

Your Community Newsletter since 2005

Suburban Journal





Community and Residents Associations

Rocky Ridge Royal Oak Community Association

403-879-2820 • communications@rrroca.org • www.rrroca.org

Rocky Ridge Ranch Homeowners Association

10709 Rocky Ridge Blvd NW Calgary, AB T3G 4G1 403-547-6633 • officeadmin@rrrha.ca • www.rrrha.ca

Royal Oak Estates Homeowners Association

info@roeha.ca • www.roeha.ca

The Cascades in Royal Oak Residents Association

Email: contact@cascadesroyaloak.com Website: cascadesroyaloak.com

Elected Officials

Ward 1 Councillor: Sonya Sharp

403-268-2430 ward1@calgary.ca

MLA: Sonya Savage 403-297-7104 calgary.northwest@assembly.ab.ca

MP: Pat Kelly, Calgary Rocky Ridge

403-282-7980 pat.kelly@parl.gc.ca

Editor & Article Submissionseditor@suburbanjournals.ca Submission deadlines for this monthly publication are the 10th of the month, prior to the distribution month.

Advertising Sales:

Phil: 403-660-7324phil@suburbanjournals.ca
The ad booking deadline is the 14th of the month prior to the distribution month.

This publication is published 12 times a year by Suburban Journals Publishing and delivered to residents by Canada Post. This publication is also available for pickup from local retail outlets. Please note: the information and opinions in this newsletter are subject to change, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the publisher or editor. Content contained in this publication may not be reproduced without the written consent of Suburban Journals Publishing. The information herein is believed accurate but not warranted so. Any advertisements, home businesses, babysitters & nannies, or other parties listed in the Rocky Ridge Royal Oak View should not be interpreted as recommendations or endorsements by the editor or the publisher.



Suburban Journals

make an impression

Suburban Journals publishes community newsletters for:

Bearspaw, Rocky Ridge / Royal Oak, Scenic Acres, Silver Springs, Tuscany, Valley Ridge, Varsity in the NW; Skyview Ranch (including Redstone) in the NE

For the best return on your advertising dollar, call Phil today at 403-660-7324 or email Phil@SuburbanJournals.ca

www.SuburbanJournals.ca



Councillor Report

Hello Ward 1! Here's the latest on what's happening in your community and at City Hall:

Residential parking permit changes

A reminder that the Calgary Parking Authority is introducing fees for residential parking permits beginning this spring. The fees have been set on a cost-recovery basis in order to maintain the long-term sustainability of residential parking enforcement and encourage the use of off-street parking options.

Permit-required zones will not be expanding as a result of this change. Visit calgary.ca/rpp to learn more.

Transit safety and community safety

I continue to watch the situation on Transit and in our communities closely. We are now starting to see the results of Council's increased investments, including infrastructure upgrades and the hiring of more personnel. Our work is far from over, though: I will continue to seek more action until we see this problem resolved.

Improvements to Public Hearings

Calgarians have the chance to speak directly to Council during Public Hearings (usually on land use items) and at Standing Policy Committee meetings on a variety of issues. The City has recently made improvements to make these meetings more accessible to everyone. Learn more about how to have your voice heard at calgary.ca/publichearings.

Neighbour Day

Neighbour Day is coming up on Saturday, June 17! Consider hosting or visiting a Neighbour Day party for some family fun and a chance to connect with your neighbours. The City has a number of resources for a successful event at calgary.ca/neighbourday.

Calgary Transit news

Calgary Transit now offers a weekend group day pass, making it easier to use Transit for weekend events and activities. For \$15, groups of up to 5 people (including 2 adults) can ride all day.

Calgary Transit has also increased the number of nonreserved parking stalls at CTrain stations to make Parkand-Ride an easier option for more people.

Visit calgarytransit.com to learn more about these changes.

