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A TRIBUTE TO CENO ▲ 6



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Boyle McCauley News



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VOICE OF THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1979

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FREE

40th Annual Ben Calf Robe Traditional Pow Wow

Indigenous culture, history, and traditions celebrated at Clarke Stadium.

The Ben Calf Robe Annual Traditional Pow Wow celebrated its 40th anniversary on May 11th at Clarke Stadium.

This year's theme was "Honouring Our Sacred Languages." The Pow Wow featured dancing, drumming, and singing from hundreds of participants of all ages. In addition, there were artisans selling crafts, and food trucks offering a variety of treats and meals.

The event was presented by Edmonton Catholic Schools, Indigenous Learning Services, and Ben Calf Robe Society, in partnership with the City of Edmonton and Football Alberta. As always, it was free to attend and open to anyone to experience.

Here are some photos from the first Grand Entry, held at 1p.m. that afternoon.

PHOTOS BY PAULA E. KIRMAN



Dining Out: Team Cafe

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EXPLORE OUR COMMUNITY

“I've always been a huge fan of staycations. They are more affordable, less stressful, and don't come with days of jet lag.

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VALLEY LINE OFFERING NEW ADVENTURES

“Now that the LRT is on our doorstep, we can do that quickly and easily.

■ **PAGE 8**

PROBLEM PROPERTY INITIATIVE

“This work requires a variety of skills including active listening, patience, advocacy, and, above all, empathy.

■ **PAGE 11**



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Celebrating Resilient Spirits

Bissell Centre embraces the rich tapestry of Indigenous, Métis, and Inuit Nations in Treaty 6, 7, and 8 Territories.

Listening attentively to the voices of our community, we crafted the Indigenous Engagement program to provide opportunities to explore Indigenous roots. We focus on celebrating age-old traditions while traversing new ways to honour them.

This team connects Indigenous Peoples to Knowledge Keepers, Elders, and ceremonies, while also leading in sacred events like National Truth and Reconciliation Day and celebrations like National Indigenous Peoples' Day - guiding Bissell Centre to better address the unique needs of Indigenous Peoples and be good partners to Indigenous Nations.

Learn more about our Indigenous Engagement program, find resources in the community, and discover how you can get involved.



bissellcentre.org/indigenous-engagement

Explore Our Community



PAULA E. KIRMAN • BMC News Staff

MCCAULEY MUSINGS

I recently travelled overseas for the first time in my life. I explored the Baltic states of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia, as well as Helsinki, Finland. My time was spent learning about history, trying local cuisine, and taking in the experience of being so far from home.

While in Helsinki, I had a conversation with a cab driver about Edmonton. The city was on his list to visit, and I emphasized that there is more to Edmonton than a certain large shopping mall - a fact of which he was thankfully already well aware.

Being away certainly helped me appreciate home. The timing of the trip was purposeful. Besides being

between deadlines for the paper so as not to affect our publication schedule, I also could not imagine missing my favourite seasonal festivals like the Edmonton Folk Music Festival, Blues Festival, and, of course, our very own Heart of the City that takes place in Giovanni Caboto Park.

I've always been a huge fan of staycations. They are more affordable, less stressful, and don't come with days of jet lag. I also enjoy conversations with people from outside the McCauley and Boyle Street neighbourhoods who find they enjoy coming here to shop, dine, or take in local events. Some of them never knew how much the area has to offer.

In fact, in the cities I visited I was able to go beyond just the "touristy" areas into other parts that helped me to learn more about the cultures and histories of these places. Anyone abroad who is reading this should be sure to visit McCauley and Boyle Street if you are privileged to have the opportunity.

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.

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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 you read this, I anticipate that spring will be in full bloom, with summer on the horizon. I hope we will all have a chance to enjoy some great weather.

In this issue we pay tribute to two community members who died recently. I don't think I ever met Ceno, but I knew of him and his incredible artwork. Linda Dumont is someone I did know for quite some time through our various community and journalistic involvements. Both of these notable people will be dearly missed.

Part of what we do here at the pa-

per is give space for people doing interesting things and unique events that may be overlooked by other media outlets. If you have suggestions about community happenings we should cover, contact me at editor@bmcnews.org.

