



Chatter

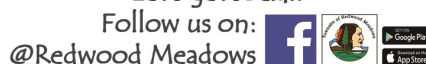
- IN THE WOODS -

Read the CHATTER online at

www.redwoodmeadows.ab.ca

Let's get social!

Follow us on:



Hello Redwooders and Neighbours,

We wish our readership a very happy holiday season. We loved seeing our community come together at the Kananaskis Christmas Market, and there are more festive opportunities this month. We look forward to *Santa in the Woods*, *Photos with Santa*, and the *Holiday Centerpiece Workshop*. For more information, check out the 'Events and Activities' on page 6. See the back cover for the *Santa in the Woods* schedule.

~ The Chatter Team



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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR FRIENDLY RMCA



Dear Neighbours,

As we head into winter and the snow turns Redwood into a winter wonderland, I think many of us get excited to grab our skates and skis to head outdoors. We live in a special place and winter only seems to highlight our magical world.

Another year has come and gone for the RMCA and what a great year it was. Some of the highlights include the return of Spring Sports, teen dances, the community garden, Canada Day, the Kananaskis Christmas Market, and so much more! All of this could not have been accomplished without the amazing volunteerism in our community. Spring Sports alone used over 300 volunteer hours so you can only imagine how many hours when you add up all the events.

This coming year will bring back all of the usual events and programs along with some plans for new projects and initiatives. RMCA is in the process of creating an administrative position to take pressure off volunteers. We met with a track builder in the fall to start plans on a new Bike Skills and Pump Track. Additionally, we have plans to further expand Spring Sports (new sports, multi-sport days and new equipment). We also want to

expand our RMCA wellness programs to include welcome home packages for new residents; Home Alone, babysitting and other courses for our area teens; and varied exercise and activity programs to reach all demographics.

The RMCA would like to thank Mike Hanson and Kim Snow for their service this past year. Kim put a lot of work into the teen dances, Canada Day and RMCA events. Mike was our secretary and provided much needed financial oversight. Mike was instrumental in helping us develop a system for our financial reporting and forecasting. Thank you Mike and Kim!

At our AGM, we were able to add two new directors: Jess Smid and Katelyn Anderson. Jess and Katelyn are officially joining the RMCA this year but both have been active volunteers in Redwood for the past few years. We are honoured to have them officially on board this year.

Introducing your 2023 RMCA board members: Dean Svoboda, Marc Vasily, Alex Mueller, Kelli Sutton, Jess Smid, Katelyn Anderson.

If you are new to the community, looking to get involved in RMCA events and programs, or just want to learn more about the RMCA...please reach out to

info@rmca.ca

Dean Svoboda
RMCA President

RMCA
PLAY GROUP

COME JOIN US!

Every Tuesday
Starting Sept 20th

930-1100am
@ Redwood House

COUNCIL CORNER



Dear Residents,

As December opens the door for our winter season, the colder mornings remind us that the holiday season is coming. We are lucky to live in such a beautiful community, and we encourage everyone to use our outdoor facilities and groomed ski trails. Thanks to the crews that keep the rink flooded and the trails groomed. We are also extending gratitude for the work that the RMCA does in our community during this time from the successful Kananaskis Christmas Market to Santa in the Woods. Enjoying this time with community and family make it very special.

The community at this time may be aware of the ongoing conflict between a group of citizens and the current council. This has gone on for months and has hung a cloud of uncertainty and tension in our community. This is unfortunate and unacceptable for all involved and we hope that the sense of community that makes us great will return.

We must consider what is best for the community as a whole. We have a mix of residents, people who have resided for quite some time, and newcomers who are still getting to know the community. Every resident, regardless of past stature or position, deserves an equal voice. While we recognize the importance of history and experience, we also need to adapt and move forward. Times change, priorities change, opinions change.

The current Council was elected in October of 2021. They are a mix of professionals, businesspeople, and business owners. In the short time we have been together unprecedented issues have occurred: A pandemic,

continued on page 4...

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key provincial funding for our community being reduced by 50 percent, astronomical increases in cost of living, and inflation. Most importantly, we received extremely troubling news about the state of our infrastructure. This has left the community currently with the obligation to address and remediate the most pressing repairs. Our water plant continues to struggle to keep up production. Our severely leaking water distribution system is making it even worse. This Council has tried to use their expertise and reached out to whomever could help to alleviate full-scale catastrophic failures. An operations manager with water plant expertise was hired. Grants have been applied for to mitigate costs of repair.

