

A COMMON MAN'S BOOK OF VERSE OR WORSE  
JOHN'S STORIES AND POEMS  
VOL II

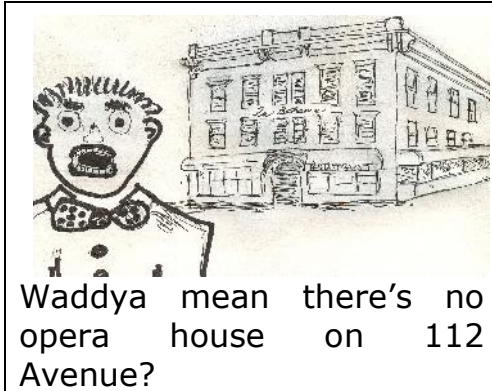
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## ARTICLES

112 Avenue Businesses Galore, 1914-1964..... by John Tidridge



I suggested to our editor a history of the businesses on 112 Avenue might work, she said, 'go for it'. I (almost) regret my impetuosity!! Starting with the first business I decided, after three hours of research (and only fifty years into it) the first fifty years would suffice. I thank the helpful staff at the City of Edmonton Archives.

My source was the invaluable but not infallible, *Henderson's Directories*. There was the inter-changing of Highland and Highlands, Bellvue and Bellevue, Iornish for Cornish, some-times Bill's Esso, sometimes Bill's Service Station...you get the drift. However, for the most part, operating business were shown at specific addresses. The 1918 directory was missing.

*Henderson's* from 1906 to 1914 were checked; the first businesses noted were in 1914: 6227 (rear) Belleview Meat market, 6228 Magrath and Co. Builders and 6427 was Highland Cash Grocery. This entry is puzzling: 6227 (rear) Belleview Meat Market: The address puts the store on the south side of 112 Avenue between 62 and 63 Streets.

112 Avenue Stores created 'clumps' of businesses. There was a 'clump' in one building where 54 Street should be, a larger 'clump' 64 ½ to 65 ½ Streets, at 71-73 Streets, a single building 'clump' between 75 and 76 Streets, a two-business 'clump' at 76 Street.

A Bank, Barber Shop, Beauty Parlor, Builder, Cafe, Chickery, Church Offices, Clothing and Fashion Store, Coal Companies, Confectionery Store, Cycle Shop, Dentist, Doctor, Drug Store, Dry Cleaner, Groceries, Hardware Store, Ice Cream Parlors, Jeweller, Meat Market, Photographer, Plumbing and Heating, Post Office, Real Estate Office, Restaurant, Service Station, Shoe Repair, Sunday School, Taxi business have all been located on 112 Avenue. Before I forget, Highlands Bakery was not on 112 Avenue!!

Address histories: 6423 showed 'vacant' from 1914-21; from 1922-1943 it was Highland Drug Store, then it became Corner Drug (Highlands) Ltd, until 1959, with a sub post office shown in 1951. 1960 saw Agnew Drug Store in place until 1964.

6427 occupied for 47 of the 50 years (remember 1918 is missing) from 1916 to 1948 as a grocery store. In 1948 a dry cleaners is at the 'rear'. In 1949 a variety store took over; 1961 a fashion shop, 1963 Del Mould Plumbing and Heating occupying the site. The premises were shown 'vacant' in 1964.

6924 hosted the first service station, in 1933, shown as Bellvue, later Highland Motors remaining until 1964. Bill's Esso, 7215, first listed in 1948, still operating in 1964. In 1935, 7601 was service station; sometimes as 112 Avenue, on a couple of occasions 112 Avenue South, then back to 112 Avenue. However, by 1950 the directory seemed content with 112 Avenue South. Jarman Shell occupied 7120 from 1959 on. The first bank noted at 7119 in 1950, the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, the bank later moved to 6414 in 1961 and was still there in 1964.

The Safeway Store appeared at 6414 in 1930, remaining until 1960, replaced by the CIBC Bank. In 1924 a grocery store appeared at 7106 and continued, under different names, until at least 1964.

1951 saw the first Dentist at 6513, Dr. Mackenzie, in 1954 when he was joined by Dr. Gallagher; by 1955 Dr. Gallagher replaced by Doctor Cornish. 1961 showed only Dr. Cornish, who remained until 1964. Physician Dr. Denton occupied 7121 from 1954 until Dr. Hutton took over in 1956, remaining until 1964.

Beauty Salons and/or Parlors appeared in 1932 remaining until 1964. Barbers Shops also, starting in 1933. In many cases both businesses were in the same building; it is possible the two businesses were not always recorded. Highlands enjoyed the barber until 1943; the business seemed to disappear. Bellevue Barber Shop opened in 1950 continuing until 1964. In 1953 the Highland Barber Shop opened at 6419 disappeared for a couple of years, resurfacing in 1956. The shop was probably missed in the census.

The taxi company lasted but one year, 1948 at 6507 b.

Shoe Repairs started in 1933 at 6520, store not recorded for 1934, but 'reappeared' in 1935 operated until it became 'vacant' in

1943, back in business in 1944 until 1950, reappeared at 6427 in 1951-1955, moved to 6510 until 1962. Not reported for 1963-4.

The one building, several businesses, at 54 Street, came into being in 1952, with the A & B Pigle Wigle opening at 5339 and at 5355a, which is likely 5335a, Mount Royal Milk Bar. I understand a Pigle Wigle Store was something like Value Village selling used clothing. Occupying the building have been a variety of businesses: a Ready to Wear Clothing Store, a Snack Bar, Meat Market, Drug Store, Super Store, a Post Office and a Beauty Salon.

Dry cleaners are first mentioned in 1948 at 6427 until 1950; in 1951 a dry cleaner is shown at 6515, with the exception of a couple of misses, until 1960. Trudeau's opened at 6410 in 1961.

Two coal companies occupied premises in the area of 75-76 Streets, no specific addresses were supplied.

7543 first appeared listed as a vacant store in 1922 in 1929 when it shown as occupied by Grace Lutheran English Sunday School, the school was there until 1932 when Northern Chickeries occupied the premises, until 1934 then it disappeared. The address was eventually turned into suites.

1924 saw, at 7599, the name Hambley Confectionery Store, this name remained until 1931 when Park Grocery opened. In 1938 the James Warmington Grocery started, remaining until 1940, then becoming Parkview Red and White Grocery, (shown vacant in 1960) and remaining so to 1964.

6421 held Highland Hardware, 1947 until 1964, the only hardware store on 112 Avenue. Also in this time period were a couple of jewelers, photographers and a Cycle and Sports Shop. 6507 housed a grocery/meat store from 1931 to 1964, with names including Stone's, Chan's, Aubin's, Leo's, and Pete's.

Jamison's at 6417 was Jamison's Coffee Bar in 1947-1955. It 1956 it became Jamison's Coffee and Dairy Bar; a coffee bar in 1957 until it became Coffee Shop in 1960, a (snack?) bar in 1962; a restaurant in 1963 and 1964. George Traynor, raised in Highlands, talks of a coffee bar (?) on the northwest corner of 65 Street and 11 2 Avenue, however, the directories make no mention of it. There is mention of several café's, snack and ice cream and coffee places during the fifty years, these were, apart from Jamison's: 1914-15

7601, Park Café, 1949-1962 at 7108- the Highland Polar Bar, 1955-1960, at 5335a, Mount Royal Milk Bar, then Joe's Snack Bar, Lotts Snack Bar, Mount Royal Snack Bar, Mount Royal Café and, finally, Sammy's Lunch! The place showed 'vacant' for 1963 and 4.

Oh, yes, Canada (sub offices) Post...1926 at 7106, 1951 at 6423, 1957 at 7208

From 1964 on....who knows!!

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### 112 Avenue Diet...Another Item On The Menu. By John Tidridge

I was challenged by a family member, who shall be nameless as shall be the subdivision of residence, to respond to Dale Darrah's article on the diet!! I have read the article again and would like to add my two-bits worth.

First of all, Highlands is not really one community, in spite of the name. For those of us who live here (I have since 1963) it is mentally, if not physically, divided not only by 112 Avenue but by the size of the lots in both areas. Don't think this is true? Just ask any Real Estate representative that knows the area.

So for Dale to say "Highlands is no less in support of the diet" is perhaps a bit of a stretch. It would be interesting to know just how many people do support the idea. The thing that does make me wonder is this: the diet is supposed to control traffic to make the area more walk able. Fine. So, where are these walkers practicing for the day? I am a frequent walker. The number of walkers I see could be counted on one hand on any given walk. My route is from 60 Street, along 113 Avenue, down 68 or 70 or 71 Street to the Boulevard, to 60 Street and then home. And 'Highlands Village' as I like to call it also lacks much pedestrian traffic, other than people leaving their vehicles to enter the stores.

Having said that I support the idea; I have visions of an 'Oak Bay' type area, but have been around the block enough times to know it is extremely difficult to change things. Those who are working on this project are to be commended. They should also remember, though, that an expert is sometimes some one from out of province/country with a set of slides, no matter how much they like his presentation!

Now to the distressing part of the article, but what would be the point? The remarks reflect moments of anger knowing that Highlands moved first to try something different. Talk of bribes and political influence/interference do not truly reflect the nature of people living in those areas. At least not the ones I know!! As I think back to my childhood, hmmm, an Aesop's fable comes to mind.... Don't remember it all, but I think it was about a bunch of fruit that tasted sour...

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### A Sign, Give Me A Sign.....by John Tidridge

This is an observation, not a concern not a complaint....

On November 24, 2005, at about 13.30 hr traveling westbound on 111 Avenue at about 104 ½ street I noticed a man lying on the north boulevard of the avenue. From his restful looking position I assumed he was asleep.

I returned eastbound about 5-10 minutes later and he was still 'resting comfortably'...but it struck me that I should 'report the matter'. We, the public, are often chastised for being uncaring.

When I reached 94 Street I u-turned and visited the Community Police Station. There was but one police officer on duty. He was about 6' 1-2" tall, muscular, very neat in appearance.

He left what he was doing and came to the counter. He asked me my reason for being there and I explained my reason. He took the information, writing it on a yellow pad, I left.

