

Chatter -IN THE WOODS-

Read the CHATTER online at www.redwoodmeadows.ab.ca Let's get social!

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Hello Redwooders and Neighbours,

We have a lot in store for you this month!

First, RMCA would like to award our first (hopefully monthly) gift to a volunteer who helps make Redwood Meadows a great place to live. If you would like to nominate someone who deserves to be recognized for their service to our community, please follow the instructions on page 2.

Next, RMCA has created a **St. Patrick's Day Scavenger Hunt**. Every family that completes the scavenger hunt will get a **prize**. And we're not talking about a piece of candy or a sticker; this is an awesome prize that will be well worth your effort! Just send in the word you'll unscramble by going to each of the locations as well as a photo of your child/family on the scavenger hunt. See all the details on page 19.

Also, our friends at Redwood Meadows Emergency Services are recruiting local candidates. So many people dream of becoming a firefighter, this could be your moment! Check out their poster on the back page of the Chatter.

Please contact us at theredwoodchatter@gmail.com for all Chatter and volunteer-related inquiries.

Warm regards,

Rebecca Parzen



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A MESSAGE FROM THE RMCA PRESIDENT

Dear Redwood Meadows Residents,

Thank you to everyone who came to the Neon Nights night skate! What a beautiful thing to see the community come together outdoors to skate. Thank you to the volunteers that prepped for it and those that jumped in that night! Without you this would not have been possible! The money raised goes right back into the community for future RMCA initiatives. Stay tuned for more fun in 2021!

The Spirit of Redwood is so beautiful to see. Helping, connecting and having good old fun.

Volunteers do not necessarily have the time they have the heart

~Elizabeth Andrew

Alone we can do little; Together we can do much.

~Helen Keller

Sign up to volunteer today, we need you! https://www.redwoodmeadows.ab.ca/Community#VolunteerOpportunities Or send an email to volunteer@rmca.ca

Sincerely,

Jennifer Illescas RMCA President



CHATTER IN THE WOODS

Chatter in the Woods is a volunteer-run newsletter with all advertising proceeds supporting the Redwood Meadows Community Association (RMCA). The Chatter is published the first day of every month except July and August. It is distributed electronically to more than 300 email addresses, posted online at www.redwoodmeadows.ab.ca, and a link is posted on several community Facebook pages. Print copies are available at the mailboxes in Redwood Meadows, at Redwood House, and at the Bragg Creek Community Centre.

Receive a link to the Chatter on the first day of each month by emailing us at: theredwoodchatter@gmail.com

ADVERTISING RATES

Business Card \$30/month
Quarter Page \$44/month
Half Page \$63/month
Full Page \$120/month

Business Listing \$50/year (10 months)

ADVERTISEMENT SIZES

Business Card: 2 ½" h X 3 ¾" w

Quarter Page (vertical): 4 7/8" h X 3 ¾ " w

Quarter Page (horizontal): 2 ½ " h X 7 ½ " w

Half Page (vertical): 9 ¾ " h X 3 ¾ " w

Half Page (horizontal): 4 7/8" h X 7 ½ " w

Full Page (vertical): 9 ¾ " h X 7 ½ " w

PDF and JPG files reproduce best in print and online.

Discount rates are offered for five-month or ten-month commitments.

Send your advertisement to:

theredwoodchatter@gmail.com

Send your payment to:

E-transfer: payment@rmca.ca (subject: Chatter)

Cheque: Drop off at Redwood House

The deadline for submission is the 20th of the month prior to publication. All articles and photograph submissions must be signed or credited.

Chatter in the Woods is not responsible for the content or accuracy of articles printed. The views reflected in this newsletter do not reflect the views of the editors.

Calling All Chatter Enthusiasts:

We are looking for contributors (yes, YOU!) to make the Chatter the best it can be. Make a submission once or commit to a monthly article. If you are looking for a topic here are some ideas:

Gardening - Some topics could be how to prepare your garden for winter or planting bulbs in the fall.

Recipes - Do you have a favourite family recipe (or one you just came across) that you'd like to share?

How-To Article - This could range from a small building project to making an origami crane to practicing mindfulness. You choose!

Top Ten List - Another open-ended one...movies from the '80s, poisonous spiders, vacation destinations. So many possibilities!

Get to Know Your Community Volunteers - Any aspiring journalists out there? Interview our wonderful community volunteers and write a monthly article on a different person doing amazing things in Redwood Meadows.

Creative Entries - Do you write short stories or poems? Are you an artist? Send your work in and we'll share it with the community.

Kids Entry - KIDS, the Chatter is for you too! Write a story, draw a picture, come up with anything creative you would like to see published!