This community is not alone in its financial concerns. Communities across the province are dealing with aging infrastructure, increased costs, less provincial funding. Most communities have unfortunately had to dip into reserve funding to sustain in the past year. Jobs have been lost, staff are working short-handed, projects are postponed. Albertans face the brunt of increased costs, tax increases, and new user fees, not welcome news in these tough financial times. This community is also different in the fact that we do not have the availability to use new developments as revenue or have commercial or industrial development to offset cost as other communities do during times like these.

The idea of revenue generating projects is what this community can use to offset increased expenses. Some examples we have accomplished so far include improving our recreation facilities so they can be rented out, having our indoor spaces marketed and rented out more consistently, using our communications network to generate revenue. Our CAO and Operations Manager are also looking at cost saving strategies. We applaud them for the work they have accomplished already.

There are tough decisions being made. There needs to be collaboration not conflict, conversations not threats. The passion for this community is evident. Perhaps reflecting on what we can do together instead of alone and apart during this holiday season is a gift that everyone needs to be open to receiving.

We wish you happy holidays,

Redwood Meadows Council



FROM THE OFFICE OF MIRANDA ROSIN, MLA BANFF/KANANASKIS

MLA Miranda Rosin named Parliamentary Secretary of Tourism

On October 21st, Premier Danielle Smith announced her new leadership team including Miranda Rosin, MLA for Banff-Kananaskis as Parliamentary Secretary of Tourism for the Government of Alberta.

Over the past three years, Rosin has used her role as an MLA to advocate not only for her home constituency of Banff-Kananaskis, an internationally renowned tourism destination, but broadly for the industry all across Alberta.

Parliamentary Secretaries work as key representatives of their respective portfolios. In her new role, MLA Rosin will work closely with the Minister of Forestry, Parks and Tourism to champion the Government's policy development, legislation, stakeholder engagement, committee leadership, and issues management with regards to tourism. The role requires extensive knowledge of the tourism and hospitality industries.

Pre-pandemic, tourism expenditures in Alberta peaked above \$10 billion, with over 34 million visitors. The industry contributed \$8.4 billion to provincial GDP and over 82,000 full time jobs to Alberta's economy. Alberta's tourism industry shows the rest of the world what Albertans already know: this province is the most beautiful place on earth to visit, explore, and enjoy.

"There are few places on planet earth to whom a thriving tourism economy comes more naturally than our beautiful province of Alberta," says Rosin. She plans to work with government and industry partners and businesses "to strengthen that which our tourism and hospitality sectors already do best, and further improve, grow, and diversify the industry where there is opportunity to do so."

"Alberta's tourism industry and visitor economy are a very important part of Alberta's economy," says Premier Smith. "I'm excited that Miranda Rosin has agreed to serve Albertans as the Parliamentary Secretary of Tourism. Her knowledge of and excitement for Alberta's tourism sector are two key reasons that I chose her for this role."



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BEFORE



AFTER

REDWOOD EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

TSUUT'INA NATION POLICE SERVICE OPEN HOUSE

December 3 | 10:30am - 1:30pm | Redwood House

Join the Executive Team of the Tsuut'ina Nation Police Service to provide feedback on policing and public safety in the community.

PHOTOS WITH SANTA

December 3 | 1:30—4:30pm | Redwood House

Book your time with Santa at: <https://zone4.ca/register.asp?id=30372&lan=1&cartlevel=1>

All proceeds go to XCBC club. Please bring food bank donations.

COMMUNITY CAFE

December 16 | 10:30am - 12pm | Redwood House

Come enjoy coffee, tea, and homemade baked goods while socializing with your neighbours.

HOLIDAY CENTREPIECE WORKSHOP

December 18 | 2 - 4pm | Redwood House

\$10/arrangement. Bring your own vessel. Email communitygarden@rmca.ca to register.