Here is my observation (and I am so pro-Police it hurts at time)...at no time did he engage in small talk or thank me, he did not ask my name or even make me feel welcome...(he was not impolite, though) I felt he felt I was just some old senior etc etc.....(which of course I am, but that's beside the point isn't it!!)

My observation...if this man is on duty at that office or a similar function full-time, he needs to develop some better inter-personal skills. I am prepared to concede we all have off days (even I have known to be grumpy at times!!)...normally he may be the life and soul of the party...but on Thursday...it just did not happen!!!

John Tidridge  
Former member.

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## Thanking My Dentist



11315-60 Street NW  
Edmonton  
Alberta  
T5W 3Z2

Dr. Jay Dalmer  
202-9670-142 Street  
Edmonton  
Alberta  
T5N 4B2

September 23, 2006

Dear Dr. Jay and Staff....

Re: Dental care.

A littler bit of history...my first recollection of visiting a dentist was when I was a child in England...just after WW II started. The dentist used a foot operated drill....hmmm!! Later, in the army I was foolish enough to take up boxing...finished up with a chipped tooth which the dentist was going to 'cap'...he either ran out of patience or skills or both!! Because he eventually pulled the tooth after I had spent some considerable time on different visits getting the tooth 'shaped'.

Moving now to Canada...I spent forty-five minutes in a dentist's chair as he extracted one tooth....later, he pulled seventeen good teeth and immediately inserted a new plate into my mouth...this dentist later took his own life! Hmmm, again!!

I later began attending Drs. Langmaid, Ross, Reagan, and finally, Dr. Dalmer!! Phew....long journey, but the treatment improved from excellent to (well, superlatives fail me!!). I would not go as far as to say I really, really enjoy my visits but...I have come to expect and

do receive, top notch treatment....and service from the time I walk through the door.

A big thanks to all of you!!

John Tidridge

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Shops Of Signs  
6503-118 Avenue NW  
780-477-7446

It would seem everyone is seeking a Sign of some sort; however, if your quest is for a down-to-earth type of sign perhaps you should pay a visit to Barry Lloyd at the Shop of Signs.

Barry, who hails from Nova Scotia, tells me that besides making all kinds of signs; banners from as low as \$35.00, sandwich boards and vehicle decals are also on the menu.

Barry's business is located in a former beauty salon, where is he says he can and will produce your advertising requirement at a reasonable price and of good quality. He offers wholesale prices on bulk buying. Signs are made from a variety of material including coroplast, sintra, intecel, dibond and styrene. Need a personalized licence plate? Barry is your man.

I found Barry to be very personable and attentive to my request for a story. In fact he had completed the questionnaire in three days which bodes well for customers seeking his wares.

Barry, who located in the area because he found it quiet and clean, says the community can count on him for support.

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Additions To The Boulevard..... by John Tidridge

"Why don't you take a walk down Ada Boulevard and talk the owners of the new mansions...", suggested our slave-driver editor? Walk, talk? For one who does little of either this was a tall order...but, obedient to the command, the first walk began on November 17, a

glorious afternoon...first home unoccupied, the next, occupied but no one at home, written request left in the mail box...met Walter at the next one and he was sure he would help us out...occupied, but no one home at the next one, written request left...at the last, met with a person who assured me he would pass along the request...

And Now From The Boulevard, Ada That Is, ... Sign Of The Times.....by John Tidridge

On the Speed Bump warning sign on the north side of the Boulevard, between 50 and 52 streets some enterprising (?) individual has posted a small sticker that advertises (?) a SHUR LIFT...presumably over the speed lift. Unfortunately, for those of us needing the service there is no telephone number or address!!

Host A Belly Dance Party

Arielle Giordano by John Tidridge  
11206-56 Street  
780-428-5571  
[ARIELLEGIODANO@yahoo.com](mailto:ARIELLEGIODANO@yahoo.com)

When I was asked by our editor to do a story on this item I almost declined, but then while it's a tough assignment, some one had to do it...

"Hosting a belly dance party is fun entertainment that offers an opportunity to participate in fitness while exploring this beautiful sensual expression" is how Arielle describes her business. Arielle, who has a degree in M.A.M.A. from the U.S.A., lives in the Highlands and loves the neighbourhood; the beautiful homes, the river valley, and this quiet, charming, established area of Edmonton.

Arielle teaches belly and flambelly dances, and would enjoy meeting neighbours and offering an opportunity to have a neighbourhood belly dance party in the spring.

---

Big Sky Computers...  
6513-118 Avenue NW  
780-479-1556  
[bigskycomputers@shaw.ca](mailto:bigskycomputers@shaw.ca)

Those of us old enough to remember the advent of front wheel drive will recall the advertisement that showed a happy, happy owner, chasing goats or sheep up a mountain with four wheel drive...he exclaims happily, "Four wheel drive"....the next frame shows him checking his tires and saying (unhappily), "Four-wheel drive!!!!" Computer owners can possible relate, in meaningful way, to this scenario!!

My own experience with Big Sky computers has been positive, as it was when L and R Computers was front and centre.

Richard Thompson and his business partner, Dave Proctor, occupy the same premises and provide double the service!!

Both men are dedicated to providing friendly, courteous service, where no job is too small. Repairs and custom built systems are their forte. A fun line of used equipment is also available.

Dave and Richard put their customers' needs first; there is no high pressure selling, and you are treated as an individual deserving the best.

Highlands was chosen as a place to do business as, in the close proximity, there are a variety of goods and services available.

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Mr. S. Gosche

Dear Mr. Gosche,

I was speaking with Mae Cox just recently about the death of her husband Phil, and the pheasant(s) that frequents her yard. We also talked about the Newsletter associated with Highlands and Bellevue Community Leagues (I write some articles each issue) and she though you would/could proved an article on the diversity of the birdlife in the River Valley particularly in the stretch that would encompass our community leagues (76 Street to 50 Street.

Our next issue is not due out until September with a deadline of August 10.

If you are prepared to write such an article there are several options open for getting the letter to the editor....

1. Send to me at [jtidridge@interbaun.com](mailto:jtidridge@interbaun.com)
2. or mail to 11315-60 Street NW
3. I can pick it up from your home!! (780-474-1594)

Hoping you can oblige,

Yours sincerely,

John Tidridge

There may be an ad some time in the future!!!

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### Bob Klose: Long-Time Violinist Seeks Students.

Bob has called the Highlands his home for five years, having moved here from Saskatoon in order to be near his ailing parents, Charlotte and Ted Klose, both of whom have since passed away. His roots in this neighbourhood run deeper still, however; he spent the better part of his boyhood here, attending Highlands and Eastglen schools and later the U of A for 3 years where he majored in violin performance.

The violin has been his passion from an early age; he began his training with local teachers (Ranald Shean and Thomas Rolston)--accompanied by such well-known Edmonton pianists as Sandra Munn--and went on to study with some of the instrument's greats, including Ivan Galamian, Josef Gingold, Tadeusz Wronsky (Rector of the Warsaw conservatory), and others at Indiana University, the Banff Centre, and the Meadowmount school in New York.

While still a student, he won first prize in the CBC Young Artist's String Competition. During his thirty year career as Professor of Music at the University of Saskatchewan he initiated an Academy for Gifted Youth which produced many fine violinists who have gone on to careers in the field, and he founded and conducted the Corelli Strings Orchestra. In addition he toured in Canada, the U.S. and Europe as a soloist and with the Canadian Arts Trio. He has been concertmaster of several orchestras.

Bob maintains a violin studio in his home off Ada Boulevard. He enjoys teaching students of varying abilities and ages, including several adults; a recent highlight was a first-place win at the 2005

National Music Festival for one of his protégés, 17 year old Raymond Ko, who commutes from Saskatoon for lessons. He loves living and working in this area, with its familiar walks, fine views, and friendly folk.

If you are interested in taking lesson or learning more, please call Bob at 471-2898

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SWISH by John Tidridge  
6507-112 avenue NW  
Telephone 780-479-8408

Angela Larson, the owner/operator of Swish says her tag line is "vintage finds for your sassy self"; and she carries excellent assortment of vintage and retro clothing and accessories. Angela says she has a personal passion for textiles, collecting linen, quilts, fabric and kimonos.

Swish is filled with retro furniture, antiques and all manner of home décor items. Angela (and Store!!) recently from Norwood, officially reopened in the Highlands on September 15<sup>th</sup> : Efforts had been made to lease the same space a year ago but had failed, so she is deeply thrilled to be given this new opportunity.

The store is arrayed with a fabulous selection of merchandise, with new stock arriving almost daily. The majority of the home décor items are perfectly suited to character homes in The Highlands and very well priced.

Angela, an Edmontonian, with a daughter named Sinclair, recently sold her home in Norwood and is looking to relocate either the Highlands, Virginia Park or close by.

A sense of community with neighbouring businesses, support from the residence and the encouragement of the nearby businesses have confirmed for Angela the move to the Highlands was the thing to do. She is also attracted by the history and beauty of the Highlands.

Welcome to the Highlands, Angela.

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Car Master Collision Ltd. By John Tidridge  
4817-118 Avenue  
Telephone 780-471-3125  
Hours of business: Monday to Friday 8.00-5.30 AM.

Trust me; sooner or later you will experience a contretemps (An Agatha Christie word) with your vehicle. It may be a window that won't open/close, a key broken in the lock, a parking lot dent or accident damage. So, where should you go for fast, reliable and friendly service? From my own experience, you could do worse than:

Car Master Collision!

Wait a minute you say...that business is outside of the Highlands-Bellevue area. Right you are...and we offered the same story opportunity to another body shop...just out side of our area. And, more to the point, if you want your vehicle fixed you are going to have to leave the area!

Allan McKay owns the business ably supported by his wife, Rose. The McKays have two children and live in the Clareview area. Allan has operated at this location for 5 ½ years. The couple appreciate the friendly people of the neighbourhood.

With over twenty year's personal experience and a well trained staff of four, Allan is ready to offer that friendly and professional service should your vehicle require it.

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Sometimes, Just Sometimes One Has To Break The Rules....John Tidridge



Carolyn Russell who teaches music, does not live in the Highlands, however, I understand that music has no boundaries, so here goes.

Carolyn who teaches piano, has been playing piano for 34 years and has been teaching piano for 12 years.

