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Boyle McCauley News



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VOL. 45 NO. 2

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FREE

George Spady Centre Relocation

Questions and uncertainty surround the potential future uses of the current site.

PHIL O'HARA

While the George Spady Centre Society is moving from McCauley to the west end, it is unclear what will replace the social agency in the provincially-owned facility. Equally concerning is the future of the supervised consumption services currently offered at the Centre, but which will not be relocating to the new location.

At a public hearing on February 20th, City Council approved the Society's request to rezone the lot at 15625 Stony Plain Road to allow for a 2,000-square-metre medically supported detoxification unit. This will double the floor area used for detox services compared to its current location in McCauley at 100th Street and 105A Avenue.

In a statement to *Boyle McCauley News*, Hunter Baril, Press Secretary of the Minister of Mental Health and Addiction, explained that the Province approved the Society's expansion of its detox program from 31 to 41 beds. As well, the number of residential recovery beds will increase from 10 to 19. In total, 19 new beds will be added.

"An increase in detox and residential treatment services means a different location is needed," Baril said. "This is also in an effort to decentralize services from the downtown core."

During Council's discussion about the Society's rezoning application, Councillor Andrew Knack also ad-



The George Spady Centre in its current location at 10015 105A Avenue. Paula E. Kirman

ressed the need to decentralize social services from the inner city. He said the move would fulfil the City's goal of offering services to address homelessness, mental health, and addictions outside the inner core, where agencies have been clustered for many years.

City Administration supported the rezoning application, while also citing the need to decentralize social services.

Last November, a number of residents and organizations in McCauley and Chinatown opposed The Mus-

tard Seed's rezoning application to develop 124 emergency shelter beds in the former Operation Friendship facility at 9526 106 Avenue. This facility is also owned by the Province. City Council approved this rezoning, which means that 88% of permanent emergency shelter beds in Edmonton are located in McCauley.

On April 8th, the Community and Public Services Committee will be discussing a much-delayed report on the decentralization of social services in the inner city, along with an inventory of services located in McCauley, Boyle Street, and Central McDougall.

A key strategy in *Edmonton's Downtown Core and Transit System Safety Plan*, the City's 2022 report to the Province on safety issues, is that the "Administration will work with community, stakeholders and other orders of government to create a five-year plan to redistribute social services from Chinatown and Downtown to other appropriate areas of the city."

Phil O'Hara lives in McCauley. He was one of the residents who spoke in opposition to The Mustard Seed's rezoning application in November 2023.



Dining Out: Pho Satay & Grill

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MARKING MILESTONES

“If I were to be asked the biggest way we are marking 45 years of publishing, I would respond that it's by still being here.

■ PAGE 3

CULTIVATE THE MILLENNIUM

“Growing ancient trees means growing a community of dedicated, long-term thinkers.

■ PAGE 9

PROBLEM PROPERTY INITIATIVE

“Each organization brings different regulations and enforcement approaches to the initiative's teams.

■ PAGE 11



Memorial March of Edmonton



The annual Memorial March of Edmonton for missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, and gender-diverse people took place on February 14th outside Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples. This year's Memorial March was also in memory of Danielle Boudreau, the founder of the Edmonton march, who died in late 2023. Paula E. Kirman

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Hope Terrace's supportive housing provides permanent housing with wrap-around services for people with FASD and an opportunity to give back.

Twenty-four-hour support staff, specialized peer team, occupational therapist, case managers, and much more help create a strong foundation for folks living at Hope Terrace. Intentionally designed for people with FASD, we take a strengths-based approach to uncover passions and empower residents to discover where they can contribute to their community. Discover more about how permanent supportive housing can improve communities and help end homelessness.



Marking Milestones



PAULA E. KIRMAN • BMC News Staff

MCCAULEY MUSINGS

As many of you already know, **Boyle McCauley News** has been publishing for 45 years. That's quite a milestone, especially considering just a few years ago we were unsure if the paper was going to be able to continue.

We mark milestones in our lives usually through some large act of pomp and circumstance. In my life, "Pomp and Circumstance" was literally played in my presence as I graduated with a Master of Library and Information Studies from the University of Alberta in November. It was an experience I shared with hundreds of others who graduated from various programs, and their loved ones. That collective experi-

ence alone made it a big deal.

As I completed my studies, I also celebrated a milestone birthday, which I consider to be one that ends in a "5" or a "0". I kept things low-key with a small family celebration. After all, it was just about me, and when it comes to birthdays I prefer to keep them on the quiet side.

If I were to be asked the biggest way we are marking 45 years of publishing, I would respond that it's by still being here. Shortly after the start of the pandemic we found ourselves in a financial crisis that threatened the future of the paper. Fortunately, we pulled through, thanks to the efforts of our staff, board, and greater community.

The work and effort it took to save **Boyle McCauley News** reflects the importance this non-profit, independent community newspaper has to its readers and supporters. In celebrating its survival, we also celebrate the dedication of its community. What an incredible milestone. Congratulations, and thank you.