On a related note, if you are interested in volunteering with the paper, drop me a line at editor@bmcnews.org to find out about current volunteer opportunities. We currently have a couple of block carrier delivery routes available, and always seek writers and photographers available to cover local events.

Have a wonderful couple of months. We'll be back in August.

OUR NEXT ISSUE. . .

Volume 45, Issue 4 will be published August 1st, 2024. Articles and photos concerning community news, events, and opinions are welcome. We also accept submissions of poetry and cartoons. Deadline: July 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.

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 July 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)

MLA UPDATE

A Community of Incredible People

JANIS IRWIN

Dear friends,

Happy summer! Like so many of you, I'm a big fan of this season, and I'm looking forward to taking advantage of warm weather and long, sunny days to spend lots of time out in the community. I'm especially looking forward to connecting with you all at events throughout Boyle Street and McCauley.

We all know that these opportunities for connection couldn't happen without the dedication and hard work of so many of you. I'm so proud to see you all continue to show up for each other—not just once in a while, but throughout the year.

I'm thinking of community builders like the fabulous Rosalie Gelderman, who recently won an Alberta Seniors Service Award for her nearly four decades of advocacy for seniors in our province. It was an honour to join her and her family and friends for the celebration.

I'm thinking of Dan Glugosh, who once again dealt with the most adverse of conditions in an unpredictable winter, but managed to maintain the most beautiful ice in town down at the McCauley Rink.

I'm thinking of all the people who I've met who are doing so much to keep Chinatown vibrant – from the incredibly dedicated group of young folks bringing new energy and ideas to the community, to the elders who helped to build the Chinatown we have today and are still continuing this work.

And I'm thinking of people like those who keep the McCauley and Boyle Street Community Leagues going strong, and all those who volunteer so much of their time.

I wish I could name everyone who I know does so much to keep our neighbourhoods going. Know that we see you and appreciate you.

I look forward to continuing to connect with you, and to celebrating all the ways in which our community comes together. Whether it's on housing, health care, education, or any issues that are top of mind for you, 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.

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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.

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)
97 Street & 103 Avenue (by former 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.)	Van Loc (10648 98 St.)
	Italian Bakery (10644 97 St.)

VOLUNTEER TO DELIVER THE PAPER

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

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Rosalie Gelderman Receives 2023 Minister's Seniors Service Award

Rosalie Gelderman is a recipient of a 2023 Minister's Seniors Service Award. The awards were announced in mid-April of this year. She is one of three recipients of an Individual Award.

Here is the official communication from the Government of Alberta about Rosalie and why she was chosen as a recipient.

Rosalie Gelderman, a devoted advocate for seniors, has dedicated over four decades to seniors' well-being in Alberta and beyond. Her extensive contributions include over a decade of impactful work with the Edmonton Seniors Coordinating Council, where she played a pivotal role in shaping projects such as the seniors home supports program, diversity resources for seniors centres, and outreach service models, leveraging her insights, extensive connections, and wisdom. With 26 years at Operation Friendship Seniors Society and subsequent roles as the Aging in Place Project Coordinator in Edmonton, Rosalie has been a catalyst for innovative strategies, ensuring housing and support for marginalized seniors. Her extensive volunteerism, spanning 28 years, includes chairing the Keiskamma Canada Foundation, which supports South African seniors, and serving on many non-profit and city boards. She is known for fostering community understanding, safety, and compassionate responses in all her roles. Rosalie is a positive role model and is described by her colleagues as a one-woman harm reduction program, embodying quiet determination in her decades-long commitment to improving the lives of seniors. Rosalie's exceptional service, wealth of knowledge, and unwavering dedication to serving Alberta



From left: MLA Janis Irwin, Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood; Her Honour, the Honourable Salma Lakhani, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta; Rosalie Gelderman; and Minister Jason Nixon, Minister of Seniors, Community and Social Services. Supplied by the Government of Alberta

seniors across multiple sectors stands as a testament to over four decades of quiet activism, leaving an indelible mark on the lives of those she has touched.

Rosalie said that she is honoured to receive the award and also to meet the Lieutenant Governor. In her acceptance speech, Rosalie said that, "it was in the inner city where I found a home and spent most of my working life

– supporting and advocating for seniors on the margins, often struggling with mental illness and addictions. I learned that respect goes farther than the best laid plans to fix them."