Her education includes: Popular and Jazz trained with a music diploma from Grant MacEwan

College, Classically trained with Grade 10 Royal Conservatory. Carolyn also belonged to the Concordia College Choir.

Carolyn belongs to a Lutheran Church in St. Albert and is a Worship Team leader for one Worship Team which involves organizing the music for Sunday Service as well as organizing the music for seasonal occasions (i.e. Christmas). Carolyn is also a playing member of a second Worship Team.

As an unbiased grandfather who I has heard one of his granddaughter's play, a student of Carolyn, I can highly recommend Carolyn...

Carolyn teaches piano at the home of the student. She can be reached at 780-349-4180

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### Charity Begins At School....Or Does It!! By John Tidridge

Ms. Elaine Ford principal of Mount Royal School, and a strong supporter of children being involved in community affairs, causally suggested I might like to 'do' an article on the activities of some of the children at the school. Piece of cake I thought, as I said yes. I thought I would ask a few questions and... But any way, on with the story!!

I have often questioned the partiality of stories one reads in local and national newspapers. That's slanted I would think, that way or that way...that's not really a true picture of what really happened or what the people actually said. I'd never give a 'slanted' story....

So like Sir Lancelot, I entered the fray with an open mind, not a slanted thought anywhere. NOT!! But, I did try! Honest! But the story is not about me...really! I spoke with seven young people, six of them lads. It worked out at three groups of two and one single...working at a school has done wonders for my math!!

The questions were not directly related to the charities involved...UNICEF, Stollery Children's Hospital, the Edmonton Humane Society or Santa's Anonymous, but to how and why the children became involved. There were certainly no financial perks or benefits. The children all related in various ways that they became involved because it seemed to be the correct thing to do after they had had time to assimilate the material given them. Some of the young people

were group leaders or co-captains. Between them they had given up recesses and dinner breaks. Fund raising was a necessity.

Now here is my bias, as one who tries to live the Christian lifestyle and is concerned about the sometimes negative reports on the Christian church, I wondered how many of the children I had spoken to attended church... 85%!! In addition to this, several of the children had participated in family discussions related to helping others!

Please don't read into this that only church goes do good!!

I was duly impressed with the children, their responses and their sense of wanting to help others. All is not lost!!

Cheryl and Howard

Should this be an article for the Newsletter and will the Executive make a response in the Newsletter? OR will the response appear without the letter?

I have not copied Miriam

---

Hey, Are You Listening? (Members of the Executive Council, Highlands and Bellevue Community Leagues) by John Tidridge

I was shopping at one of my regular stores. The manager/owner (M/O) said, "Are you still involved with the Community league"? I responded hesitantly, "Yes, I am". "See me when you have finished what you are doing, I want to talk to you", continued the M/O. My photographic mind immediately flipped through all the articles I had ever written for the Newsletter. Had my foot in mouth disease recurred?

Brusque though the opening remarks may have seemed the ensuing conversation was not, and a pleasant five or six minutes was spent discussing a local, former grocery store. M/O said he had already talked to a couple of Executive members but was not sure if they were following up on his concern.

M/O wanted to know if the joint-Community league executive was pro-actively involved in ensuring the right kind of permanent development took place in the old store. M/O explained that he was often asked where he carried out his business and when he identified it

as being on 118 Avenue he had to quickly explain that his corner was fine. The other somewhat, in his opinion, dubious types of businesses, were not connected to his corner.

According to M/O this seemed an ideal opportunity for the Executive to get involved in seeking out businesses that would add to the neighbourhood. He thought that a business dealing in mainly fruit and vegetables (the only locally-owned one in the area) or a medical centre (none within walking distance) would be ideal.

I was asked to bring this to the attention of the Executive so that they could perhaps make a response in the Newsletter.

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### Comings And Goings .....by John Tidridge

**Coming...**Once known as 'Swish', not sure if the name will carryover but the owner Angela Larson, not a Highlander, but hoping to correct that error, has signed all the documents and hopes to be open for business around September 15...oh, yes, the business?...an antique/retro store in the 'old' Collectiv" store 6507-112 Avenue.

**Coming...**It is hoped that the story of 'Diva Communications', the business moving in behind 'Collectiv' will be 'elsewhere' in this Newsletter.

**Coming...**Glacier Homes, 6515-118 Avenue, 442-3215 Glen Teghtmeyer and Steve Sumka. Show Home 442-2215 more to follow in the next issue... Glen is a local lad, drop in and make your self known

**Going.....**Did you know that 'Collectiv', 6507-112 Avenue is moving....not far but they have gone east....about 100 feet, to the west side of 'Mandolin Books' which is located at 6417-112 Avenue. We are not sure but we think the address will be 6419-112 Avenue...anywho, if you tangoed in Highlands you will know the address....Opening date "around" October 1.

**Going....**But not far, Mundare Sausage House and Uncle Ed's Restaurant: from 11401-50 Street to the north side of 118 Avenue at 49 Street...move expected to be completed by November.

## The ND (Building) Rises Again.....by John Tidridge

The little group of stores at the mid-point of 53 and 55 Street has always been watched with interest by those living in the neighbourhood or associated with the Neighbourhood Church (Baptist) formerly Highlands Baptist Church. Over the years various little stores operated out of the building (I am thinking of writing an account of the stores that have occupied 112 Avenue from 50 Street to say 76 Street for the January issue).

At the last 'rising', shortly after the NDs sold the building, it was thought a hair dressing salon would be the tenant...and although there were changes made to the building...they stopped midstream and we were left with a bit of an eyesore....

Recently I noted new work so visited the site and had a fairly long conversation with the fellow doing all the work and can now tell you there is a new owner, the building is being completely gutted and transformed into a facility that will have living quarters at the east end, offices in the middle and a storage area for equipment in the western portion. I learned that the new owner of the building was in the demolition business....

If I'm right and this occurs (several months down the road) ....you read it here first, if it doesn't....then, don't believe everything you read in our Newsletter! ☺



People Really Are Funny... they actually think that they own the stretch of street or avenue or boulevard that runs in front of their property!! They park with the right wheels exceeding 18 inches or the equivalent in SI from the curb, (left wheels to the curb), or longer than 72 hours...and...complain when someone else has the temerity to park in 'their' spot!! People really are funny...

Mike's Grocery 6507-112 Avenue will be closed at the beginning of April. The grocery store has been in this location for almost twenty years and was operated by Mike.....An effort to interview Mike was refused in the politest of fashions. Mike had also declined an offer earlier to wrote a story on him and his store. Over the years Mike has offered that convenience when you run out of milk or sugar or need

that candy bar to satisfy an craving. All the times I have been in the store Mike has been polite and attentive to my needs.

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### Mike's Grocery

In late March I was able to learn from Mike that he knew of no new tenants as of that date. The community hopes that a new store will soon open. We shall be watching with interest.

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Diabetic Dee Likes.....John Tidridge  
6519-112 Avenue  
780-478-5854

What do 'Dick Barton Special Agent', a former City detective, a John Constable print, Dolores and Patricia, and loads and loads of candies have in common? Nothing really that makes any sense but read on!

On December 31, 2003 I visited Diabetic Dee Likes and met Dolores Kotyk and Patricia Barton the operators of this delightful addition to the Highlands area and in particular to the shopping area around 112 Avenue and 65 Street. It was here that I learned that Dolores is related to Zane, albeit distantly, who I served with on the City Police Service, Patricia remembered 'Dick Barton (not related!) Special Agent, the hero of a BBC Radio program of a least a couple of years ago, a similar copy of the Constable print adorned my own home at one time, and boy, do I like candies. I like chewy ones, hard ones, soft one...but I digress!!!

Diabetic Dee Likes is operated by Dolores Kotyk, married to Robin, with three adult children, and Patricia Barton married to Ronald, also with three adult children. Both have sparkling personalities, by this I mean they have a retail attitude, which is (among other things) a desire to serve their customers, to treat them as friends and to laugh at their attempts at humour.

Their store is unique to Edmonton, carrying all sugar free products that are diabetic friendly. The store is very warm and cosy, has good looking furniture, very well laid out and invites one to stay!!

Both the ladies live in Clareview, Dolores is an Edmontonian, as is Patricia only difference is, Patricia originally came from England.

Highlands is attractive to them because of its mature neighbourhood and friendliness. Dolores and Patricia intend to work and cooperate with all the other businesses in the area to make this area even more friendly and attractive to others.

So Highlanders and Bellvueites(?) pay a visit to Diabetic Dee Likes, and meet Dolores and Patricia. You'll be glad that you did.

Oh, yes, what are the candies like... you'll just have to drop in and taste!



Fifty Years Ago And Still Unofficially Unsolved... July 3-4 1954: The Search For Diane Mason By John Tidridge

A two and in half year old little blonde girl, and a summer's day: Hardly the ingredients for a mystery. Yet, in July 1954 that is exactly what occurred. The little girl went missing and to this date she had not been heard of again.

When the little girl could not be located by her parents it generated the largest search ever undertaken at that time. A helicopter was used to search along the river and area, a Police dog was brought in from Stettler, but the trail was cold and no new clues were found.

Highlands Baptist Church was the Command Centre for the search. Local merchants provided food. Upward of 20,000 people gave up their summer holiday weekend to join in the search. The RCAF was involved using men to sweep the area from 127 Street and 118 Avenue to the City dump located on the outskirts of Beverly.

The Edmonton Journal recorded the following, "Despite its failure, the 4-½ day search for the missing child has been one of the most striking demonstrations of kindness and helpfulness in Alberta's history. It is sad indeed that this great community effort has not been

crowned with success. Nonetheless, it shows how the hearts of men and women will respond, in sympathy and helpfulness, to the trouble of others; and undoubtedly Edmontonians will still be hoping that some word of Diane will yet turn up”.

Several theories were put forward about the disappearance, but the one that made the most sense was that she was kidnapped (there is no other word to describe the event) by her biological father. Diane was a little girl that had been put up for adoption. According to one of the constables involved in the search the little girl was seen with her father as they entered Alaska. No police records exist that confirm this or even make mention of the search.

Pamela Mason, who would have been Diane’s sister if this tragic incident had not occurred, contacted me. Pamela viewed the newspaper clippings and the accounts by various people of the days connected with the search. She obviously had very mixed feelings about the whole incident.