SANTA IN THE WOODS

December 18 | 5pm start | Redwood House

The annual tradition will return to the pre-COVID parade route making jolly stops for visits, photos, and giving letters to Santa. Food bank donations will be collected at each stop. Thank you to RMCA, RMES and our local sponsor Con-Steel for making this event happen. Please refer to the Santa Stops poster on the back cover and look for the Santa stop signs out in the community so you know when and where to expect Santa in your neck of the woods! All donations will go to the Bragg Creek Community Church and Santa letters must have a return address included to receive a response.

NEW YEARS FIREWORKS

December 18 | 7pm | Curtis Field

PLAY GROUP

Tuesdays | 9:30 - 11am | Redwood House

Playdough, coloring, crafts, toys, books and most importantly, coffee and tea! If you are a new parent or caregiver, a grandparent, a senior looking for company, or if you just want to enjoy a cup of coffee among community friends, please join us.

EXERCISE CLASSES - ANN SULLIVAN

Mon, Wed, Fri | 9 - 10am | Redwood House

\$120 for 10x pass, \$15 drop-in. First class free to try.

Email Ann at anns@safari.ca for more details.

EXERCISE CLASSES - VIRAGO FITNESS

Thursdays, thru Dec 22 | 6:15 - 7pm | Redwood House

\$12 drop-in. Classes limit is eight people.

Email Jess at viragofitnessbraggcreek@gmail.com for more details.



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2022-2023
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*Please note, for all programs children must be independent in the washroom to enrol.



TOWNSITE UPDATES

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

We are seeking a highly personable and experienced Finance Officer to join our small team in a casual office setting. See redwoodmeadows.ab.ca for more information.

WINTER ACTIVITIES

The Rink is OPEN! Thank you to our great volunteers for their late night flooding. Please be respectful and share the space with your neighbours. Family Skate time is every Sunday from 12-4pm (remember no sticks or pucks). Schedules coming soon.

Cross Country Tracks: A reminder to residents to stay outside the tracking when walking on the trail. Please also keep dogs on leash and under control while using the trails. It takes a considerable amount of volunteer hours to set the tracks and keep them maintained for the season. Thank you for your cooperation.

SOCIETY MEMBER REGISTRATION

We are obligated to maintain a Members Registry under The Alberta Societies Act. All residents over the age of 18 years are considered eligible members of the Townsite of Redwood Meadows Administration Society. We need each household to provide the names, addresses, and eligible dates of membership for all members in their household. Eligible dates would be the date of residency or the date a resident turned 18 years of age after becoming a resident.

Please contact the Townsite office at admin@redwoodmeadows.ab.ca or 403-949-3563

CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK

If you require a criminal record check or vulnerable sector check, please call the Tsuut'ina Police and make an appointment. They are open Monday-Friday from 8am to 4pm and can be reached at 403-251-9660.

TOWNSITE OFFICE

1 Manyhorses Dr. | Redwood Meadows | T3Z1A4

403-949-3563 | admin@redwoodmeadows.ab.ca

Hours: Monday to Friday | 8:00am - 4:30pm

RMCA CONTACT INFORMATION

1 Manyhorses Dr. | Redwood Meadows | T3Z1A4

info@rmca.ca

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/redwoodmeadowscommunityassociation>



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	\$36/month
Quarter Page	\$53/month
Half Page	\$76/month
Full Page	\$144/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

PNG 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 and RMCA are not responsible for the content or accuracy of articles printed. The views reflected in this newsletter do not reflect the views of the editors.