Rosalie's speech concluded with some words of wisdom: "We say it takes a village to raise a child. It also takes a village to age. May we all live well in community, giving and receiving a

helping hand."

Rosalie lives in McCauley, where she has volunteered with numerous community organizations, including the McCauley Community League and Inn Roads Housing Co-op. She is also *Boyle McCauley News'* bookkeeper as well as a block carrier and proofreader.

Congratulations Rosalie!

MP UPDATE

Exciting News: The Canadian Dental Care Plan is in Action

BLAKE DESJARLAIS

Tansi!

I'm excited to share that beginning May 1st, 2024, dental coverage for the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP) began for the first group of eligible applicants. Tens of thousands of Canadians across the country have already received care, some for the first time in their lives.

This program is life-changing for many Canadians, and by 2025, over 9 million Canadians will be eligible. The CDCP will cover a wide range of oral health care services aimed at maintaining teeth and gum health, and preventing and treating oral health issues and diseases.

Seniors aged 70 and above who

missed the early phone registration can now register online. Additionally, seniors aged 65 to 69 can now register online. Adults with a valid Disability Tax Credit certificate and children under 18 can begin online registration on June 1st, 2024. All other eligible Canadian residents can register starting in early 2025. For CDCP online registration, visit: www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/dental/dental-care-plan/apply.html

If you have registered for the CDCP and received your welcome package from Sun Life, you would have been notified of the date you can begin seeing a dentist or oral health provider. If you registered over the phone but haven't received your welcome package, please contact the CDCP directly at 1-833-537-4342

to check your application status.

Over 300 dentists have already enrolled in the program in Edmonton alone. That's more than 50% of dentists registered with the College of Dental Surgeons of Alberta in Edmonton.

We hope to have as many dentists and oral health providers sign-up for the CDCP as possible. The participation of oral health providers across the country in this plan is critical to build a foundation for more equitable access to oral health care and make a difference in the lives of millions of Canadians.

If your adjusted family net income is lower than \$70,000, the CDCP will cover 100%. You may have to pay additional charges directly to

the oral health provider if:

- Your adjusted family net income is between \$70,000 and \$89,999, or
- The cost of your oral health care services exceeds established CDCP fees.

If you are seeking an oral health provider in Edmonton that accepts the CDCP, please visit: www.sunlife.ca/sl/cdcp/en/member/provider-search/

For questions about any federal government program, please contact me by phone at 780-495-3261 or by email at Blake.Desjarlais@parl.gc.ca.

Blake Desjarlais
Member of Parliament,
Edmonton Griesbach

A Tribute to Ceno (November 11, 1962 - March 22, 2024)

A talented artist and dedicated community member.

JIM GURNETT

People may not have known William St. Savard personally, but in scores of homes and offices his distinctive drawings - often featuring feathers, eagles, and human faces - command attention.

Known best as Ceno, St. Savard lived much of his life in McCauley and Boyle Street, after moving as a youth from Athabasca. He could often be seen around the community with a large piece of paper and his pens creating a work of art for someone. He loved to share his drawings and his sense of humour, and he was always quick to offer assistance and support to others who were struggling.

In the final years of his life he lived at Ambrose Place, continuing to draw until arthritis made it difficult to use his hands.

Jim Gurnett is a social justice advocate who is also a former board member of Boyle McCauley News.



William St. Savard (Ceno). Jim Gurnett



An example of Ceno's artwork.

Find Homemade Flavour Surprises North of Chinatown

Team Cafe serves family style Ethiopian food.

DINING OUT

Team Cafe

10858 97th Street NW
Phone: 587-520-6669

ALAN SCHIETZSCH

Everyone knows 97th Street is full of interesting food, but did you know that restaurants extend well beyond Chinatown?

On the west side of 97th Street just north of St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Cathedral, which is on the east side, you'll find Team Cafe, which has been open for about a year. Owner Semir brings a delicious, homemade style of Ethiopian cooking to the area.

Our curious group of five went on a Wednesday night and discovered that it's a small space that does mostly take-out and delivery. There are a handful of tables for one or two as well as a small room off the side which had a booth perfect for our family group. We were charmed that the table was an oval kitchen table. It was like being invited into someone's house!

