



Gazette

COMMUNITY NEWS FALL 2021



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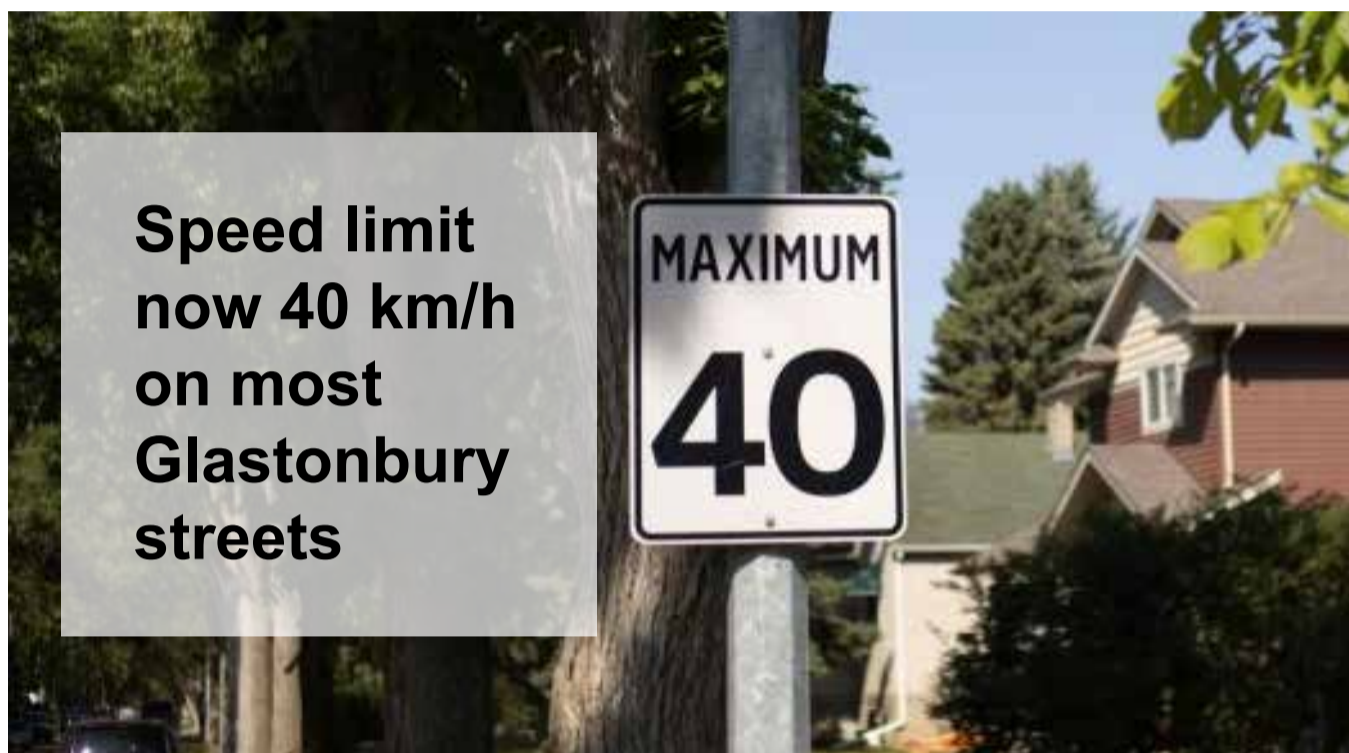


GCLEdmonton



@glastonburycommunityyeg

Local news, updates, and useful information for residents of the Parkland, Grange and Granville subdivisions.



**Speed limit
now 40 km/h
on most
Glastonbury
streets**

The speed limit is now 40 km per hour on most residential streets through the Glastonbury community.

While the speed limits on main arterial roads in our community including Guardian Road/ 199 Street and 62 Avenue continue to be 60 km/h, the limit on residential roadways has changed and automated speed enforcement at locations with the new 40 km/h speed limits is now underway. While the primary focus for the month of August was education to help residents adjust their behaviour, now that schools are back in session, enforcement has begun to protect pedestrians—particularly children.

Reducing speed limits on residential streets makes our streets safer, calmer, and quieter for everyone. Slowing down gives people more time to react to the unexpected to prevent crashes, and to reduce the severity of collisions that do happen. In fact, slowing from 50 to 40 km/h doubles the pedestrian survival rate from 20 to 40 per cent.

Thank you for your obeying speed limits and driving carefully through our community.



Enter our winter photo contest!

The snow and cold are coming, but that doesn't mean you have to spend the winter in hibernation.

Once the snow arrives, show us how you and your family are making the most of winter in our community—and we'll enter your name in a monthly draw to win a gift card. Please send your photos to us at president@gclyeg.com along with your name and contact information. Submitted photos may also be used on our social media presences.

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"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless."



President's message

Hello, fellow community members!