Boyle McCauley News

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

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

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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

The second issue of Volume 45 is in your hands (or on your computer/device screen). Hello, and thank you for taking the time to read the April-May 2024 edition.

If you happen to be reading this on a computer, tablet, or smartphone, please take some time to explore our website (bmcnews.org) and enjoy the web exclusives, archives, and other features. You can also subscribe to our free e-newsletter which is delivered directly to your inbox with each new issue of the paper. We also post links to new features and photos from events in between issues at X (formerly Twitter) at [@bmcnews](https://twitter.com/bmcnews).

Our casino took place on February 28 and 29 and was organized by our Volunteer Coordinator, Colleen Chapman, who tirelessly worked to get positions filled for our biggest fundraising event. Thank you Colleen! As well, thank you to everyone who volunteered to take a shift (or two).

Volunteers are a huge part of **Boyle McCauley News**. Most of the paper's content is written and photographed by volunteers. Volunteers also proofread and deliver the paper. To learn about current volunteer opportunities, drop me a line at editor@bmcnews.org.

Thanks again for reading. Enjoy the issue, and we'll be back in June.

OUR NEXT ISSUE. . .

Volume 45, Issue 3 will be published June 1st, 2024. Articles and photos concerning community news, events, and opinions are welcome. We also accept submissions of poetry and cartoons. Deadline: May 12th, 2024. Send submissions to: editor@bmcnews.org. Articles should be 400 words or less and accompanied by photographs (JPG, in high resolution) whenever possible.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

BOYLE STREET AND MCCAULEY CRIME & SAFETY RESOURCES

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

MLA UPDATE

Looking Ahead

JANIS IRWIN

Dear friends,

As I write this, the days are getting longer, and I am so enjoying the sunshine. And when you read this, I hope we're all the way into spring and enjoying warm weather and green leaves!

Because my letters are due a couple of weeks before they're published in the wonderful *Boyle McCauley News*, writing them is a great exercise in looking ahead. What community events am I looking forward to? What are my hopes for all of us over the next couple of months, and what are some challenges that we may need to address together?

I know that this past winter was tough for so many of our neighbours. During some of the coldest days on record, we saw people scrambling to save their belongings and find safe places to stay. The cost of living has continued to rise, meaning that so many people cannot afford even the basic necessities they need to get by.

I mentioned in my last letter that I know that we have a long way to go, and a lot of work to do, to meet the needs of everyone in our community. We must ensure that we are all able to live safely, that we are all treated with dignity and respect, and that we all have access to community care and support. This is truer than ever.

I also mentioned that, back in December, I had the opportunity to introduce my first private member's bill in the legislature: Bill 205, the Housing Statutes (Housing Security) Amendment Act 2023. This bill includes a proposed four-year cap on rent increases in Alberta, and a requirement for

the provincial government to report to Albertans on how much affordable housing is being built each year. I am pleased to share that this bill will go to debate in the legislature during the second week of March.

As I prepare to debate Bill 205, please know that I'll be thinking of all my constituents, including all of you in Boyle Street and McCauley. I'll be thinking of the heartbreaking stories I've heard about spiking rents, and of folks who have been waiting for years to access safe, affordable housing. I'll urge my colleagues in the legislature to do what's right - to ensure that all of us have steady and secure access to this basic need.

I know that housing is an important piece of making life affordable, but it's not the only piece. So please be assured that my Alberta NDP Caucus colleagues and I will also fight for things like funding for municipal infrastructure, including for the schools and hospitals that our communities desperately need.

I know that we have a lot more work to do together and, as always, I want to hear from you. Please reach out and know that I'm here to listen and to work alongside you as we build a better province for folks in Boyle Street, McCauley, and in communities all across Alberta.

Take good care of yourselves and each other.

*Janis Irwin, MLA for
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Where to Find Boyle McCauley News

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

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

NEWSPAPER BOX LOCATIONS

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

BUSINESSES

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

Sprucewood Library (11555 95 St.)	Tony's Pizza (9605 111 Ave.)
Felice Cafe (10930 84 St.)	Italian Centre (10878 95 St.)
Panini's (8544 Jasper Ave.)	Zocalo (10826 95 St.)
The Moth (9449 Jasper Ave.)	Paper Birch Books (10825 95 St.)
Lucky Supermarket (10725 97 St.)	Van Loc (10648 98 St.)
	Italian Bakery (10644 97 St.)

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Rob's Famous Fried Chicken Opens in Boyle Street

A new venture for the owners of Panini's.

ANITA JENKINS

A takeout and catering outlet that opened on March 1st is the third component of the Caruso family's thriving restaurant business. It joins the two Panini's restaurants: one next door on Jasper Avenue and 85th Street and another in Sherwood Park.

Co-owner Tony Caruso says his brother Rob, the head chef for the company, was often frying chicken at home for family gatherings. "This is so good," people said, nicknaming it "Rob's famous fried chicken." They teased him, saying, "Why don't you serve this at Panini's?" (They know that the Panini's menu is firmly focused on pizza, pasta, and - of course - paninis.)