With a smile, Semir gave us the small menu showing a variety of many dif-



Two of the dishes experienced at Team Cafe. Alan Schietzsch

ferent main meals on one side, and a breakfast menu on the flip side. We were lucky to go as a family, as it let us explore the choices, from mild to spicy, with something for each person's preference.

After ordering, we each were served a complimentary bowl of soup based on red lentils, with small chunks of potato and carrot, seasoned almost like a very mild vegetable curry.

Dishes were served family style to share, arriving as each one was cooked rather than all at once. First came the

Hanide (a roasted leg of lamb), then the (huge!) chicken thigh, both on a bed of amazing rice that is among the best I've ever eaten. Perfectly cooked, the grains were topped with crispy onion for a contrast in texture and were not at all dry. Never did I think that rice would be the part of a meal that I'd especially want to go back for. The seasoning was deep and mild, and may please even those who are hesitant to try Ethiopian food. Both dishes also came with salad on the side. After gnawing on the flavourful meats, only a bone was left where there was once roast lamb.

The Zilzil Tibs arrived next. It was little chunks of beef served on a "pancake" of injera bread. A little mound of berbere spice on the side of the platter is there for you to sprinkle on as much or as little spice as you like. There are also a few slices of a mild jalapeño pepper. You tear off a small piece of the bread, scoop up a few morsels of beef, and pop it into your mouth as a little parcel of meaty flavour. I considered this dish to be medium spicy.

Next came a traditional dish, Hulbat Marakh, a deep stew bowl with layers of injera under a very robust spicy sauce. This one's for folks who want an experience: over-the-top flavour from a very spicy sauce covering two enormous hunks of beef, cooked to falling-apart perfection.

At the end, we were given a big plate of fries with ketchup, which was like a mild dessert after the intense flavours - an unusual (for us) and very smart way to end the meal. Also smart was the price: just \$82 for enough food for five stuffed people, including a bottle of water each, and with a container of food for tomorrow's lunch. What a deal! As I write this, it's just an hour afterwards, and we can't stop talking about the flavour. We'll definitely be back for another homemade Ethiopian meal.

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

Remembering Linda Dumont (November 24, 1944 - April 15, 2024)

McCauley resident lived in service to others.

JIM GURNETT

Linda Dumont was a McCauley resident with an influence that reached far beyond the neighbourhood she called home. With her recent death from cancer, a powerful force for fair treatment of people living in poverty has been lost.

Dumont is best known as the publisher and editor of *Alberta Street News* (formerly *Edmonton Street News*) since 2003, one of the few surviving street newspapers in the world. The paper was her initiative to permit people to have the dignity of earning a living if they were not able to maintain more conventional employment. At the same time, it brought perspectives and personal experiences from marginalized people to a wider audience.

From her arrival in Edmonton in 1989, Dumont was anchored in her Christian faith and always active with urban core missions, her own and others. She loved to organize and host meals and parties for those who had little opportunity for a social life. She loved to share what she was learning about God's love. And she loved to make a fuss whenever she encountered injustice, once set-



Linda Dumont accepting a Daughter of the Year Award at the 2014 Daughters Day celebration at City Hall. Michael Hoyt

ting up a tent at City Hall for several days to call attention to homelessness.

Dumont's connection with newspapers began with selling the first street paper, *Spare Change*, on street corners to make money to support her family. But she went on to study journalism at MacEwan and worked for *Our Voice* and *Boyle McCauley News* (where she was Editor) before

founding *Edmonton Street News*, which expanded to become *Alberta Street News*. As sales of street papers began to decline, Dumont never hesitated to take on teaching a few extra yoga classes to secure the funds to publish for another month.

Dumont had talents in abundance. In addition to journalism, she published several volumes of poetry and was a talented visual artist. She and

a friend had the idea of an arts event for people living in poverty that became the Art from the Unknown show, still presented each year by MLA Rachel Notley. She served on the board of Songs of the Street, an organization that published anthologies of poetry by street-involved folks during the 1990s. The writers received awards donated by various organizations, and the anthologies were sold by the street newspaper vendors.