I hope you are keeping well and have enjoyed a fun-filled summer. Here's a quick recap of what the GCL has been up to:

- Our Fun Shack Program celebrated its 7th summer in Glastonbury! This year, we had 4 brand new staff. The reviews are in and your kids had an incredible summer playing, creating and connecting with our team!
- Outdoor Yoga in the Park with Prana Yoga returned for classes each Saturday this summer. There was only one rain-out the entire season! These well-attended classes served as a great way to connect with the community.
- Many of you also took part in our weekly hiking group, where we explored some fantastic trails all over the Capital region. Our weekly walking group is underway. Join me every Wednesday morning at 9:30 am for a brisk stroll and a chat.
- The GCL Amazing Race in August was, well, amazing! So much fun was had by our participating youth. Many thanks to our Programs Director, Brendilynn, for putting together this special event.
- Our Outdoor Movie Night in September was another fun, family-friendly evening. Hundreds of people turned up to watch our feature film, Soul. There was popcorn, treats and some delicious food available from food trucks.
- Every fall is the start of a new community league membership year. Thank you to everyone who supports our League with a membership purchase: we are able to accomplish so much with this support! With this support, we put on the above-mentioned events and programs (plus more) and add value to the community with amenities such as our outdoor rink, ice trail, X-country ski trails etc. There are other benefits to being a GCL member, like free admission to our events, free swimming at Terwillegar Rec Centre and Jasper Place Pool and free skating at City rinks and The River Cree Twin Rinks.
- Last but not least, best of luck to all of our indoor soccer players- wishing you all a super fun season. Go Glastonbury!

Kind regards,
Kimberly Johnson

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TELUS Fibre installation update

TELUS is projecting that the upgrades happening in our neighbourhood should lead to PureFibre being available in our community this fall. Some areas may push into November and it is possible that some work will continue in the early spring.

Regarding the restoration of property, TELUS indicates they are committed to restoring all property to the same condition it was prior to construction. This can include soft surface restoration such as leveling with new topsoil and planting grass seed. In places where hard surfaces were impacted, such as concrete or asphalt driveways, TELUS will fill and repair afterward. Some restoration may have to wait until spring as the work is weather dependent.

The timing of reseeding in particular is weather dependent. If it cannot occur in the fall due to drops in temperature, the reseeding will take place in the spring.

Keep in mind these general guidelines, once reseeding occurs:

- Keep the reseeded area lightly watered until the grass is established. This may include watering several times daily, being careful not to overwater as the seeds can rot.
- Try to stay off the reseeded areas.
- Do not cut or rake the reseeded areas until the new grass has matured - give the grass time to grow.

You can check www.telus.com/getpurfibre to see if your home is connected to the network.

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GiselleForYegCouncil@gmail.com



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Kim Krushell for Mayor

Mayoral Candidates Respond to GCL Questions

We posed two questions to the Edmonton mayoral candidates, in advance of the municipal election. Here are the questions and responses from the candidates that responded before our publishing deadline.

1. Community Leagues play an important role in Edmonton. Is there anything you feel that the City can/should do to further strengthen and support this relationship?

Malik Chukwudi:

Community league is the BEST thing that happens to any neighborhood, it is the bedrock of every community, I will work with Community leagues to strengthen their neighborhood, provide well needed growth and opportunities.

Brian (Breezy) Gregg:

Regarding developing Community Leagues, I hope to see a long term plan to build a social service hub in every neighbourhood. Staffed facilities offering shelter, food, medical care and access to education. Each neighbourhood will need its own particular plan but one way or another we need to find property and build these community service hubs.

Michael Oshry Campaign:

Community Leagues are critical to the health of Edmonton, they sustain and nourish a sense of community, pride and fellowship that makes Edmonton a great place to live and raise a family. Michael is committed to strengthening engagement and communication with organizations like EFCL and directly with leagues to assist in his Small is Beautiful Infrastructure Plan.

Amarjeet Sohi:

Edmonton's most significant asset is its people, and there are few places better than community leagues to demonstrate what groups of committed and engaged residents can accomplish when they work together. As Mayor, I will work to elevate the voices of residents, particularly when it comes to engagement on the City's budget priorities, to ensure we are reflecting the community's priorities and delivering efficiency. There are

many promising models for us to draw on to accomplish this, including citizens' panels.

Diana Steele:

As a President of a Community League this is an area I know well. I would like to see our Community Halls being used continually by community members. These buildings are at the heart of our communities and are accessible to all. I will be working hard to ensure EFCL and the City of Edmonton are using these buildings as much as possible for programming and events that enhance community and city life for families.

2. What are your thoughts on the Lewis Farms Rec Centre, whose construction has been put on hold? If elected, would it be a priority for you to address the lack of recreation opportunities and facilities in the West End?

Malik Chukwudi:

Lewis Farm and rec centre, I believed that the project was delayed due to LRT project and the pandemic made things even worse. I promise to make it happen, even if I have to use foreign Investors, I live in the West end, so this is dear and personal to me. \$321-million Lewis Farms Recreation Centre in west Edmonton - I think it's do-able.

Michael Oshry Campaign:

If elected, Michael plans to work diligently to bring his Small is Beautiful Infrastructure Plan to fruition, including in the West End. In the past Edmonton has focused on huge infrastructure projects like LRT and large-scale recreation centres. Those projects are important, but we need an infrastructure plan that also:

- Focuses on smaller community-based projects Edmontonians have been waiting for
- Improves the effectiveness of how and what the City builds
- Improves the management, reliability, sustainability and quality of the City's asset base

- Recognizes that not all meaningful infrastructure projects come with an enormous price tag
- Encourages City Councillors to develop spending priorities that reflect the priorities of their communities
- Focuses investment and keeps spending within our means

Amarjeet Sohi:

My commitment certainly includes recreation centres. These facilities have been so important to my family for exercise, enjoyment, and community. I believe all communities should have access to recreation facilities. It's also vital that we keep our taxes and user fees affordable, and that we strike the right balance between affordability and accessibility. As Mayor, I commit to work with Council to explore the opportunity for the Lewis Farms Recreation Centre, which has been a long time coming for west end residents.