She wanted it known that her parents were happily married and there were three more biological children added to the family after the incident. The family had to leave the city because of harassment and extortion threats. Pamela said it was horrible for her parents. Crazy people phoning and demanding money, lying about being able to help them get Diane back. These persons were in addition to the ones phoning and berating them for losing their daughter. Pamela said her Mom and Dad and the boys (Pamela’s older brothers) had a "drill" to use when answering the phone, to do with turning on a reel to reel tape recorder: There just was no normal life for them, so they felt they must move. Pamela said for years after that they turned to look at every little blonde girl who came into view wondering if it was Diane.

The complete account of this event will appear in the story of Highlands Baptist Church, 1949-1959.

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Eye Masters Family Eye Care by John Tidridge  
6515-112 Avenue NW  
479-5599  
Store hours: Monday to Friday 10 A.M.-7 P.M. Saturday 11.30 A.M. – 5 P.M.

After being pressured by large companies to get their glasses in an hour or whatever, it was pleasing to **see** the opening, in March, of Eye Masters Family Eye Care at 6515-112 Avenue.

In April I dropped into the store and chatted with the owner Ahmed Hatoum a personable young man. I learned that this is the third store opened by the family, the other two being in Camrose. Eye Masters offers top quality eyeglasses and contact lenses at competitive prices. Highly qualified persons conduct eye examinations. Ahmed offers courteous, personal and professional service, in an establishment where the customer comes first.

Single, living in Edmonton, Ahmed was educated at NAIT and the University of Alberta. He also took courses at Concordia, just up the road from his store. He admits that before opening his store he did not know much about the Highlands or Bellevue!! He first considered this site, in part, because a friend, who wondered what could be done with the vacant store, owns it. Over dinner, the possibility of opening an Eye Masters store was discussed.

A careful study of was conducted of the surrounding area and it was decided because the distance between this store and any other of a similar nature was considerable, it seemed the ideal location to open up the Eye Masters operation.

Highlands as a community has grown on Ahmed, he indicated that the area seems like a small town. (Howard, you may have to up grade your village idea!!). He liked the friendliness of the people and the wide economic backgrounds present in the greater area of Highlands and Bellevue.

In my brief encounter with Ahmed I found him to be professional, courteous, and (important when dealing with us golden oldies), patient. The store is bright and pleasantly set out.

Pay Ahmed a visit!!

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From Farrier To Hair Salon Service.....John Tidridge  
Centre One 18 Beauty Salon and LL Clothing and Fine Things  
6411-118 Avenue NW  
1-780-471-2919

I was talking to my son-in-law Tuppy Tyler that I had dropped of a questionnaire at the "new" Hair Salon on 118 Avenue at 64 Street. He told me it was hardly new but had moved from 118 Avenue and 54 Street. He knew Marline and was sure she would help us out. I have but a fleeting interest in hair... but, here we go....

Marline Lake, wife of Nathaniel and mother of four children has re-opened at the above location. Marline who won the Canadian National Griot Award (in the trade) in October 2003, offers full, professional hair salon services. "If you are unhappy with your hair, come in and see us we will make you happy"

Educated in the West Indies and Canada, Marline has been practising her craft since 1984. Her salon specializes in hair extension, perm, colour, healing scalp problems and many more areas associated with having good hair.

The salon (along with Marline) offers a friendly, warm relaxing and inviting atmosphere to all. She had found the Highlands (and Bellevue) people friendly and invites them to drop in to check out the services and take time for a coffee.

Along with the Salon is an additional annex offering 'funky' clothes, and regular stuff too, (!) along with African artifacts, black dolls and literature...check both out when you visit.

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### How About Them Apples....Pears And Bananas **by John Tidridge**

You may have noted the men and machinery working on the lot to the north of the Good Earth Produce Company Ltd. 11809-66 Street. When I called to find out if the work was connected to the store I was first greeted on the phone by Jeff (?) McDonald...a very polite and efficient young man!! He turned me over to Boris Boykiw the owner of the store.

Boris informed me that by the time you are reading this, the lot should be ready to use for parking. Boris advised you still enter by either of the same two entrances and then you will be directed by signs to the new parking area.

Another attempt to provide a *safeway* for parking and shopping!

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## Howard Saunders Leaves For A New Adventure....John Tidridge and Howard Saunders

I (John) was able to attend the 'tea and cakes' event marking the departure of Howard from the Highlands Library. Although I was only in the library long enough to take a couple of photographs and...every job has its perks!!

Howard has been more than helpful in providing articles about books and the library. I am sure the Communities of Highlands and Bellevue will join me in wishing him all the very best as he moves to another branch.

It has been a real pleasure for me (Howard) to be manager of the Highlands Branch of the Edmonton Public Library for the past eleven years, but all good things come to an end. At the beginning of April, I shall be leaving Highlands and going to the Sprucewood branch as manager there. With funding assistance from City Council, the Library has recently been able to add three management positions to the establishment, allowing it to move away from the "tandem" situation of one manager running two branches. Soon, every branch will have its own manager, which will allow the manager to devote more time to the services needed by the community. In the tandem position with Highlands, I have been manager of the Penny McKee Branch Library in Abbotsfield since 1997, and that has also been a source of great joy for me, as I have seen the branch embraced and used by the people of the neighbourhood

Another reason for my move is that for the last year or so I have been involved in the work of the EPL Task Force on Library Services to Aboriginal Peoples. At Sprucewood Branch, it will be my responsibility to begin the implementation of the recommendations. This will take me out into the Aboriginal community once again, working to make the branches, collections, services and programs of the Library more reflective of Aboriginal culture.

I would like to thank the members of the Community League for allowing me the opportunity to write articles for this newsletter – you has given me an avenue to tell you about happenings in the library system, programs – and about some exciting books. I really appreciate it.

Best wishes to you all, and please, keep using your public library and keep reading!

Howard Saunders  
Manager  
Highlands and Penny McKee, Abbotsfield Branch Libraries  
April 2005

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### Highlands Golf Club, CL Meeting

It was fully my intention to arrive at the Thank You breakfast for Volunteers and line up all those attending so that a 'proper' group photograph could be taken. But surely even Karsh of Ottawa had bad days. I almost forgot about the breakfast. I arrived to find everyone seated and one seat, empty, mine. I took my seat.....

At one point, while other ate I took some photographs....see remarks about Karsh.

But I digress...the following did manage to attend the scrumptious breakfast in the Highland Golf Course banquet facilities: Cheryl Mahaffy and husband Peter, Christine Bremner, Colleen Annicchiarico and husband Carmen, Colette Storms (graphics) and husband Patrick (technical support), Brian Finley (Bellevue president) and wife Laura, Sharon Laberge (Mandolin Books) and husband (forgot his name, store closed today) Patty McGillivray and husband Andrew (distribution) Gerhard and Esther Kruschke, Ted Smith, Miriam Joly (student intern and graphics) and Judy Nuthack.

There were a introductions, a few speeches, mandatory, but short and to the point. There was much good conversation. I think it fair to say everyone was pleased with the breakfast, the ambience and friendly atmosphere.

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R N R Healing Massage & Services  
7599-112 Ave  
Phone number:780-904-1989;  
E-mail:rnrhmassage@yahoo.com

In talking about his business James explains that he likes to help people enjoy more of life by reducing stress and pain through relaxation massage, acupressure, reflexology, Reiki, quantum Touch Healing, Hypnotherapy (Smoking cessation, Weight Loss, Stress reduction/relaxation) He offers a 100% risk free 20 minute trial of any of his services. If after 20 minutes, you are not completely happy with his service for any reason at all, it's FREE!

James and his wife Wendy Lim, along with son, Sidus, live near Londonderry Mall.

From an education standpoint James' credentials are impressive: he has a BBA from Simon Fraser University (in Business Administration, Psychology), A master of Science (Merit) in Occupational Psychology from University of London, He received his training in Foot Reflexology in Singapore, he is a certified Master of G-Jo Acupressure, and trained in Swedish relaxation massage from Archways School of Massage (Edmonton). He is also a certified Quantum Touch Healing Practitioner, a Reiki Master, and a certified Clinical Hypnotherapist. (trained in Calgary with The Excel center). Wow!!

"I offer my healing massage and healing therapies for mind and body – I offer my services to help people reduce stress and pain and to heal and relax" This is James' mission in life.

The quiet neighbourhood and Borden Park are James' reasons for liking the district

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Just Wondering.....John Tidridge

One hundred and twelfth avenue is again garlanded with posters, all bringing to our attention, the fact many people, even in Edmonton, live in poverty. As a Man said many years ago, "The poor will always be with us". The fact that this saying has proven to be true, however, does not lessen the pain and stress caused by poverty.

What makes me wonder though, is there not a better way of bringing it the attention of the neighbourhood, Highlands, in a more appropriate and correct way? I am quite sure if the ladies who names appear elsewhere on the poster, had approached our Editor, or the

pastors of the surrounding three or four churches, a much better addressing of the issue could have taken place.

As it is, many of the posters are in tatters; for the most part the posters face the vehicular traffic (and who needs more distraction when driving than we already experience?) and would be missed by pedestrian traffic.

So, ladies, next year plan ahead, let the Community leaders know and we can probably communicate in a more meaningful way.

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Memorial Bench For Charlotte And Theodore Klose Overlooking the city on Ada Blvd at 76 Street....by Robert Klose and John Tidridge

It is a difficult task for me to try to encapsulate in a few sentences the lives of my mother and father, Charlotte and Theodore Klose, and at the same time give a picture what the Highlands area meant to them and how much they loved being there. Indeed, we decided on dedicating a bench to their memory on that particular site because they always cherished that stunning view of what must surely be one of the most beautiful cityscapes in Canada. I might add that even during their last illnesses, both of my parents refused to leave their home to live in a senior's Residence somewhere else in the city.

Between them they lived in the area for app. 134 years. My mother was born in 1917 (d.2005), and except for a 10 year period in the 1940's when the Klose family lived in Vancouver, she lived here all her life. She was raised in the house which her family built, at 7511-112<sup>th</sup> Avenue. At that time, it was one of the few houses in the neighborhood.