When she was honoured with an award as a peacemaker by Project Ploughshares in 2016, I said in introducing her, "Linda is a peacemaker because she never hesitates to disturb the peace of those who allow injustice. She is genuine, daring, tough, and loving."

Dumont's blunt message when something upset her was not always appreciated, but the hundreds of people who were blessed by her practical help when they needed it to survive have a much more generous opinion of her. She will be deeply missed by her children, grandchildren, and a host of friends.

Jim Gurnett is a social justice advocate who is also a former board member of Boyle McCauley News.

MCCAULEY COMMUNITY LEAGUE UPDATE

Events Coming Up: Save the Dates

Spring is here. Ice Man Dan has hung up his skates and our season of skating is over. But that doesn't mean there is nothing to do with McCauley Community League. We've got lots of events on the horizon.

Saturday, June 8th

Noon to 10 p.m.

Sunday, June 9th

Noon to 5 p.m.

Our community partner, **Heart of the City Festival**, happens this June 8th and 9th. It is back in Giovanni Caboto Park with an addition to the festival this year. The Indigenous Fashion Show is being integrated onto the main stage.

Did you miss the festival? Check out the website (heartcityfest.com) for a link to the Story City app and take a virtual tour of the happenings. You'll be linked to videos and highlights.

Saturday, June 22nd

1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

The McCauley Community League (MCL) is holding our **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** and lunch with an ice cream so-

cial at the Hull Block (9664 106th Avenue). Following the meeting there will be a short Q&A with Anne Stevenson, our City Councillor.

Saturday, July 13th

1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Come on out to the McCauley Carnival featuring bouncy castles, cotton candy, popcorn, hot dogs, and kids' floor games. We will also have stand-up comedy from Kamal Alaeddine (who has appeared on *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*), and circus-style side-show performances by Istace. Istace is a multi-disciplinary circus artist who serves a one-of-a-kind experience. They have honed their craft by training with top coaches in Las Vegas and San Francisco, as well as studying at the Beijing International Arts School. In 15 years of performing, Istace's genre-blending shows have been seen internationally, toured across Canada, and have earned awards for originality. They juggle swords, swallow a sword, and spit fire.

Information provided by the McCauley Community League.

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Valley Line Offering New Horizons

ANITA JENKINS

The Valley Line LRT finally opened in November, and one of the stops (Quarters) is in Boyle Street, at 96th Street and 102nd Avenue. Boyle Street resident Audrey Whitson recently led me and another friend on an enjoyable and interesting tour of the line, which extends to Mill Woods.

Starting from The Quarters at about 10 a.m., we first visited the revamped Bonnie Doon Shopping Centre, where you can find a small art gallery with a wide range of artists working in various styles and mediums. Then it was time for coffee, and the Aum Café in the mall filled the bill nicely. The service was most hospitable and the prices lower than in downtown Edmonton (Americano: \$3.50).

We hopped back on the line and went to the Grey Nuns Stop, where we toured the spacious Mill Woods library, an LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold Certified (energy-saving) building that features natural light and

houses the Mill Woods Seniors and Multicultural Centre. The search for a late lunch took us to the nearby Punjab Parantha Hut in a strip mall at 6574 28th Avenue. Once again, a fine feast was extremely affordable.

On the way back home, we got off at the Muttart Stop and had another coffee at Café Bloom, located inside the Muttart Conservatory. We are looking forward to returning to see the exhibits at the Muttart at one or more future dates. The offering at the time of our visit was a display of spring bulb flowers.

There is a lot more to see and do at or near the various Valley Line stops and stations, especially restaurants and cafés that we downtown folks may not have visited. Now that the LRT is on our doorstep, we can do that quickly and easily.

Note: This tour, or a similar one, would be enhanced by a visit to Double Greeting Wonton House, right next to the Quarters Stop at 10212 96th Street (cash only!).

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



The Quarters LRT stop. Paula E. Kirman



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EDMONTON INTERCULTURAL CENTRE

Intercultural Child and Family Centre (ICFC)

Cultural richness and education for children.

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.