Then one day the Edgewater building's landlord told Tony and Rob that a space was available next door to the Jasper Avenue Panini's and asked if they wanted to expand. There was a need for storage and a cooler, so a deal was made.

As things progressed, it became apparent that the front part of the newly acquired area was unused. "The rest is history," Tony says. The added space is too small for a sit-down restaurant, but it works fine for takeout, and there is room for what Tony calls a "mighty kitchen."

Rob's father, who was a tile contractor and home builder, took over the construction job. The Carusos have high standards. For example, there are check-board tile floors and a custom railing for customer line-ups. So Tony ended up helping a lot, which meant extremely long days as he has many other duties in the business.



Rob's Famous Fried Chicken. Paula E. Kirman



Inside Rob's Famous Fried Chicken. Paula E. Kirman

Tony says takeout only has proven to be a profitable business model, as "many people prefer to stay home." The Carusos have also found that weddings currently include a late lunch featuring foods like pizza and even donairs. So why not fried chicken? Rob's Famous Fried Chicken also plans to cater to company parties and events.

The manager of this new venture, Reid Wald, has worked at Panini's for the past two years. "Reid has mastered every single station," Tony says. "It is great to have someone so responsible and talented to take over."

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

MP UPDATE

The Canadian Dental Care Plan is Here!

BLAKE DESJARLAIS

No matter how hard it is to pay the bills, people shouldn't be forced to neglect their dental health because of high costs. That's why, for years, the NDP fought to deliver dental care for everyone who needs it. We used our power in this Parliament to force the implementation of a national dental care program for Canadians.

Since December, over 600,000 seniors have already been approved for the Canadian Dental Care Program and 9 million Canadians will be eligible by 2025. This is an important step toward the universal health coverage that Canadians need. It will make life more affordable for families and keep everyone healthier.

Who is eligible?

- Have no access to employer/pension-sponsored or private dental insurance;
- Have an annual adjusted family net income under \$90,000;
- Be a Canadian resident for tax purposes; and
- Have filed their tax return in the previous year.
- NOTE: Canadian residents already covered by provincial, territorial or federal dental programs are eligible for the CDCP.

When can you apply?

- Seniors aged 70+ began receiving a letter inviting them to apply by phone starting in December 2023 through March 2024, in sequence based on age.
- Seniors aged 65-69 will be able

to apply online starting in May 2024.

- People with a Disability Tax Credit certificate and children under 18 will be able to apply online in June 2024.
- Applications for all remaining eligible Canadian residents should start by 2025.

I'm excited to share that I'll be hosting a Dental Care Open House with Norwood Dental on Sunday, April 28th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Alberta Avenue Community League. Childcare will be available from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. Come and learn more about the program, take home some dental swag, and enjoy oral health freebies and education for parents, children, and adults with Dr. William Chin.

For more information on the CDCP or the open house, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office at Blake.Desjarlais@parl.gc.ca or by phone at 780-495-3261, or visit www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/dental/dental-care-plan.html.

Every Canadian deserves health care that covers them from head to toe. That's why the NDP is using our power to secure new investments like dental care, pharmacare, mental health, and more.

Thank you,
Merci,
Hiy Hiy,

Blake Desjarlais
Member of Parliament,
Edmonton Griesbach

Satisfying Our Love of Pho

Low prices; high quantity and quality at Pho Satay & Grill.

DINING OUT

Pho Satay & Grill

9723 106 Avenue NW

Phone: (825) 480-1708

ALAN SCHIETZSCH

With so many dining options in our neighbourhood, restaurants change, yet some things stay the same. So while restaurants come and go, our love of pho (Vietnamese noodle soup) stays the same! In our October-November issue, we covered Delicious Pho, which moved from its old space on 106th Avenue. Now that emptied space has been filled by a new restaurant called Pho Satay & Grill.

The new owners have renovated the space with a clean and modern design using grey wood and black furniture. The look features big wall menus, as well as glossy table menus that offer a broad selection of dishes. There's not only Vietnamese cuisine but also a selection of Thai and Chinese items.

Being a group of four allowed us to try quite a few items, starting with



A table of food at Pho Satay & Grill. Alan Schietzsch

crispy fried coconut shrimp which was a standout appetizer. The six pieces arrived with a creamy dipping sauce and was followed by four salad rolls filled with steamed shrimp and sliced pork and ham. The very meaty salad rolls came with a jumbo-sized bowl of peanut sauce which I especially enjoyed.

Any restaurant with pho in the name is all about the soup, and since this spot offers more than just pho, we gave the wonton soup a try. We didn't

expect how large each of the slightly sweet tasting meat-filled wontons were, and there must have been ten of them. It was certainly a filling meal in itself.

Next up was the #30 pho with flank, brisket, and tendon. If you're hungry, I recommend this one - you'll be very happy with the quantity of meat and noodles. The only surprise was that it didn't come with the bean sprouts and basil that typically accompany most pho soups.

My partner enjoys pho bo kho, a traditional beef stew, so had to try the #49. It arrived with a plentiful, rich, deep red broth, the richness countered by a leaner beef that was well seasoned and slow-cooked.