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LOCAL BUSINESS LISTINGS

Angela Price, Price & Company Real Estate	403-923-3159	angela@priceandcompany.ca / priceandcompany.ca
Ann Sullivan, SafariWorks Fitness Classes	403-689-4835	anns@safari.ca / Fit.safari.ca
Big Earl's Dirt & Snow - Rich Kilbride	587-830-2447	rkilbride@bigearls.ca / BigEarls.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	403-560-6016	cperko@countrysidefinancial.ca
Cochrane Public Library	403-709-0346	Andrea.Johnston@cochranepubliclibrary.ca
Deborah Clark, Century 21 Bamber Realty Ltd.	403-835-3385	dclark@realestaterestofcalgary.com / realestaterestofcalgary.com
Dieter Hendrickson, Re/Max Real Estate	403-612-7849	dieter@remaxbraggcreek.com / www.remaxbraggcreek.com
Docker Prime Design & Management Inc.	403-401-4141	info@dockerprime.com / dockerprime.com
Kamp Kiwanis	403-686-6325	general@kampkiwanis.ca / www.kampkiwanis.ca
Kathleen Burk, Rocky Mountain Real Estate	403-818-8049	kathleenburk@remax.net / braggcreekredwoodmeadows.com
Ken Barrie, Century 21 Bamber Realty Ltd.	403-975-0334	ken@newdirectionrealestate.ca / realestaterestofcalgary.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
Mountain's Edge Renovations	403-949-7727	4wolves@persona.ca / www.mountainsedgerenovations.com
Redwood Meadows Emergency Services	403-949-2012	www.rmesfire.org Call 911 in an Emergency
Redwood Meadows Tae Kwon Do School		redwoodtaekwondo@gmail.com / redwoodtaekwondo.com
Refining Fire Metalworks (comm & res welding)	403-589-6594	bdbilou@gmail.com
Resource & Support Services in Bragg Creek	403-851-2286	wendy.farnsworth@cochrane.ca

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It's the most wonderful time of the year! Here's some holiday tips to keep you safe as you enjoy the holidays:

- 1. Merry and Bright:** Carefully inspect holiday light strings each year and discard any with frayed cords, cracked lamp holders, or loose connections. When replacing bulbs, unplug the light string and be sure to match voltage and wattage to the original bulb.
- 2. Lights Out:** Always turn off holiday lights when you leave the house unattended or when going to bed.
- 3. O Christmas Tree:** If you have a freshly cut tree, keep it watered and away from open candles. If you buy an artificial tree, make sure it's labeled "fire resistant." Fire-resistant trees are less susceptible to catching fire.
- 4. Work as a team:** When stringing lights and decorations above your normal reach, be sure to use a proper ladder with someone supporting the base.
- 5. The Great Outdoors:** When hanging outdoor lights, keep electrical connectors off the ground and away from metal rain gutters. Use insulated tape or plastic clips instead of metal nails or tacks to hold them in place.
- 6. Don't burn wrapping paper in the fireplace:** Paper burns very hot, which can ignite a fire in any residue in your chimney or the chase. Instead, recycle (or better yet, reuse!) your wrapping paper. And, have your chimney professionally cleaned prior to use.
- 7. Secure candles:** Keep candles on a sturdy base to prevent tipping. Never leave a lit candle unattended.
- 8. Sound the Alarm:** Test your smoke alarms monthly to make sure they work and be sure to install smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms on every level of your home, especially near sleeping areas.
- 9. Clean the Clutter:** Don't store combustible materials near your tree, furnace, or block furnace vents. Think of your friendly local firefighters when you're decorating near front doors and ensure there is ample room for us to move in/out of your front entrance, without bumping into Frosty the Snowman!

And...if you see our big red trucks coming down the highway with lights flashing; pull over, STOP, and let us get quickly and safely to a neighbor in need!

Until next month, stay safe and happy holidays!



Join Us...

BRAGG CREEK
community church

Sunday Service 10:00 - 11:30am

All Welcome!


*Join us for our regular services
(Sunday School runs Sept - July and nursery space is available for parent use)*

*For youth, business lunches, and other program info please visit our website
and sign up for our email list, which sends out the most up-to-date info*

You can also still join us virtually on Facebook Live or YouTube

Pastor Dave Zimmerman • braggcreekcommunitychurch@gmail.com

www.braggcreekchurch.ca



Rich Kilbride

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BigEarls.ca

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NEED HELP?



FOR ALL EMERGENCIES:	911
FOOD	
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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
TSUUT'INA POLICE NON EMERGENCY:	
Tsuut'ina Nation Police Service Non-Emergency	403-271-3777
Tsuut'ina Nation Police Service Office Line	403-251-9660
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
Rural Outreach Support Worker (Information, Resources and Support)	403-851-2286



The Rural Community Support Program provides rural residents in West Rocky View County with direct access to free and confidential meetings in Bragg Creek offering:

- support and problem-solving options,
- resource information, and
- referrals and help navigating government systems.

If you or someone you know, has a problem and you're not sure what to do, please contact the Rural Community Support worker. Together, we can discuss solutions, options and first steps.