Located in the heart of Edmonton at the Intercultural Centre (9530 107 Avenue), the Intercultural Child and Family Centre (ICFC) epitomizes high-quality, culturally responsive child care and education. With operational hours from 6:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and plans to extend these hours to 9:30 p.m. from Monday to Friday, ICFC aims to support parents working nontraditional hours, ensuring flexibility and inclusivity for all families.

At the core of ICFC's mission is a deep commitment to celebrating the diverse cultural heritage of its community. This commitment is woven into the fabric of its playrooms and educational programs, designed to support not just the child care needs of families but also to foster a robust sense of community and enhance the professional development of its educators.

Serving more than 75 children ranging from newborn to 12 years, ICFC prides itself on providing individualized care. Each child's educational journey is captured through detailed portfolios, which include educator bios, artifacts, and learning stories. This documentation process makes the learning journey tangible and engaging for chil-

dren and their parents, ensuring a collaborative and transparent educational experience.

The centre's educational philosophy is a blend of cultural richness and education, manifested through uniquely named playrooms such as El Nido, Salaam, Natonam, and Kapatiran. Each name reflects core values like nurturing, peace, wonder, and brotherhood/sisterhood, fostering an environment of creativity, exploration, and a strong sense of belonging among children of various age groups. For more information about the names of the playrooms, visit www.icfc.ca/ICFCMcCauley_Playrooms.

Beyond its educational ethos, ICFC emphasizes the importance of extended child care hours to meet the diverse schedules of families. This flexibility, coupled with the inclusion of nutritional, homemade, whole-food meals, underscores ICFC's comprehensive approach to family support.

Visit the ICFC website to discover more about the Intercultural Child and Family Centre's innovative offerings, educational philosophies, and unwavering commitment to community and cultural responsiveness: www.icfc.ca. The website provides a window into the pioneering spirit that defines early childhood education at ICFC.

Information provided by the Edmonton Intercultural Centre, which is located at 9538 107 Avenue.

Helen Keller: A Life of Advocacy

IAN YOUNG

ABILITY AND COMMUNITY

"Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence." - Helen Keller (June 27, 1880-June 1, 1968), American author, disability rights advocate, and lecturer.

Helen Keller, a legendary advocate for disability rights, was born and died in the same month: June (of course, in different years).

She lost her sight and hearing as an infant. This was attributed to an unknown illness at the time, but is believed to have been either rubella, scarlet fever, encephalitis, or meningitis.

Keller was non-verbal until age six, when she met a remarkable teacher, Anne Sullivan, who taught her language, reading, and writing.

She then went on to graduate from Radcliffe College at Harvard University and became the first deaf-blind person in the United States to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Keller spent her lifetime lecturing, penning 14 books and hundreds of articles. She not only advocated for disability rights, but also other social justice causes such as world peace and women's right to vote.

An example of strength, determination, and courage, she is heralded as one of the most notable humans in history.

As a disability advocate myself who was also born in June, I cherish Helen Keller as an inspiration and someone who worked to make the world a better place.

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

2024 Outdoor Way of the Cross



On Good Friday (March 29th), hundreds of people walked throughout the McCauley and Boyle Street area as part of the 44th Annual Outdoor Way of the Cross. The theme was "Journeying Home." Speakers reflected on various social justice issues such as immigration, housing insecurity, and losing one's home to war and violence. Michael Hoyt



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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@icpm Edmonton.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

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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., 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.

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 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 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: \$6

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.

Basketball (ages 16+):

Wednesdays 4-6 p.m.
For information call: 780-426-9265

YOUTH TRANSITIONS PROGRAM REC NIGHT

Ages 13-19
YMCA Boyle Street Plaza
9538-103A Avenue
Thursdays 3:30-6 p.m.
For information call: 780-426-9265

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

FREE GUITAR LESSONS

Tuesdays at 8 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!

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McCauley LITTER BLITZ

Saturday June 22, 10 a.m.-noon
Meet behind McCauley Apartments at 9541 108A Ave. (south parking lot - follow the signs). Coffee and snacks when you start; hot dogs and pop when you finish!
Join your friends and neighbours to spruce up our neighbourhood.
All supplies and equipment provided. Everyone welcome!

Urban Farm Gardeners Wanted!

e4c has a new plot at the Edmonton Urban Farm (11312 79 St. NW, adjacent to Borden Park!)

