



FORGING HOPE 4 ▲



INNER CITY REC. AND WELLNESS 5 ▲



BOOK CLUB AT FARMERS MARKET 8 ▲



LUNAR NEW YEAR 16 ▲

Boyle McCauley News

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VOL. 41 NO. 2

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VOICE OF THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1979

Little Italy Lego Competition Sparks Creativity

Kids from all over Edmonton brought their colourful creations to the Italian Centre for fun and prizes.

DANNY HOYT

The Viva Italia District Association was pleased to hold its first Annual Little Italy Lego Competition on February 10th at Spinelli's Bar Italia. With prizes of up to \$250 in Little Italy gift cards, we had kids from all over Edmonton bring examples of their Lego building brilliance: Leaning Towers of Pisa, Roman Coliseum Scenes, perfect Pantheons of Rome, and one very cool robot.

The tribunal of judges had a difficult time making their choices, but after much deliberation and tabulation they selected three winners in the ages 5 to 10 category and three more in the ages 11-16. Congratulations to Antonio, Benjamin, and Kiev; and to Myles, Daphne, and Carson. We hope that you have fun spending your winnings in Little Italy and we look forward to seeing you all, and your Lego, again next year.

Special thanks to Greg Brandenburg of McCauley Revitalization for sourcing our prizes and venue.

Danny Hoyt is the Development Coordinator, Viva Italia District Association.



Dining Out

TONY'S TUMMY GETS TRICKED AT PÊCHE CAFÉ.

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“ But know this: there is strength in numbers and we are legion.

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“ These events are great ways to test out possibilities for promoting safety through vibrancy...and beautification.

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BSCL UPDATE

“ Boyle Street is already a livable, walkable, urban community.

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Hope Springs Eternal



PAULA E. KIRMAN • BMC News Staff

MCCAULEY MUSINGS

Some of us look forward to spring with hope. We anticipate a time of rebirth and renewal.

Yet over the past while it's been hard to feel optimistic. Cuts to public services have threatened our health care and education systems by affecting nurses, teachers, and other front-line workers who care for our children, the elderly, and vulnerable. Many of these same public sector workers have been bringing in a steady income while their tradesperson spouses were laid off. The bottom line is: austerity will not bring back the oil and gas industry to its former glory.

Some are feeling despair, while others fear what the future holds. Rather than give in to fear or despair, we can still have hope. We can work together for a better community, city, and province. We can share our voices about what matters to us and our families, and take action to ensure our future.

For some, that means putting on our marching shoes and hitting the streets. For others, it means getting involved with political campaigns for parties and candidates that share their values. It can mean writing letters to the editors of newspapers, engaging in discussions on social media, and even one-on-one conversations with friends and family members.

After all (and I know I have said this before), changing the world starts with changing the world around you. That change can start with a glimmer of hope this spring, and always.

Boyle McCauley News

Boyle McCauley News is a non-profit newspaper published eight 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.

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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

As we approach spring, we're looking at new ways of keeping our community newspaper sustainable. If you would like to support independent, local, community journalism, we can now accept online donations through PayPal. Even committing to a small monthly donation of \$2 can help us out a lot. You can find more information about our micro-donation campaign elsewhere in this issue, or just head to bmcnews.org/donate.

We still plan to do another raffle this year. Information will be posted on our website and social media as soon as we have the details, as well as in print.

Do you want to help the paper by volunteering? We still have several Block Carrier routes up for grabs. Contact me at editor@bmcnews.org for more details. You can also reach me there to discuss writing or taking pictures for the paper.

Have you checked out our website lately? Visit us at bmcnews.org for current features and web exclusives. Our refreshed website should be launching any time now - possibly by the time you read this.

Finally, if you use Facebook or Twitter, we're on there as @bmcnews and on Instagram we're @bmcviews. Follow us!

OUR NEXT ISSUE . . .

Volume 41, Issue 3 will be published May 1st, 2020. Articles and photos concerning community news, events, and opinions are welcome. We also accept submissions of poetry and cartoons. Deadline: April 12th, 2020. 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 issue is April 12th, 2020.

BOYLE STREET AND MCCAULEY CRIME AND SAFETY NUMBERS

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EPS website • edmontonpolice.ca
- click on Crime Prevention

Crisis Diversion Team • Call 211 and press 3

Crime Stoppers • 1-800-222-8477
1-800-222-TIPS

MCCAULEY COMMUNITY LEAGUE UPDATE

Keeping Up the Fight

GREG LANE

I wrote an article back in November about a number of residents dealing with problem properties. I endeavoured to capture the sentiment of those who were on the frontline and had taken the initiative to speak to the City's Urban Planning Committee.

Since then, the City appears to have taken this seriously. Through a motion from Ward 6 Councillor McKeen, City Administration staff has begun looking closely and intently at actually dealing with the issue. Now, for the record, a large part this has come from the community not only in McCauley, but Alberta Avenue and Parkdale Cromdale. Problem properties, while not exclusive to McCauley, are a problem across the city to varying degrees. The classification of what constitutes a problem property is varied, as are the impacts on residents and business. But for

the case of our focus I was concerned about the safety, happiness, and general well-being of the community.

The existence of many problem properties has stemmed from the lack of housing options and barriers for some to enter into safe and affordable housing. This is a failure by government (municipal, provincial, and federal) to support and develop housing options and ensure people have access regardless of their circumstances. I heard through conversations that, in some cases, Bylaw Enforcement and others related to the Residential Living Governance Committee (RLGC) were reluctant to issue closure orders against a property because those involved didn't want to put people on the street. They, in effect, would rather leave them in a roach-infested building with no functioning plumbing at the mercy of whatever evils than see them on the street.

I call BS. We're supposed to look back to the City and say, "Your failure to provide adequate and safe supportive housing means people have to die?" Unacceptable.

***But know this:
there is strength
in numbers and
we are legion.***

The City is developing housing strategies; we're waiting for the City's Housing and Homelessness group to make some announcements. Edmonton's Community Development Corporation (ECDC) has made an effort to get involved, and we applaud them. Now is the time to walk the talk. I've expressed

confidence in the City's administration to actually act on promises is low. This is a chance to get it right and set an example for the rest of Canada, and perhaps North America, of what can be done when you think outside the box. I have been told that for the first time perhaps the City will "aggressively" attack this issue.

So, now we wait and see. As the snow melts and the Province has put all their money into rebuilding the Herb Jamieson, can the City actually move the needle? – pun intended. As always, I remain cautiously optimistic. But know this: there is strength in numbers and we are legion. Reach out, talk to your neighbours, email or write council, your MLA, and your elected officials. Tell them we're watching and taking note.

Greg is the President of the McCauley Community League. He can be reached at league@mccauleycl.com.

Safer McCauley: Updates and Events

MARK DAVIS

Problem Properties

In May 2019, a Safer McCauley Community Conversation hosted the Residential Living Governance Committee (RLGC) to speak about its work addressing problem properties. That meeting kickstarted a series of developments that have led to a shift in the City's approach to the long-standing issue.

At an October meeting of City Council's Urban Planning Committee, the RLGC was instructed to develop a more aggressive action plan, in consultation with members of communities most affected by problem properties. City Administration has since met several times with a group of community members to better understand their concerns and collect their input on how to more effectively deal with problem properties.

Amongst community members' concerns are the need for 1) improved public communication, 2) accessible reporting mechanisms, 3) ongoing public engagement, 4) a meaningful role for community in developing solutions, 5) a sustainable long-term strategy, 6) a clear definition of what constitutes a problem property, and 7) improved enforcement of existing legislation.

The Problem Properties Initiative team has reviewed its practices and developed its new action plan. Administration will present the plan to the Urban Planning Committee on March 16. It

will be available to the public two weeks prior. A confidential online problem property reporting form is online - go to edmonton.ca and search "report a problem property." Please see page 10 in this paper for a City bulletin regarding the Problem Properties Initiative.

***These events are
great ways to test
out possibilities for
promoting safety
through vibrancy,
cleanliness, and
beautification.***

Needle Debris

Needle debris is also a concern in McCauley. Safer McCauley has convened 16 organizations to co-design improved responses to the concern. The meetings have produced positive outcomes.

Boyle Street Ventures has confirmed they will pick up stray needles from private property. Service is available Monday to Friday (9 a.m. - 4 p.m.) and Saturday (9 a.m. - noon). Community

members can call Boyle Street Ventures at 780-426-0500 for service. This service is currently free of charge, barring any change to funding. Calls to 311 requesting needle clean up on private property are now referred to Boyle Street Ventures. Capital City Clean Up continues to respond to calls regarding needles on public property.