For more information about this program, please contact:

Sherry Grund
403-851-2250 | sherry.grund@cochrane.ca

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SIMPLE WAYS TO DECORATE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

I love Christmas and the December holidays. I also love to keep things simple, but if there's one time of year when all my good intentions fly out the window, this is it. The fun and excess of the festive season overrule the idea of a minimalist celebration every time. In fact, "minimalist celebration" sounds suspiciously like an oxymoron. It conjures up images of drab colours and joyless faces, and who wants to be a part of that? No one, of course. But many of us long for a simpler way to celebrate the festive season—spending more time with family and friends and buying less stuff. If that's your idea of a happy holiday, read on.

Christmas doesn't have to mean giant gifts and extravagant wrapping. Even if you're not artistically inclined, there are lots of things you can make or do. If your art looks more like craft, don't despair. That humble piece could become a family treasure—or at the very least a family joke. Almost 30 years ago, on a weekend away with friends, I made a flowerpot angel that, even at the time, looked like something a five-year-old could have done better. (No offense to five-year-olds.) The angel has only grown uglier over the years: she's faded and brittle with glue-encrusted hair and crooked wings, but I still pull her out every year and put her on the bar, which is maybe a bad choice because several years ago we had to add "wine-stained wings" to her list of defects. We also pull out the clay snowmen—one of them inexplicably painted green and purple—that our children made years ago. Tradition is everything! If nothing else, it's all good for a giggle.

Plan some experiences that don't involve gifts, handmade or otherwise. Go online to get yourself a *Personal Use Forest Products Permit* and then head out with your family and friends to cut your own Christmas tree. Bring snacks and hot drinks along with a sled to haul out the tree.

Forage plants (sustainably) to make a wreath or decoration. If you need some guidance, the RMCA is hosting a holiday centerpiece workshop on December 18th. It's open to all, and you'll be amazed at what you can create!

Crafts not your thing? How about inviting some friends for outdoor carolling around a campfire? Singing in a group is good for your health.

Make a date to do a good deed, which is guaranteed to make the giver feel as happy as the recipient. Visit someone who might appreciate the company, take a meal to a family, babysit for a neighbour, teach a person to sew, volunteer for a local charity, or donate to a cause that's close to your heart. Or donate blood.

Why not get to know your neighbours? This is the perfect time of year reach out, and a little baking or a homemade card goes a long way.

However you celebrate the holidays, I hope they bring you joy and love. Have fun!

Ann Sullivan

**Holiday
Centerpiece
Workshop**

Guided by an experienced Floral Arranger, bring your own vessel and build a holiday centerpiece with natural greenery and foraged materials.

\$10 per arrangement

Pre register by emailing us at
communitygarden@rmca.ca

DECEMBER 18, 2022 / 2 PM
REDWOOD HOUSE

RMCA
redwood meadows
community garden

Redwood Meadows Community Garden

HOW TO CREATE A HOLIDAY CENTERPIECE WITH GREENERY

Select Greenery

- Select locally and choose deep green colors
- Foliage should have a strong fragrance, solid-but-flexible branches, and firm yet pliable needles with no fallout when shaken
- Good length to stem
- Insect free (shake and look under branches)

Create Your Centerpiece

- Use wet oasis foam cut to the size of vessel or desired centerpiece
- Tape or secure oasis in a flat dish or press firmly into a deeper dish
- When using a vase, use water beads
- Cut branches at a 45-degree angle and no longer than six inches
- Arrange larger branches at the base, built upwards at an angle
- Use cedar or broader branches as filler
- If using wild branches do not cut main branch of bush, use side stems
- Spray with fake snow if desired (pro tip: spray out-of-doors)
- Use care with live flowers, poinsettias are dangerous to cats
- Roses and lilies do not thrive with evergreens
- Daisies, carnations, mums can be used with evergreens
- Spray with a mist or water frequently
- Do not use candles, they can be a fire hazard
- Prepare roughly a week before for best results

Care for your Centerpiece

- Keep cool and avoid heat vents, fireplaces, or direct sunlight
- Keep humid by misting lightly with water
- Store outside in a shady outdoor area

Happy Decorating!