To experience more than just soups, we also ordered a vermicelli bowl with grilled shrimp skewers, chicken, and spring roll. This was different in that it didn't come with fish sauce that accompanies most Vietnamese bowls, and it might have been the biggest menu item. There was plenty left over for tomorrow's lunch.

No matter what we chose, all the servings were substantial, most dishes being priced between \$14 to \$18, and with the choice of large or small soups. Alongside our meals we enjoyed two iced coffees, as well as a red bean smoothie and an avocado shake. And maybe next time we'll get to explore the Thai items on the menu. This might be a great choice if you're dining with companions who each enjoy different Asian cuisines.

Pho Satay & Grill is open 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Wednesday to Monday. It is closed on Tuesdays.

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

Lunar New Year Celebrations in Chinatown



The Year of the Dragon was welcomed in Chinatown on February 11th with firecrackers, a Dragon Dance, and a Lion Dance. The event was organized by the Chinatown and Area Business Association, City of Edmonton, and Chinatown Transformation Collaborative Society Paula E. Kirman

Together Chinatown Gathers Community



The Edmonton Chinatown Multi-Cultural Centre was packed on February 10th and 11th for the Together Chinatown Art Fair. The two-day event, scheduled to coincide with the Lunar New Year, featured community-minded, BIPOC, marginalized, and emerging artists and micro-businesses, as well as community organizations. The event was organized by a grassroots group of local artists, with sponsorship and support from community organizations and local businesses. For more information, visit www.togetherchinatown.com. Paula E. Kirman

MCCAULEY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

McCauley Cup and Family Day: Annual Community Traditions

CORINE DEMAS

Winter is almost over and our skating season was wonderful, albeit late to start. The McCauley Community League wishes to thank Rink Manager Dan Glugosh and his team for putting in the ice and running the rink.

We held the McCauley Cup later in the season than usual due to the warm weather. On January 27th, Chief of Police Dale McFee played in the game and Mayor Sohi attended, along with our City Councillor, Anne Stevenson. The event was organized by Dan Glugosh and many Edmonton Police Service officers from the Downtown Division. The kids won the game and Mayor Sohi presented the cup to them.

It was a fairly warm and sunny day and the event was well-attended. Folks were treated to doughnuts, sandwiches, coffee, and hot chocolate. The event was funded by the Edmonton Police Foundation and the Oilers Entertainment Group. Sponsors included United Cycle, Sport Central, Italian Centre Shop, Italian Bakery, Tim Hortons, Elite Sports Promotional Marketing, and Oilers Alumni, in addition to the McCauley Community League.



A group photo of participants, organizers, and supporters of the 2024 McCauley Cup. Paula E. Kirman

On February 18th our community celebrated Family Day. More than 200 people came out on a beautiful afternoon to enjoy skating, face-painting, music, food, and more. We couldn't have done it without the help of our volunteers. We would like to thank the following people: Jakki, Leanne, Laurie, Shelly, Roma, Re, Ruth, Maia, Nekoola, and Jackie.

We especially want to thank the

Pagnotta/Mannarino family for providing the most delicious meal of meatballs (so good!), hot dogs, doughnuts, and water. The meal was in memory of long-time McCauley resident Albert Pagnotta.

We are still seeking folks who live in the neighbourhood or own a business here to join our board. If you have an interest in coming to one of our meetings, we meet



Skating at the McCauley Rink during the 2024 Family Day event. Paula E. Kirman

at The Boys and Girls Club on the third Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. (doors at 6:30 p.m.). We meet in the conference room that is accessible by the side door which faces 95th Street. You can ring the bell marked "conference room." We can also be reached at league@mccauleycl.com.

Corine Demas is the President of the McCauley Community League.

Become a Part of Heart of the City 2024

Get ready to showcase your talent and be part of something extraordinary! We're thrilled to announce that artist applications for the Heart of the City Festival, scheduled for June 8th and 9th, are now open. While our festival typically lands on the first weekend of June, this year, due to ongoing construction in Giovanni Caboto Park, we've moved the dates to the following weekend. Whether you're a musician, dancer, visual artist, or another kind of artist or performer, we invite you to join us in making this year's festival an unforgettable experience for all. Don't miss out on this chance to showcase your talent and connect with our diverse audience. Visit our website at heartcityfest.com to access the application form.

Heart of the City's AGM, held at Culina McCauley on February 26th, saw a robust turnout with over 40 community members in attendance. The event served as an inclusive platform for residents, local businesses, and volunteers to gather and reflect on the organization's accomplishments over the past year. Overall, it was a testament to the strength and unity of Heart of the City's mission in fostering a thriving and connected neighbourhood. Heartfelt gratitude goes



Heart of the City's AGM on February 26th had over 40 people in attendance. Paula E. Kirman

out to the staff at Culina McCauley for their invaluable support and warm hospitality during the AGM. Their dedication and assistance played a pivotal role in ensuring the success of the event, creating a welcoming atmosphere that facilitated meaningful connections and fruitful discussions among attendees. We extend our sincere appreciation for their hard work and commitment to serving our community, and we look forward to continued collaboration in the future.