Sonya Sharp, Councillor, Ward 1

THE ROCKY RIDGE & ROYAL OAK VIEW MAY 2023



Volunteer Corner

Volunteer from Home

Volunteers are always important to RRROCA as we work to make Royal Oak & Rocky Ridge an even better community. Thankfully, most of the work required can be done from your home. So if you are interested in living in a great community, and can spare a few hours in a month, please consider volunteering for RRROCA!





In addition to making an impact, you will certainly learn new skills, gain valuable volunteer experience and

meet more neighbours. Please email volunteer@rrroca. org if you are interested in the following positions or have any questions about volunteering with RRROCA. Please check out our website at www.rrroca.org for all volunteer opportunities.

Programs Chair(s), and Lead(s) [CRITICAL]

The Programs team provides opportunities for the communities' diverse residents to participate in various programming and activities. The team will develop, implement and evaluate programs and activities in the community, coordinate and oversee the annual spring youth sports program (i.e. soccer, tball), and look for opportunities to expand programming (learn to skate, basketball, field hockey, etc). Planning for 2022 spring sports needs to begin immediately, if you believe you can assist, please reach out ASAP.

Time Commitment: Minimum 10 hours/month, will vary based on scheduled programming

Sponsorship Chair

This role works to help establish connections and fosters relationships with businesses and organizations in the community. By developing sponsorship opportunities that support Community Association events, programming and initiatives, and searching out partners in the community to fund or support these, the Sponsorship Chair is integral in providing services to residents, and connecting businesses to residents.

Time commitment: 10-20 hours/month

Membership Chair

The Membership Chair promotes, encourages and sees to administration tasks associated with managing the members of the Community Association. The Chair also explores and works with other committees to implement opportunities of benefits for membership.

Time commitment: Approx 10 hours a month

Safety & Security Chair

The Safety & Security Chair educates and liaises with the community to reduce crime, promote awareness of safety-oriented initiatives, helps to identify needs of the community and work to solve or educate residents in order to encourage behaviours to ensure safety and security. Time commitment: 8-10 hours a month

Events Lead

With direction from the Events Chair, an Event Lead helps to execute specific events, from the planning stage to the wrap up.

Time commitment: Approximately 2-5 hours/month (not including event attendance)

Did You Know?

Volunteering for RRROCA as a Board or a Committee member will:

- 1. gain valuable volunteering experience and essential work skills:
- 2. know the first-hand community news;
- 3. get the RRROCA membership (\$30) or one sport registration for free (~\$50 or \$65) annually;
- 4. the most important: help us to build a thriving community

DID YOU KNOW?

RRROCA has partnered with local businesses to bring product/services discounts to their members.

The list continues to grow Check

The list continues to grow. Check out current discounts here:

https://rrroca.org/en/businesses_d

iscount/



RRROCA VIEW

Do You Have Your RRROCA Membership?

In addition to the benefits listed below, 100% of

membership fees go directly into program and resources funding, and future facilities development. The greater our membership base, the more funds



we will have for projects, programs, and initiatives! We need your help with funds to continue dealing with municipal and provincial issues that affect your daily life.

Please visit our membership page at rrroca.org to sign up for a membership, or email membership@rrroca.org if you have any questions.

Benefits of RRROCA Membership

Here are some of the current benefits of RRROCA membership, please visit our website regularly for updates.

- Access to RRROCA's Babysitter Registry
- Register for community events and programs such as spring sports programs for children, parade of garage sales, etc. winning one of ten \$100 to hold block parties on Neighbour Day, etc.
- Borrow materials for hosting your own block party
- Purchase discounted tickets or enter draws as available annually
- Receive free pancake breakfast at annual Stampede Breakfast event
- Provide recreational insurance at Sports Program offered by RRROCA
- Accepted by Calgary West Soccer for their program registration
- Receive product and services discounts at participating local businesses (Membership Perks). Visit our website at www.rrroca.org to review the active offerings. **

We are continuously working to expand our Membership Perks Program. If you are a business owner who would like to provide product and/or services discounts to RRROCA members, please contact our membership team at membership@rrroca.org.