Diana Steele:

As a west end resident myself I feel the Lewis Farms Rec

Centre is way overdue. We have been promised this center for a long time and it is time to put that promise into action.

We also asked the candidates to share their electoral platforms. Due to space constraints, we are only able to publish their website addresses here, but we will post each of their full responses on our Facebook page shortly.

In the meantime, here is where to find info on each of the Mayoral Candidates and their platforms:

Abdul Malik Chukwudi <https://malikformayor.ca>

Rick Comrie <https://comrieformayor.ca>

Brian (Breezy) Gregg <https://www.briangregg.com>

Kim Krushell <https://krushellformayor.com>

Augustine Marah <https://augustineformayor.ca>

Mike Nickel <https://mikenickel.ca>

Michael Oshry <http://www.michaeloshry.ca>

Amarjeet Sohi <https://sohi.ca>

Diana Steele <https://www.dianasteele.ca>

Cheryll Watson <https://www.cheryllwatson.ca>

Sarah Hamilton
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For a safe, strong and prosperous Edmonton

Ward Council Candidates Respond to GCL Questions

We posed two questions to the Edmonton Ward sipiwiniwak candidates, in advance of the municipal election. Here are the questions and responses from the candidates that responded before our publishing deadline.

1. Community Leagues play an important role in Edmonton. Is there anything you feel that the City can/should do to further strengthen and support this relationship?

Giselle General:

The unique nature of community leagues is something that the city should be proud of. At the same time, that also means that newcomers to the city are unfamiliar with the concept. The first few years of a person moving into Edmonton is crucial in building their lives here, so the sooner they get connected and engaged with their leagues, the better. I only learned about community leagues after living in the city for 8 years and have been actively involved ever since. Through policy, ambassadorship by elected representatives, and support from staff, the City should continue to champion community leagues as part of what makes Edmonton incredible, in a way that resonates with a wide range of demographics.

The Service Package granted by the City to provide EFCL with additional tools to support leagues is a wonderful and tangible way to provide support. I've seen several positive outcomes, such as additional programs to bring league board members together to learn from each other, the online

training portal to help league board members, and more. Working together after the recent renewal of the Tripartite Agreement is also crucial. Finally, by ensuring efficient processes by reducing red tape so volunteers don't get burnt out when applying for events and grants.

The City holds tremendous potential in helping community leagues uphold and apply the Truth and Reconciliation recommendations, whether by directly providing supports through NRCs and other relevant City staff, or by providing funding to the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues. The Tipi Teachings program was facilitated by EFCL through a temporary grant. One idea is that the City can provide funding for this to be a permanent position at the EFCL.

Daniel Heikkinen:

Community leagues are the glue that keeps our neighborhoods together, and while I don't know what the city can do/should do specifically to strengthen, I am sure that one key to strengthening this bond is for the respective ward councillor to hold events through those community leagues. Not only as a source of funding, but getting people involved and aware of the importance of their league as a means of developing a sense of community, but also as a forum to discuss what is happening in their ward, to feel like their voices are being heard.

2. What are your thoughts on the Lewis Farms Rec Centre, whose

construction has been put on hold? If elected, would it be a priority for you to address the lack of recreation opportunities and facilities in the West End?

Giselle General:

I am disappointed that the construction has been put on hold, though the reason is understandable. As a resident of the west end since moving to the city in 2008, there has been a significant growth in population and city facilities need to keep pace.

There is a motion put forward by the Ward 1 councillor to identify alternative ways to fund the facility so that construction can move forward. If elected, I will diligently work with city admin and the neighbourhoods once this report is available to identify a way to put this project forward given the realities of funding available.

Daniel Heikkinen:

People I have spoken to door knocking are upset that there isn't a proper rec centre for them to use that provide the sort of amenities they have craved and have to find in our areas. We need to commit to and follow through on projects that are meeting a need, if funding is tight and no extra is available from the province, then we should look at where we are spending dollars that are for wants, and communicate that we are shifting portions of the budget to meet needs. It is not only my priority to see these amenities delivered, but also the preservation of our parks under threat of housing development, as well solving

zoning issues concerning a soccer field that would serve the Granville Glastonbury area. The organization that wants to create it has the land, and can raise the funds privately, but the city is holding them back because of zoning and not answering them. This to me serves as an example of the city no longer supporting its people, and serving their needs.

We also asked the candidates to share their electoral platforms. Due to space constraints, we are only able to publish their websites here, but we will post each of their full responses on our Facebook page shortly.

In the meantime, here is where to find info on each of the ward sipiwiniwak council candidates and their platforms:

Giselle General
<https://www.gisellegeneral.ca>

Sarah Hamilton
<https://www.sarahhamilton.ca>

Scott Hayes
<https://www.scotthayescitycouncil.com>

Daniel Heikkinen
<https://www.dan4yeg.com>

Derek Hlady
<https://www.derekh lady.ca>

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The Role of School Board Trustees in Alberta

The Municipal election includes voting for your ward school board trustee. School board trustees perform an important role in the community, as much of the Alberta Government's governance of education is the delegated responsibility of the local school boards.