Her father, Dr. Paul Karrer, was a prominent, recently arrived Swiss dentist (d.1933), whose office was in the Tegler Building. He and the Karrer family were popular members of the Edelweiss club for many years. Charlotte's step father was naturalized Canadian Herman Brettel, who at age 17 was a W.W.I pilot with von Richtoven's Flying Circus. Her uncle was Dr. Paul Karrer (Zurich) (d.1971), who won the 1937 Nobel Prize for his groundbreaking research in vitamins.

Theodore Klose was born in 1909 (d.2002), arriving in Canada from Germany in 1926. His first years in Edmonton were a struggle, exacerbated by his limited knowledge of English. However, he

eventually became superintendent/co-owner of the Norwood Foundry until his early retirement in 1972. He then started a new career as a professional cabinet maker, which he very much enjoyed. During this period, he and Charlotte built a cabin on Wabamun Lake where they spent many happy summers. They were both excellent amateur musicians and played the piano and violin respectively. I remember many wonderful musical evenings at home.

Charlotte and Ted met at the Edelweiss Club, and married in 1939. They had two sons; Robert, who now resides in Edmonton and Ronald who lives in Brandon.\

As a footnote....one never knows where a conversation is going to lead...while (John Tidridge) has difficulty carrying a tune in the proverbial bucket...he loves music...and somehow while talking with Bob the subject came up....see the article elsewhere in this Newsletter!

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#### And The I's Have It....by John Tidridge



While eyes are useful in the library...it is not those eyes we are concerned about. The I's relate to the two 'I's' in the first name of the new manger of the Highlands Branch of the Edmonton Public Library!! Tiina Burns is that new branch manager and she was able to spare me a few moments in July to introduce herself. Tiina is from Estonia and this was her language when she entered kindergarten here in Canada. English was foreign to her!! She was a stay-at-home mom until her four children, ages 17-25 years, had completed their schooling.

Tiina, who besides having a Bachelor of Science degree has a Master of Library and Information Studies degree, has also served at the Stanley A. Milner, Londonderry, Abbotsfield, and Woodcroft libraries. Connecting people with books and undertaking research projects are just a couple of the reasons why Ms. Burns ventured into the field of librarians.

Welcome to Highlands, Tiina. Hope the knee heals quickly!!!

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## The Start Of Something Big...Maybe... by John Tidridge

Madam Editor said would I like to...of course, I said, so, and taking her advice to walk, I delivered written invitations to the mail boxes of four newly erected/renovated homes on Ada Boulevard asking the occupants a chance offer some personal details about themselves and their homes.

The one owner I met responded the day of delivery, however, two others had not responded by the deadline and another I visited just after the deadline, thought summer would be a better time...and standing in his doorway at -10C, I was inclined to agree...

But I digress: Shirley, a retired R.N. and Walter Kubrak, parents of adult five children, live at 5508- Ada Boulevard. Walter, whose neat, legible printing betrayed his former profession as an architect, says the home is 'a contemporary design, with a formal exterior and sited to take advantage of the location and views. The home consists of three bedrooms and large open kitchen'...and I suspect other rooms as well!

Although not life-time Highland's residents both Shirley and Walter like the openness of the area, and the sight of people walking, with or without, children/pets along the boulevard. These activities offer the chance either to just sit and watch or get up and walk as well...

Shirley and Walter the Newsletter thanks you...and to others, why not share a little of yourselves as well...even if the Boulevard is not your home...call or e-mail me...474-1594, [jtidridge@interbaun.com](mailto:jtidridge@interbaun.com) if you would like the story of your home to appear in these pages in the next issue...surely a warmer time. And, I thank you in advance.

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### Mike's Grocery 6507-112 Avenue

Mike's store will be closed at the beginning of April. The grocery store has been in this location for almost twenty years and was operated by Mike.....An effort to interview Mike was refused in the politest of fashions. Mike had also declined an offer earlier to wrote a story on him and his store. Over the years Mike has offered that convenience when you run out of milk or sugar or need that candy bar

to satisfy an craving. All the times I have been in the store Mike has been polite and attentive to my needs.

In late March I was able to learn from Mike that he knew of no new tenants as of that date. The community hopes that a new store will soon open. We shall be watching with interest.

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Money Outlet by John Tidridge

5015-118 Avenue

Telephone 780-491-0022

Cell 780-799-6835

[Mike\\_MoneyOutlet@shaw.ca](mailto:Mike_MoneyOutlet@shaw.ca)

Hours of business: Monday – Friday 10 am-8 pm, Saturday 10 am-5pm.

The Money Outlet displays no signs offering two for one...or free samples! One however, is struck by the clean, open styling of the establishment...and the friendliness of the President and proprietor Michael Lee and his partner Sharon Fredeen. And this was before Sharon knew what I was after!

The brevity of this article does not allow room to cover all the research undertaken by Michael before opening this 'specialty' business. Needless to say though, much was done to ensure only the most ethical service that could be provided, would be. It was then and only then, that the venture began on this location in November 2004.

Low interest cash advances, mail box rentals, Western Union services, phone reconnections, cell phone airtime and long distance calling cards are a few of the superior services offered.

The operation is already known for a friendly, discrete atmosphere, and a willingness to go the extra mile, Money Outlet is happy to provide its services in a lively and vibrant community. Money Outlet treats all customers with respect and discretion. A highlight of the services offered is its flexible approval policy.

Oh, yes...there is no money held on the premises....

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Mount Royal Super Stars....by John Tidridge

Are we heroes, will we be on the front page? Questions, questions, questions...while the answers may not live up to the expectations of the children, at least they gave of their best.

Where did they give of their best? At the recently held Edmonton Journal School Games, that's where!

All of the young people pictured took part in the Games after qualifying through events run at the school. Although they did not win the BIG prize...they all gave of their best.

If you check the photograph you will find in the front row, from left to right: Andrew Barbe, Lexus King, Joel Whitford. In the rear row, from left to right: Forist Ewanciw, Beverley Porter, Rhiannon Mulek, Taylor Hall, Jade Dye.

I interviewed Lexus King and Taylor Hall, and they both felt it was a worthwhile endeavor, they did not win the ultimate prize but they found the experience of competing rewarding...Lexus was particularly pleased because she had to overcome an asthmatic condition. Taylor was not satisfied with his finishes in the relay and 800 m races but he gave of his best.

This event obviously involved teachers ...Mr. Glenn Newby (who rounded up the children for the interviews and pictures) and Mr. Colin Woelftey. Mr. Woelftey was sure there were many benefits for the children: the fun of competition; having to meet goals, making new friends, plus the advantage of some physical activity.

All in all a time well spent.

Well done Mount Royal!!

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YOU ASKED....John Tidridge

Some curiosity has been expressed about the intended use of the old ND Building at 54 Street and 112 Avenue. On September 29, 2004 I spoke with Kevin Bramwell, Financial Manager, Donahue Managements, and he indicated that 'they were open to offers'. Some thought had been given to a restaurant/coffee shop...but there are others nearby. Kevin felt that company would utilize the building for

the benefit of the community. If you are in need of areas ranging from 1100 to 1600 square feet, and what will soon be a refurbished basement give Kevin a call on his cell phone at 710-3766.

Over the years the following stores have appeared in the same location: Barbara's Ready to Wear, Joe's Snack Bar, Tetreaus Super market, Duke's Barber's Shop, Lott's Snack Bar and Mount Royal Super Market, and, in more recent memory a Doctor's Office and Beauty Salon...and not forgetting of course the New Democrats provincial office.

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Woof, Woof, Your Sleigh Has Arrived – A Tribute To Philip James Cox  
1923-2004

by John Tidridge

If you have never delivered flyers, you really should, as it is a good way to meet your neighbours... this is how I met Mr. Cox. I never met Mr. Cox often enough to call him Phil, although Mae, his widow, assured me this would have been his wish...for me to call him Phil.

Phil had what I would call, a 'presence', or at least that is the way it struck me as I chatted with him over the fence of his home as I stood flyer in hand. I guessed aloud he had either been a Shakespearean actor or a teacher... being 50% correct is not bad! We chatted about many things and he eventually invited me to come meet with him to learn more of his unique hobby of 'filing things'. I eventually took him up on his offer and visited him. I learned much and saw many interesting items related to sundry events and happenings, including the Boer War. It was my intention to visit again and include him and Mae in an article on "Interesting People in the Highlands".

Fate intervened because in December 2004 Phil died...which is a reminder to all of us to make the most of our time...we just never know.

I met with Mae in April, we chatted about Phil and family. She showed me photographs and introduced me to his filing system and extended the invitation to visit at any time and make use of the material.

Phil was born in Johannesburg, South Africa, April 27, 1923. His parents moved to Lloydminster in 1925. His education included

attending and completing Normal School, and receiving a degree B.Ed from the U of A. He taught at Wabamun and Bennett School and many other schools as for seven years he was a relieving teacher. He continued teaching until 1958 when he began his career as the Secretary-Treasurer for the Edmonton Public School Local of the A.T.A. He remained in this position until his retirement in 1985. He also served in the RCAF from 1943-6 spending time overseas.

Along with Mae, whom he met while attending the U of A, Phil had six children, one daughter and five sons.

This statement appeared in the Memorial Service bulletin:

Phil took an active interest in his family, his students, his profession, his community, and local history. He took snapshots and clipped articles about them all. The result: more than 60 photo albums and scrapbooks, all indexed. He also enjoyed woodcraft, and with his children did much to keep the family home in good repair. But he will probably be best remembered for his annual birthday phone calls over the years to what became a list of nearly 2000 friends and family.

Mae related the fact this hobby started when the A.T.A. expanded and it was difficult to keep in touch...Phil's secretary began the system of keeping names and personal information and Phil began the calls...and, like Topsy, it just grew. One time he missed his usual call by one day... a wife later said that he husband had forgotten her birthday because he relied on Phil to make his call to remind him!

Oh, the title? In 1933 or so Phil and his friends would go to school in the sled, when they disembarked at the school they merely told the lead dog to go home and it did...the sled returned for pickup after the lead dog had been directed, from home, to go get Phil!!

---

Soul To Sole Nail And Body Studio;      by John Tidridge  
(A Spa Experience in Relaxing Privacy)  
11246-57th Street, Phone: (780) 478-7951  
Website: <http://www.soultosole.ca> (presently under construction)

How does one learn about 'home occupations'? In is particular situation; the existence of this home business was brought to me by two pieces of information, either of which are important...but it did

mean that I visited Cheri's business announced. I was greeted cordially although perhaps, a little apprehensively!! I think knowing Al. and Sheila Loosley helped allay any suspicions.