RRROCA Membership Registration
One Membership per household; valid January 1 to December 31 annually.
\$30 New membership Membership Renewal
Your personal information will be used for Association purposes only and will never be given to third parties.
Last Name:
First Name:
Address:
Postal Code: Phone #:
Email*:
* Please note e-mail is used to communicate your membership number. If you choose "No" for updates below, the e-mail will be on file but won't be included in our news mailing list.
Would you like RRROCA news and updates by email? Yes No
Send form and cheque to: RRROCA Membership P.O. Box 91009, RPO Royal Oak Calgary, AB T3G 5W6

Important Phone Numbers

If you require emergency supports to meet basic needs, income support is available 24-7.

• Income Support Contact Centre: 1-866-644-5135

For anyone facing family violence, bullying or abuse, the following resources are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in more than 170 languages:

- Family Violence Info Line: 310-1818
- Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-387-KIDS (5437)
- Bullying Helpline: 1-888-456-2323

Help is also available 24-7 for anyone dealing with mental health challenges.

• Mental Health Helpline: 1-877-303-2642

You can also contact the Alberta Supports Contact Centre at 1-877-644-9992 (toll free) for information regarding AISH, Child Care Subsidy, Disability Supports, Financial Supports, Health Benefits, Career Information, Seniors Benefits, Public Guardian/Trustee.



St. Sylvester School News

St. Sylvester Elementary School is still open for 2023 enrollment into their French Immersion School. Deciding on your child's educational path can be stressful but we at St. Sylvester hope that you will choose our local NW Calgary Catholic French Immersion school. We invite you to visit us on location to learn more about our community and culture.

St. Sylvester Kindergarten registration is open - we offer Kindergarten AM, PM, and Grades 1-6 programs. Kindergartners will have access to free bus transportation. Childcare may be needed for your family and there is a licensed childcare provider located within our school. Parents can send their child to school in the morning or afternoon and will have reciprocating childcare all in the same building. Contact the school for complete details and the fee schedule.

St. Sylvester School, 7318 Silver Springs Blvd NW, Calgary, AB T3B 4N1, Tel: 403-500-2063

Child Writers Wanted!

Do you have a child or teen at home who enjoys writing? Would they like to share this passion in the community newsletter? Perhaps a teen who is studying journalism, or simply loves to write



7

in general. Did you know that RRROCA has a number of teens volunteering within our committees today? It is such a great experience for all involved and we'd love to get more youth engaged. If this is something of interest for your child, please reach out to the Communications team at communications@rrroca.org.

Want to receive emails about any volunteer opportunities for the community association?

Please email volunteerlead@rrroca.org to sign up.



www.SuburbanJournals.ca

THE ROCKY RIDGE & ROYAL OAK VIEW MAY 2023



ROCKY RIDGE RANCH HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

RRRHA HAS A NEW GENERAL MANAGER!

Mary Nelson, the RRRHA Board President is pleased to announce that after an extensive search, Erika Rodriguez has accepted the position of our new Operations Manager. Erika is looking forward to working in the RRRHA office meeting with HOA members and being a part of the Rocky Ridge community. The Board extends a warm welcome to Erika!

SPRING YOUTH MARKET AND USED KIDS TOY AND CLOTHING SALE

Calling all youth makers and entrepreneurs! Don't forget about the upcoming youth market at the Ranch Centre on Saturday, May 13th! It's a great opportunity to let our community know about and purchase the goods and services from local young makers. We've had some fantastic booths in the past; knitted items, artwork and jewellery just to name a few. The event runs from 9:30am-12:30pm and will feature youth entrepreneurs (aged 14 and younger). The cost to register is only \$5 for a space in the upper hall and the vendor will need a consent form from a parent/guardian, proof of age and a description what is being sold.

Alternatively, if you would like a table to sell your used kids' clothing and toys, the registration fee is \$30 for a space in the upper hall and \$25 for a space in the lower

hall. You can sign up in person at the Office but spaces are first come, first served so don't delay—register today!