Trustees are elected officials, who are meant to reflect the community in their decision-making. The board is responsible for school board decisions, adopting the annual budget, setting goals and priorities, making policies, lobbying municipal and provincial governments, adjudicating appeals, and hiring and evaluating the superintendent.

Trustees are communicators, planners, policy makers, advocates, educators, adjudicators, lobbyists, legislators and politicians. Importantly, they and the entire board are responsible to ensure all children in the community receive a good education.

For Edmonton Catholic Schools, our community is in ward 74. The trustee candidate is the incumbent Debbie Engel and she is acclaimed.

For Edmonton Public School Board, our community is in ward E, where there are five candidates. Check our Facebook page for posts from four of the trustee candidates to find out more about their platforms. In the meantime, more info can be found on their websites listed below.

- Sam Filice <https://samfilicetrustee.ca>
- Rebecca Graff-McRae www.rebeccagraffmcrcae.ca
- Dawn Hancock (No website available at time of publication)
- Judy Kim-Meneen www.judykimmeneen.com
- Kim Doyle Thorsen kimdoylethorsen.ca



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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



Don't become a crime victim!

Over the last few months, there have been approximately 30 crimes reported between the Glastonbury and Hamptons communities. This includes the Granville, Parkland and Grange subdivisions. While our crime rate is relatively low and the great majority of crime in our neighbourhood is thefts from vehicles, there are common-sense steps you can take to avoid becoming a victim of crime.

First and foremost, never leave any valuables of any kind unattended in your vehicle whether it is left locked or unlocked, whether it is parked outside or garaged, or whether overnight or during the day. If you leave items in your parked vehicle, the unfortunate reality is that you can expect to be a target for thieves. This includes items such as purses, phones, clothing and laptop computers but it also includes items such as tools left in a truck box. It takes only seconds for a thief to break a vehicle window, reach through to unlock the door, and grab any valuables you have left unattended.

Also, do not keep your garage door opener in plain sight, do not keep your registration in an obvious place such as your glovebox, and ensure your licence plates are secured with theft resistant screws. To deter theft, it is always a good idea to have an alarm system on your vehicle as well.

Don't leave personal property unattended. Whether that's your kids' bikes or your snowblower or your bag of bottles for recycling in your side yard, lock it up or lose it.

Lock your home and garage securely, and use an alarm system to deter would-be thieves. Don't forget to lock windows, and lock your garage door too.

If you are away from home whether for an hour or a day, put away valuables like electronics and jewelry. A thief can be in and out of your home in a couple of minutes. Don't leave valuables in sight.

And finally, keep an eye out for any suspicious activity in the neighbourhood—and promptly report all suspicious activity to the Edmonton Police Service. Neighbourhood Watch is simply about taking common-sense precautions to protect your home and property, and doing your part to keep an eye on our community and your neighbours' property

Theft of vehicles

If you own an older vehicle, it may be able to be 'hotwired' by a thief tampering with the steering column and ignition assembly. Locking your vehicle is not enough. Secure your vehicle when not in use through the use of a physical disabling device such as a steering wheel lock. These devices provide a visible deterrent to theft, and are a small investment to make considering the huge inconvenience of having a vehicle stolen.

If you own a new vehicle with push-button start, be aware that even these vehicles are not immune to theft. Keyless car theft (aka Relay or Radio theft) is where the radio signal emitted from a key car is captured by somebody standing outside the victim's house using an electronic device. Special electronic equipment captures the signal from the key and transmits it to a receiver that somebody standing next to the vehicle can then use to enter, start and steal the vehicle. This type of theft can be executed in less than 30 seconds.

To protect yourself from this type of theft, keep your vehicle keys safe by storing your keys in a signal blocking pouch (often called a 'Faraday bag') to stop access to your vehicle by blocking your car key fob from transmitting its code to the vehicle. These pouches are lined with layers of metallic material, are inexpensive to purchase and can also be used to block WI-FI and Bluetooth signals on mobile phones.

Prevent catalytic converter theft

Imagine starting your vehicle in the morning and hearing a loud rumbling or roaring sound that gets louder when you hit the gas. Now imagine the hassle, inconvenience and cost of having your catalytic converter stolen.

Unfortunately the theft of catalytic converters from parked vehicles is still a huge issue in Edmonton, including our neighbourhood.

Catalytic converters contain highly valuable metals such as palladium, rhodium, and platinum, so are a hot target for thieves. Thieves can remove a catalytic converter in less than two minutes, making it easy to steal even in broad daylight. The only tool required is either a wrench to remove the bolts, or a reciprocating saw to remove converters that are welded onto the vehicle.

The valuable metals, combined with a lack of identifying markings, and how easy they are to steal has fuelled the increase in catalytic converter thefts. Once stolen, thieves will take the catalytic converters to metal recyclers and scrappers, who will pay between \$50 to \$500 for each one.

As many Glastonbury residents use their driveways to park their company work trucks or vans on evenings and weekends, these vehicles are a particular target.

