-523-4444

10578-113 Street NW (walk in to make an appointment)

a4hc.ca/tax-clinic

The deadline for filing is April 30th.

I look forward to the spring season - and getting my taxes filed!

Ian Young is a columnist and Block Carrier with the paper. He lives in the area.



TONY'S PIZZA PALACE AND ITALIAN RESTAURANT
9605 111 AVENUE • (780) 424-8777 • TONYSPIZZAPALACE.COM



**MARKET
DRUGS
MEDICAL**

Products for Health
and Wellness

Edmonton
10203 - 97 Street

Across from the Winspear Centre
marketdrugsmedical.com

422-1397

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
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

10527 96 Street
780-423-2285
We have been serving the downtown community for more than 115 years with our mission front of mind: working in community, we remove barriers and support people as they move out of poverty.

Office hours: Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Housing program services are available Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Free tax clinics are open at Bissell East (10527 96 Street) every Monday from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. (except in February).

BISSELL CHILD CARE

780-429-4126
9331 105 Avenue
Full-time and part-time child care services in downtown Edmonton for only \$10 a day. Plus, free respite care one day a week. Call to discuss what child care options will work best for you.
bissellchildcare.com

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.

SANCTUARY OF PEACE

10527-96 St. NW
(780) 424-7652
Pastor: Quinn Strikwerda
Associate Pastor: Maria Kruszewski
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:
salvationarmyedmonton.org

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

NEW DESTINY CHURCH

10605 - 96 St.
780-424-6422
www.newdestinychurch.ca
*Tuesday - 7:00 p.m. The Alpha Course-Introduction to Christianity and/or General Bible Studies
*Wednesday - 7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Group
*Sunday Morning - 10:00 a.m. Worship Service. Also available on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/newdestinychurchedmonton>
Street Level Outreach - Once a month on Saturday from 12 noon - 2:00 p.m. Sandwiches, clothing personal items, and prayer (front of church).

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 Saturday: 9 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples.

Sunday

Masses:
Sunday: 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 7:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples. All are welcome.

For more information, please view our weekly bulletin, our webpage, and our Sacred Heart Facebook.

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL

LUTHERAN CHURCH
10759-96 Street
Tel: (780) 422-0059
evjohn@telus.net

Sunday Services:

1st Sunday English at 11:00 a.m.
2nd and 4th Sundays German at 9:30 a.m., English at 11:00 a.m.

Videos available on YouTube and 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:

tlcla.org/get-involved-3/
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 to 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 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: \$6.50

Badminton (ages 16+):

Sundays: 1:30-4:30 p.m.
Fridays: 8:15-11:15 p.m.

Pickleball (ages 16+):

Sundays: 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Wednesdays: 12:30-3 p.m.
Fridays: 5-8 p.m.

COMMUNITY EVENTS/ACTIVITIES/SERVICES

MAJESTIC INK

Willing to do landscaping. Call with 24 hours' notice. Seniors and residential areas. Negotiable flat rate. Call Mo: 780-616-3941.

SENIOR'S COMPANION

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

FORTITUDE PLUMBING

Just a quick note to remind you we're here for all your plumbing needs - from leaks and clogs to full installation. Don't wait for small issues to become big problems. Give us a call anytime! Contact us at 780-200-8546 or 780-818-0994. Visit us at fortplumb.com
Email us at fortplumb@gmail.com

BOYLE STREET AND MCCAULEY RESIDENTS GET FREE CLASSIFIED ADS!

Email five lines or less to:
editor@bmcnews.org

MLA UPDATE

Meeting Our Community's Needs

JANIS IRWIN

Dear friends,

As I write this, the days are getting longer, and the snow has started to melt. And when you read this, I hope we're all the way into spring and enjoying warm weather and all this wonderful season brings!

I'm back in the legislature, and as always, I'm so honoured to be here, representing the wonderful communities of Boyle Street and McCauley. This session, our Alberta NDP Caucus team is focused on your priorities: addressing the cost of living, improving our crumbling health care system, and supporting education so that all children can thrive.

As I mentioned in my last article, I know that we have a long way to go, and a lot of work to do, to meet the needs of everyone in our community. We must ensure that we are all able to live safely; that we are all treated with dignity and respect regardless of our race, orientation, immigration status, or culture. This is truer than ever, and I remain unequivocally committed to fighting for better.

I've also heard from so many of you worried about the separatism movement in our province. I want you to know that this is also top of mind for my colleagues and me. At

the beginning of March, I was incredibly proud to stand alongside Indigenous leaders from across this province to unequivocally denounce separatism, to call for the government to honour the sacred Treaties that are the foundation of our country, and to stand up for Canada. This is a time when we need all leaders to speak clearly, and you have my commitment that the Alberta NDP Caucus will always fight for Canada - and we won't back down.

When I'm not in the legislature, I look forward to connecting with you all at events throughout our neighbourhoods. Please keep my office in the loop if you have an upcoming event, and if you spot me out in the community, please say hi! I'd love to catch up, or to meet you if we don't yet know each other.

And as always, I'm here to help, so if you need anything, please reach out to our constituency office!

Take good care of yourselves and each other.