Please help make the Chatter the best it can be and fun for the entire community to read! Email submissions and inquiries to theredwoodchatter@gmail.com



RMCA MEMBERSHIP FAQS

RMCA would like to thank each and every household in Redwood Meadows that has already purchased a membership for the 2021 year. We will be continuing our membership drive and hope to register even more residents and neighbours in the coming months. We know many of you have questions about RMCA and membership so we would like to provide some responses to the questions we have been receiving:

1. What is the RMCA?

RMCA stands for the Redwood Meadows Community Association. It is a registered non-profit organization and entirely managed by volunteers. RMCA works with Redwood Meadows Townsite and Council to provide events, activities, and other community initiatives to the residents of Redwood Meadows and its membership. RMCA is licensed with the Alberta Gaming Liquor and Cannabis Commission (AGLC) and is privileged to earn funds to invest in our community.

2. What benefits do I get for my RMCA membership?

- •Households with a Full Membership (households residing in Redwood Meadows) have the right to cast one vote for any elections, motions, or special resolutions at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) or a Special General Meeting (SGM).
- •Full members can run for executive positions and be appointed to the Board.
- •Full members can attend Board Meetings.
- •Members can submit event and activity proposals to the RMCA for consideration.
- •Stay tuned for more exciting perks to be announced.

3. In the past, everyone in Redwood Meadows has automatically been a member of the RMCA. Why is that changing now?

After a thorough review of documents and speaking with experts it was determined that going forward, the RMCA cannot assume automatic membership from residents. If someone does not want to be a member we cannot force that upon them. Furthermore, the RMCA is required by our own By-Laws, by our status with the AGLC, and by the Alberta government's Societies Act to keep the names and addresses of all of our active Members. Townsite cannot (and should not) divulge the names and personal information of Redwood residents to RMCA due to privacy concerns.

We also tried to identify another community association that operates via automatic membership and we could not find one. It was strongly recommended to the Board by every expert that we consulted that we follow our current By-Laws and respect our obligations to the AGLC and to the Societies Act.





4. Council or Townsite has paid for RMCA memberships for residents of Redwood Meadows in the past. Why is there a fee requested from residents this year?

RMCA By-Laws stipulate a household fee for membership (the amount is set each year by the Board). There is nothing in the By-Laws to indicate that fees can be offset by a payment provided by Townsite. Additionally, it is illegal for a Municipality to collect a "tax" that is specific for a community association membership fee. After speaking with a Townsite representative, RMCA was told that from their perspective, the amount historically provided to RMCA each year was an operating stipend and was not tied to membership for residents. Many other local governments and municipalities operate in a similar fashion, providing an annual contribution to their resident community associations. Going forward, Townsite will work closely with RMCA on identified initiatives and provide various levels of support depending on the project/event.

5. Why are people outside of Redwood Meadows allowed to be RMCA members?

We are obligated by our By-Laws to offer membership to non-residents. The By-Laws clearly outline Full Membership (households living in Redwood Meadows), Associate Membership (households living outside of Redwood Meadows), and Honorary Membership (an honour to be bestowed on an individual). Offering membership to non-residents is common policy and a part of most community association By-Laws that were reviewed. It is also a good way for community associations to make money. Associate members (non-residents) do not have voting privileges at an RMCA AGM, but they would be required to have an RMCA membership to participate in certain RMCA sponsored activities.

6. Why is the membership fee set so low at \$5?

The RMCA Board decided to set a \$5 membership fee for 2021 for several reasons:

- One of the highest priorities for the 2020-2021 RMCA Board is to sign up as many members as possible. Setting a low fee was a strategy to achieve this goal.
- We are aware that the past year has been financially difficult for many Redwood Meadows residents. We wanted membership to be accessible to everyone, regardless of cost.
- Due to COVID and also to reorganization of the RMCA Board, we are not yet able to offer details on the benefits for RMCA members. It would not be fair to charge a higher membership fee without being able to tell prospective members what they get for their membership.

A MESSAGE FROM REDWOOD MEADOWS MAYOR & COUNCIL



hope everyone managed to keep safe and warm through the recent polar vortex. Things seem to be trending in a positive direction so we can get outside and enjoy all the wonderful amenities Redwood has to offer.

Regarding COVID, the Townsite office remains closed and staff continue to work from home where possible. Townsite continues to do everything possible to ensure outdoor recreation facilities are operating well to provide families with socially distanced activities. Thank you to Townsite and RMCA for your ongoing efforts in making Redwood a vibrant, active community.

There are a several exciting initiatives occurring in Redwood. Implementation of the new Townsite-owned fibre Internet line is progressing nicely. This will allow Redwood to improve Internet by opening access for more service providers. Competition is a good thing, and access to high speed Internet is key to being an Attractive Community, one of the four pillars of our community strategy. Mage will be the first new service provider, offering high speed wireless Internet throughout the community. Eastlink has also increased their services with speeds of up to 400mbps for business and 300mbps for residential.

You've probably noticed our old arc sodium streetlights are at the end of their expected life and need to be replaced. We've received a government grant to purchase and install new high efficiency LED lights. This project has taken over a year to get off the ground as Townsite searched high and low for LED lights that provide the right ambiance and retain our desire to be a dark sky community. An added benefit is a significant reduction in Townsite electricity bills, which in turn help keep taxes down. This initiative touches on three of the four strategic pillars: Attractive Community, Sustainable Community, and Safe Community.