Crews from The Mustard Seed and Boyle Street Ventures proactively clean up needles on public property. Talks are underway to expand this service, bring more organizations into the work, and co-design a coordinated model.

If your household requires a sharps container for safe needle collection, please contact me directly. Safer McCauley currently has containers available free of charge. Used containers can be dropped off at MINT Health Church Street or an Eco Station.

McCauley Dog Walkabout

(next walk March 19th)

The Walkabout promotes presence, connectivity, vibrancy, safety, and health. Please consider joining your neighbours for a 30-minute "pack walk" through our community every month. A new route is explored each time out.

Coffee with a Cop

(next event April 7th at Zocalo – time to be announced)

Coffee with a Cop brings community and EPS together to build relationships and share information. Join Downtown Division Beats for coffee and learn about

recent changes to their personnel and deployment.

McCauley Litter Squad

The Litter Squad is a collective community approach to addressing loose garbage. One-hour "litter blitzes" are organized in coordination with City of Edmonton Big Bin Events and the MCL-E4C Annual Community Clean Up. Trucks circulate on these days to pick up unwanted large items free of charge. Stay tuned for event dates.

Vibrancy

A March 2019 Community Conversation brought stakeholders together to discuss possibilities for positive street-level activities. The McCauley Community League, McCauley Revitalization, and Safer McCauley subsequently partnered on a back-alley activation party. That partnership is now discussing an alley beautification event, involving building and installing flower boxes. These events are great ways to test out possibilities for promoting safety through vibrancy, cleanliness, and beautification.

Thank you for taking an interest in the well-being of McCauley. Consider getting involved. Reach out to your neighbours. Follow Safer McCauley on Facebook to learn about events and engagements. And, don't hesitate to share your ideas with me directly.

Mark is REACH Edmonton's McCauley Community Convener. He can be contacted at mark.davis@reachedmonton.ca.

Forging Hope



Joanna Gladue speaks of the need to prevent sexual exploitation of Indigenous girls and women. Kate Quinn

KATE QUINN

It started with a hope. Rachel Quinney, a young Indigenous woman, shared with her family that she hoped to go to NorQuest that September. Sadly, in June of 2004 she was brutally murdered. In their deep grief, her family worked with CEASE and NorQuest to establish a bursary called "Rachel's Hope."

Years later, the light of hope still burns. Since 2006, the Rachel's Hope bursary has disbursed \$277,835 to 115 students. Eighty-four began by academic upgrading. Completing upgrading is both a confidence-builder and a door-opener to jobs or further education. Nineteen carried on to a post-secondary career program.

Thirty-one additional recipients began their NorQuest journey in a post-secondary career program. A total of 50 students have done a post-secondary career program, and 88% of them enrolled in a health and/or community studies program. These include Social Work, Community Support Worker, Practical Nurse, Health Care Aide, and Physical Therapy Assistant.

Education is key to creating pathways of hope. Edmonton's Sexual Exploitation Working Group hosted a Lunch & Learn at NorQuest on February 7th. Joanna Gladue, a practicing psychologist with the Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton (SACE) and CEASE, presented the ongoing challenge to "Prevent Sexual Exploitation of Indigenous Girls and Women." Afterwards, members of Rachel's family spoke. Another mother described how her

daughter had nearly died as a result of a knife attack. Her daughter shared how the bursary helped her become a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) with a job in the hospital Trauma Unit where she had recovered.

Rachel's Hope Endowment is \$78,330, earning around \$4,000 per year to disburse. In addition, there is an "Expendable Balance" of \$35,932 with the annual disbursement ranging from \$17,000 - \$40,000. Thanks to several recent donations, the expendable bursary fund will extend four more years. The Stollery Family Charitable Foundation donated \$25,000. An anonymous donor will add \$12,000 into the fund for each of the next three years (total \$36,000), and a generous couple contributed an additional \$25,000.

"When a Rachel's Hope recipient enters a career path of service, whether it be a health career or community studies career, that bursary is not only helping the student but also helping the community on an exponential scale. Rachel's memory will live on through the service careers that our students choose to follow," said Tanya Horvath, NorQuest Scholarships and Bursaries Advisor.

Donations to either the Endowment or the expendable bursary are always welcome. This helps NorQuest, CEASE, and Rachel Quinney's family keep building hope. Readers can view the presentation on Reach Edmonton's YouTube channel.

Kate Quinn is the Executive Director of the Centre to End All Sexual Exploitation (CEASE).

Tony's Tummy Gets Tricked!



Meatloaf burger and tater tots. Tony Forchetta

DINING OUT

Pêche Café

#101, 10255 97th Street
780-249-2137

TONY FORCHETTA

I was hanging with a buddy last week and we'd missed lunch. I know, right? How did ol' Tones miss that? Anyway, someone had mentioned that there was a new lunch spot across from Canada Place called Pêche Café. It says that it is "Plant-Based" and your buddy Tony has been around a lot of plants. The cement plant, the tile plant, etc. You get the picture - and the food around them plants is always good on account of lots of hungry folks eating there all the time. So, we figure this is a great place to go.

We walk in and there's a few tables of folks and a giant picture of a peach painted on the wall. "What's wit dat?" I wonder. They've got a cooler full of sandwiches and drinks, a decent coffee maker, and a kitchen with cooks in there. So we have a look at the menu - well, Mamma Mia! There's a ton of stuff - calzones, sandwiches, burgers, and even brunchy stuff.

So, my buddy gets a cheeseburger calzone and yours truly orders the Meatloaf Burger. Because I love that meatloaf! We grab a couple drinks from the cooler - I got a Peach Ice Tea (there it is again, peach!) We cop a squat to wait for the food. The

place is bright and open with a simple kinda café feel, so old Tony likes it right away. Food comes right out and man, is there a ton of it. Tasty tater tots surrounding a huge meatloaf burger with melted cheese, onions, lettuce, and sauce on a nice, fresh soft roll. My buddy's calzone is stuffed and oozing tasty goodness. Now this is real plant-based chow! The meatloaf is thick and tender, with lots of flavour, and the tots are perfect and crunchy. Buddy's calzone is served with a side of chipotle dip that has him running for the water fountain. And a half an hour later I'm pushing the plate away with a few tots left. I couldn't do it. The bill for the two meals and drinks came in around \$40, but worth every bite.

As we head out to the truck my buddy says to me, "That was pretty good vegan food, eh?"

I stop dead and says "What? What do you mean vegan?"

He says "It's all plant-based!"

I says, "You mean plant like begonia or zucchini? Not plant like cement?"

He smiles. Darn. Fooled again. So, if you're in the mood for a change and want to try something new like your buddy Tony always does. Get ya butt over there to Pêche Café. Maybe you can figure out what the deal is with all the peaches.

Editor's Note: In case you haven't already figured it out, *pêché* is French for "peach."

Tony lives in McCauley.

A New Podcast, First Aid Training, and a Parade

REBECCA KAISER AND MIKE SIEK

INNER CITY RECREATION & WELLNESS PROGRAM

Keep Moving Podcast

Rebecca recently had a conversation with a co-worker who was advocating for a shift in the way society views people experiencing marginalization. The focus has been heavily on services, on offerings, on numbers. However, the reality of the situation is that people are people, not labels, not numbers, and certainly not just clients. Every individual facing barriers to participating in society is more than the sum of those barriers. If we take a shift towards getting to know people, their strengths, and their challenges, if we had the resources to work more in a relational approach, we'd help more people feel like they belong and help them access the skills to overcome societal barriers.

This is something that the Inner City Recreation & Wellness Program has a unique opportunity to do and exactly what the new podcast, *Keep Moving*, is trying to capture. *Keep Moving* is a show about the leisure lives of some of Edmonton's most marginalized community members and the effects of gentrification of the downtown core. The podcast aims to provide a platform for individuals facing barriers to tell their stories, humanizing community members by highlighting the dynamism and depth of each person's story, while challenging and reducing negatively-viewed labels. *Keep Moving* held a launch event this month at The Grizzlar. The event was also the release of the Underground City Project recordings. Underground City is a youth-focused music initiative that brings to life the collaborations of youth experiencing marginalization, another platform for community members to advocate for their stories to be heard and seen.