*Janis Irwin, MLA for
Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood*

Email:
Edmonton.HighlandsNorwood@assembly.ab.ca

Phone: 780-414-0682

Hundreds of Walkers Show Community Pride and Brave Frigid Temperatures to Support Bissell Centre

Coldest Night of the Year raises funds for, and awareness about, crucial Bissell Centre programs.



Participants in the 2026 Coldest Night of the Year. Julia McGhan

Close to 400 walkers on more than 60 teams walked through downtown Edmonton on February 28th, 2026, for Bissell Centre's ninth annual Coldest Night of the Year fundraiser. More than \$161,000 was raised to go towards Bissell Centre's programs in housing, financial empowerment, eviction prevention, family supports, and Indigenous cultural supports.

Temperatures hit as low as -24 degrees that night with wind chill, but it didn't deter any walkers from showing up and walking alongside people in need to help strengthen the community. The walk kicked off at YMCA Boyle Street Plaza at 4 p.m., starting with an opening reception where walkers picked up their matching colourful toques before taking to their routes.

Walkers could choose either a two-kilometre route that took

them up to 100th Street, or a five-kilometre route which saw walkers traverse all the way to 109th Street. Once walkers completed their routes, they headed back to Boyle Street Plaza for a complimentary pasta buffet from Bissell Harvest Catering.

Money raised at Coldest Night of the Year makes a real impact on people in the community. In 2024, Bissell Centre helped house more than 500 people, prevented more than 600 evictions, returned more than \$7.6 million through more than 4,000 personal tax filings, and connected hundreds more people to resources to help them live with a better quality of life.

Next year's Coldest Night of the Year walk will take place on February 27th, 2027.

Information submitted by Bissell Centre.



**Micro-donate just
\$2/month to keep Boyle
McCauley News going strong.**

**That's less than the
price of a cup of coffee!**

bmcnews.org/donate

HEART OF THE CITY FESTIVAL SOCIETY ARTIST PROFILE SERIES

Denis Frigon: A Polished Production and Magical Moments

"I love the magic of throwing it at the wall to see if it sticks."

RACHAEL ROBERTS

The rhythm of the drums is the heartbeat of a band. Denis Frigon has been infusing soul into Edmonton's music scene since the age of 15, beginning with the drums, playing in jams, teaching, gigging, and starting bands.

Denis is a proud Edmontonian. As a youngster he attended festivals with his family, including Heart of the City Music and Arts Festival. His dad was a professional musician who ultimately decided to raise a family instead of pursuing a career in music. He was also Denis' biggest fan before his death at age 71. "I still hear him in my heart, the great advice, the great talks, the great encouragement. He was the biggest encourager of my music career."

When Denis played at Heart of the City for the first time in 2015 it was alongside Edmonton legend Breezy Brian Gregg. The second time he played was in 2016 with his band, Lutra Lutra. The next year he played

twice, once again with Breezy and a reggae band called Baby Boy. Denis truly embodies the heart, soul and vision of HOTC: supporting and celebrating local and emerging artists.

"My dad and I are both lovers of Motown music. Over the years we both noticed that there's a lot of John Cougar Mellencamp, lots of Led Zeppelin getting covered, or Aerosmith, Steve Miller. You didn't hear as much Marvin Gaye, Diana Ross."

Denis describes how his band Tiger Coffee was formed. "I really love those guitar players from Motown, Joe Messina, George Whyte. We said it's a shame that nobody covers those great songs. Everyone knows 'Build Me Up Buttercup', everyone knows 'My Girl', and nobody plays them. That's why I started Tiger Coffee."

Denis is a musician by trade. He shares a memory of attending a lecture given by Edmonton legend Tommy Banks while studying at



Denis Frigon. Megan Johnson

Grant MacEwan. "He'd said, decide now, whether you're going to be an artist or a tradesperson. The artist who writes the song has something on his heart, something he needs to say. A tradesperson helps him bring it to life. I don't usually create the individual composition - I help produce it. I listen to a lot of music, I teach and transcribe. I have a lot of ideas, but usually they're not the starting seed."

Jams are a huge part of Denis' life. "I

love the magic of throwing it at the wall to see if it sticks. There's something very intellectually, emotionally, spiritually satisfying about that flow state that you achieve with people. . . . Your ears are open, you're listening, you might try something you'd never try, because you're getting feedback you're never heard. You can have these beautiful moments."

Denis currently plays with a rock cover band called The Commandeers, an original rock group called Sudden Love, a band called Landlady, and with acclaimed artist Jacquie Daniels. His band Tiger Coffee hosts a jam at River City Revival every Sunday night, located in the basement of the Starlight Room (10030 102nd Street).

Rachael Roberts is a board member with the Heart of the City Festival, where she has volunteered since 2013, and recently joined the board of Boyle McCauley News. She is a mother, a teacher, and a lifelong Edmontonian who loves this community.

Janis Irwin MLA
EDMONTON-HIGHLANDS-NORWOOD

780.414.0682 6519 112 AVENUE NW
Edmonton.HighlandsNorwood@assembly.ab.ca

More than a grocery store!

EDMONTON | CALGARY | SHERWOOD PARK

PROUD TO SERVE
BOYLE STREET
and
MCCAULEY

Councillor
ANNE STEVENSON

Serving Ward O-day'min

anne.stevenson@edmonton.ca @edmonton_anne
780-496-8333 /edmontonanne
annestevenson.ca @edmontonanne

Subscribe to my newsletter for regular updates