Cheri told me Soul to Sole Nail and Body Studio is a home based aesthetic studio offering a wide variety of professional aesthetic services including:

- Skin Care and Facials utilizing Laboratoire Dr. Renaud professional skin care products,
- Manicures/Pedicures/Artificial Nail Enhancements utilizing LCN Canada professional product (a healthy alternative to standard Gels and Acrylics),
- Specialized foot care for Diabetics, seniors and athletes,
- Toenail reconstructions,
- Hair Epilation (waxing),
- Eyelash/Eyebrow Tinting,
- High quality yet affordable professional products available
- Providing "Pamper Parties", great for weddings, "girls night out", birthdays, showers etc.
- Gift Certificates and Corporate gifts,
- One on one private training to students new to the aesthetic industry as well as ongoing professional development

Cheri believes there are many reasons why people would use the services. Some are as follows:

- Scheduled appointments only. Both early morning and evening available
- Private atmosphere conducive to relaxation,
- Highest level of hygiene is of the utmost importance.
- Consultations are FREE,
- Guaranteed Client satisfaction

Cheri is a veteran of the aesthetic industry, working as a professional aesthetician, then manager and all the way to salon owner. Her education started over 14 years ago when she attended the Alberta Academy of Aesthetics and the Canadian School of Cosmetology right through to today as a CEDESCO certified Aesthetician. For the past 5 years, she has dedicated herself to being the National Educator for LCN Canada (a product company she strongly believes in due to their unobtrusive and health conscious product line), teaching all levels of manicure/pedicure/artificial nails and aesthetic courses. Over the years, Cheri has specialized in

pedicures, advanced pedicures and advanced skin care. Thousands of aestheticians and nail technicians have observed her techniques at trade shows across Canada gaining valuable knowledge. Cheri is considered an industry leader on mycotic toenail reconstruction, ingrown toenail treatment and permanent French pedicures and has been asked to be a key note speaker on these topics on many occasions. She has been approached by aestheticians and salon owners both nationally and internationally, to provide expert advice on all aesthetic services and requirements.

Cheri believes ongoing education is paramount to stay abreast of new medical and aesthetic developments. Most recently, she has studied under Dr. Joachim Aust, specializing in diabetic foot care and nail disorders and diseases. She further stresses the highest level of hygiene when providing all aesthetic services.

What more is there to say...

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Rescue Beauty Lounge by John Tidridge  
7599-112 Avenue NW  
Edmonton AB  
T5B 0E5  
780-471-5733

S.O.S.....from Rescue Beauty Lounge.....

We now have a new massage therapist, James Ang. James trained in both Asia and Canada, and has learned to blend East and West styles very effectively. He performs a plethora of different types of treatments: Relaxation massage, Healing massage, Reiki, Eastern Reflexology, Quantum Touch, Acupressure, and Chair Massage. He is a registered member of the AMTWP, so all insurance claims are welcome.

His treatments are customized for the individuals needs and wants. You can book an appointment with James at 904-1989

We have brought in a fantastic skin therapy line called Dermalogica, also designed to be customized for all skin treatments and facials. Our new aesthetician Christine has a passion for skin care and has been extensively trained in Dermalogica skin treatments as well as waxing, pedicures, manicures, and body treatments.

*All of these services make great Christmas gift ideas, whether separate or in packages. Gift Certificates are available, as well as gift baskets highlighting some of our best products.*

We have a new website [www.rescuebeautylounge.ca](http://www.rescuebeautylounge.ca) .

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'Visitation To Stores/Businesses' In Highlands And Bellevue.....  
John Tidridge

So far visits have been restricted to businesses in our area or where outside, to those stores that have advertised in our Newsletter. As of the beginning of this year there are only about four stores/businesses that have not yet been invited to participate. Several stores/businesses have been invited but they have not responded. In the normal process an 'invitation to participate' letter is delivered to three or four stores/businesses, with a return visit usually just before the deadline. It is hoped that all stores/businesses will have been visited by the fall issue.

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Mr. W. D. Talbot  
11315-60 Street NW  
Edmonton  
Alberta  
T5W 3Z2

Mr. W.D. Talbot  
4871-Verona Drive NW  
Calgary  
Alberta  
T3A 1W8

March 15, 2006

Dear Mr. Talbot,

By way of introduction: My name is John Tidridge and I do a little writing for our community newsletter, the Highlands and Bellevue Highlights (Edmonton).

My wife and I frequently walk by Highlands United Church and have noticed the (new) bench in front of the church. I thought the story of the people 'behind' the bench would make a good article for our newsletter. If you would be so kind as to provide information on the couple named on the bench I would take a photograph and an article will have been generated. Are you willing to help? My deadline is March 31.

I have provided a self addressed envelope but I also have e-mail [jtidridge@interbaun.com](mailto:jtidridge@interbaun.com) if that is more convenient.

Yours sincerely,

John Tidridge  
780-474-1594

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Pheasant Under Glass – Me Thinks Not....by Mae Cox and John Tidridge

Some years ago while eating lunch at the Highlands Golf Course Clubhouse, with a group of men; we noticed a cock pheasant strutting across the fairway of one of the holes...and strut he did!! I was reminded of this as I sat with Mae Cox, in a room overlooking the same golf course, and she told me about 'her' family of pheasants.

In 2003 she had been told by Ted Smith that about 25 pheasants had been released in the golf course area. Last summer Mae and her neighbours, who live mid-block between 53 and 55 streets on Ada Boulevard, were visited by two hens and nine chicks. The birds were fed regularly and then left (and returned) for (it was assumed) the bank just south of their homes. The sound and sightings of coyotes were not reassuring and it was felt that the birds were being fattened for someone(thing) else's menu!!

This spring one female and six female chicks have been spotted in the gardens, and on April 3 a cock pheasant was noted in a neighbour's yard. One can surmise the families will continue!

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## The Price Of Fame? By John Tidridge

We were watching TV...late in the evening...the phone rang...my wife answered it...handing me the phone, she said, lightly, it's for you...a woman! The lady gave her name, same as the leading role in an opera, and began to question my wisdom in writing about a 'business that could lead people (further) in to debt'.... Being reserved and gentle by nature, it took me a while to break into the conversation with questions like....did you read **all** the article, have you been into the business, have you talked with the owners...? But when I did, the lady, graciously, began to exchange ideas with me! I sensed that our Newsletter is rated very highly; call the Editor I said, being of a humble and modest type... She wanted to know how businesses were selected for an interview, (no list...just keep on eye on the neighbourhood and give anyone a chance) did I visit every business? (Yes) Did it matter what type of business...no, I said...and then had to backtrack...there are some businesses I shouldn't visit...alone, however the point is moot because all the businesses in Highlands-Bellevue are legit!

How did you manage to drive the store that advertised a soon to be legal (?) substance into Beverly she asked...? I can take no credit for that, (refer to my earlier character traits) I replied.

So, the point of this article? The Newsletter is being read...people do care about their neighbourhoods... people are willing to discuss ideas...do you have any?

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## The Scoop On The Businesses

Over a two year or so many of the stores and some known 'home' businesses have been featured in the 'Highlands and Bellevue Highlights'. The exception has been the couple of national businesses that need no help!!

The Roving Reporter would like to thank all those busy owners who took the time to offer help and information. Several were in the process of starting up and had other things on their minds but they still provided news and stood still long enough to have their pictures taken. All of them had that 'retail-ness' so essential for pleasing the public.

An eye will be kept on, not only vacant spaces, but 'old' businesses that may just simply change names.

To those businesses that were contacted and would like a 'second chance' to have their work advertised to almost 2000 homes my telephone number in 474-1594 or e-mail me at: [jtidge@interbaun.com](mailto:jtidge@interbaun.com)

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This Is What I Would Like To Say and is for you/Miriam's info. only....

My percentage of success in persuading business operators to have a piece used in our Newsletter has not been overly successful. In spite of my charm and great writing ability, only about 50% of those contacted have had articles written up!!

Only one ever got back to me, I have had to make two and sometimes three trips to get the information.

Frankly, I am not surprised some of the businesses struggle I am even less surprised when some of them go under!!

It has been an interesting experience, though with some degree of success...I actually persuaded one operator to advertise and to forget his anger at the community!!

John T

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Stop, Posters On Poles, And Unity.....John Tidridge

In October of last year I noted many 'posters on poles', along 112 Avenue, in the Highlands-Bellevue area. In a former life this would have meant sending 'someone' out to remove and deal with the person putting up the signs. Fortunately I checked with the present authority and learned if the posters were attached with tape they were quite legal.

However, I also noted that the posters faced westbound traffic and could not possibly be read by motorists and if a pedestrian wanted to read the message they would have to step out into traffic!! I spoke with our editor and she felt a story from the source would be

welcomed. That led to a meeting with Shelly Bickford in November resulting in the following information be supplied:

"On October 17, 1987 100,000 of human rights defenders gathered on the Trocadero Plaza in Paris to honour victims of hunger, violence, and ignorance, to express their refusal of extreme poverty, and to call on humankind to unite to ensure the respect of human rights. The movement began with Father Joseph Wresinski, himself no stranger to being poor. Since then, on October 17 each year the poorest and those who reject poverty and exclusion gather throughout the world to express their commitment to ensure that everyone's dignity and freedom are respected. On October 17, 1992 Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, former Secretary General of the UN, assembled the Committee for the World Day to Overcome Extreme Poverty, and called for the recognition of October 17 as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. On December 22, 1992 the United Nations declared October 17 the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty.

In 1999 plans to highlight October 17 began through the east service area of Community Services. Several agencies in the northeast became involved and the working group known as S.T.O.P. (Striving To Overcome Poverty) evolved. Initially the idea of "silent voices" was developed. The concept utilized silhouettes as shadows of people living in poverty and quoted in their own words what living in poverty means. These quotes were pasted to the silhouettes that were then posted on city lampposts. Londonderry and Abbottsfield public libraries set up displays focusing on poverty and the October 17 UN resolution. Lobbying workshops have also been held on the lack of access to affordable transportation, human rights, and writing anti-poverty letters to Government officials. At the recognition event in October of 2002 Mayor Bill Smith officially declared October 17 the International Day to Overcome Extreme Poverty in Edmonton. Councillor Ed Gibbons presented the official proclamation at the Abbottsfield Recreation Centre followed by a candle light walk.