Provided by:

Sharon Pegg, Redwood Resident

The Redwood Meadows Community Garden Committee is partnering with Sharon Pegg to offer our 2nd Annual Holiday Centerpiece Workshop. Please see the poster on page 12 for details or email us at communitygarden@rmca.ca.



INDOOR AND OUTDOOR KITCHENS

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**Tsuut'ina Nation
Police Service**

**Executive Open
House**

Meet the Executive Team of the
Tsuut'ina Nation Police Service and
provide feedback on policing and public
safety in the community.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 3
DROP IN: 10:30AM-1:30PM
REDWOOD HOUSE

**Photos
with
Santa!**
Dec 3rd 1:30-4:30pm




Take your own
photos, or have one
of our Elves use your
camera to take a
family picture!

Redwood Community Center
\$20 plus food bank donation
Registration opens Nov 19th - link on
Redwood Meadows FB page.
Come to the back deck and join us for a cozy
bonfire and your time with Santa.



All proceeds go to XCBC Biathlon demo out front!

Christmas waves a magic wand
over this world, and behold,
everything is softer and more
beautiful." Norman Vincent Peale

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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.

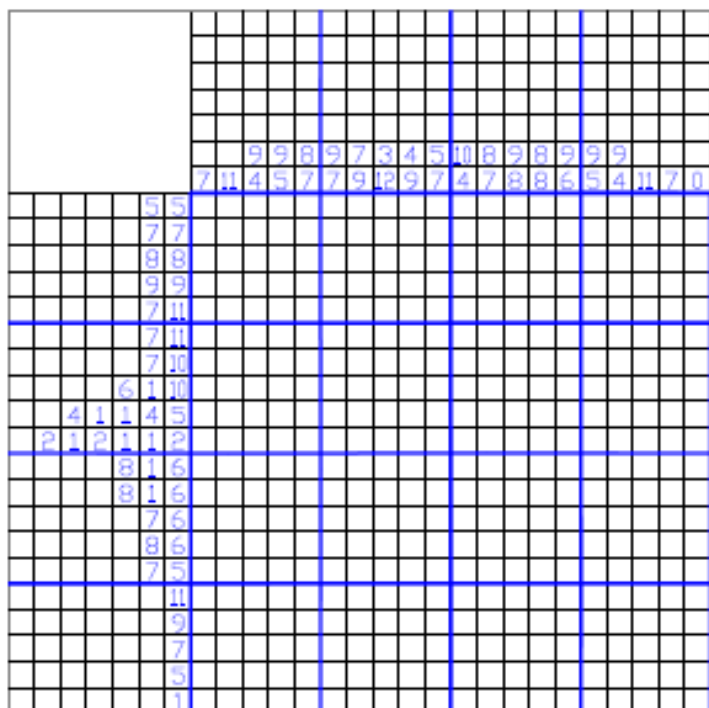
The “logic count method” shown below is very useful: The clue at the left of the row is 6, so count 6 squares from the left to right and then count 6 squares from right to left. Confidently shade in the overlapping squares.



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

HEART BEAT



BRAGG CREEK WILD: LIGHTING UP THE DARKEST TIME OF YEAR

It may be dark, but it can be beautiful at this time of year. We're privileged that we can enjoy the night sky in a way not many people around the world can. In November we've had some incredibly bright moonlit nights, and some of us will even have seen the full lunar eclipse (though I confess I wasn't one that stayed up to watch the *whole* spectacle). Even on the darkest nights, if the sky's clear, we have a good chance of seeing the Milky Way on a regular basis. It can take your breath away.

Alberta has some fantastic dark sky preserves, like at Jasper, where stargazing is spectacular. Unfortunately, the global expansion of population and development means dark skies are shrinking. Lighting that's necessary for us to get around at night and see where we're going has encroached more and more into areas where it isn't needed—this is light pollution.

Light pollution has an effect all year round, all over the world, interfering with ecosystems and the rhythms of our wild neighbours. Plants, corals, insects, birds, bats, amphibians, and mammals large and small all rely on circadian rhythms prompted by light levels. Light pollution disrupts things like food source reliability and can have a knock-on effect on behaviour. Some species are going extinct because of it.