We're also excited to introduce the newly implemented - and free - Heart of the City (HOTC) membership program, designed to bring our com-

munity even closer together. With a HOTC membership, individuals gain exclusive access to workshops, events, and up-to-date information on society happenings. This initiative aims to provide members with enriching experiences, opportunities for personal and professional growth, and a deeper connection to our vibrant community. You can now become a member of HOTC by signing up on our website. Simply visit heartcityfest.com to register and become a part of our vibrant community.

Information provided by Heart of the City.

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Boyle Street and McCauley Neighbourhood Renewal

Construction is about to begin!

Neighbourhood Renewal construction work is coming in Boyle Street and McCauley in the first week of May 2024, weather permitting. Watch your mailbox for details.

The construction work consists of:

- + Removal and replacement of public sidewalks
- + New street lighting
- + Reconstruction and paving of the roads
- + Landscaping restoration (including sod)
- + Work in parks and public spaces

Please visit the project web page to view the Neighbourhood Renewal Final Design booklet for details on all of the changes coming to Boyle Street and McCauley.



For more information on construction in your neighbourhood, and to sign up for project updates, visit us online at edmonton.ca/BuildingBoyleStreetandMcCauley.

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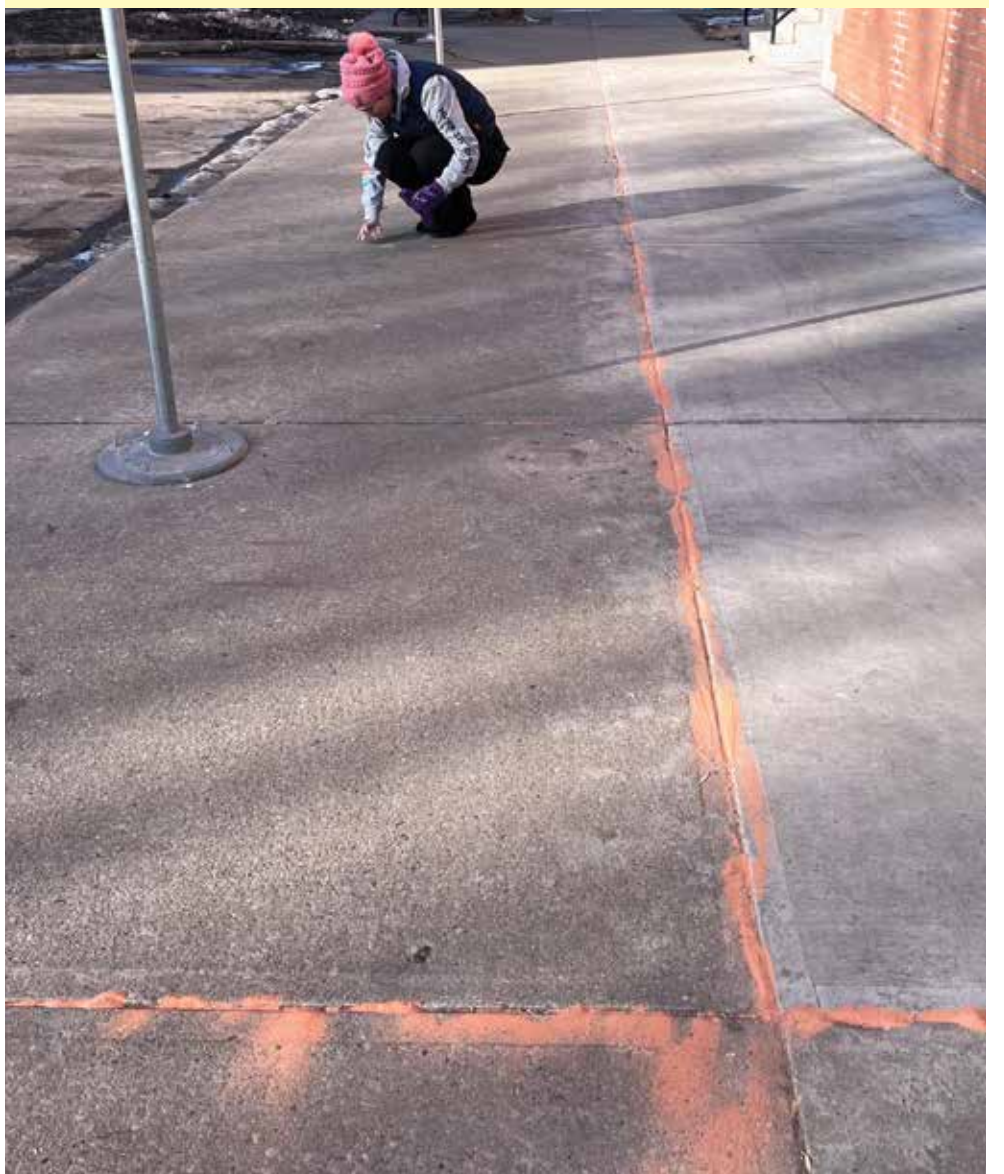
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Red Sand Prayer Ceremony



February 22nd was the National Human Trafficking Awareness Day in Canada. A small group marked the date with a Red Sand prayer ceremony in front of Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples. The ceremony concluded with the spreading of red sand in sidewalk cracks. Organizers explained that the red sand symbolized people who have fallen through the cracks in society, as well as Jesus' sacrifice. Paula E. Kirman

EDMONTON INTERCULTURAL CENTRE

Multicultural Health Brokers Cooperative (MCHB)

Supporting newcomers to Edmonton.