Finally, Townsite has also received a grant to purchase a community composter. This odor free unit (critical to not attracting wildlife!) will be located out of sight behind the firehall. Once operating, and with resident support, it should significantly reduce garbage going to the landfill, and create a revenue stream for our community. This initiative supports the strategic pillar of Sustainable Community. More information to follow.

Regarding Spruce Budworms, information kits regarding the planned aerial Btk application this May/June are being prepared. This human-safe, pet-safe, wildlife-safe, and property-safe application is fully government approved and specifically targets the Spruce Budworm. Redwood is working in tandem with Tsuut'ina to extend the application to the golf course and surrounding areas so we can eradicate this pest and retain the beauty of Redwood Meadows. More information to follow.

Regarding the lease, we are making progress in getting the key agreements signed with the government so we can move forward with sublease execution. An update with details was recently emailed to leaseholders – please contact the Townsite office if you did not receive.

Thank you as always for your continued support.

Scott Ackerman, on behalf of Redwood Meadows Mayor and Council

REDWOOD MEADOWS—LOCAL BUSINESS LISTINGS

Anita Curle, Facilitator and Brain-based Coach	403-560-4505	anita.curle@elevatingpotential.ca / www.elevatingpotential.ca
Ann Sullivan, SafariWorks Fitness Classes	403-689-4835	anns@safari.ca / Fit.safari.ca
Bragg Creek Community Centre	403-949-4277	program@braggcreekca.com
Blinda Bilou - Interior Design & Renovation	403-461-9748	bdbilou@gmail.com / BlindaBilouInteriors.ca
Bragg Creek Community Church	403-949-2072	braggcreekcommunitychurch@gmail.com
Candace Perko, Countryside Financial	403-949-4129	cperko@countrysidefinancial.ca
Cochrane Public Library	403-709-0346	Andrea.Johnston@cochranepubliclibrary.ca
Deborah Clark, Century 21 Bamber Realty Ltd.	403-835-3385	dclark@realestatewestofcalgary.com / realestatewestofcalgary.com
Dieter Hendrickson, Re/Max Real Estate	403-612-7849	dieter@remaxbraggcreek.com / www.remaxbraggcreek.com
KarmiK Sport & Personal Development	403-408-6998	karmikathletics@outlook.com
Kamp Kiwanis	403-686-6325	general@kampkiwanis.ca / www.kampkiwanis.ca
Ken Barrie, Century 21 Bamber Realty Ltd.	403-974-0334	ken@newdirectionrealestate.ca / realestatewestofcalgary.com
Leader Service and Renovations Ltd.	403-996-0192	chris@leaderservice.ca / 35 Sleigh Dr.
Linda Anderson Law	403-243-6400	linda@lindaandersonlaw.com / 403-949-4248
Maverick Law	403-949-3339	admin@mavericklaw.ca / www.mavericklaw.ca
Manufain's Eilas Danasstians	403-949-7727	4wolves@persona.ca / www.mountainsedgerenovations.com
Mountain's Edge Renovations	403-949-7727	
Redwood Meadows Emergency Services	403-949-2012	www.rmesfire.org Call 911 in an Emergency
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Redwood Meadows Emergency Services		www.rmesfire.org Call 911 in an Emergency
Redwood Meadows Emergency Services Redwood Meadows Tae Kwon Do School	403-949-2012	www.rmesfire.org Call 911 in an Emergency redwoodtaekwondo@gmail.com / redwoodtaekwondo.com

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REDWOOD MEADOWS TOWNSITE UPDATE

ICE RINK PROCEDURES DURING COVID

Under the current Government of Alberta mandated COVID outdoor recreation restrictions, a maximum of forty skaters/participants are allowed for any bookings. Please book 30-60 mins time slots at the Townsite webpage, which is also linked to the Townsite App. Please limit bookings to 60mins max / 24 hours to ensure all residents have a chance to skate. The booking platform is for Redwood and Nation residents only. All non-residential private bookings must be made by contacting admin@redwoodmeadows.ab.ca. Please note: As the Oval is built and operational, Family Skate Time has been removed from the hockey rink schedule.

FRIENDLY REMINDER TO NOT FEED WILDLIFE

Remember, feeding wildlife can actually cause them to fall ill depending on the time of year and what is being fed. Also, it is dangerous for the animal to become accustomed to being fed by humans.

DOG REGISTRATION/RENEWAL

In order to complete your dog registration or renewal for 2021, Townsite requires some data. If you have not already done so, please send a front and back image of your dog, dog's name, and tag number to admin@redwoodmeadows.ab.ca Please remember your dog must wear its assigned tag while off your property. We realize that sometimes dogs get lost. Ensuring your dog is wearing its tag and has a photo on file assists us in getting your dog home safely. If you have not yet registered your dog, please contact the office to obtain a tag.

RINK BOARD ADVERTISING

Have your business advertised on the ice rink boards for all spectators to see! Prices:\$500/year for prime spots between blue lines facing stands. \$400/year for all other spots. Email: admin@redwoodmeadows.ab.ca

LOST AND FOUND

If you are missing winter and hockey clothes and equipment, please attend the ice rink concession between 1200-1600hrs on Saturdays as a lost and found bin has been established.