S.T.O.P. continues to strive to bring about public awareness of what life is truly like for people struggling with the poverty. Past community agency participants have included Candora Society of Edmonton, Dickensfield Amity House, KARA Family Support Centre, Abbottsfield Recreation Centre, Harcourt House, Partners for Kids and Youth, Wecan Cooperative, Win House and the Unity Centre of North East Edmonton. Agency representatives have also worked diligently to involve members of the community at large in their efforts to foster

positive change. Presently S.T.O.P. is a very small group however the commitment remains. If you would like more information please contact Barry Greenspan at Community Services, 944-5488 or Shelly Bickford, Unity Centre, 478-6521.

The doors to Unity Centre 14530-72 Street, officially opened in 1977, however the facility had been operating since 1970. Tenants living in this Capital Region Housing complex were meeting in hallways discussing issues and problems that were taking place in their community and in their lives. The idea for a drop-in centre where people could go to "connect" was established. Tenants approached Capital Region Housing and a unit was secured. Initially it was called the Londonderry/Steele Heights Tenants Association and was completely run by volunteers. In 1972 it became apparent that there was a need for more organized leadership and programming. The fact that there are so many barriers faced by people living in poverty was just too overwhelming so once again the city was approached. Funding was obtained through Family and Community Support Services and a coordinator was hired. Programs then began to unfold aimed at accommodating the membership. In September of 1977 the name changed resulting in the birth of the Unity Centre of North East Edmonton. Awareness of Unity Centre quickly spread over Kilkenny area as well as areas surrounding. That saw the need for more physical space, however the expansion did not take place until 1986. Undeterred in the meantime, Unity continued to offer programs and services to meet the needs of low-income individuals and families. Today the centre houses 6 full-time and two part-time staff members, headed by Executive Director Linda Armstrong who has been with Unity for over 20 years. A wide variety of programs and services for children and adults including two clothing banks, free bread and pastry three times per week, after school programs for children and youth, a women's support group and an adult craft and support group. As well the centre offers access to telephone, fax and photocopying at no cost, resource referrals, advocacy, and of course the drop-in that started it all. An Early Intervention Program offering Pre-School, Parents Time Out and Tiny Tunes for children 0-5. Unity is extremely proud of its' longstanding relationships with the community and of its' reputation for going above and beyond to help those who need it, whatever the need may be. That commitment has afforded Unity the support of over 100 dedicated volunteers who assist with everything from housekeeping to working bingos twice a month. In fact it would simply not be possible for the centre to do what it does without all of the beloved volunteers, many of whom face serious obstacles every day, yet still find it within themselves to give back to the community".



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## I Say, Breakfast At Tiffanies? Good Show... **by John Tidridge**

It was fully my intention to arrive at the Thank You breakfast for Volunteers and line up all those attending so that a 'proper' group photograph could be taken. But surely even Karsh of Ottawa had bad days. I almost forgot about the breakfast, I arrived to find everyone seated and one seat, empty, mine. I took my seat....

At one point, while other ate, I took some photographs....but a piece of toast...see remarks about Karsh.

But I digress...the following faithful volunteers did manage to attend the scrumptious breakfast in the Highlands Golf Course banquet facilities, earlier in the year: Cheryl Mahaffy and husband Peter, Christine Bremner, Colleen Annicchiarico and husband Carmen, Colette Storms (graphics) and husband Patrick (technical support), Brian Finley (Bellevue president) and wife Laura, Sharon Laberge (Mandolin Books) and husband Yvon, Patty McGillivray and husband Andrew (distribution) Gerhard and Esther Kruschke, Ted Smith, Miriam Joly (student intern and graphics) and Judy Nuthack.

There were introductions, a few speeches, mandatory, but short and to the point. There was much good conversation: I think it fair to say everyone was pleased with the breakfast, the ambience and the friendly atmosphere.

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## What You Can Learn From Having Good Neighbours....By John Tidridge

"And I suppose you speak Gaelic", (pronouncing it gaylic) as a Sassenach would, said I. "Actually it was my first language, English being my second", said Peggy Martin, "and it's ghaidhlig" (starting as in garlic!!). Peggy, born on the east coast of the Island of Lewis, situated off the northwest coast of Scotland, came to Canada in 1957, settling in the Highlands of Edmonton from the Highlands of Scotland in 1965. She is friends with another Highlander, Mairi McCrimmon, who is also fluent in the language, and who came from the same island.

Peggy and her family have been my neighbours for ever, so the conversation was in good fun, but what I did learn, was that Peggy teaches the language at Ross Sheppard High School, and has been for over ten years. Classes range from 20-25 students. "No" said Peggy, in response to what I thought was an obvious question, "we have had students of most ethnic backgrounds, including Chinese and First Nations". People hear songs in the ghaidhlig language and want to learn it! Classes are held on Wednesdays. Call Peggy at 479-1883 for more information.

The sessions are two hours in length; for the first one and half hours Peggy and Mairi teach reading and conversation, the last half hour is devoted to Scottish music, in ghaidhlig and the students must learn both the words and the music! This could include 'O Canada'!

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## **Letters to the Journal**

Editor

February 22, 2007

Dear Sir,

Doctor Shortage-Patient No-Shows

As I waited in the examination room for my doctor, I read the Notice on the wall dealing with people that fail to keep their appointments and fail to notify the doctor's office.

Although written words are just written words I detected a note of 'asperity' in the Notice and remarked to my doctor that I felt I was back in the army again! He patiently (!?) explained that the problem of no-shows was increasing greatly.

As I later pondered the question of doctor shortages I wondered if perhaps the number of no-shows might be contributing to that? So, people, to keep your doctor at his office, grant him the courtesy of letting him know, in good time, if you have recovered from your illness!! Besides, if you have a new, young doctor, you want to keep him on your side!

John Tidridge

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**Religion Department**

The Edmonton Journal  
Box 2421  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T5J 2S6  
May 20, 2006

So, Real Men Hate To Go To Church.....

By John Tidridge

Men emasculated by the church system, beaten into submission by women, pansy-waisted twerps.... Well, the book (insert title) doesn't exactly say that, but it is implied!!! In essence it says church-going men are either coerced to attend by their wives or simply tag along to keep the peace, and those that go of their own volition are lacking something in the masculinity department!

I beg to differ! Of course, some of the 'faults' listed for church men are true...after all none of them (us!) are perfect. And, then again, to say that all those of the male gender outside of the church are he-men...is also untrue.

I concede I am biased...I have spent over three score years attending church. I have checked my own masculinity rating; I have been married to the same lady for almost fifty years, have a family of four children (plus our children's spouses), and eleven grandchildren. I spent close to 40 years in law enforcement, spent time as a soldier and worked at 'manual' occupations for a number of years. I have played sports for as long as I can remember; Boxing, badminton, squash, racket ball, soccer, cricket...all manly sports!! I still have a mind of my own, and a tongue that still can get me into trouble...brained washed, I think not!!

For the most part I associate with church men... all of whom would qualify for the real man designation. They honour their wives, manage their families well, and hold down regular jobs. They are faithful in their commitments....

We, who have done so, have decided to follow the consummate man: this has meant no small (perceived by others as) sacrifice for some; a change of habits and lifestyle, a differing perspective on relationships and money management. Proper utilization of the hours given us; a desire to serve other rather than ourselves.

And, as to the Man we follow: we believe He chose to give up his heavenly privileges to live among us, to know what it is like to be a part of human-kind. He ultimately selected to die for us...and, he had to make a choice here, whether to follow his own desires or that of his heavenly father.

Bottom line: Are we any less manly than those men outside of the church... I don't think so!! Are we better than the men outside of the church, we don't think so...although we have something those men don't have, Jesus!! Are we perfect...not this side of heaven (forgive us if we give the impression we think we are!!) There is not one church man of my acquaintance who is not striving to improve, as we say, his witness to other men. He knows what he has and would want other men to be aware of the privilege it is to be a Christ believing, church attending MAN.

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An article submitted to Good Times Magazine in 2007 not published

A New Start....



1956 England, newly out of the Grenadier Guards, newly engaged, newly employed...then THAT telegram arrived. Unexpected as the talk of war in the Middle East suggested only experts would be recalled....I was no expert... a driver for the Machine Gun platoon...

HAT telegram suggested I report to Pirbright Barracks to re-new my service ...I was back in the

army!! Within three weeks equipment was , then inoculations, then finally Malta; camped out on an old airfield!

What does that have to do with immigrating to Canada? Most of time in Malta was spent with the machine gun platoon, now being driven rather than marching....it meant a trip to Egypt on a minesweeper, back to Malta, to Cyprus. In Cyprus I greeted there by six weeks mail from my fiancée, Maureen.



Maureen had gone to a show on Canada; her family now intended to leave (taking Maureen) for Canada. I am stuck in Cyprus...not knowing when I would get home, even though the hostilities had ceased. However, soon I was home; married to Maureen, and together we decided to go Canada. The journey was one long honeymoon; the ship, a passenger liner, allowed us to live like 'the rich and famous'.



We arrived in Halifax but Vancouver was our destination: We had day coaches; we were very happy when we arrived in Vancouver!! English-type weather, rain, greeted us!! A survey of the employment market made Edmonton a better looking place. So we returned to Edmonton, cooler but drier than Vancouver...it was February!!

We were met by a lady from the local Baptist organization...she led us to the Immigration Offices introducing us to the proper people. A job, that was what I needed. A farmer who apparently used the Immigration Offices to find hired hands spoke to me, assured I knew at which end to put food, he hired me as a 'keeper of his hogs'...he said his farm was 'just outside of town'. Fred. Greenhough, the farmer had no idea what 'just outside of town' meant to us, newly arrived as we were...it meant in the next borough... a few minutes away at the most!!

The farm was at Genesee... almost a hundred kilometers away!! Driven out the next day...our introduction to the North Saskatchewan

River was when we were driven over it, it was frozen!! Our stay on the farm was brief...but it got us on our feet...Fred gave us some advice...work for a municipality, don't borrow from a finance company and get some health insurance... we eventually followed all three!