Community-Focused First Aid
Boyle Street Community Services is

holding a Community-Focused First Aid session, in partnership with the YMCA Boyle Plaza and the Inner City Recreation and Wellness Program, on March 27th. This course came about in response to several incidents of violence that occurred in the vicinity in 2019. These events resulted in the loss of one community member and the serious injury of another. Their friends and fellow community members reported being there, witnessing it, and wishing they could have done more to help. It is also a common occurrence that community members are together in the event of an overdose, and programs like Street Works have played an invaluable role in educating community members on overdose prevention training.

With the common fluctuation in winter temperatures, chances of overdose, and possibility of injury, there is an obvious need to provide access to basic first aid information to the community. On March 27th the first session will be held in the Willow room at YMCA Boyle Street Plaza location from 3-5 p.m. Please call Rebecca at 587-337-9860 to sign up. The training is free of charge, does not finish with a certification, and is open to all community members. More sessions will be held in the Bissell Centre on April 9th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Anyone over 18 is welcome to join!

GLOW Lantern Parade

March 21st is the Spring Equinox, which means Quarters Art Society is orchestrating another Community Arts Lantern Parade in celebration of the coming season. This year's theme is magic, and community members of all sorts will come together to create illuminated paper lanterns to carry together on the evening of the Equinox. Inner City Rec. team members brought workshops to the Boyle Street Drop-in, Bissell Community Space, and Boyle Street Plaza during the launch of Fresh Routes, a mobile grocery



Street Prints artist, Sherien, poses with her flying saucer created for the GLOW Festival. Mike Siek



From the GLOW Parade in 2019. Rebecca Kaiser

store that graces the YMCA every Thursday from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

These workshops, held throughout the community in the lead-up to the festival, generate a myriad of beautiful and diverse lanterns, created by community members from all walks of life. As such, some of the lanterns that arrive at the event cannot be carried by their creators, and are instead carried by those who show up to the parade to be involved at the last

minute. This connection between artists and parade-goers highlights the connections that can be made through art and community engagement. This year's Glow Community Arts Lantern Parade will be held at Quarters Arts' new facility CO*LAB (9641 102a Avenue), with lantern workshops starting at 3:00 p.m. on the day of the event (March 21st).

Rebecca Kaiser and Mike Siek are Program Coordinators with ICRWP.

Janis Irwin, MLA
Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood

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Classic Cherry Dump Cake

YOVELLA M.

Easter season is often a time of great treats: chocolates, candy, and sweet desserts. When you are preparing Easter lunch or dinner, there's sometimes not enough time or space to add a baked dessert. With a traditional dump cake you can quickly bake this simple dessert the night before.

A dump cake is essentially a cake that

has a base of two main ingredients: cake mix and fruit pie filling that can easily be "dumped" into a baking pan in layers. The recipe I'm sharing with you has only five ingredients, all of which can be found at any major grocery store.

This cake can be stored in the fridge for several days. Not recommended for freezing.

Yovella is a former resident of McCauley who still works and volunteers in the area.

Classic Cherry Dump Cake

21oz Cherry pie filling
20oz Crushed pineapple (undrained)
1 pkg (432g) moist yellow cake mix
½ cup (1 stick) butter, melted
½ cup shaved almonds

Directions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

In a 9x13 baking pan, dump the crushed pineapple including the juice. Spread it along the bottom of the pan.

Next, add the cherry pie filling. Spread it across the top of the crushed pineapple.

Then, evenly add the dry cake mix across the top of the cherry pie filling.

Next, sprinkle the almonds across the top.

Place the butter into the microwave until melted. Spread the melted butter evenly over the cake mix.

Next, place the baking pan into the oven and bake ingredients at 350 degrees for 50-60 minutes. Once fully baked, it should be browned and bubbling on top.

Let cool and serve with ice cream if desired.

To See or Not To See: A Meditation on the Year 2020

GARY GARRISON

The visual acuity Snellen chart
is a typographical work of art,
a column of capitals crowned with an E
normal eyes can see at 200 feet.
If you can read line 8 in an exam,
D E F P O T E C, you pass.

This year for 366 days,
the first time ever, everyone who sees
has 2020 vision 24/7
without the aid of a chart or Snellen.

As Oedipus discovers, his demise:
the truth is invisible to the eyes.
King Lear divides his realm for flatterers,
rejects the wrong one of his three daughters.
The Duke of Gloucester's eyes gouged out on stage:
a metaphor for our electronic age.

A smart phone's become a hand prosthesis;
the screen, a bright bauble, does hypnosis.
Charts measure the acuity of eyes,
but can't tell us what is true and what lies.

Gary Garrison is a McCauley resident and the former Chair of the Board of Boyle McCauley News. This poem was written in January to kick off a project he calls "Twenties Aplenty: the 20/2020 Trifecta", which Gary explains, "basically plays with the fact that every month this year we have a date that includes three 20s. Like today, 2/20/2020. I simply couldn't resist working up some poetry based on all those 20s."

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What is Boyle McCauley News?

A reflection from a community resident and volunteer.

ANITA JENKINS

When I moved to Boyle Street seven years ago, I occasionally picked up a copy of the *Boyle McCauley News* at Zocalo. At first it seemed to be of little interest. It featured a lot of stories about ice rinks and solar panels and community gardens – even poetry! And that didn't really fit into my idea of a newspaper.

Gradually, though, I became more immersed in my new surroundings. I regularly visited the Italian Centre and Chinatown. I attended fabulous events like the lantern festival organized by Quarters Arts and the annual Viva Italia, Viva Edmonton (now Fiesta Italiana) festival in Giovanni Caboto Park. I surfed the net to find out more about Alex Taylor School, the Ernest Brown building, and other historic places in the area.

In other words, I started to care about and understand the richness of my new surroundings. Then the Boyle

Street Community League, then led by Candace Jane Dorsey, suggested that I write some stories for the paper. That turned out to be a lot of fun and a learning experience.

A while later, I attended the semi-annual pizza night that the Boyle Street McCauley Community Newspaper Society holds to thank its volunteers. What other organization does that? At that event, Editor Paula Kirman and Board Chair (at the time) Gary Garrison got me to fill out a form to apply for membership in the society.

One thing led to another, and now I am on the society's board. I am still learning about the very strong sense of community among the people this newspaper serves. Perhaps you are the same. If so, you may be interested in the sidebar to this story, which outlines the vision and goals of *Boyle McCauley News*.

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

Vision Statement

The Boyle Street McCauley Community Newspaper Society aims to foster a greater sense of community by acting as a forum for community views, information and individual opinion. As a catalyst for community development, the newspaper can help residents participate in the inner city milieu.

Goals

To regularly publish a (non-profit) community-orientated newspaper to serve the diverse needs of the Boyle Street and McCauley residents.

To be a vehicle, through which community organizations can inform local residents of their services and activities, providing opportunities to be involved in the neighbourhood.

To be a voice for residents who wish to express their concerns, interests, and ideas. To report on local issues and events that occur in the community or are of community interest.

To work cooperatively with the local businesses regarding advertising services and points of interest.

To be a community-based newspaper which strives towards financial self-sufficiency and which functions through the use of volunteers.

Become a Block Carrier

Boyle McCauley News is still looking for Block Carriers for the following routes:

Route 1

North: 111 Avenue
South: 110A Avenue
East: 96th Street
West: 97th Street
15 papers

Route 2

101a Avenue on both sides of the street between 95th Street and the alley, including drops to EICHS #8 and Alex Taylor School.
50 papers.

The time commitment is 30 minutes to an hour for each issue, depending on the length of the route. Papers will be dropped off at your home.

If you are interested in any of these routes, contact editor@bmcnews.org.

Be Nice - Clear the Ice!

JOANNE MCNEAL

The City of Edmonton's Community Standards Bylaw 14600, Section 7, requires all property owners to clear all snow and ice from sidewalks adjacent to properties they own or occupy as soon as possible after a snowfall ends. They say that means down to the bare concrete. We need to do this so other people can walk SAFELY on the walks in front of our houses. Sometimes it is not easy, with the repeated snow, freezing rain, and thawing which turns to ice. Areas below downspouts are the worst, as the ice builds up.

Several products can help get the snow and ice removed: salt, sand, small rocks, gravel, or mixtures of these, in addition to shovelling or pushing it aside. Free sand is available at the McCauley Rink.