Locally, we have the Dark Sky Country area around the U of C Rothney Observatory and the Cross Conservation Area. The dark skies there allow both astronomical observations and – importantly - the unimpeded functioning of local wildlife. If you follow this link, you'll find a video with more information about how and why it was set up, and suggestions for how to set up dark-sky-friendly lighting. <https://science.ucalgary.ca/rothney-observatory/community/dark-sky-country>

For us (humans), this darkest time of year is also the season of celebrations: the winter solstice has always been a time for festivities to mark the turning of the year and the return of the light. Putting up Christmas lights



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and so forth is a big part of what many people do at this time of year. It's pretty and fun, it's cheerful and welcoming.

Sadly, it can also present danger for wildlife. There are stories every year about Christmas lights tangled in antlers and animals being sedated to remove them. In the worst cases, elk and deer may be trailing strings of lights that then catch on vegetation or rocks and strangle them.

Advice from such sources as Parks Canada and the Town of Banff suggest the following things we can do to help with both the issues of light pollution and danger to wildlife:

- Wait until December to put up lights – when the rutting season is over.
- Put lights on a timer so that they go off for most of the night – leaving wildlife with some periods of darkness.
- Make sure outdoor lights are at least 10 feet (3 metres) off the ground, or that they're "secured tightly" – to avoid animals becoming entangled.

<https://www.darkskysociety.org/>

<https://www.darksky.org/>

Please keep reporting wildlife sightings to Bragg Creek Wild – your response up to now has been fantastic. Thank you. Wishing you a happy and healthy festive season from all at Bragg Creek Wild! See you in the New Year!

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MORTGAGE MATTERS: MORTGAGE BORROWING TIPS FOR HOMEBUYERS

November was Financial Literacy Month in Canada. To help celebrate this occasion our colleagues at the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada (FCAC) have provided you with some helpful tips on how you can find your financial balance.

Most Canadians have some form of debt. Not all debt is bad — for example, taking out a mortgage to buy a home can be a good investment. Borrowing wisely will help you keep your budget in balance. Here are some things to keep in mind.

Shop around for a mortgage

Shopping around is key when getting a new credit product such as a mortgage. Different lenders will have different interest rates and conditions. Take some time to compare the different options available such as variable and fixed interest rates, and open and closed mortgages. Make sure you're getting the best mortgage product for your needs.

Try the **Financial Consumer Agency of Canada's Mortgage Qualifier Tool** to help you determine whether or not you can qualify for a mortgage based on income and expenses. The tool offers unbiased, trustworthy information. We also offer several different calculators to support you at every stage of your home buying journey. If you already have a mortgage and are having trouble making your payments, don't hesitate to contact your financial advisor to evaluate the different options available to help you.

Think carefully about getting a HELOC

A home equity line of credit, often referred to as a HELOC, is a form of credit that relies on using your home as a guarantee that you'll pay back the money you borrow. Unlike a loan, a HELOC lets you borrow money, pay it back and borrow it again up to a maximum credit limit.

It can seem like using the equity in your home is a quick and easy way to pay for larger expenses. While you may benefit in the short term, it's also important to consider the longer-term risks. Large amounts of available credit can make it easier to over-spend and carry debt for a long time. You may also have to pay back your HELOC in full if you want to switch lenders when renewing your mortgage.

If you decide a HELOC is right for you, make sure you understand all the terms and conditions of your product before signing on the dotted line. Take time to review and compare your options and ask potential lenders to clarify anything you don't understand.

Consider the following before you borrow:

- Do you need the money now or could the expense wait until you've saved for it?
- Do the monthly payments fit into your budget?
- Will you still be able to afford the payments if interest rates change?
- What happens if you miss a payment?

You can find more practical tips and tools to help you borrow wisely at canada.ca/financial-literacy-month.

Candace Perko, Area Mortgage Broker



BRAGG CREEK BEARS




The Bragg Creek Bears kicked off their season a few weeks back in Black Diamond. We had a wonderful party for the Bears at the Powderhorn Saloon on Saturday, November 19th. Thank you to everyone who came out dressed in neon and partied for the kids.

You may not know, the Bears actually make their home here in Redwood Meadows when the ice is ready. If you are looking for a good time, head down to the Tate Shack almost any Saturday morning to watch the games, grab a hot chocolate, say hello to friend and cheer on your Bears!