BYLAW CONTACT INFORMATION

Please Note: Bylaw Officer Lynn Gallen can be reached at 403-813-3105 or email at lgallen@redwoodmeadows.ab.ca

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meeting agendas are available to the community on the Redwood Meadows website prior to the Council meeting. If there is an agenda item you would like added, please inform Peg Rupert, our Council Executive Assistant, by the Friday before the scheduled Council meeting. Contact: admin@redwoodmeadows.ab.ca



REDWOOD MEADOWS FACILITIES CALENDAR—MARCH 2021

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This schedule is subject to change. To see the most up-to-date calendar, go to: https://www.redwoodmeadows.ab.ca/Community



REDWOOD MEADOWS EMERGENCY SERVICES—FIRE SAFETY

Even though we're moving out of the deep cold winter months, it's still important to be mindful of fire safety.

Here are some important tips that can save you and your loved ones in case of fire.

- **1.** Check your smoke and CO alarms: Working smoke detectors and CO alarms save lives. Test them at least twice per year. If battery powered, replace the batteries yearly. Smoke detectors and CO alarms expire after 10 years. Be sure to keep track of how old your alarm is and change it when needed.
- **2. Schedule a check-up for electrical wiring:** Faulty electrical wiring can cause fire incidents. If you notice flickering light bulbs or sparking switches, have the lines checked by an expert as it might be time for replacement or repair. Keep foot traffic away from electrical cords to avoid wiring damage and limit the use of extension cords as they may overheat circuits. Large appliances such as refrigerators should have their own outlet.
- **3. Keep flammable items away from children:** Candles, matches, lighters, butane and similar items should be stored away from children. Gasoline and gasoline fueled equipment should not be stored in the house.
- **4. Be alert in the kitchen:** Stay mindful when cooking and don't leave ovens, broilers, and stoves unattended. Keep towels or anything that can catch fire away from your stovetop. Always make sure the lid is available to cover the pan in case the pan catches fire.
- **5. Avoid smoking indoors:** If you have a smoking room, place several deep and stable ashtrays on a sturdy surface. When emptying the ashtrays or throwing away cigarette butts and ashes, make sure that they have cooled and there are no remaining embers.
- **6. Keep emergency numbers visible and easily on hand:** In addition to saving important emergency numbers on your phone, write them down and place them in a visible location in your home. Be sure to include your address and home phone number for visiting guests.
- 7. Create and practice a fire escape plan at home: A well-rehearsed emergency exit plan greatly alleviates panic during an emergency. It takes two minutes for your house to be filled with toxic fumes from a fire: "Get low and go" when making an exit. Practice feeling the door and walls using the back of your hand in case there is fire in the next room. Designate a person to get elderly and young children out safely. Pick a meeting place to assemble afterward.





REDWOOD MEADOWS RESOURCES	PHONE NUMBERS
FOOD	
Cochrane Activettes Food Bank	403-851-2250
Bragg Creek Community Centre	403-949-4277
TsuuT'ina Food Bank	403-252-5884
EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT	
Rocky View / Wheatland Employment Centre https://rwemploymentservices.com/	403-709-0010
TsuuT'ina Nation Official Website https://tsuutinanation.com/jobs/	403-281-4455
FINANCIAL SUPPORT	
Alberta Income Support https://www.alberta.ca/income-support.aspx	1-877-644-5135
Money Mentors – Alberta Debt Relief https://moneymentors.ca/	1-888-294-0076
TsuuT'ina Income Support department	403-238-6406
SUPPORT LINES:	
Access Mental Health - Alberta Health Services	1-844-943-1500
Boys and Girls Club of Cochrane and Area - Youth Support, ages 12-22	403-618-3149
Calgary Youth Drug Line	403-269-3784
Child Abuse Hotline	1-800-387-5437
Cochrane & Area Family and Community Support Service (FCSS)	403-851-2250
Cochrane & Area Victim Services http://www.cochranevictimservices.ca/	403-851-8055
Cochrane Family Resource Network	403-851-2265
Distress Centre Crisis Support (24hr)	403-266-4357
Domestic Violence Support – Big Hill Haven, Cochrane	403-796-6564 or 403-437-4636
Domestic Violence Support – TsuuT'ina Spirit Healing Lodge	403-852-9929
Domestic Violence Support – Rowan House, High River	1-855-652-3311
Indigenous Crisis Support (24hr)	1-855-242-3310
Kids Help Phone (24hr)	1-800-668-6868
RCMP Non-Emergency	403-932-2211
Rural Outreach Support Worker (Information, Resources and Support)	403-851-2286

BRAGG CREEK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Hello Bragg Creek and Redwood Meadows!

Restrictions are starting to ease again and in accordance with the Alberta Government's Path Forward Plan, if all goes well we will be able to open our doors for Stage 2 (March 1st). At this point we don't know what that will look like but we are hoping to have the Co-working Space available for community members that are in need of a reliable internet connection for school or work.