As a dog-walker I am terrified of falling on some of our sidewalks that are covered in ice and/or snow. Some residents pay someone to blow the snow away, but that does not work with ice. The whole purpose of clearing the snow is so people can walk safely on our sidewalks. So please do your part and clear the ice from the sidewalk in front of your home. Thank you for keeping your walks safe.

Property owners who are not com-



An icy McCauley sidewalk. Joanne McNeal

pliant with keeping our sidewalks safe and free from ice and snow can receive a \$100 fine, as well as the costs for the City Contractor to clear the sidewalks. A huge thanks to those who do keep their walks

clear. It is really appreciated by those that walk our neighbourhood daily. Thank you.

Joanne McNeal is a senior in McCauley who is a daily dog walker.

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Reading the Table

Food-focused book club coming to the Downtown Farmers Market in May.

ANITA JENKINS

Are you an avid reader who is interested in food? Then you're in for a treat. Boyle Street resident Virginia Durksen and her team are planning a regular gathering of book people at the Edmonton Downtown Farmers Market (in the old Army and Navy building on 97 Street).

Possible topics include books or writing about growing, sourcing, preparing, and celebrating food. But participants will have extensive input into the direction the group will take.

As a starting point, Durksen notes that a whole raft of food-related writing is available in our own backyard, including but not limited to cookbooks. Just recently in Edmonton, for example, these titles have been published:

- *Maps, Markets and Matzo Ball Soup: The Inspiring Life of Chef Gail Hall* (Twyla Campbell)
- *Women Who Dig: Farming, Feminism and the Fight to Feed the World* (Trina Moyles)
- *Food Artisans of Alberta: Your Trail Guide to the Best Locally Crafted Fare* (Karen Anderson and Mathilde Sanchez-Turri)

Other possibilities are works of fiction featuring recipes and/or a focus on restaurant menus, cooking at home, and so forth. Nora Ephron's *Heartburn* comes to mind. It includes several ex-



Edmonton Downtown Farmers Market. Stephanie Ould

cellent recipes: one is for the key lime pie she smashed into her soon-to-be-ex-husband's face.

Durksen hopes these regular meetings will have an active relationship to the market itself. Snacks and beverages for these meetings will be self-catered ... and of course are readily available at the market. And who knows? Some market vendors

might be willing to provide food information that is relevant to the club's discussions.

For more information, send an email to vdurksen@gmail.com. Or watch for news at <https://visible-ink.ca>.

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

DATE AND TIME:

May 16 or 17, 2020 (Saturday or Sunday morning; to be determined: For more information, email vdurksen@gmail.com.)

PLACE:

Upstairs at the EDFM, 10305 – 97th Street. Free parking; everyone welcome.

EndPovertyEdmonton Has a New Executive Director

SHARON PASULA

Edmontonians had an opportunity to meet the incoming Executive Director for EndPovertyEdmonton in the gym at the YMCA Welcome Village, Boyle Street Plaza, on Wednesday, February 19th. Erick Ambtman has a long list of accomplishments, particularly for a young man under 40. He is a member of the Edmonton Police Commission, the out-going Executive Director for the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, and a former Executive Director of the Aboriginal Friendship Centre in Calgary, Rocky Mountain House, Red Deer, and Fort McMurray. He is also an alumnus of *Avenue Magazine's* Top 40 under 40, the current vice-chair of the Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations, and a board member of Edmonton's Vital

Signs Committee. He holds degrees from the U of Manitoba and the London School of Economics.

Ambtman confessed, in spite of the fact he has spoken widely, that he was nervous and scared at the podium. Nevertheless, he seemed genuine and sincere in his comments. Personally, I gained some hope for movement in this area after his brief speech. This in spite of the fact I don't agree with him.

He apparently believes, "that as a community we have what it takes to end poverty in a generation." However, we will always have poor people. Trying to eradicate poverty is admirable, but the reasons for the ills in society will not be fixed by mere mortals, as spiritual issues are at play beyond the scope of created beings.



Erick Ambtman. Sharon Pasula

Nevertheless. I appreciate his question, "How many people have we taken out of poverty?" I look forward to seeing his influence.

What really encouraged me, however, was the brief history of the Edmonton Police Service given by Deputy Chief David Veitch who had introduced Mr. Ambtman. Deputy Chief Veitch explained the changes in the approach to policing in Edmonton over the years and the reasons for them. Currently, the model is Community Safety and Well-Being. I was quite impressed with the apparent efforts of the EPS to address community law enforcement.

Sharon Pasula is an Indigenous spiritual and cultural resource person who lives in Boyle Street.

Can Urban Gardening Reduce Food Insecurity?

Maybe a bit, for a brief season each year.

KATHRYN RAMBOW

I really wanted to write an article about how community gardens, patio planters, and re-growing veggies from grocery store cuttings would help people living on a low income to access a healthy, cheap food source. The thing is, it's not nearly enough. People need access to healthy, affordable food year-round, and in a place like Edmonton, having a green thumb is not the key to food security.

Please don't misunderstand: I love gardening. Pulling a bright orange, crunchy sweet carrot out of the earth is a special pleasure that I hope everyone gets to experience. Trading a zucchini for some ripe tomatoes with the lady down the street feels like winning the lottery. Seeing butterflies and bees snooping around our flowers makes me feel like some kind of eco-hero - I'm helping the pollinators, hooray for me!

I know that there are skilled people who are able to grow vast amounts of in very small spaces, who dehydrate and can and make jam and stock up for the winter. I grew up with a cold storage room filled with jars of cherries, peaches, tomatoes, dill pickles, and bins of apples and potatoes that lasted until the new year. I regret not learning those skills, thinking them old-fashioned at the time. I also know that the circumstances of my life are not a good match for the time

and effort required to prepare and preserve large quantities of food. I have lots of changing to do before I will be in a position to invest that much energy in growing and using my own food. I also know that people on severely limited incomes have even less time, energy, and supports to produce their own food.

I am privileged. I have enough resources and support to accomplish many things with few barriers. And still I find it hard to amass enough veggies to feed my family for more than a couple of weeks! Expecting people on a low income to invest large amounts of time and effort to provide fresh food for themselves as an alternative to accessing fresh food from our food system is not a reasonable expectation.

Please, join a community garden and fill your planters with gorgeous blooms. Hold workshops to learn how to preserve food. Practice meal planning and host collective kitchens. Celebrate and share in the abundance of the harvest with friends and neighbours. This is how strong communities are built. Just don't expect poor people to grow a garden instead of receiving a living wage, purchasing healthy food, and participating as full members of our society.

Kathryn is the Manager of Community Development, Housing & Mental Health Division, with e4c.



Operation Fruit Rescue's micro-orchard between 95th and 96th Streets along 107A Avenue, by the Edmonton Intercultural Centre. Paula E. Kirman

Good Morning, Downtown



A look at the downtown skyline in the early morning, from the Coliseum LRT platform. Leif Gregersen

Memorial March Honours Family Members



Chief Billy Joe Laboucan (far right), of the Lubicon Lake Band #453 in Little Buffalo, talks about his daughter Bella Laboucane at the Memorial March of Edmonton on February 14th at City Hall. Family members gathered to remember missing and murdered loved ones at this annual event. Judith Ann Gale

Connecting Neighbours

MANON AUBRY

BOYLEBITS: A VIEW FROM BOYLE STREET

When I told my neighbours on the Promenade in Oliver that I was moving to Boyle Street, they said I was going to "skid row." This community is so much better than that. The majority of people in this neighbourhood have always been friendly and helpful to me. My next door neighbour shovels my walk in winter and mows my lawn in the summer. If I'm out first, I do the sidewalks in front of our three houses. My neighbours recognize that as a senior, I'm not as strong as I used to be. Perhaps many of you who live next door to an older person can help them out with lawns and sidewalks too. If you have a neighbour who is frail, you can offer to check in by calling them daily at the same time to make sure they are okay.

Boyle Street has a real sense of community. My very first month here, strangers off the street were helping me with yard work. Ours is a diverse population of many races and creeds, and we seem to get along well. The Sahaba Mosque down the street opened their doors to the homeless during the really cold spell we had. There are formerly homeless people who help me with maintenance and repairs on the house. As homeless and under-housed people trudge down our alleys, perhaps we can hire them to do odd jobs. Boyle Street Community Services also operates a social enterprise called Hire-Good, where vulnerable people can be hired for cleaning, junk removal, snow removal, and property maintenance.

nance. They offer special rates to the elderly or disabled.