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

Multicultural Health Brokers Cooperative (MCHB) merged out of a public health initiative to enhance maternal and infant health within immigrant and refugee communities. Since 1995, MCHB has supported immigrant, refugee, and other newcomer families isolated because of cultural and linguistic distance.

What is a Multicultural Health Broker? A Multicultural Health Broker is a bilingual and bicultural community health worker who practices "cultural brokering" and is often a member of the community they serve. The practice of cultural brokering is an intentional act of linking, bridging, and mediating between our families or communities with formal systems for the purposes of reducing conflict and creating change.

MCHB is an award-winning cooperative recognized for its services to communities by Public Interest Alberta, the Alberta College of Social Workers, the Canadian Worker Co-operative Federation, Capital Health, and the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers.

MCHB is dedicated to fostering reciprocal exchange, mutual transformation, and equitable relationships. These are values that resonate throughout their diverse range of programs and services, such as the "First Step to Integra-

tion" initiative, a cornerstone of the English for Employment program launched in September 2016. This program has successfully assisted more than 190 newcomer students in acquiring training and securing meaningful employment in Canada. It not only imparts essential linguistic skills, but also aids participants in navigating and seamlessly adjusting to the intricacies of Canadian work culture. MCHB recognizes the importance of embracing multicultural perspectives as a means to enrich communities and fortify the fabric of society.

Other programs and services include Perinatal Health Outreach, Multicultural Family Connections, Family Support for Children with Disabilities, Food Dignity Program (such as the MCHB Grocery Run), Mental Health Counselling and Therapy, and more.

MCHB has more than 100 multilingual community health workers of diverse cultural backgrounds. They serve families within 25 local communities including Arabic-speaking, Bhutanese, Chinese, English-speaking African, Eritrean, Ethiopian, Filipino-speaking, South Asian, Somali, Spanish-speaking, Sudanese, Turkish, and Vietnamese, all working to deliver MCHB's programs and services in the first language at no cost to the individual or family.

For more information, please visit MCHB's website at www.mchb.org or call 780-423-1973.

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

Cultivate the Millennium

Growing an ancient tree in each community.

Imagine a future Edmonton where community groups tend and celebrate thousand-year-old trees. What would these ancient trees tell us about our past and our responsibility to the future? A group of Edmontonians calling ourselves the Secret LongTree Society have an ambitious plan to answer these questions and make this vision a reality.

More Abundant Futures

What does it mean to be a good ancestor? We have one past, one present, and many potential futures. Unfortunately, our cultural narrative has turned dystopian. From post-apocalyptic blockbusters to 24-hour news coverage, the future feels less certain than ever. Planting thousand-year-old trees challenges our narrative by suggesting that the future could be more abundant.

Growing ancient trees means growing a community of dedicated, long-term thinkers. What better place to start than planting thousand-year-old trees in each Edmonton community league? Leagues are community-led organizations that often have access to centrally located green spaces, making them a natural fit for the planting and care of neighbourhood trees. That is why we're searching for interested leagues and reaching out to community members to get involved in the project.

The Secret LongTree Society is a volunteer group of Edmontonians dedicated to propagating, planting, and tending better futures. You can learn more about us, get involved, and steward a LongTree in your community by visiting publicecology.com/longtrees.

Information submitted by the Secret LongTree Society.

Join the Secret LongTree Society



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CHURCH AND AGENCY SERVICES

ANSGAR DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

BISSELL CENTRE

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

RADIUS COMMUNITY HEALTH AND HEALING (Formerly Boyle McCauley Health Centre)

10628 - 96 Street
Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Dental: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Streetworks during clinic hours.

INNER CITY PASTORAL MINISTRY

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

THE ROCK OUTREACH

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

THE SALVATION ARMY

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

THE MUSTARD SEED

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

HOPE MISSION

9908 106 Avenue
(780) 422-2018
HOPE MISSION MEALS:
Monday - Friday
Breakfast 7:30 - 8:15 a.m.
Lunch 12:00 - 12:45 p.m.
Supper 5:00 - 5:45 p.m.
Weekends & Holidays
Brunch 10:45 am - 11:30 a.m.
Supper 4:15 - 5:00 p.m.