This event is not just for HOA members; anyone in Rocky Ridge and Royal Oak can sign up so spread the word.

GETTING IN TOUCH

The Board of Directors has noted the need for increased communication between the HOA staff, board, and membership. Progress has already been made but there is lots more work to be done. Stay tuned for periodic "e-newsletters" that will convey timely information to those members who have an email address on file with the office. The website will also be refreshed and the use of social media platforms will be increased in order to provide the greatest flexibility for members to contact the office and board (and vice-versa). If you have any comments or suggestions about communication or any other issues you feel which need to be addressed please feel free to let the board and office know.

Stay tuned for our next in-person Meet and Greet in May. The date and time have yet to be confirmed. For this session, RRRHA members are invited to share their thoughts on what programs, activities, and events they would like to see at the Ranch Centre and how the building can be best used as a community hub.

LOOKING AHEAD - SPLASH PARK OPENING

Now that the weather is getting nicer, the RRRHA maintenance staff are getting ready to open our park area for the season. RRRHA gets asked every year about the opening dates and the staff and board ask for your patience. We have a tentative opening date in June but this depends on the weather being consistently nice enough to fill the pool, add the chemicals and get the inspection and final sign-off from Alberta Health Services. Until we get the "go ahead" from AHS, the pool is unable to be opened. Thank you for your understanding and as soon as there is a firm opening date, this information will be passed on.

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY OVERFLOW SHELF

For the past several years, the bookshelf just inside the Ranch Centre doors has served as a convenient drop-off point for large donations of books to fill the community Little Free Libraries. The Ranch Centre generously donated the space for it--and, just like the LFLs—the shelf has been popular and well-used. However, the decision was recently made to permanently remove the shelf due

RRROCA VIEW

to congestion in the small entryway and the intention of "sprucing up" the office. It has now gone from the foyer and the remaining books will be circulated into the Little Free Libraries. The staff asks that books are no longer dropped off here and instead placed directly into the Little Free Libraries.

EASTER PARTY SUCCESS

The weather was chilly and cloudy but the mood at the Ranch Centre was bright and cheery as 100 children and their families enjoyed an afternoon of Easter-themed crafts, activities, and snacks to celebrate the season. There was lots of laughter and good conversation. A very special thank you goes to the VIP guest The Easter Bunny who mingled with all the guests. Thanks also goes out to all the staff and volunteers who worked very hard to make this event memorable.

CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

There is an old, inactive Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/pages/Rocky-Ridge-Ranch-Centre/204685879562836 and there is no longer any active administrator on there. The RRRHA board and staff do not contribute to or monitor the page and we ask that if you have "liked" it, please remove yourself from there and join our current and active Facebook group at https://www.facebook.com/groups/rrrha.ca. If you are on Facebook, please join it! It's a great way to find out what's happening in our community and contribute to the discussion to comment on life in Rocky Ridge and share photographs of our amazing scenery and wildlife.







www.SuburbanJournals.ca

THE ROCKY RIDGE & ROYAL OAK VIEW MAY 2023

Love Where You Live: Host a Block Party!

Summer is almost here! What better way to kick off the season than to host a block party? Whether you want to get to know your neighbours, celebrate your community, discover something new about the area or just have a good time, look no further!

There is no better way to get to know your neighbours than to have a block party. Neighbourhood block parties can develop relationships among neighbours, which creates a strong sense of community and a safer place to live. Block parties provide an opportunity for neighbourhood residents to get to know one another, have some fun and mingle! A connected neighbourhood can create a sense of pride, safety and cohesion for all who live there. Neighbours who know each other can look out for one another and create a safer community.

A block party isn't just about gathering people together on a street; it's about bringing a community together. Block parties offer the rare opportunity to bring a sense of small-town life into Calgary. Block parties don't have to happen on a road or a street, they can happen anywhere that brings neighbours together.