The Bragg Creek Bears play in the Rocky Mountain Pond Hockey league, at outdoor rinks in the communities of Priddis, Millarville, Black Diamond and Cochrane. Our league is focused on having fun with your friends in the great outdoors and has players from 4 to 18 years old. Opening Day for the Bears is earmarked for November 26 so c'mon down and root, root, root for the home team!

Dean Svoboda



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NAME	AGE	QUALIFICATIONS / COURSES	CONTACT INFORMATION
Andrea	13	Red Cross babysitter course	587-581-6643 andreaabboud@gmail.com
Andreas	13	Action First Aid "The Babysitting Course"	403-498-9595 dreekanles@gmail.com
Ella	12	Babysitter Course	403-470-6411
Hunter	14	Red Cross Home Alone, Babysitter Course	403-874-4402
Clara	12	Babysitter Course, First aid	403-540-5427
Kinley	13	Babysitter Course	403-899-4914 kinleyroberts13@gmail.com
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Shawn	12	Red Cross Home Alone, Babysitter Course	shawnmacpherson08@icloud.com

TO ADD, DELETE, OR EDIT A LISTING, PLEASE CONTACT [THEREDWOODCHATTER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:theredwoodchatter@gmail.com)

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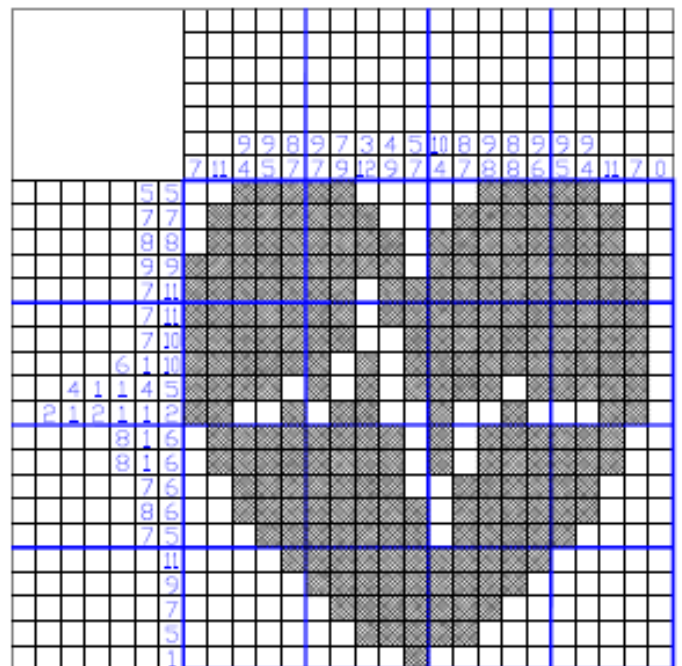
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PICAPIX SOLUTION

HEART BEAT



SANTA'S SCHEDULE OF STOPS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2022

REDWOOD MEADOWS

Look for the Santa **STOPS** in your part of the 'wood! (times are approx.)

Listen for the **MUSIC!**

Watch for the **LIGHTS!**

Bring SANTA your **LETTERS & FOOD BANK** donations!

OUTSIDE 25 SLEIGH DRIVE	5:00PM
MANYHORSES DR. + MANYHORSES CLOSE	5:15PM
ENTRANCE TO MANYHORSES RISE	5:25PM
3 WAY STOP MANYHORSES DRIVE	5:35PM
ENTRANCE TO MANYHORSES BAY	5:45PM
ENTRANCE TO MANYHORSES CIRCLE	5:55PM
ENTRANCE TO MANYHORSES GREEN	6:05PM
ENTRANCE TO MANYHORSES GATE	6:15PM
REDWOOD HOUSE PARKING LOT	6:25PM
SANTA BREAK @ REDWOOD HOUSE	
ENTRANCE TO RWM COURT	6:40PM
ENTRANCE TO RWM CLOSE	6:50PM
OUTSIDE 51 RWM DRIVE	7:00PM
OUTSIDE 77 RWM DRIVE	7:05PM
RWM DRIVE + WOLF DRIVE	7:10PM
OUTSIDE 56 WOLF DRIVE	7:20PM
WOLF DR. + WOLF CLOSE	7:30PM
OUTSIDE 18 WOLF DRIVE	7:40PM