The vulnerable people in our neighbourhood are not a burden - they are a resource. Let's make this a community where no one is left behind. Let's make sure that everyone is safe and fed. There is food being passed out by the Mission on the SW corner of 95th Street and 103A Avenue, for those who don't have money to shop in a grocery store. For those of us on a budget, there is fresh food every Thursday from 3-5 p.m. at the Boyle Street Plaza. As the community comes into its own, we now have a great farmer's market in the old Army and Navy building. I hope that those who can afford to, shop at the market to support the vendors who sell locally-made goods.

Many of you were invited to join the social networking site Nextdoor, as I was. I'm glad I joined. People are watching out for each other. I had a chance to borrow a meat grinder from another Nextdoor member so I could grind up beef fat to put out for the birds. People are buying/selling things and offering services.

Let's all look for ways to connect to our neighbours. When you're in a grocery line-up, chat with the people around you. Any time you're standing around waiting, start out with a compliment to the person next to you and see if they are interested in a conversation. Above all, let's be kind to each other.

Manon is a resident of Boyle Street and an active volunteer in the community. This column contains her own opinions, and is not affiliated with the Boyle Street Community League.

Spring Cleaning

IAN YOUNG

ABILITY AND COMMUNITY

"It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade."

- Charles Dickens
(English writer, 1812-1870)

March is a month of the in-between: it's not quite winter, but not yet spring. March could also be known as a "to do" month, including income tax, spring cleaning, storing away our winter wear, and anticipating longer daylight!

If spring cleaning is one of your plans, agencies are always in need of donations like clothing and small household items. Donating works two ways: it helps you declutter and helps those in need. The Edmonton Donations Pro-

gram (www.edmontondonations.ca) is a great resource to find agencies needing support, including locations of donation bins and how to schedule pick-ups.

Spring cleaning happens outside the home as well. As the snow melts, we start to see remnants of winter debris. Try to keep walkways free of clutter. Even sweeping a walkway in front of your home or business is great for accessibility for those who use mobility aids. However, never strain yourself. Neighbours and friends can always help. In my building we arrange a community clean-up and volunteer in our capacity to clean the surrounding area. You can turn cleaning up into an enjoyable event!

So, while the weather can be unpredictable in March, remember that spring is just around the corner!

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

Edmonton Intercultural Centre Events

Location: 9538 107th Avenue

concession items for sale, featuring Turkish cuisine.

Saturday, March 21

Family Movie Night

5:00 p.m. - *Missing Link* (USA)

7:00 p.m. - *Like Father, Like Son* (Japan)

Free admission. Popcorn and

Saturday, April 25

Family Movie Night

Follow us on Twitter @YEGIntrcltrCtr or on [facebook.com/YEGIntrcltrCtr/](https://www.facebook.com/YEGIntrcltrCtr/) to help choose the next movie lineup!

City Update on the Problem Property Initiative

Problem properties are an unfortunate reality in many cities. Problem Properties are magnets for crime and disorder and are often neglected, in disrepair, and, in some cases, unsafe. They represent a significant risk to the well-being, community safety, and vibrancy of any city. Addressing the complex issues associated with problem properties requires the participation of community, city and provincial governments, multiple agencies and the private sector. The need for a multi-pronged approach is particularly important when addressing chronic, long standing problems that adversely impact neighbours, tenants, and communities.

In response to increasing com-

munity concerns, the Problem Properties Initiative team recently spent three months reviewing its existing approach and from this, has developed new strategies and action plans to more effectively address problem properties. More than 65 actions or ideas were identified, including 11 directly from community representatives.

Since October 2019, City of Edmonton staff has met with a small group of community representatives to begin the process of better understanding individual and community concerns. Significant effort has and is being made as to how to best gather community input and ideas to effectively address problem properties. Key community concerns identified were:

- better communications
- easier reporting
- ongoing public engagement
- a meaningful role in solution development
- a sustainable long-term strategy
- a clear definition of what constitutes problem properties (including criteria and where to report)
- thorough and faster enforcement of existing legislation.

The City of Edmonton's Administration has identified six major themes that capture action plans, broader tactics and overarching strategies:

1. Enforcement strategies
2. Resource allocation
3. Administrative/process improvements
4. Data analytics

5. Enhanced communication
6. Housing development, redevelopment and improvement

While the majority of action plans are short to mid term, the development of a problem properties long-term strategy was identified by community members, partners, and City staff as a top priority. Over the next year, the Problem Properties Initiative, in collaboration with community members, City staff, stakeholders, and partners, will move forward to implement action plans and finalize a longer-term strategy.

Information from the City of Edmonton.

The EPS Fitness Test

LINDSAY BROMMELAND

I TRIED . . .

As McCauley residents, we unfortunately need to interact with the Edmonton Police Service from time to time. In my experience, officers are kind, professional, hardworking folks engaged in trying to make a difference in our community. When I started to question my current career path, I realized I wanted to find more meaningful and fulfilling work. I decided to explore the possibility of joining the EPS.

The EPS has an eight-step application process. Each step must be completed before you can advance to the next. For my 42 year-old body, step three, The Fitness Test and its evil cardio component, was where I stalled out.

The Alberta Physical Evaluation for Police, or A-Prep, requires medical clearance before you can participate. There are two parts: A pursuit/restraint circuit that requires you to run up and down stairs, scale a five foot fence, wrestle a 75 pound machine, compress an arm restraint simulator, and drag a 150 pound dummy 15 metres. All this must be accomplished in under two minutes and 10 seconds while wearing a 16.5 pound weight belt. After I attended an orientation and some practice sessions, this didn't seem easy but with some added weight training it was doable.

Part two of the A-Prep was the real problem: the Leger (or beep) test. You are required to reach Level Seven of the test, which involves running a 20 metre shuttle before each beep sounds. Supposedly, at the beginning you are at a relaxed jog with nine seconds for each 20 metres, with beeps getting closer and closer together so that by the

*Even if I could
have, I had put
in so much time
and energy into
my training that
nothing was
going to stop me.*

time level seven is reached, you have only 6.55 seconds between beeps. When completed, you will have covered 1220 Meters in 7.49 minutes, including 52 stops and turns. I would describe myself as more of a St. Bernard than a Greyhound: cardio is not my go-to exercise.

I hired a running coach (a.k.a. my father, who was a hotshot runner in his day and willing to be paid in hugs) who constructed a five

month running plan to get me up to speed. On my first pathetic attempt at the Leger, I barely got to level 0.7. Fact: at five foot three, running 20 meters in nine seconds is not a relaxed jog. I had a long way to go!

My neighbours can attest to my running up and down our block all summer long. I ran as much and as far as I could, including an empty room in my office building that was exactly 20 metres long. Slowly, I improved. By the time I was invited to do the test I could reach level 5.9. I was hoping adrenaline would carry me the rest of the way at crunch time.

The day before my test, I put a wood gouge through my index finger (a wood carving class fail is the short explanation), but it was too late to reschedule the test. Even if I could have, I had put in so much time and energy into my training that nothing was going to stop me. I showed up with a bandaged hand and tried to stay positive.

On test day, I was one of three females in a group of 25 mostly men in their 20s, which is intimidating when being measured for physical fitness. Women tend to weigh less, be shorter, and have smaller hands than men, so the fitness requirements can be a lot more challenging. I was way outside my comfort zone, having never played sports or participated in any sort of mili-

tary adjacent activity (I was also, predictably, the oldest person in the room).

The pursuit/restraint circuit went okay, despite the too-loose weight belt jostling around my torso, until the arm restraint simulator. The simulator requires 32 pounds of grip strength per hand to operate. My swollen hand refused to cooperate, so I had to repeat the step a few times before I was successful. This cost me time I didn't have to spare. I finished the circuit at two minutes and 28 seconds - 18 seconds too slow. By this time, my hand was dripping blood, so at least it looked like I had an excuse. Since I failed the circuit, I did not advance to the Leger. Despite my months of training, I was really relieved.

Will I do the test again? I don't think so. My aversion to running is probably a good sign that the 28 weeks of recruit training would be miserable for me. It's nice to know that the EPS has very high standards (by contrast, the RCMP and Ontario Police have done away with fitness testing altogether) but I think easing the focus on physical fitness a little in lieu of life experience, community connections, and individual skill sets would help with diversity within the EPS. After all, someone will never have to pass the Leger test again.

Lindsay Brommeland is a McCauley resident of 14 years who will try anything once.