What's New

Outdoor Adventures Camp – Easter Break

April 5 - 9, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm - \$300

Sign the kids up for some outdoor adventures during the next school break where they will learn wilderness & wildcraft, shelter making, fire building, creative play and so much more. Visit www.braggcreekca.com to register!

Bragg Creek Satellite Library

We are so thrilled to announce that in the coming weeks we will be welcoming our satellite library! In early 2020 Rocky View County awarded Marigold Library System funds to install a remote locker library system here in our Centre, complete with new seating for the foyer. Originally scheduled to be installed in November of last year, due to COVID delays we are now looking forward to an early spring opening.

We are launching a new website! A new look, easier to navigate, and more user-friendly. Stay tuned and watch www.braggcreekca.com to see the exciting changes!

Outdoor recreation opportunities continue to be popular and our ice rink has seen a lot of use this year thanks again to our dedicated volunteers. They have also been hard at work raising funds towards rink improvements

through the sale of rink board ads. Space is selling fast so if you are looking for cost effective ways to advertise your local business contact Brian Robertson at coachrobertson@gmail.com.

The Hunt for Hearts scavenger hunt is open until March 14. If you haven't already downloaded your entry form you can find it on our website under Events>Upcoming Events. A free, fun, family activity that lets you explore our beautiful community. All entries will be eligible to win draw prizes.

Please remember to purchase your BCCA Memberships and consider donating. Every little bit helps us to continue our mission and ensures the Community Centre is operational and available now and for future generations.

Our office is open Monday–Friday 9:00am–5:00pm. Call 403-949-4277, email: info@braggcreekca.com or visit us at www.braggcreekca.com for news and updates.

Take good care!

Christine Pollard

Program and Event Manager



The Refuse Enthusiast - by Amber Zierath

Access can be tricky, but it's not impossible. Even though tactics are used to keep me out and away from the delicacies trapped inside, I usually find a way.

With a quick tug on the latch and smooth pull at the sides, it's easy to remove the previously locked lid. Once I'm in, the fun really begins. Stowed beneath the plastic barrier are precious items free for the taking. My preferred course of action is to remove each article and lay it strategically onto the road, to really get a good look at everything.

First thing to lay out is a stack of advertisement flyers. One is from a grocery store; I wish I could eat the pictures of the food on their pages. My next discovery is an orange peel, then a small plastic bag filled with used cat litter - disgusting. Beneath that, however, I locate an epic treasure. A small sock coloured like the petals of an Alberta rose. It has a small hole, but it's still soft and ideal for bedding. I take an extra minute to lay that aside separately from my other pile before continuing my hunt.

I get a little excited when I see a clump of leftover food. However, when I move in closer to take a bite, I realize it's smothered in garlic - I can't stand that smell. Moving myself around and away from the offensive stench, I clutch a piece of Styrofoam gloriously scented of raw meat and toss it out to the ground. This reveals a section hosting my favourite food of all time, a partially eaten burger. In my excitement, I bob my head a little and make a happy noise. This may have been a mistake.

In the near distance, I hear a raucous call akin to mine. Glancing quickly in the direction of the sound, I see a cluster of my kind forming - no doubt they have murder on their minds. Not keen to share my newfound delicacy, I pick up the fermenting burger and hold it strong in my mouth. As the others encroach closer, I move to pick up the pink sock and rush away with it toward my home.

It isn't selfish to claim the best items for myself before the others arrive. I already did the hardest work and meticulously organized the objects from within the trashcan for all to see. I've left plenty of food options and soft items for nesting strewn about for my fellow crows. In fact, some might say I'm mighty generous for sharing my spoils.

To learn more about the writer, please visit her website at: www.amberzierath.com

Television Trivia

- 1. Who played Gil Grissom on the TV show "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation"?
- 2. Which British television series featured Helen Mirren as DCI Jane Tennison?
- 3. On the hit show "The Big Bang Theory", which character is played by Jim Parsons?
- 4. "Here are the categories." What television trivia game show mentions these words in each show?
- 5. What is the title of rocker Gene Simmons' reality show on A&E?
- 6. Which TV show used a "Cone of Silence" to great comic effect?
- 7. Who played drums for "Dr. Teeth and the Electric Mayhem", the house band on the "Muppet Show"?
- 8. Which detective/lawyer TV show starred Andy Griffith?
- 9. Kelly Clarkson, Taylor Hicks and David Cook are among the winners of which reality TV show?
- 10.What famous real estate mogul starred in the American version of "The Apprentice?"
- 11.On the hit show "My Wife and Kids", how many children do Michael and Jay have?
- 12. Which "Star Trek" show did not take place on a ship?
- 13.Not including flashbacks, who was the captain of the Enterprise in the series "Star Trek?"
- 14. When the TV show "Beverly Hills, 90210" began, in what age group were the main characters?