To prevent catalytic converter theft:

- Park your vehicle in a locked garage overnight if possible.
- If you must park outside, park in a well-lit area with video surveillance cameras.
- Park your vehicle as close to walls, fences, curbs or your garage door as possible to reduce the amount of clearance a would-be thief has to get under your vehicle.
- Install a car alarm that is motion-triggered.
- Install a catalytic converter lock or clamp to provide an additional barrier against theft. These can be installed at many muffler and exhaust service shops.

Permanent Summer Hours - Have Your Say

During the Municipal election on October 18th, Albertans will be asked how the province should proceed with time changes. The binding referendum question will be: "Do you want Alberta to adopt year-round Daylight Saving Time, which is summer hours, eliminating the need to change our clocks twice a year?"

An online survey in early 2020 had 91% of the 141,000 Albertans who responded, vote in favour of permanent summer hours.

We recently asked you to provide your thoughts on the Glastonbury Community League Facebook page.

Though it was a small sample of the Glastonbury community, only 10% of respondents agreed with staying on permanent summer hours. The other 90% said no to the referendum question, but only 14% wanted to keep things as they are now. The majority, 76%, wanted to stay on permanent standard hours.

Since permanent standard time isn't on the table, the results of our completely unscientific poll would have us continuing to use the current system of fall and spring time changes.

The government didn't offer year-round standard hours as an option because the business community's greatest concern was to be in line with other neighbouring jurisdictions. The Yukon is already on permanent summer hours and British Columbia and Ontario are considering the same.

What remains to be seen is if Alberta residents will agree to keeping summer hours all year long, or will the thought of darker winter mornings cause us to keep things as they are now. Have your say on October 18th.

What are Equalization Payments?

During the municipal election on October 18, Albertans will be asked a referendum question about federal equalization payments.

The federal government taxes Canadians at an equal rate of taxation across the country. Equalization payments are currently one of the three types of transfer payments from the federal government's collected taxes to provincial governments in Canada (the other two are Health Transfers and Social Transfers). Equalization payments are intended to address disparities in provinces' ability to generate tax revenue, and are said to ensure provinces in Canada have the capacity to maintain a similar standard of spending.

The formula takes into consideration how much the provinces could raise if they all used a standard tax rate. The tax considerations used in the formula include personal income taxes, business income taxes, consumption taxes, 50% of natural resource revenue and property taxes.

The non-binding question you will be asked is:

Should section 36(2) of the Constitution Act, 1982 – Parliament and the government of Canada's commitment to the principle of making equalization payments – be removed from the constitution?

Section 36 (2) of the Constitution Act, 1982 says "Parliament and the government of Canada are committed to the principle of making equalization payments to ensure that provincial governments have sufficient revenues to provide reasonably comparable levels of public services at reasonably comparable levels of taxation."

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Minding your mental health as the pandemic continues

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on the mental health of Albertans, including increases in anxiety, depression and suicidal tendencies. The past 18 months have presented incredible challenges for many of us, from loss of employment and the breakdown of relationships to the sheer challenges of living and working in isolation.

The continued uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic has led to increased levels of stress and anxiety among children and parents alike. And even though we are hopeful for a light at the end of the pandemic tunnel, in the meantime we need to take care of our mental health—and those of our families, friends, colleagues and neighbours.

Practicing social distancing does not mean having to be socially isolated. Stay socially connected to friends and family through regular phone calls, email, video chats, social media, or outdoor visits. Check in regularly with those around you to see how they are doing, particularly if they have gone through a recent life change.

Try to eat healthy meals, exercise regularly, get plenty of sleep. Focus on the positive aspects of your life and things you can control. And be kind and compassionate to yourself and others.

COVID-19 has been particularly difficult for seniors, many of whom have been living under quarantine and isolation. Reach out to the seniors in your life to provide support.

The pandemic has also taken a toll on the mental health of children and youth. Socialization and school are formative for young people and the pandemic has drastically changed how they experience both. During this time, it's critical that we pay extra attention to our children's mental health needs.

Support and resources

- Alberta Health Services provides a wide range of mental health resources to support Albertans through COVID-19. For more information visit <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/amh/Page16759.aspx>,
- Alberta Blue Cross also provides a wide range of mental health resources on its website at www.ab.bluecross.ca/resources/mental-health-support.php
- The Government of Canada has a comprehensive listing of COVID-19 mental health resources at <https://tinyurl.com/d2scnx4h>.

Support for children and youth

- Earlier this year, Alberta Blue Cross® partnered with Kickstand and the Mental Health Foundation to launch *MoreGoodDays*, a mental wellness messaging service that delivers daily advice and inspiration to young people through their phones. Youth across Alberta can text 'MoreGoodDays' to 393939 to receive these daily text messages for free.
- The Government of Alberta also has a COVID-19 Youth Mental Health Resource Hub available at www.jack.org/Resources/ABHub.

If you are experiencing a mental health crisis, please reach out for support by calling 1-833-456-4566. Support is available 24/7.