Let us help you throw the best block party that Calgary's ever seen! All you'll need to do is follow these steps:

- 1. Put together your party planning committee. It may seem like a daunting task, but planning a block party is easier that it seems –especially with a good group of neighbours working together! It's best to begin this step at least two months before the date of your event to leave time for planning, petitioning and permits.
- **2.** As soon as possible, get out there and get your petition signed by all affected neighbours! This is an important step that must be completed early in the process. The following information should be indicated on the petition:
 - a. Date of the party/activity.
 - b. Address of the party/activity.
 - c. Names and addresses of all affected residents within the block area.
 - d. One adult signature from each household either accepting or rejecting the block party/street activity. If rejected, obtain a brief statement explaining why so that consideration may be given by approving authorities on the applicant's request.
 - e. Whether the resident owns or rents the property within the block area.
 - f. Home and business telephone number of the applicant.

g. Map showing closure of road for the block party/activity.

3. Apply for a *Block Party & Play Street Permit* with the City of Calgary.

Cost: FREE

Timeline: Minimum of 15 business days with completed petition

Visit www.calgary.ca to learn more about regulations, requirements and how to apply!

- 4. Put your idea together Think of the fun different things you can do! Your block party could follow any number of themes: a BBQ, potluck, catered meal, picnic, garden tour, cultural gathering, water park or historical walk. Will you have games? Live music? An outdoor movie? A talent show? The options are endless for what a block party could be Have fun with mixing and matching ideas!
- **5. Let's talk logistics!** A crucial step in bringing your block party to life is planning the logistics. Here are a few things for you to think about:
- Parties cost money! How are you planning to pay for your block party? Neighbours can chip in for the party, but also consider reaching out for donations/ sponsorships from local companies to cut costs on food and entertainment! Be sure to check for any grants or funding opportunities you may be eligible for. Otherwise, you could hold a local bottle drive or a community garage sale to help fundraise for your block party!
- Will you need tables/seating? Volunteer supervisors? Decorations? Equipment? A rain-out option? What is your plan for food & drinks?
- 6. Promote your party! Let's talk promotion after all, you want people to show up! Chances are, your neighbours were made aware of the party when you petitioned to them earlier. But have you updated them with a date, time and location? Consider making a flyer to pass around door-to-door! Social media is also a great free tool to spread the word. Consider partnering up with your local Community Association to help spread the word! They might also have some resources or tips & tricks to help you throw the best block party possible. **Note that some grants require partnership with insured organizations (e.g., community associations) to receive funding.

7. HAVE FUN!

A message from the Federation of Calgary Communities

THE ROCKY RIDGE & ROYAL OAK VIEW MAY 2023 1

Park Cart Smart

When you set out your blue, green and black carts properly, you're helping to ensure safe and efficient operation of The City's waste collection trucks. That includes how you park on the street outside your home, especially in cul-de-sacs. A few simple reminders will help make everyone's day go smoothly:

- Parking in a cul-de-sac: All vehicles must be parallel parked with passenger side wheels to the curb, unless there are signs permitting angle parking. This helps collection trucks reach your carts and turn around in a cul-de-sac.
- Place your carts on flat ground, one metre away from your vehicle if parked on the street.
- Improperly parked vehicles block driveways for residents and restrict access for emergency and waste management vehicles.
- Parking in an alley: Do not block the end of a closed alley with parked vehicles. Collection trucks need space



to turn around safely.

These simple but important steps help ensure safe and efficient cart collection. Learn more at calgary.ca/cartplacement.

City of Calgary



www.SuburbanJournals.ca



Calgary's Birding Heritage

World Migratory Bird Day is celebrated on the second Saturday of May across North America. With over 200 bird species living in or visiting Calgary throughout the year, birds have been an integral part of the region's heritage since human habitation of Moh'kinsstis.