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

We need your support to continue publishing Boyle McCauley News in print and online.



bmcnews.org/donate

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

If only 15% of the 5500 people who read this paper gave a tiny amount every month, we'd be in great shape!

**NORTHGATE
LIONS BINGO**

*Good Friday
April 10, 2020*

MARATHON
BINGO

Pre Sales
April 8-9 in the Lions Den
In the rear of the building
From 2:00pm to 8:00pm
Call 780-496-4888

First 100 Games
8:30 am - 4pm

2 Earlybirds 4 Bonanzas
1 Odd Even - Lucky Lion Game
& Free \$100 Cash Game

Second 100 Games

4:30 pm-Midnight
2 Earlybirds – 4 Bonanzas
1 Odd Even- Lucky Lion Game
& Free \$100 Cash Game

**DOORS OPEN
6:30 AM**

Tickets
Available
At the Door

**BALLS AVAILABLE
\$500 / \$1000**

Food Truck Service
is Available

EDMONTON NORTHGATE LIONS
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**Door Prizes &
Give Aways All Day**



The McCauley Community League Board meets the first Tuesday of every month from 7-9pm in the Boardroom at the Boys and Girls Club, 95th street entrance. Everyone is welcome to attend the regular meetings and we're happy to hear from you always.

league@mccauleycl.com
facebook.com/mccauleycommunityleague

OUR AGM IS COMING UP IN MARCH!

Watch for posters, and check the League's Facebook and website for the exact date/time/location.

We look forward to seeing everyone there this year, and hope you come with lots of feedback and ideas.

WINTER 2020 RINK HOURS 96 STREET & 107A AVENUE

Check McCauley Community League Facebook and online at mccauleycl.com for information about events and closures.

WEEKDAY HOURS

Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday/Friday
4pm - 8:30pm
 4 - 7pm • Family & Public skate
 7 - 8:30pm • Open Ice Shinny hockey (all ages)

WEEKEND HOURS

Saturday & Sunday
2pm - 8pm
 2 - 6pm • Family & Public skate.
 6 - 8pm • Open Ice shinny hockey (all ages)

RINK SHACK REPLACEMENT

The McCauley Community has started planning to replace the temporary building at the rink. There are many steps to replace the current building, and it will take time. We're at the early stages. We plan to talk with the community regularly throughout the process. We've just launched a survey to collect your ideas. To complete the survey visit the community league website at mccauleycl.com, or visit the rink shack to pick up and drop off a paper copy. If you have any questions, please contact the building committee at rinkshack@mccauleycl.com

DID YOU KNOW: the rink and current building sit on land owned by the City of Edmonton, but are licensed to the Community League to use for community purposes.

PLEASE SHOVEL YOUR WALKS!

Please remember to shovel your walks to keep them safe. Icy sidewalks can be treacherous for walkers. Also, you have to clear your sidewalks within 48 hours of a snowfall according to City bylaws.



**BOYLE STREET
COMMUNITY LEAGUE**

*BEAT THE WINTER BLUES AND AND CONNECT WITH
NEIGHBOURS AT THE BOYLE STREET PLAZA!*

9538 103 AVE, EDMONTON

Winter Program Schedule

**BADMINTON
SUNDAYS, 11 A.M. TO 1 P.M.**

**PIU YUM RECREATION CLUB
MONDAYS, 12 P.M. TO 5 P.M.**

**NATIVE DRUMMING
TUESDAYS, 7 P.M. TO 9 P.M.**

**HIP HOP RAPPING
THURSDAY NIGHTS**

VISIT US ONLINE AT BOYLESTREET.COMMUNITY
 EMAIL US HELLO@BOYLESTREET.COMMUNITY

/boylestreetcommunityleague
 @boylestreetcl

TONY'S PIZZA PALACE AND ITALIAN RESTAURANT
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MCCAULEY REVITALIZATION STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATES

VITALITY IN MCCAULEY

FOR SEVERAL YEARS NOW THE EDMONTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION HAS PARTNERED WITH THE EDMONTON SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL TO PRODUCE A GREAT ANNUAL CHECK-UP OF HOW EDMONTON IS DOING - CALLED "VITAL SIGNS".

It looks at a different constellation of important themes each year and, in the form of a brief newspaper, compares and measures themes each year. While they wisely have not tried to determine which neighbourhoods have the most vitality, what is clear to many, inside and out of McCauley, is that McCauley has a lot of vitality.

I myself live in a great neighbourhood but honestly, it is quite hard to tell how much vitality it has and how much it changes. For one, we only have 2 retail spaces and one is very sleepy. People often understand vitality, or "hustle and bustle", to include a healthy mix of active customer friendly retail businesses. Hustle and bustle is not something people would use to describe my neighbourhood. McCauley however has tons of vitality and you find hustle and bustle in every corner.

MCCAULEY VITAL SIGNS

One way to determine the vital signs of a neighbourhood is to look at how, and how many businesses create 'hustle and bustle'. In Chinatown, the Chinatown Business Improvement Area (BIA) recently inventoried 207 businesses including at least 55 restaurants and grocery stores be they Korean, Italian, Thai, Filipino, Vietnamese, Chinese, or fusion.

The Chinatown BIA put together a great portable food guide and map (also available online) that is getting out across Edmonton. We are very excited to welcome the new Executive Director of the Chinatown BIA, Wen Wang. He brings a wealth of international business experience on top of his Queens MBA.

Just starting in January 2020, Wen jumped in both feet first co-organizing a great Chinese New Years on January 26. With spectacular sunny weather it became clear fairly quickly that all the non-Chinese speaking guest speakers and politicians were trying to out do each other speaking Mandarin. It was a toss up between Senator Paula Simons great trilingual speech and Mayor Iveson linking several phrases in Mandarin. (Mandarin and Cantonese are Canada's most widely spoken languages after English and French).

Despite the coldest weather this winter in January (remember it?), the Chinatown Dining Week highlighted 16 restaurants that put on delicious 3 course meals for all of Edmonton to enjoy. Many neighbourhoods in Edmonton do not even have 3 restaurants, never mind 16 or 55+. The density of Chinatown

restaurants creates considerable hustle and bustle every day of the week. Revite collaborated with all these Chinatown activities.



▲ The Little Italy Restaurant and Food guide

Viva Italia District Association (VIDA), also in collaboration with Revite, created a great postcard size food and restaurant guide with 12 different places you can get some good eats. We see new people and the same old suspects frequenting the many great places to eat or shop to eat every day in Little Italy. As the weather warms, the hustle and bustle in Little Italy increases and McCauleytes bump into each other more and newcomers easily recognize a great level of vitality in McCauley.

Adding more vitality, on February 10 VIDA hosted at Spinelli's Cafe the first annual "Build Little Italy" LEGO Competition offering great prizes to 3 different age categories. Kids of all ages came with their original creations of either the Colosseum or Pantheon in Rome or the leaning Tower of Pisa. Because of the high quality of the creations the 3 judges had a heck of a time trying to figure out 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes in each age category. Finally, with all of the contestants and their families sufficiently tense, the judges put an end to the suspense by announcing the winners for some very cool creations.

Be sure to start planning your own creation and tell others about the 2nd Annual Lego Competition next February 2021. There were no adults in the 16+ category and we know you are out there so start scheming now. Go on VIDA's website to look up the 3 themes for next year's LEGO competition. Revite was happy to collaborate with VIDA in the exciting competition.

The biggest factor in creating vitality in McCauley is neighbours scheming up small to big ideas of what they want to do and see happen in McCauley. Everyone has ideas and everyone's ideas matters. Some ideas can be easily implemented by one or two residents. Others require significant work and need several partners. Some require a lot of time, others not so much. Some require money, others not so much. A single low budget block party can transform a whole set of neighbours that before were not that connected.

McCauley has great vital signs because it is a neighbourhood where people pick up on someone's ideas, are willing to work together to give it a go and aren't too concerned if it flops. We are just hoping that everyone feels the courage to take some risks and give an idea or two a try. If you have an idea approach somebody from your Community League, from a local business, from the Chinatown BIA or VIDA, from a social agency or just somebody already involved in something you like. Almost anyone you approach in McCauley will point you in the right direction.

BOYLE STREET COMMUNITY LEAGUE UPDATE

For the Love of Boyle Street

JONATHAN LAWRENCE

In the winter of 2019, my partner and I moved into our home in Boyle Street. I knew a number of people in the neighbourhood, as one often does, but the connections were loose. I had yet to exchange a "hello" with the people who lived on either side of me. In fact, having previously lived in apartments, I had never seen the neighbours to my right. This was not unusual, as we had come from Oliver to the west of downtown and are well acquainted with the hustle of urban life.