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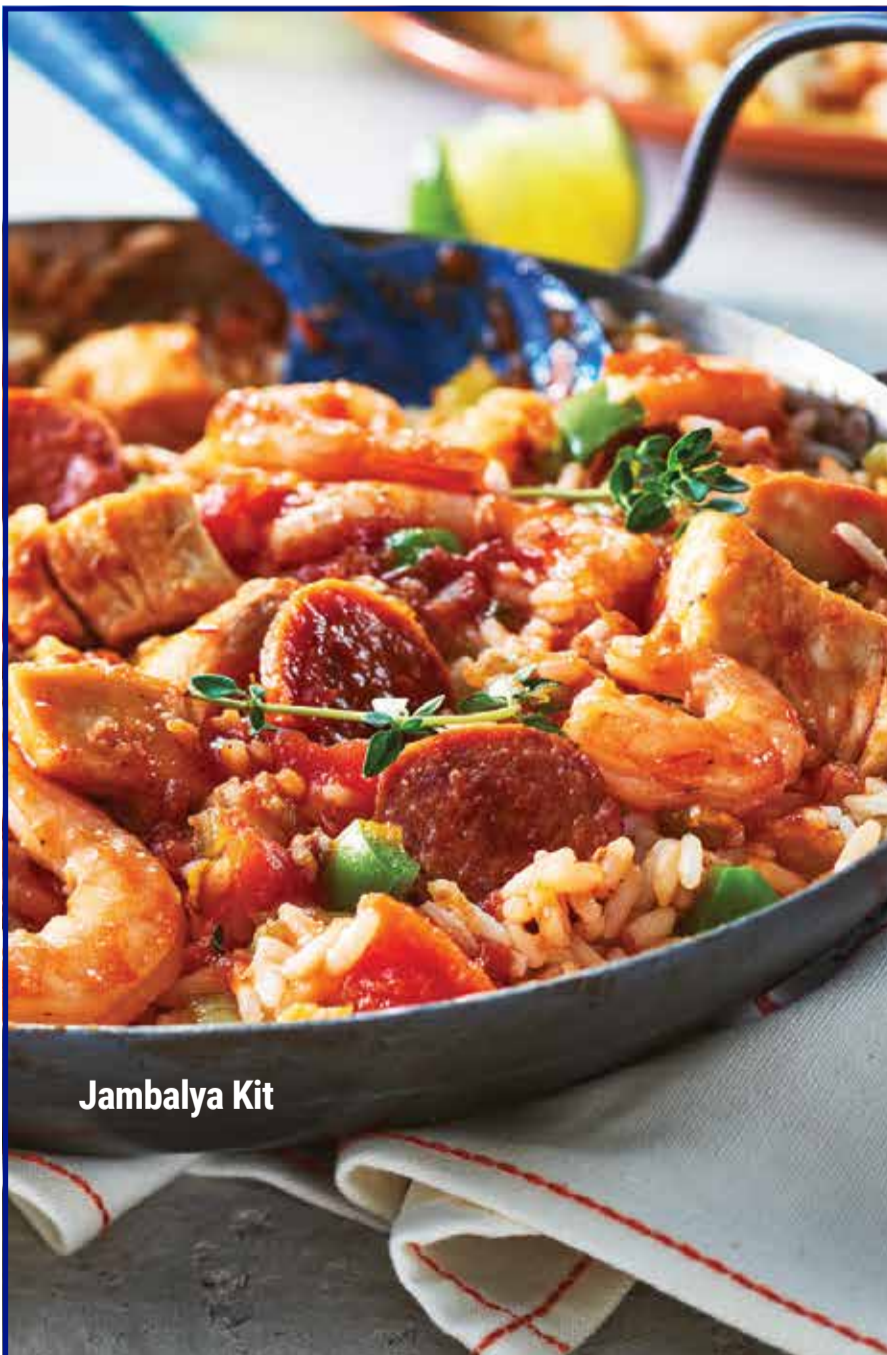
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Memberships may be purchased at any time through the Glastonbury Community League App.

GCL has proudly been serving the communities of The Grange, Parkland and Granville since 2005. If you're not sure if you reside within our boundaries, check out the maps on our website @ www.gclyeg.com or send us an e-mail.

If you do not reside within GCL boundaries and wish to purchase a membership, please contact our Membership Director directly at membership@gclyeg.com where they will be happy to assist you with your purchase.

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Jambalya Kit

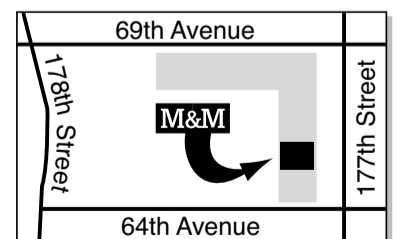


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Memorial Garden and Book Honour Beloved Area Teacher



It has been almost one year since 36-year-old Meghan Weis was tragically killed when a semi's large converter dolly became detached and struck her vehicle. The young mom of two had just left her home in our community and was on her way to work as a French-Immersion teacher at nearby École Our Lady of the Prairies. This devastating loss deeply affected everyone who knew her. Staff at the school, where her own young children attend, began the brave process of guiding and supporting students and each other, through this incredible grief.

In the weeks following Meghan's passing, Glastonbury Community League Programs Director, Brendilynn Mantey-Annor, received a phone call to interview to become the teacher for Meghan's class. The hiring department didn't know about the very special connection between Brenda and Meghan. Meghan had been Brenda's mentor when she was a student-teacher doing her practicum. A few months prior, Meghan had reached out to Brenda to encourage her to apply for the ECSD and served as her reference.