Questions provided by FunTrivia

Answers on page 18



MORTGAGE MATTERS-REPAIRING YOUR CREDIT SCORE

Your mortgage rate (plus most other credit opportunities) will be priced in part based on your personal credit score. You want to achieve the highest score you are able to before making any credit applications.

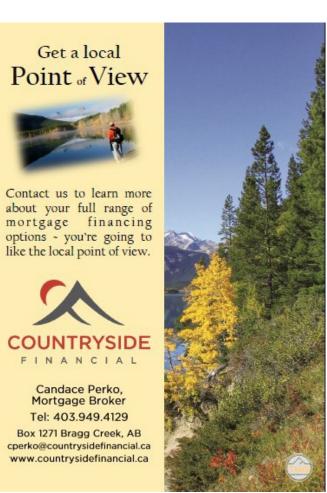
It's impossible to instantly repair a credit score, it takes some time, so the time to start repairing your credit is today...before you need it.

- 1. First step, review your official credit report at equifax.ca. Do not use the freebies as they are not accurate. Go through each trade-line and check for errors, negative reporting, and ensure all is correct.
- 2. If you find a negative report, fervently dispute it. Do your best to have derogatory marks removed because they drag-down your overall score. Once you initiate a dispute, the credit bureaus will investigate and report the resolution. This will take time (several weeks at least).
- 3. Pay down debt. Decreasing the amount of credit used will increase your credit score as your credit utilization ratio (the ratio of credit used against credit limit) will improve.
- 4. Increase your credit limits. Credit utilization greatly affects your overall score. If you cannot pay down the credit used to less than 70% of the limit, then increase the credit limit which will automatically improve your ratio (but don't use the extra credit).
- 5. Open up a new account. Further to the above, if you open a new account (without any new debt) it will also improve your credit utilization ratio.
- 6. Keep all your trade-lines active. Your credit history age matters, even if you do not use some credit cards, keep them active as your overall history plays a part in your score. Tip make sure to check on balances of rarely used cards, those pesky annual fees tend to cause issues when a person doesn't check the statement often when not using them.
- 7. This should go without saying, pay every bill on time every month, even if only the minimum payment. Even as little as one late payment hurts your score.

If your credit score has been hit hard and the above points are still steps away, your plan should be:

- 1. First step, review your official credit report at equifax.ca (same as Step One above).
- 2. Rebuild credit with a secured credit card. A secured credit card is like an unsecured credit card, in that you'll have access to credit and your payment information will get reported to the credit bureau each month. But you will need to provide an upfront cash security deposit for the credit grantor to take a chance on you. This deposit assures the creditor that you will pay back the money.
- 3. Create new financial habits to continue to make payments on time, your credit score will thank you!

Candace Perko Area Mortgage Broker



PICAPIX PUZZLE

A picture will evolve as you complete the puzzle. Start with the largest numbers or combination of, colour in squares and proceed to work back and forth between columns and rows.

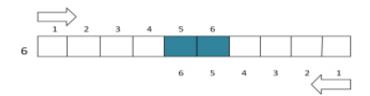
The three basic rules are:

- 1. Numbers represent how many squares you colour in to form a group or block.
- 2. Leave at least one square between these blocks.
- 3. The sequential order of the numbers is the order of the blocks, i.e., top number for a column is the top, block, and left-most number for a row is the left-most block.

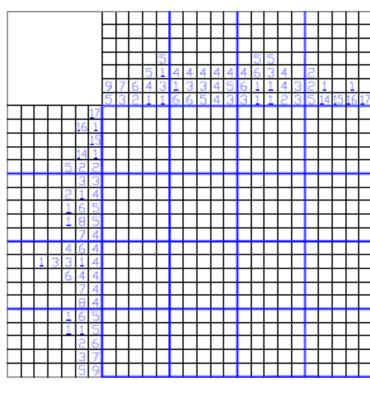
The "logic count method" shown below is very useful: The clue at the left of the row is 6, so count 6 squares from the left to right and then count 6 squares from right to left. Confidently shade in the overlapping squares.

This same method can be applied even when there is more than one number, remembering to allow one empty square between groups or blocks. Use a second colour for elimination of background squares.

Created by Diane Baher of Okotoks



FISH FRY





NATURE CORNER—REDWOOD'S SHOWY WILDFLOWERS

It's that time of winter when we are all wistfully dreaming about summer: fluffy white clouds, strolling along the river paths in a t-shirt, a warm breeze rustling the pines, white-throated sparrows calling out from the trees. I can close my eyes and transport myself to the path system north of Townsite, and I can vividly see the wildflowers lining the paths, almost as if they are really there. So, let's indulge ourselves and focus on some of the showiest and most vibrant wildflowers Redwood Meadows has to offer.

Mountain Fireweed (*Epilobium latifolium*), also known as River Beauty, is abundant in Redwood, but only on the rocky floodplain adjacent to the Elbow River. It grows in dense colonies, and from a distance the bluetinged leaves blanket and hide the rocky ground beneath. The petals are a deep magenta, and to me, they are one of the most beautiful wildflowers we have in Alberta. Mountain Fireweed should not be mistaken for Common Fireweed (Epilobium angustifolium), which is often seen along Highway 1 as you drive through Banff. Common Fireweed is found in disturbed areas and grows taller and has slender leaves compared to Mountain Fireweed. Their blooms are also not as brilliant as Mountain Fireweed.