Certainly, the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary comes to mind. Colonel James Walker homesteaded the area in 1883. In 1929, his son, Selby, successfully applied to designate the area a federal migratory bird sanctuary given the variety of species found year-round. It was the first natural area protected in Calgary and has been managed by the City since 1970. Wetland restoration and the building of the Nature Centre took place in 1996. Soon, the area will become part of Bend in the Bow Park, which will connect the Sanctuary to Pearce Estate Park.

Pearce Estate was founded by William Pearce, a federal civil servant who helped survey Red Deer and the international boundary. In 1884, he moved to Calgary to become Superintendent of Mines and built a sandstone house in 1889 (it was torn down in 1957). On the Estate, Pearce experimented with urban forestry and river weirs, and promoted irrigation for agriculture. In 1929, he donated land to the City, where nature interpretation facilities continue to explore and preserve nature in the heart of Calgary.

Calgary's bird heritage continues to this very day. In 2021, the City was named one of Canada's first certified Nature Canada "Bird Friendly Cities". The certification will help to mitigate threats to birds, such as from lights and pets, support habitat maintenance and restoration, and increase outreach and education.



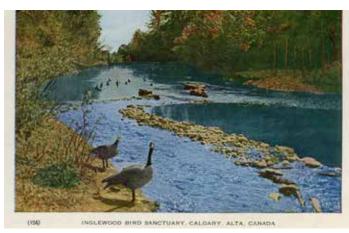
www.SuburbanJournals.ca

And in May last year, Calgarians voted on designating the City's official bird, the Black-capped Chickadee. At its unveiling, Corinne Eagletail-Frazier, councillor for the Tsuut'ina Nation, said birds are valuable to many First Nations, "We see them as messengers and healers."

Anthony Imbrogno is a volunteer with The Calgary Heritage Initiative Society

To discover more about Calgary's heritage, visit:

HERITAGE inspires YYC.org



Inglewood Bird Sanctuary 1929 (CPL Postcards from the Past)



Inglewood Bird Sanctuary Sign ca. 1940 (Libraries and Cultural Resources Digital Collections, University of Calgary)



Wood Ducks (CHI)

Fawns at Calgary Wildlife

During the summer of 2022, two young fawns were admitted into care at the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society. The first fawn, a white-tailed deer, was mistakenly considered orphaned by a member of the public. The second fawn, a mule deer, was attacked by a dog and became entangled in a barbed wire fence. Both fawns have overwintered at Calgary Wildlife and are nearly ready for release.

Mule deer and white-tailed deer can be distinguished from one another by these traits:

- Mule deer have larger ears than white-tailed deer.
- White-tailed deer tails flair white when lifted to signal alarm, mule deer tails have a black tip and generally do not raise them when alarmed.
- White-tailed deer have white bellies whereas mule deer have tan or brown bellies.
- Mule deer antlers bifurcate at each fork whereas white-tailed deer antlers grow from a single beam.
 Males of both species grow antlers and shed them annually.

A doe will usually produce a single fawn in her first year, but in years following may produce between one to four young. Fawns are born with white spots to help them camouflage. These spots fade after a couple of months. Fawns are born nearly scentless, meaning that lying still in the grass or forest floor is great protection from predators while their mother is foraging. A doe usually feeds her fawns several times a day but can leave them for as long as twelve hours at a time!



Fawns are born in May and June. If you come across a fawn, and it seems bright-eyed, well-fed, and uninjured, it is probably best to leave it where it is. The mother is likely within hearing distance but will stay hidden away while humans are present. As these fawn patients demonstrate, keeping pets on a leash while on walks is important for fawn safety and survival!

A fawn that is consistently crying out, is obviously injured, has been separated from its mother, or has been attacked by another animal should be brought into Calgary Wildlife for care. If you find injured or orphaned wildlife, please contact Calgary Wildlife at 403-214-1312.

Calgary Wildlife



www.SuburbanJournals.ca

THE ROCKY RIDGE & ROYAL OAK VIEW MAY 2023 15