We are looking for eager gardeners (no experience necessary) to work this plot, participate in community life, and share in the harvest.

Contact Kathryn at 780-964-3444 or krambow@e4calberta.org to find out more.

WE CAN 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

Community Safety Liaison Gives Support and Hope to Those Living in Problem Properties

Christie Smith stands outside a residential building, preparing to meet the individuals living inside.

She's a Community Safety Liaison working with the City of Edmonton's Residential Inspection Safety Compliance (RISC) Team. RISC provides a coordinated multi-agency approach to complex residential living situations involving vulnerable individuals, families, and places. The team works to uphold minimum housing standards at high-risk properties and to reduce impacts in the surrounding community.

Christie's civilian clothes set her apart from her uniformed team members. She is not an enforcement officer, but a registered social worker providing support to people staying in or working at problem properties.

"My role is to assess the needs of vulnerable individuals and provide connections to resources and services that help meet their basic needs and enhance their overall social well being," says Christie.

In 2023, RISC conducted 2,031 inspections at 207 properties citywide, with a significant number of these being located in the neighbourhoods of McCauley, Alberta Avenue, and Central McDougall.

At every visit, Christie takes an individualized, human-centred approach that addresses the specific needs of each resident.

"Every visit is different and every individual is unique," says Christie. "Someone might need a connection to income support or health-care assistance. In the context of problem properties, many folks need support to leave an unhealthy living situation and access safe and secure housing."

This work requires a variety of skills including active listening, patience, advocacy, and, above all, empathy. It also requires a knowledge of Edmonton's broad network of social agencies - knowledge which Christie has acquired through years of work with Edmonton John Howard Society, Bissell Centre, and Sage Seniors Association.

Currently, Christie is working with Bruce (not his real name), a resident in his 80s. Bruce was renting a suite in a building that was very poorly maintained by its owner. Safety and health violations at the property led to the intervention of the RISC team, who learned that the company that owned the building was dissolved, the property was being sold, and the tenants were being evicted.

"When I met Bruce he had less than two weeks to find another place to live," says Christie. "I arranged an interview



Community Safety Liaison, Christie Smith. Supplied by the City of Edmonton



RISC entering a residential property to conduct an inspection. Supplied by the City of Edmonton

for him with GEF Seniors Housing, and supported him at the interview. Unfortunately, there were no GEF units available before Bruce's eviction date. Then, to complicate the situation, the property Bruce was preparing to leave caught fire and he was forced to move immediately."

Christie succeeded in locating a space that Bruce could move into quickly, then began helping him replace the furniture that had been damaged in the fire.

"Bruce's insurance company told us that most of his furniture was too old to replace," explains Christie. "So I set him up with an inflatable mattress and connected him with FIND furniture, a social enterprise of Homeward Trust Edmonton that offers essential furnishings free of charge to folks who are transitioning out of homelessness."

Over the first five months of her work as a Community Safety Liaison, Christie has supported 51 unique individuals to overcome a variety of challenges. Her human-centric role is an important part of the overall work of the RISC team, ensuring that the people in need are connected to services and transitioned into healthier and safer environments.

The RISC team's membership includes five City departments, Alberta Health Services, Edmonton Police Service, and three Government of Alberta areas. Each partner plays a unique role and brings different strategies and legislation to the team.

RISC's work is part of Edmonton's Problem Property Initiative. In December of 2022, City Council approved permanent funding to implement the City's long-term strategy to address properties that cause frequent and serious safety concerns and complaints to the City.

In developing the strategy, the City took into consideration the perspectives of tenants, landlords, enforcement partners, and community members. This research revealed that the City's approach to problematic residential properties would benefit from the inclusion of a Community Safety Liaison at property inspections.

To learn more about the Problem Property Initiative or to report a problem property, visit edmonton.ca/ProblemProperties or call 311.

Information provided by the City of Edmonton.

UPDATE FROM CITY COUNCIL Lots of Great Events - and Construction

ANNE STEVENSON

McCauley is home to one of the city's most dynamic commercial areas: Chinatown. While the area has faced challenges in recent years, I am so inspired and hopeful by many events and celebrations that are coming up.