The Western Wood Lily (*Lilium philadelphicum*) is perhaps the most easily recognizable wildflower we have in Redwood. The large orangered petals draw the eye and they often grow in sunny open patches in the forest, which serves as a lovely background to showcase these lovely blooms. In Redwood, I have only seen Wood Lilies along the paths north of Townsite, however they are quite abundant if you venture further afield to Bragg Creek Provincial Park. It is important to note that populations of Wood Lilies are often decimated because people pick the blooms to keep as a souvenir. While it is understandable that you may want to keep such a lovely remembrance of your jaunt through the woods, please leave the lilies (and other wildflowers) in place so everyone can enjoy their beauty.

Mountain Death Camas (Zigadenus elegans) are one of my favorite wildflowers. Their white and pea-green

blooms are reminiscent of a popular colour combination from the 1940s and 1950s. In fact, the first time I ever saw this flower, my first thought was, 'My grandmother would have loved these flowers,' and it took me a few minutes to realize it was because she often decorated with the same palette. Each stem has a dainty spray of flowers, and I also like they way these flowers look just before they bloom.



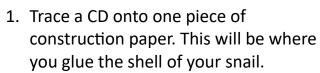


Rebecca Parzen

KIDS CRAFT—MAKE A CD SNAIL

To get started you will need:

- Construction paper choose two colours
- Craft glue clear drying
- Scissors
- Pipe cleaner choose a color to complement the construction paper
- Old CD
- Black permanent marker (i.e. Sharpie)
- Markers
- Clear Tape





- 2. Draw a snail body that attaches to the circle you just traced on the construction paper. (Reference the photo to copy the shape).
- 3. Cut out the entire shape and put aside.
- 4. Trace a CD on the second piece of construction paper.
- 5. Cut out the circle.
- 6. Draw a spiral on the circle.
- 7. Cut along the line you drew.
- 8. Cut the spiral again, this time slightly offset, so that you end up with two spirals. Put one aside, you won't need it for this snail. Use it to make another!
- 9. Glue the spiral onto the CD and put it aside to dry completely.
- 10. Draw a face onto your snail with a marker.
- 11. Glue the CD shell onto your snail's body.
- 12. Fold a pipe cleaner in half to make a V, then bend down the ends.
- 13. Tape the pipe cleaner to the back of your snail's head to make the antennae.

Trivia Answers

- 1. William Petersen
- 2. Prime Suspect
- 3. Sheldon
- 4. Jeopardy!
- 5. Family Jewels
- 6. Get Smart
- 7. Animal
- 8. Matlock
- 9. American Idol
- 10. Donald Trump
- 11. Three
- 12. Deep Space Nine
- 13. Kirk
- 14. High School

Provided by Sonja Allen





March Scavenger Hunt





Find the 10 hidden clovers at the locations below. Each clover contains a letter! The challenge is to unscramble the 10 letters to solve the St. Patrick's Day mystery word. Good luck!

THIS LOCATION RHYMES WITH "STINK," GO TO THE HOCKEY
THIS LOCATION RHYMES WITH "SMALL," GO TO TOWN
THIS LOCATION RHYMES WITH "SOUND," GO TO THE SOUTHERN PLAY
THIS LOCATION RHYMES WITH "FOXES," GO TO THE NORTHERN MAIL
THIS LOCATION RHYMES WITH "VACATION," GO TO THE LOCAL FIRE
THIS LOCATION RHYMES WITH "FRESHEN," GO TO WHERE IT SMELLS LIKE CHILI AT THE
THIS LOCATION RHYMES WITH "AUNT," GO TO THE WATER TREATMENT
THIS LOCATION RHYMES WITH "BATHTUB," GO SOUTH TO THE LOCAL GOLF AND COUNTRY
THIS LOCATION RHYMES WITH "BEEHIVE," GO TO ONE OF THE STOP SIGNS AT SLEIGH
THIS LOCATION RHYMES WITH "NOSE," GO TO THE ROAD SIGN OF REDWOOD MEADOWS

MYSTERY WORD:

The first 50 kids to complete the Hunt before March 31st will win a very cool prize. Send us an email at theredwoodchatter@gmail.com with:

- 1) The St. Patrick's Day mystery word
- 2) A photo of your team at one of the clue locations



To have your photo featured in the April Chatter, please send it in by March 20th.





Neon

Night

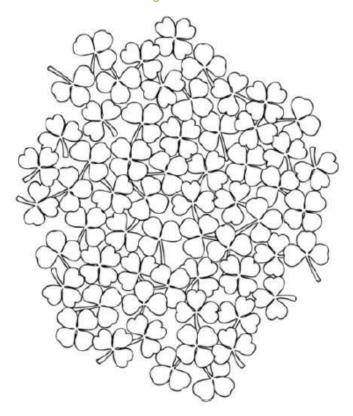
Skate

Photos



Can you find ten four-leaf clovers?