As Brendilynn took the helm of Meghan's grade 5/6 class, she was able to offer her bereaved students a sense of familiarity and comfort. She knew many of Mme Weis' famous sayings and how she organized and taught her class. Brenda had also taught many of the students' older siblings while doing her practicum with Mme Weis.

As the year progressed, the school community sought to honour Mme Weis' memory and the positive impact she had. Students were given forget-me-not seeds to plant, along with a meaningful poem. There were classroom visits from her relatives with special gifts and mementos. In the spring, a

space outside the school was transformed into a beautiful memorial garden in her honour, as gardening was a hobby Meghan enjoyed. The memorial garden is filled with planters of colourful flowers, art and seating and will be used as both a peaceful space for reflection and a learning space for all classes in the school.

Following a dedication celebration at the end of the school year with the District chaplain and Weis' relatives, the garden was cared for over the summer break by her family (including her grandmother, Mémère St. Pierre, who had sparked Meghan's love of gardening) and some students' families with whom she shared a special connection. One family that cared for the garden was our own GCL President's family. GCL President Kim Johnson: "We were blessed to have Meghan teach both of our children over the years. She was *exactly* the kind of teacher every parent hopes for their children: she was warm, engaging, supportive, creative and so much more. You couldn't help but notice the sparkle in her eyes, always brimming with love and spunk and life. We all loved her quick wit and sense of humour. Our family was truly honoured to help care for the memorial garden in her honour."

As the school year came to an end, the students in Class 5/6D also received an unforgettable parting gift from Mme Brendilynn: a book titled *Amazing 56*, written and published by her, especially for them. *Amazing 56* features illustrations of each student in the class, school staff and more. Spoiler alert: the end of the story is a touching nod to Mme Weis' way of having her students express their gratitude as a group.

Brendilynn shared her reasons for writing the book with CBC

Radio: "I came to the school learning that their class was called the Amazing 56 and I was just curious why they got that title and I quickly learned how resilient they were, how creative they were, as well how they always wanted to lift each other up. I thought this book would be something so sweet for them to remember and cherish and remember that they are a family; even though they are going to grow up, they are still the Amazing 56 of Mme Weis and I."

Meghan's sister-in-law and best friend, Kara Weis, also shared with CBC Radio that the family is appreciative of Brendilynn's book. "We could not have been more happy and just so thankful for everything that she wrote in this book. It speaks so much to the group of kids that Meghan was teaching. I think the main goal of this book is just to show the power of being a team and accepting each other and loving each other and how you can get through anything....If you don't know Meghan, after this book, you know Meghan... Her boys are really young. This book, in 10 or 15 years, is going to be *such* a blessing for them, to be able to go back and to read a story that paints such a beautiful picture of who their mom was, is incredible. We see it as such a gift for the future."

In addition to her teaching career and volunteering with the GCL, Brendilynn has previously published 2 other children's books in English and French: *Go to Sleep Little Peep/ Dors, Petit Cuicui*, and *A Lonely Hoot/ Une Chouette Esseulée*. To follow Brenda's journey as an author, you can find her online at <https://www.authorbrendilynnma.com/> or on Instagram @authorbrendilynnma.





Fun Shack 2021 Recap

This summer, we had the return of our children's summer program! The Fun Shack program is geared to children ages 6 to 12 and it is filled with fun, active group games and sports to keep kids engaged in our community. The two locations for our Fun Shack continue to be at Glastonbury Park and Doug Kelly Park.

There were many new things introduced this past summer including a new logo and new faces to lead our community summer program. Our Fun Shack leaders are post secondary students who are ready to be active, and engaging, creating a memorable summer for the young participants. The leaders were Mark Webster, Miranda Tobert, Jordan Ardeleanu and Maiah Walters.

Youth also had a role in our summer program as many were interested in being leaders in training. L.I.T.s are youth between grade 7 to 12 who are looking to volunteer and gain leadership skills at the Fun Shack. Every year, there are a few who stand out. We are grateful to have the L.I.T.s giving back to the community by growing and training to become future leaders!

Our program held weekly themes such as Under the Sea, Space Jam and Animal Kingdom. We held a Summer Colour Theme with a Tie-Dye community wide activity for all children. It was a wonderful turnout and many creative minds made their shirts in fantastic colours!

The pandemic caused us to shift how we do certain things, and the program made sure to keep hands clean after games, sanitize equipment used by participants and social distancing as much as possible. It is a thrill to have support and feedback from parents showing that they are equally invested in our summer Fun Shack program ensuring their children are safe and getting the best program.

We can't wait to see what next year will hold with the program and what other organizations, public libraries and programs we can collaborate with next summer! To follow the Fun Shack, follow us on Instagram @gcl_funshack.



Fun Shack Leader
Maiah Walters



Fun Shack Leader
Mark Webster



Fun Shack Leader
Jordan Ardeleanu



Fun Shack Leader
Miranda Tobert




On Saturday August 21, we hosted our second annual GCL Amazing Race--and it was a blast! The Glastonbury Community Amazing Race is a summer event for youth between grades 6 and grade 12, where teams go through the community solving clues, working as a team and racing to the finish line.

This summer, seven teams joined the Amazing Race making it about 30 to 35 youth participating; teams red, blue, green, pink, orange, yellow and purple. During the race participants roamed the community with pedestrian conveyances, such as bikes, scooters, rollerblades and skateboards. It was wonderful to see teams working together at each of their stations making their way to the next stop rapidly, wearing their team colours proudly and making this an amazing event.