HOPE MISSION SHELTER:

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

HOPE MISSION COMMUNITY CHURCH:

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

HOPE MISSION HEALTH CLINIC:

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

NICOTINE ANONYMOUS

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

SACRED HEART CHURCH OF THE FIRST PEOPLES

Address: 10821-96 Street NW, Edmonton, Alberta, T5H 2J8, and Tel: (780) 422-3052.
Daily Mass:
Monday to Thursday and Saturday: 9 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples.
Friday evening at 7 p.m. Holy Mass and Adoration
Sunday Masses:
Sunday: 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 7:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples. All are welcome.
For more information, please view our weekly bulletin, our webpage, and our Sacred Heart Facebook.

THE LEARNING CENTRE LITERACY ASSOCIATION

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

NETWORKS ACTIVITY CENTRE

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

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME TO JOIN MCCAULEY CLUB.

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

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

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

BUILDING BRIDGES

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

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

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

CHILD AND YOUTH PROGRAMS

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

DROP-IN GYM

YMCA Boyle Street Plaza
9538-103A Avenue
Drop-In Fee: \$6

Badminton (ages 16+):

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

Pickleball (ages 16+):

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

Basketball (ages 16+):

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

YOUTH TRANSITIONS PROGRAM REC NIGHT

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

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

FREE GUITAR LESSONS

Tuesdays at 8 p.m. with Steven Johnson. Location: Boys and Girls Club (9425 109A Avenue). Bring your own guitar. Sponsored by the McCauley Community League.

DIRTY CARS NO MORE

Dirty car or filthy work truck? NINJATEC DETAILING is my small business and I can detail your vehicles either at home in the Boyle Street/McCauley area or out of my garage in the west end. Prices are about half of what you'd pay at those "other" shops, and I'm a lot more picky and thorough than they are because I do it the old fashioned hotrod way...BY HAND!! (780) 566-2871 NINJATEC DETAILING - Make sure you check out my Facebook page!

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BOYLE STREET AND MCCAULEY RESIDENTS GET FREE CLASSIFIED ADS!

Email five lines or less to editor@bmcnews.org



Gardening Opportunities!

- Neighbourhood Community Garden at Alex Taylor School (9321 Jasper Ave.) has plots available for \$15 or pay what you can. All tools and equipment available on-site. Registrations open until April 30 or all plots booked.
- Shared Garden at Alex Taylor School: Short on time but like to get your hands in the soil when you can? Participate in the communal garden at Alex Taylor School and share in the harvest.
- Contact: Kathryn at 780-964-3444 or krambow@e4calberta.org

Drop-In Soccer

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

WECAN Food Co-operative

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

Please visit our Facebook page

@e4cwellness for information on FREE sessions and groups, open to all. Contact Kathryn or Mike at the e4c McCauley office at 780-424-2870, or email

krambow@e4calberta.org

or

msiek@e4calberta.org

Edmonton's Problem Property Initiative Expands Derelict Building Demolitions

Residents of a central Edmonton community say they are feeling safer now that a long-standing derelict property has been demolished and the lot cleared of debris thanks to Edmonton's Problem Property Initiative (PPI).

"The house was always derelict and falling apart and it just got worse and worse," says Jeremiah Valleau, who also expressed feeling anxious for his personal safety living next to the Parkdale property since 2015. "The roof caved in. I'm sure it was full of mould and, for whatever reason, no one was willing to take care of the property. Living next to it, I noticed myself feeling a lot of anxiety. Fire was always a big fear. I was always worried about someone starting a fire. It was two metres away from my house and the main exit for my basement renters."

Demolition of the derelict home, which included removing the structure, cleaning debris, and returning the property to level grade, took crews approximately one week.

John Bale, Operational Supervisor of Safety Codes Compliance who led the demolition project team with the City of Edmonton, says it's all about engaging with communities and keeping neighbourhoods safe. "Our primary focus is on public safety and the well being of communities. Derelict properties are very unsafe structurally, but they also

attract unwanted activity like illegal dumping and squatting which can lead to fire related issues."

The Problem Property Initiative coordinates the efforts of multiple City departments, the Edmonton Police Services, Alberta Health Services, and the Government of Alberta to address the issues associated with problem properties. Each organization brings different regulations and enforcement approaches to the initiative's teams.

One key team in the initiative - the Demolition Assessment and Response Committee, or "DARC" - is leading the City's approach to the demolition of larger unsafe structures.

DARC combines the regulations and enforcement approaches of four different City areas: Community Standards & Neighbourhoods, Fire Rescue Services, Legal Services, and Safety Codes. The committee identifies and prioritizes properties for demolition and uses the most effective legislation available to expedite demolitions where required.

The recent demolition in Parkdale was DARC's first large-scale project. The property had caused considerable concern for neighbours, repeated calls for service, and had been dealt with by various PPI partners for several years. Ultimately, it was identified by DARC as unsafe



Before a demolition coordinated by DARC in Parkdale. Supplied by the City of Edmonton



After a demolition coordinated by DARC in Parkdale. Supplied by the City of Edmonton

to the surrounding community. And in December 2023, DARC, led by Safety Codes, demolished the house and backfilled the basement with dirt.

After years of such dealings, residents like Jeremiah Valleau are happy that something could finally be done.