One initiative that the City introduced this year to support the area is the Chinatown Vibrancy Fund. This \$480,000 fund was open for applications from April 8th to May 31st, 2024. It aims to support the implementation of the Chinatown Strategy by bringing visitors into the area through festivals, events, and cultural projects building community cohesion and empowering both housed and unhoused residents. We'll find out which projects were selected in July, and I can't wait to hear about all the great events and ideas that will be able to come to life.

I'm looking forward to taking part in the Van bLoc Party on June 8th and 9th! Based at 98th Street and 106th Avenue, this event will have local DJs, live music, food, dance showcases, and more. Follow @vanloc.ca on Instagram for the latest details or visit vanblocparty.ca. Also on June 8th is the Dragon Festival Parade on 97th Street at 11 a.m. More information is available at yegdragonfest.com.

There are many events going on in Chinatown throughout the summer - be sure to watch Chinatown Transformation Collaborative events page (ctcyeg.ca/events) and the Chinatown Business Association Facebook page (facebook.com/ChinatownYEG/events) to stay posted on all the goings-on.

Outside of Chinatown, don't forget that June 8th and 9th is the Heart of the City Festival at Giovanni Caboto Park, featuring music, art, spoken word, and more. Visit www.heartcityfest.com for the weekend's schedule.

Along with great events and festivals, summer also brings construction. Neighbourhood Renewal should be well underway by the time this article is published. While I hope it's going as smoothly as possible, I know that construction near your home or business can be challenging. Be sure to check out the website (edmonton.ca/BuildingBoyleStreetandMcCauley) or reach out to the project manager (ariel.couture@edmonton.ca) if you have any issues or questions.

It's always a delight to connect with you so please never hesitate to connect with my office, and don't forget that 311 is there to help too, on the phone or online. Thank you for reading, and happy summer!

Email: anne.stevenson@edmonton.ca
Phone: 780-496-8333

HEART OF THE CITY FESTIVAL SOCIETY ARTIST PROFILE SERIES

Stella Johnson: "Music was always a part of my life."

CORINE DEMAS

Stella Johnson is a McCauley-based singer/songwriter who performs regularly around Edmonton.

"My dad's a musician, and my mom's a music lover. I was an only child and they always brought me to jams and festivals. Music was always a part of my life. It felt kind of inevitable that I would love it in some capacity and then I just took it my own way," she says of her love of music.

About her involvement with Heart of the City, Stella explains, "I've lived in McCauley my whole life. I remember being there when I was really little, and it was probably some of my first experiences getting up on stage because my dad would play, and I would get up and play some terrible harmonica with him or sing 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star.' I've always loved that festival. It was a big part of my growing up."

When asked to share more memories of the festival, Stella said, "The first two things that come to mind are Netti Spaghetti who would be there with the hula hoops and Mary Rankin's song circle. I remember face painting - it was Rhonda Hardcastle who would have done it back in the day. These people are still so close to me and my family. I think Heart of the City was a necessary community in this area."

As someone who grew up in the inner city, Stella says, "I saw a



Stella Johnson. Kaylin Kowalyszyn

difference. I look like this hippy chick but that doesn't always represent how I was raised and what I saw. I made some really bad decisions and hung out with some really risky people. I don't think my friends in other places would have done such risky things. Luckily, I had it a lot better than a lot of people but I think it gave me a really unique perspective having gone through that and coming out on the other side a much stronger person. I knew that I lived in a worse off area than a lot of people I went to school with."

She continues, "I was aware that growing up in the inner city was a unique experience. I don't think I was aware of how that would affect me or the decisions that I made. I wouldn't trade it for the world, and I'm very grateful for it. In different places that I go I'm not a judgmental person, and I could have been if I lived somewhere else."

Stella tells me that despite being the daughter of Steven Johnson, the McCauley Community League's long-term guitar teacher, she taught herself to play the guitar. At the same

time, she says, "I have my dad to thank for my musical awareness."

She goes on to say, "Music - it sounds cheesy, but it's like an extra limb for me. It's something that I have to do. It keeps me somewhat sane. I like finding different ways that I'm going to take it. I'm kind of at a point where I don't know what I'm going to do next, but that's exciting in itself."

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



Janis Irwin, MLA
Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood

Follow Janis on social media

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