Living in urban spaces, especially apartments, while amenity-rich, can be isolating despite being intimately connected through shared spaces, tight corridors, and thin walls. Despite being so full of life, the blocks of our cities can be the loneliest places on earth. As do others, I often address this pang for connection through commitments outside the sphere of my neighbourhood, connections based on interests and similarities rather than proximity.

However, Boyle Street has nearly 7000 folks within a five-minute walk of my little door. Certainly, it is not for lack of diversity that I remain unconnected. Over 35 percent of our homes in Boyle Street

have more than one language spoken within. I know that we are a generous mix of students at MacEwan, the U of A, and NorQuest. We are office workers with such short commutes it's brag-worthy, condo-dwelling singles, couples, retirees, newcomers to Canada, artists, and a long-term few who are lovingly restoring the historic homes peppering our streets. I live in Boyle Street very intentionally, and I long to share this experience with others - just like I would share a great meal.

Boyle Street is already a livable, walkable, urban community. Boyle Street works because it offers access. The River Valley, downtown cultural institutions, MacEwan, Chinatown, and Little Italy are all a quick bike ride or easy walk away. What I long for is not the neighbourhood of my dreams - it's a collective Boyle Street experience. It's a group of people to share it with.

City builders and urban planners have much to say about this concept of shared connection and shared experience. Urban renewal activist Jane Jacobs' concept of "eyes on the street" offers one often-referenced safety benefit of connection. However, in addition to safety benefits, surveys find that connected neighbours are more politically

engaged, have better physical health, and that optimism and life satisfaction can actually be reliably enhanced.

Luckily, there's growing awareness of the power of connection and lively streets, along with efforts to make neighbourhoods across Edmonton look more like ours, by introducing programs to add more infill development within close proximity to quality public transit, amenities, and services. There is also substantial investment in Asset Based Community Development programs like the Abundant Communities program that provides neighbourhoods with resources to intentionally weave together the skills, gifts, and abilities of residents.

So how do we connect with each other in Boyle Street? The answer lies partially in amplifying the diversity of approaches already working. As neighbours, we can invite others to participate in activities that we wish to share or would love to lead (volunteering, knitting, dog-walking, mountain biking, game watching, or perhaps eventually sharing meals). As well, the Boyle Street Community League should, as a core responsibility, encourage and facilitate connection between neighbours.

Social media is one way to spark connections in a winter city. Boyle Street is already connected on Next Door and Facebook, and over the coming months we will be encouraging neighbours to connect with the hashtag #BoyleStreetSocialClub on whatever platforms you already use. The Community League will be sending invitations for a free membership in March, along with information on membership benefits and activities going on in our neighbourhood.

If you can, I encourage you to download Facebook and Nextdoor, to share and watch for ways to connect with your neighbours through your Boyle Street Social Club.

Jonathan Lawrence (Twitter: @Jonathan-law_) is a Boyle Street Community Member and serves on the BSCL Executive Team.

GO TO NEXTDOOR AT:
<https://ca.nextdoor.com> and use Invite code LQPPRJ

GO TO FACEBOOK AT:
<https://www.facebook.com/BoyleStreetCommunityLeague>

Mobile Grocery and Tax Preparation Help at Boyle Street Plaza

Fresh Routes Mobile Grocery Store

Thursdays from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at YMCA Boyle Street Plaza, 9538-103A Avenue.

Healthy affordable food including veggies, fruit, eggs, bread and dry goods.

Cash, Credit and debit accepted. Bring your own bags. Open to all community members.

Make Tax Time Pay

The Boyle Street Plaza is offering

FREE tax preparation for individuals that might have a financial barrier to having them done otherwise. There are income thresholds people will need to be under:

Family Size and Max. Income

- 1 person - \$35,000
- 2 persons - \$45,000
- 3 persons - \$47,500
- 4 persons - \$50,000
- 5 persons - \$52,500
- Additional Person: + \$3,000

To make an appointment please contact the YMCA Boyle Street Plaza, Front Desk at 780-426-9265.

New HOTC Board Members!

CHARITY SLOBOD

Let's give a big "hip hip hooray" to the new Heart of the City Board for 2020-2021! Jakki Duttonhoffer is stepping into the President's role, and we know she'll do a great job!

Next, we have long-standing - and super creative - Corine Demas as Vice-President, and Valorie Squires will be in charge of "our treasures" (a.k.a. as Treasurer).

We even have two brand new members! A mighty welcome to Sarah Seburn and Jenny Tsang. It sounds like they both have done a lot in the arts community, and we're thrilled to have them join!

Lastly, it just wouldn't be Heart of the City without the return of Mike Siek, Faytima Goble, Sebastian Barrera, and Elizabeth MacEwan.

Charity Slobod is past-president of Heart of the City, and current Community Liaison for the festival.

Maribel the Tailor
Alteration - Bridal Tailoring - Repair Custom Projects

NOW OPEN

Mon. 9-5 pm
Tue. By appointment
Wed. 9-5 pm
Thur. 9-6 pm
Fri. 9-6 pm
Sat. 9-6 pm
SUN. By appointment

9363 108 Avenue NW
780-905-0075

Enjoying pictures of your neighbourhood?
Loving stories about your community?
We need your support to continue publishing Boyle McCauley News in print and online.



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

If only 15% of the 5500 people who read this paper gave a tiny amount every month, we'd be in great shape!

bmcnews.org/donate

Community Classifieds

NEIGHBOURHOOD RESIDENTS GET FREE CLASSIFIED ADS! EMAIL FIVE LINES OR LESS TO EDITOR@BMCNEWS.ORG

NOTE: WE FIT AS MANY ADS HERE AS WE CAN. FOR MORE CLASSIFIEDS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT BMCNEWS.ORG.

CHURCH AND AGENCY SERVICES

BISSELL CENTRE

780-423-2285
Community Space: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Child Care Centre: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. (reservations preferred)
Health For Two: Book an appointment with a Family Support Worker
Parenting: Rhymes That Bind is from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Parenting Plus starts at 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Mondays. No classes during July and August.

BOYLE MCCAULEY HEALTH CENTRE

10628 – 96 Street
Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Women's Health Promotion Evening: Thursdays (except the last Thursday of the month) from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. preceded by yoga class at 3:30 p.m. for one hour.
Foot Clinic - Wednesday from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Dental - Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Streetworks during clinic hours.

BOYLE STREET COMMUNITY SERVICES

10116 – 105 Avenue
(780) 424-4106
Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Youth night: Wed. 4-7 p.m. Adult Drop-In open all day – 8.30 – 4.30 . Lunch: Monday-Friday at 11.30. Free repairs for eyeglasses every Monday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; housing, family, youth, mental health and outreach programs available.

INNER CITY PASTORAL MINISTRY

10527-96 St. NW
(780) 424-7652
Pastor Rick Chapman
Pastoral Assistant: Michelle Nievadomy
Sunday Service: 11 a.m. - noon
Sunday Lunch: Noon - 1 p.m.

THE ROCK OUTREACH

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

THE SALVATION ARMY ADDICTIONS & RESIDENTIAL CENTRE

9611-102 Avenue
(780) 429-4274
Men's Transitional Housing, Transformations Addiction Recovery Program, Community Support Services, Chapel Service, Volunteer Opportunities.

WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINIC

Located in the Women's Emergency Accommodation Centre is open Monday - Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Closed on Thursday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

THE MUSTARD SEED

10635 – 96 Street
(780) 426-5600
Drop-In: Tues.-Sat. 5:00-10:00 p.m. (social activities after dinner)
Evening Meals: Tues.-Fri. 7:00-8:00 p.m. / Sat. 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Art Class: Mon. 12:30-2:30 p.m.
Food Depot: Tues. and Thurs. 1:00 p.m. / Wed. (for students or workers) 8:00 p.m.
Women's Lunch: Weds. 10:30-2:00 p.m.
Call to learn about our summer programs!
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:

Family Doctor Tuesday and Thursday
Walk in: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Family Doctor (Male Patients) Monday - Friday
Walk in: 2:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Psychiatrist Monday - Friday
Appointment only - call (780) 244-2018 Ext. 278

NICOTINE ANONYMOUS

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

SACRED HEART CHURCH OF THE FIRST PEOPLES

(780) 422-3052 for further info on anything listed here. Eucharist is held each Sunday at 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Bimonthly programs available to prepare parents for their child's Baptism, First Communion and Confirmations. Traditional Native Wakes, in First Nations, Métis, and Inuit traditions. AA meets in the Parish Hall. Eating Disorder Group meets each week. White Stone Project and Edmonton Inner City Children's Project Society run their programs in conjunction with Parish programs. Gospel music festivals, dances, youth dances, pancake breakfasts and Feasts are held in the hall throughout the year.