"For a long time it felt like the City wasn't able to do anything about these properties," he said. "It's good to know that's changed. And it's good to know someone's listening. The demolition company did a good job. Everyone in the neighbourhood was so happy to see the fences go up and the house come down. It was a glorious day. It was a joy to watch it come down."

The property is surrounded by other residential properties and having this derelict structure removed has improved the safety of the surrounding community.

In all cases where the Problem Property Initiative facilitates the demolition of unsafe buildings, the costs incurred by the City are transferred to the property owner.

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

Information provided by the City of Edmonton.

UPDATE FROM CITY COUNCIL

Indoor Activities in the Area

ANNE STEVENSON

Greetings everyone!

I hope you are enjoying the lengthening days and promise of warmer weather ahead - I know I am. As we switch from one season to another, there can be a gap where there isn't enough snow and ice for winter fun, but it's still not warm enough for summer activities. This makes it a perfect time to turn to some of the great indoor activities there are to enjoy around the ward.

Journey of the Horse is a new installation that showcases the life of the Chinese community that has been so crucial to our city's history. The thoughtful displays offer a glimpse into Edmonton's past and also the resiliency and strength of our whole community. I'm so impressed by the volunteers at the Mah Society who made this exhibit a

reality and I encourage you to check it out at 9643 101A Avenue. For information on dates and times of public tours, visit journeyofthehorseeyeg.wixsite.com/home.

While you're in the neighbourhood, you can also visit the incredible Ociciwan Contemporary Art Centre located at 10124 96th Street. This beautiful gallery showcases contemporary Indigenous artists. The Centre is open Wednesdays to Saturdays from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

In addition to these local gems, there are also great opportunities nearby. Did you know the Alberta Art Gallery offers free admission on the last Thursday of every month, from 4-7 p.m.? Take advantage and go check out their wonderful exhibitions, like *Tom Thomson: North Star* (until May 26th), and *Dwayne Martineau: Boreal Fortress* (un-

til August 4th). The Royal Alberta Museum also offers free admission to all seniors during Seniors' Week in June. Plan a trip and check out their special exhibit, *Angkor: The Lost Empire of Cambodia*, until July 28th.

Don't forget other great public indoor amenities like the Stanley Milner Library and Commonwealth Recreation Centre. Whether you want to get active in the pool or the gym, or relax with a good book or enjoy a free movie screening, these facilities have you covered.

While there are so many great places to enjoy in our neighbourhoods, what truly makes it fantastic is all of you: the people who make it a community. I'm grateful to everyone who has taken the time to reach out or say hello in recent months. It's always a delight to connect with you so please never hesitate to connect with my office, and don't for-



Sue Mah, one of the curators of *Journey of the Horse*, with the poster at the start of the exhibit. Paula E. Kirman

get that 311 is there to help too. Thank you for reading and happy spring!

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

HEART OF THE CITY FESTIVAL SOCIETY ARTIST PROFILE SERIES

Mike Tulley: "In the arts community the rewards are other than money."

CORINE DEMAS

Mike Tulley and I sat down for coffee and a chat at Spinelli's in Little Italy.

"I've been doing sound and helping with production for Heart of the City since the beginning," he says. "I came in right from the start as a sound technician [with] my previous company, which we named after my initials, MKT Systems. We were cheap but it was not volunteer work."

He continues: "Heart of the City is a great little festival for introducing new performers to the world. Every year there are performers for whom Heart of the City is their first time on stage in front of an audience and they are terribly nervous but sometimes it's still a great performance."

When I asked Mike what has kept him going all these years, he responded: "Partly the fun, partly because I live in the neighbourhood. I've recently moved north to Alberta Avenue, but for most of the time of the Heart of the City Festival I lived in either Boyle Street or McCauley."

Mike has officially retired but you can still catch him occasionally doing sound with Listen Louder Productions. He also mentors emerging sound



Mike Tulley. Paula E. Kirman

techs. "The CO*LAB inner city venue is a place not only for emerging artists to perform, but for emerging techs to improve their skills and so we are getting young techs coming from MacEwan University helping us and improving their real world skills by working in a real world venue," Mike says.

Mike shared the good news that "CO*LAB, as a venue, is going to pull through." He said that many people made calls to the City and that our City councillor, Anne Stevenson, has been very helpful in saving the inner city venue.

Mike has been living in Edmonton, aside from one year in Toronto, since April Fools' Day (April 1st) of 1970. "I didn't actually pick that day consciously, but I needed to get out of the United States in a hurry because the U.S. Army had found out where I was living."

Mike is an American citizen who fled

to Canada so that he would not be sent to war in Vietnam. I asked him if we could keep this on the record and he said, "At my age I don't think they want me back."

He explains that he chooses to live in the inner city mostly for financial reasons. "Let's face it: this is the least expensive place to rent a home in the city. When you're supporting the arts, the paycheque is not great."

However, Mike also adds that, "In the arts community the rewards are other than money. The artists have always found cheaper places to live. What's right about this [area] is that we have a lot of artistic and creative people here. I think that among people who are poor there is a better sense of mutual support."

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

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