Color all the three-leaf clovers one shade of green and use another shade of green for the four-leaf clovers.







REDWOOD RECIPE BOX

BY COLE & ANDREA HANSON

ingredients

- · 2 cups sugar, plus 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup margarine
- 2 eggs
- grated rind of 1 lemon or 1 tbsp. lemon juice, plus juice of 1 lemon
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- · 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 cup milk

directions

- · Cream 2 cups sugar and margarine
- · Add eggs, one at a time
- Add lemon rind or lemon juice
- In a separate bowl, combine flour, salt, and baking powder
- Alternately add dry ingredients and milk to sugar and margarine mixture
- Bake in a loaf pan for 45 minutes at 350 F for 45 minutes
- Mix 1/4 cup sugar with the juice of 1 lemon and pour over the loaf immediately after baking.



Lemon Icing

1 cup powdered Sugar1 tbsp. lemon juice1 tbsp. cream or milk

Whisk ingredients together until smooth. Drizzle over cooled loaf.



DIETER HENDRICKSON

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We are your locally operated RE/MAX office, providing outstanding service to the greater Bragg Creek, Redwood Meadows, Priddis, Black Diamond, Cochrane and Calgary areas

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RE/MAX (Mountain View) Bragg Creek



Kindergarten

Tuesday/Thursday 9:00am-3:15pm

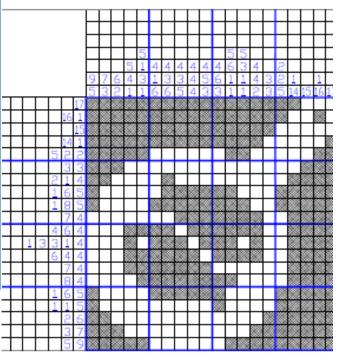
Preschool

ages 3-4 years old 3-Mornings 8:45am-11:45am (M/W/F) 3-Afternoon 12:15pm-3:15pm (M/W/F) 5-Mornings 8:45am-11:45am (M-F)

For additional information and our other programs please contact admin@thelittleschoolhouse.ca or visit us online at www.thelittleschoolhouse.ca

PICAPIX SOLUTION

FISH FRY



REDWOOD MEADOWS—BABYSITTERS LIST

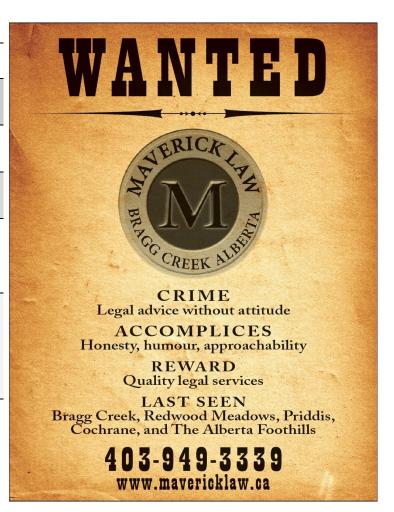
<u>Name</u>	<u>AGE</u>	QUALIFICATIONS / COURSES	CONTACT INFORMATION
Ella	12	Babysitter Course	403-470-6411
Griffin	14	Babysitter Course	403-408-6998
Hunter	13	Red Cross Home Alone, Babysitter Course	403-949-8888
Kinley	13	Babysitter Course	403-899-4914 kinleyroberts13@gmail.com
Kyle	14	Babysitter Course	403-470-6411
Lila	14		403-860-9525
Mackaela	14	Babysitters License, Standard First Aid, CPR-B	403-969-6732 macarchabault@gmail.com
Sawyer	15	Red Cross Home Alone, Babysitter Course	403-949-8888
Shawn	12	Red Cross Home Alone, two Babysitters Courses	shawnmacpherson08@icloud.com
Zara	16	Babysitting Certificate	403-949-4474

LOCAL SHOVELLERS FOR HIRE

<u>Name</u>	CONTACT INFORMATION
Adam Frasca	403-473-3822 a.a.branch11@gmail.com
Eddie Flores	780-350-8461 edyflores1978@gmail.com
Logan Williams	587-852-5323 motheredmutts@yahoo.com

TO ADD, DELETE, OR EDIT A LISTING, PLEASE CONTACT THEREDWOODCHATTER@GMAIL.COM

<u>Disclaimer:</u> The Chatter provides these lists solely as a service to the community. It is the responsibility of Parents/Guardians to check all credentials and references before hiring a caregiver for their child(ren) or someone to shovel their property.





YOU'RE ALREADY IN TRAINING



SO WHY NOT VOLUNTEER? EVERY MINUTE MATTERS LOCAL VOLUNTEERS LOWER RESPONSE TIMES.

60% OF OUR CURRENT VOLUNTEERS ARE ON CALL FROM CALGARY. WE NEED LOCALS MORE THAN EVER. FOR FURTHER DETAILS ON SIGNING UP VISIT RMESFIRE.ORG/RECRUITMENT