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. Two locations: Boyle Street Community Services and Abbotsfield Mall.
Contact: Denis Lapierre, Coordinator
780-429-0675 or
email: dl.learningcentre@shaw.ca

NETWORKS ACTIVITY CENTRE

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

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME TO JOIN MCCAULEY CLUB.

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

P.A.L.S. PROJECT ADULT LITERACY SOCIETY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Work with adult students in the ESL - English as a Second Language program. Training, materials, and supplies provided. Call (780) 424-5514 for more information.

BUILDING BRIDGES

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

FRESH ROUTES MOBILE GROCERY STORE

Thursdays from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
YMCA Boyle Street Plaza, 9538-103A Ave.
Healthy affordable food including veggies, fruit, bread.

Cash, credit, and debit accepted.

Bring your own bags.

Open to all community members.

FREE COMPUTER LITERACY, DIGITAL SKILLS, AND INTERNET SAFETY WORKSHOPS

Drop-in sessions, Thursdays 4-7 p.m.
YMCA Boyle Street Plaza
9538-103A Avenue
For information call: 780-426-9265

BOYLE STREET PLAZA/YMCA FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE WEEKLY COLLECTIVE KITCHEN CLASSES

Tues. 1-3 p.m.
Wed. 10 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m.
Thurs. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Cost \$3/portion
U/G Parking \$1/hr - access on 104 Avenue between 95 Street and 96 Street
For information and registration call Jody at 780-429-5701

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

NEIGHBOURHOOD PAINTING

Randy, 25 years experience, \$12/hour. Offering Indoor (year round) and/or Outdoor (seasonal). Some of the work I have completed is taking care of all the painting needs at The Rock/ Breakfast Club. To contact me, please leave a message at (780) 426-1122.

HANDS ON LTD. CONTRACTED SERVICES

Offers: Residential and office cleaning. Move ins and move outs and yard maintenance. Call Linda at (780) 619-4776.

COMMONWEALTH COMMUNITY REC CENTRE ACCESS

All Amenities, Sundays 1-3 p.m.
FREE for MCL and BSCL members.

FREE KIDS COMPETITIVE SWIM PROGRAM

For kids ages 6 to 14 at Commonwealth Pool. Must be able to swim 25m unassisted. Must live within the McCauley boundary. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Contact Corrine @ (780) 421-1189 or corrinecoffey@shaw.ca.

PIU YUM RECREATION CLUB

Dancing, Exercise, and Singing Everyone is welcome, free admission. Every Monday from 1:00 to 5:30 p.m.
Boyle Street Plaza 9538 – 103A Avenue.

MAJESTIC INK

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

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 anytime...NINJATEC DETAILING - Make sure you check out my Facebook page!

ART LESSONS

Create beautiful paintings in ink. No experience necessary. In the heart of McCauley. For more info, email wilderthanthewindcreations@gmail.com.

COMICS WANTED

Disabled adult looking for unwanted comic book/graphic novel collections. In exchange will donate to a children's charity in your name and provide receipt. Some comics will also be donated where needed. (587) 920-8272.

PIANO LESSONS FOR FALL AND WINTER

Experienced and qualified piano teacher trained in the UK and Australia offers piano lesson for all ages. \$60/hour or \$50/45 minutes. Children/adults welcome. Please visit: www.kimchangpianostudio.com. Contact Kim: (780) 655-6618.

HANDYMAN

Based in McCauley. Odd jobs and maintenance. Call Richard for more information: (587) 921-8253 (24 hours).

MUSICAL MAMAS SOCIETY

We encourage, develop & support Women in the creation of Music. 8 FREE educational gatherings with open stage per year. 3rd Wed. of the month, Sept.-May (break in Dec.). Parkdale Cromdale Community League 7-9 p.m. musicalmamassociety.com



FREE MONDAY EVENING GUITAR LESSONS

Instructor: Steven Johnson
Drop in guitar lessons for all ages and skill levels. (Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.)
Everyone welcome. Guitars available to use.
Every Monday evening - 8:15 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Location: McCauley Boys & Girls Club, (9425 109A Avenue).
To sign up for guitar lessons or for more info call (780) 424-2870 or (780) 271-5995
Sponsored by the McCauley Community League, E4C, and Ansgar Danish Lutheran Church.

WECAN FOOD BASKET

Make Your Monthly Grocery Supply More Complete for Less!
Monthly Food Basket \$15/meat order, \$10/produce order – Annual Membership is \$5.
Upcoming deadlines for payments are: March 6th and April 3rd. Payment can be made at McCauley Boys & Girls Club, during business hours, Monday – Friday 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Next depot dates: March 19th and April 16th, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at McCauley Boys & Girls Club (9425 109A Ave).
For more info please contact (780) 424-2870 or (780) 413-4525. Website info: www.wecanfood.com

STREET PRINTS ARTIST COLLECTIVE

Creating opportunities for independent artists to market and sell. (Hosted by e4c/ICRW)
Artists volunteering together to market and sell their works and prints at community events.
Sale Materials Include: Original Paintings and Art, Prints, Cards, Calendars, and more!
For more info please contact (780) 424-2870 or 780-288-1778
Facebook page: [@streetprintscollective](https://www.facebook.com/streetprintscollective)
E-mail: streetprintscollective@gmail.com

DROP-IN RECREATIONAL SOCCER

Weekly Recreational Soccer Fun! (Hosted by ICRW/e4c)
Come alone or with friends to join in drop-in recreational soccer! Everyone is welcome and we play to have fun and to everyone's ability.
OUTDOOR Throughout Summer months (May/June-September)
INDOOR Throughout Winter months (October -April)
Time/Date: Tuesdays 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Indoor Location: Boyle Street Community YMCA Gym 10350 95 St., Edmonton
Weather and availability may affect locations. Please call or text if unsure: (587) 337-9860

WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS

Fun and friendly weekly workshops and activities, which help in our wellness!
(A part of the Wellness Network)
Hosted at McCauley Apartments, with easygoing and fun community members. Guest presenters and facilitators/instructors, outings and social engagement.
Activities include: arts and crafts, games, group outings, music, financial empowerment workshops, community gardening, recreation, and more! Join in the fun!
Time/Date: Wednesdays 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Location: McCauley Apartments (9541 108A Ave., Unit B08)
For more info, please contact e4c McCauley Staff (780) 424-2870 krambow@e4calberta.org

WELLNESS NETWORK EDMONTON: DROP-IN PROGRAMS AND COURSES

Check out the free (or VERY cheap) options for mental health recovery programming in Edmonton! (www.wellnessnetworkedmonton.com). Topics cover a range of interests and capacities. All programs led by people with lived experience and supported by trained co-facilitators. Available to ALL. In partnership with e4c. Dates/Times: Generally 2-3 hours each session over 8-10 weeks
Cost: No Cost ***
***For more info contact: MVenkatraman@e4calberta.org / 780-784-3492

MCCAULEY APARTMENTS OFFICE - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The e4c McCauley Apartments staff and Tenants Association volunteers welcome you to stop by for a cup of coffee, or call for information about our programs and initiatives. We are open weekly 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays. Please call and make sure the coffee is on for you!
9541-1089A Ave, Suite B08
Phone: 780-424-2870

More information about E4C programs can be found in the Classifieds section of our website at bmcnews.org.

Celebrating the Lunar New Year

The Year of the Rat was welcomed in Chinatown on January 26th. The outdoor program featured a Dragon Dance from the Hong De Cultural and Athletic Association, a Lion Dance from the Ging Wu Martial Arts and Kung Fu Association, speeches from various dignitaries and elected officials, and the lighting of the firecrackers. The event was organized by the Chinatown and Area Business Association with support from McCauley Revitalization. Around 1,000 people attended the event. This year, there was also an indoor program at the Ukrainian Federation Hall on 98th Street with a variety of entertainment. **PHOTOS BY PAULA E. KIRMAN**