We had three winners! Team Purple came in third place, and Team Orange was in second place. Our first place winner for the Amazing Race was Team Yellow. Our 2nd and 3rd place winners were awarded prizes and our first place winners will be going to Clip' and Climb, a rock climbing activity for their team.


It truly was wonderful to have this event and a huge thanks to volunteers for taking time out of their day to help out with the stations for the Amazing Race. We hope to run the GCL Amazing Race every year! If you are interested in following our GCL Amazing Race page, follow us on Instagram @gcl_amazingrace.



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ESL ALPHA

Learn English in a safe and fun environment! Alpha is an 11-week course that creates a space for a conversation about faith, life and God. At the same time you have a chance to learn English and practice English conversation.

Parenting Course

The Parenting Children Course is a class designed to help parents of 0 to 10-year-olds. There is no instant recipe or formula for bringing up children, and different situations and different children call for different approaches. However, there are some general principles that apply to all families and there is great value in discussions with other parents. We invite you to join us for 5 Thursday nights beginning Oct 14 at 7 pm.

Fall Festival

Save the date!! We are planning an incredible Family-Friendly Fall Festival with carnival games, treats and all the fixings!

We can't wait to celebrate with you on Saturday, October 30 from 1-4pm!



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Get your home ready for winter

While we're all hoping for a long autumn season, the reality is that another frigid Alberta winter is just around the corner. That means it's time to get your home ready for the upcoming winter season. Here are some useful fall home maintenance tips care of the Weather Network to ensure you're ready for the snow and cold.

1. **Inspect your roof**

When fall's rains (and winter's snows) arrive, few things make the season more miserable than a leaky roof. Experts recommend doing a visual inspection of your roof. Look for bent, cracked or missing shingles and replace them. If there are a lot of those, and you know your roof is old, consider having your shingles replaced. It may be costly, but so is water damage from leaks. Pay special attention to areas around skylights, chimneys or vents. Note that if you belong to one of the homeowner's associations in Glastonbury, ensure you check your association's architectural guidelines for the approved styles before replacing your shingles.

2. **Check your roof gutters**

When the leaves are done falling, you'll save a lot of hassle by pulling out the ladder again and clearing out your roof gutters. Clogged or clear, the water from fall and early winter rains won't stop coming. Clearing the gutters allows rainwater to drain properly through your downspouts, rather than spilling over the sides and potentially getting into your home's foundation. Clearing your gutters can also prevent ice dams forming over the winter months. And speaking of downspouts, check them for leaks, and make sure they direct water away from the foundation, not to mention sidewalks and driveways. Water draining on or near your sidewalk or driveway will erode your concrete and can cause heaving or sunken concrete. If you're heading up on a ladder, remember to put safety first.

3. **Clear your yard**

Fall is a good time to remove things that don't do well when the snows come. Move or cover backyard furniture that you know won't do well in the cold and snow, as well as your lawnmower, outdoor tools and kids' toys.

4. **Disconnect your outdoor hose**

While your home's warmth may insulate water in pipes from the cold rigors of Canada's winter, outside faucets have no such protection. Turn water off to outdoor faucets, and disconnect and store your garden hose as well. Make sure to run the tap after to drain as much of the water out before the cold sets in.

5. **Inspect your home's exterior for cracks**

Fall is the best time to do this, not just because of fall rains and winter snows, but with an eye to the spring melt as well. Walk around and have a look for cracks or gaps. Take a good look at doors, windows, and entry points of wires or cables. Sealing these off will save you headaches later. Don't delay too long in doing so, as caulking is best done before it gets too cold.

6. **Be ready for snow removal season**

Stock up on ice-melter and sand, and replace your snow shovel if it's worn out. If you have a snow blower, now's the time to tune it up to ensure it is running well.

7. **Get ready to turn up the heat**

You've prepped the outside of your home against the rigors of the cold, now it's time to focus on keeping the interior toasty. Change out the air filter on your furnace (and stock up on spares), and call in an inspector to give the system a once-over, as well as check for signs of carbon monoxide buildup. Next, check all your heating ducts and vents for dust build-up, and peek inside to see if anything fell into them over the past season. Every bit of extra clearance helps.

8. **Guard against drafts**

Having a warm home isn't much of a boon if you're losing heat through poor insulation. Check your window and door seals for drafts when the weather gets cool enough. Seal any cracks with caulk or weather stripping.

9. **Check your humidifier**

Winter air is dry, and that has its own effects on your home's infrastructure. If your home is equipped with a humidifier, it'll need annual maintenance as well. Clean out the filter, or replace it if it's too encrusted. Give the equipment as a whole a good cleaning also.

10. **Give a thought to home safety**

While you're giving your home its seasonal overhaul, take the time to make sure it's safe for its inhabitants. Check your smoke detectors to make sure they are in working order (you should have one on each floor), replace them on a regular basis and check your fire extinguishers. If you need to replace or recharge them, now's a good time to do so.

11. **Check your fireplace**

If you have a gas fireplace in your home, make sure the exit vent is unobstructed. If you have a wood-burning fireplace, ensure both your fireplace and chimney are clean. And never leave a lit fireplace unattended, whether gas or wood-burning.

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