The entire Greenhough family treated us well...the family formed almost a hamlet...there was Fred, his wife and son, in one home, Fred's brother and wife in another. Their mother in yet another home, another home was being built for another nephew and his wife and yet another nephew with his wife and children lived in a suite above the International Harvester dealership garage. Oh, yes, and then there was the hired man's house...This house was old, but inhabitable, just...but nothing like the homes we had left behind. We quickly learned that the hogs had electric light, water and indoor toilets (!)...we just had electric light!! We learned the delights of a comfort station, remember this is February!

A return to Edmonton was made in July, some six months after arriving...we connected with the local Baptist church and have been members there ever since. We have raised four children who have blessed us with eleven grandchildren. Canada has been very good to us...but it was the Greenhoughs who gave us our start!!

Top photo graph John Tidridge c 1957  
Middle Hired hands house Genesee 1957  
Maureen c 2006

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A New Experience.....by *Nil Desperandum*



While my experience is certainly not unique for most enforcement officers...it certainly was for me. I had

been retired from the nearby City (the best in Alberta) for just eighteen months and the need to do something extra found me as a contractor of bylaw services with a nearby County, where oil and farming were the major industries.

In my previous job I was in the position of 'telling' others: In my new position I had to actually do the job from scratch! I had to cover a large area....at least several times the city area I had been responsible for before. Little or no enforcement had been done for nearly 30 years...and there were several outstanding problems that required attention.

The one particular situation that comes to mind occurred in a hamlet within the county where the remains of a woman had been found several years earlier. A first glance of the file showed that a Stop Order had been issued, all avenues of appeal had been exhausted and now it was time to continue the enforcement process started by the acting-development officer. The matter seemed quite simple; the area of about 5 acres had to be cleared of all types of scrap metal including the kitchen sink. Some 120 underground fuel tanks had to be removed; tons and tons of scrap metal as well.

Several rumours circulated about the owner, including the fact he was a member of a (im)famous bike gang. He was known to the Federal Police Force and on my first visit I was accompanied by several members of that force, but decided that this was no way to achieve the objective, so I asked them to leave before we actually entered the property. They left. I entered the property with the acting-development officer and met the owner. I offered my hand, he accepted it, and we introduced ourselves. My actions may have seemed foolhardy to some....

Perhaps part of the problem related to the county's desire to have the property cleaned up, quickly...this led to some fairly tight (in my view) deadlines being set. It was suggested that as the process was going too slowly that the county should go ahead and clean-up the lands. The two or three estimates obtained showed that the cost of the clean-up would be at least twice the value of the lands and buildings. Two of the three companies providing the estimates knew of the person in charge of the lands and were reluctant to be involved... this added to the problem.

So, resort to Plan B... my plan B was to divide the lands into about six sections with a set deadline for each section...by now both

the person and charge and myself had determined we both had one thing in common...old age!! So, undue haste gave way to finishing the job as painlessly as possible. However, he informed me, and he proved to be correct, that scrap metal cannot simply be thrown into bins; it has to be sorted by metal type...another delay. But progress was being made...but then another glitch. He was accident prone...first a broken arm, then a back out of kilter...equipment breaking down, workers not showing up...all, believe it or not, genuine!! It was difficult to convince council I was not on his payroll. But finally, two years later the lands were cleared!!

Some interesting interludes...he told me he was having a party for his biker friends on the lands one weekend...I suggested that they could be involved in the clean-up; he took my advice under advisement...another time we were struggling through deep snow and scrap metal...he made some remark it was easier for me as I was much younger...I wasn't!! We talked about his Jewish heritage and my very high regard for a certain Jewish carpenter. But the most amusing incident for both of us...I am prone to locking my keys in my car...and sure enough, I lock my keys in the car...I ask to use his phone...he suggested, with a smile on his face, he could quite easily open the car without the use of a key!! I took his offer, under advisement.

Now, about that other case in the county to the south .....but that's another story!!!

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David....any objections to me sending this to the '*AMEA on the Street*' for possible publication?.

Some Things Do Go Right..... by *Nil Desperandum*



Many years ago I was in the position where I hired staff...this was in the best City, in the best province and in the best country..... A new chief weed inspector was required so the position was advertised...a huge array of applications was received. Carefully reading and reviewing the applications it was obvious there were some very well qualified people and some would not know the difference between a dandelion and a snapdragon.

In my mind there were three outstanding applicants...one who already worked in the area as an inspector, one who was in the

landscaping business and one who was already employed in the capacity, from way down in southern Alberta.

The best application came from the landscaper....it was a far superior document and one I have never seen surpassed...not even my own!! However, I did complete at least three interviews...the top three and some other 'also rans'. I narrowed the selection to two people...one female the other male...

In retrospect the decision should not have been difficult...but it was...does one chose a person who could do the job but has limited experience, and whom you know, or do you chose one that looks (extremely) good on paper and interviewed very well, but you hardly understood what he is saying....?

After, (trust me on this!!) much soul searching, I went with the one with the most experience. This person, on his application, displayed a (pleasantly) aggressive personality. One who had played rugby for his country as a junior, who had managed a farm that was situated literally hundreds of kilometers from anywhere and where he had to exercise great judgment. He had come to a new country and had set about establishing himself as a new citizen. His work record and ethic showed he had initiative, intelligence and a desire to do things well and in the best way possible....

From all accounts he has not let me down....well done David Aitken!!

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### Three Unforgettable Characters....By Nil Desperandum

"I shall speak for as long as I want" (or something like that!) was the retort of the unforgettable character I shall start with. The remark was made when this particular lady was told by the Mayor of the fair city I worked for that she had five minutes in which to address the issue before the Executive Committee. The issue was the matter of an untidy and unsightly condition existing on lands she owned. The lady was dressed in older clothes reminiscent of a prior era, topped by a black straw trimmed with flowers. She handled herself extremely well!

As far as I was concerned the land was untidy and unsightly with all the usual material accumulated over the years, including several old trusses for some planned building. Our conversations had been lively

and at one point she indicated that I would pay for my actions when I appeared before the Lord in judgment; I felt secure in this matter even at this high level of jurisdiction, and was not intimidated! She also indicated that I should contact the provincial government regarding her status, and the place they would offer for the trusses...but not the other material. I contacted the government and the comment was (as far as I can remember!) "Oh, no, not that lady"! There was no land or agreement or anything.

Do not think this lady as being incompetent...she was smart enough to wage a battle against the city over a sub-division problem...she held much land in a very desirable part of the city! The city was trying to do things their way. Oh, the matter before the Executive Committee...I had ample photos and documentation....she was required to clean up her lands...this was done by her, later!!

The second character was also a lady, well educated, very polite when not aroused, but when it came to noxious weeds, she became very animated! Read, loud and abusive...

As I look back on this issue there was much we learned... The lady lived in a newer sub-division where most of the owners kept neat gardens. This lady kept a neat front garden but the back was full of noxious weeds. In the first instance someone complained, a weed notice was issued, it was not complied with and the city controlled the weeds. It is here that a valuable lesson was learned. A system was later developed to ensure we had proof the weed notice had been received, expensive but proper.

Those of you familiar with the statute for Noxious Weeds will remember 'notice of delivery' had to be proven...at that time we did not bother (?) with 'proof of delivery'. The lady complained to her councilor, and the outcome was she was refunded the cost of the 'weed control'. Unfortunately though, she never did control the weeds...her method was too hand dig and remove all the weeds...excellent idea but over a number of years she had only cleared a miniscule portion of the yard. Each year someone complained and even though she was approached in person by the unit supervisors to get her to control the weeds, the city always finished up...doing the control. On the last occasion she had to be restrained by the local constabulary while the process was carried out.

Both ladies have passed on...but they will not be forgotten by many who worked in the unit....

"This is Secret Agent 006 calling", enough to get your attention. Then the female caller would relate several serious matters occurring in 'the house next door', anything from mass murder, rape, espionage and then add the place is also untidy. She would ramble on and on and on...never identifying herself. She was adamantly opposed to those left of centre and when I (falsely) suggested that was where my political allegiance lay she reported me to the Mayor's Office. The lady was not identified until we had call listing installed and I was able to convince her her time could be better spent doing other things rather than calling the city. Fortunately this lady was harmless.

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You Should Still Listen, Because, No One Is Perfect! By *Nil Desperandum*



Municipal Enforcement Officers are, generally speaking, and almost as a job requirement, somewhat fixed in their views. This is not a bad tendency when you are right...somewhat different when you are part of the system, and the system in place is proven wrong!

Many years ago, the section in which I later served, would declare a property untidy and unsightly and using the Nuisance Bylaw, would 'clean up' the property...in a very small number of instances, fortunately. By the time I arrived on the scene the section was working on a particularly difficult case, one of those cases where the complainant was as stubborn (?) as the property owner. Both knew 'people in high places'; the case was not particularly strong but the process was followed through up to the point where the property was declared 'untidy and unsightly' and all the necessary letters had gone out indicating the city would take the appropriate action if the problem was not resolved.

Then from stage left enters a lawyer...and in his letter he said simply, politely and to the point, "you can't do that because you do not have the power..." Nonsense was our internal response, when it was done, it was always done this way"...but ...because sometimes lawyers do know of what they speak (!), we decided we should look at his argument a little more closely!!

The end result...the section no longer declared properties 'u and u'; this decision was made by a committee of council and the property owner was invited to appear before the committee. The whole process

was streamlined and was still working well over ten years later. This process, of course, made for some interesting meetings...but that is another story.

So, even though you have followed a process for years, if someone makes a suggestion, politely or otherwise, that it should/could be changed, take time to investigate. Perhaps what is being suggested is valid!

---

Edmonton, AB, T5W 3Z2  
780-474-1594

Prepared for the

HIGHLANDS AND BELLEVUE COMMUNITY HI-LIGHTS

Businesses on 112 Avenue from 50 to 76 Streets for the years 1914 to 1964

A Community Newsletter

2006

prepared by John Tidridge

Information gathered from

*Henderson's Directories*

As found in the

CITY OF EDMONTON ARCHIVES

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August 2, 2006

Hello Greenland:

A Lawn Problem!

I hope the pictures help...

The lawn situated at our home at 11315-60 Street NW. Edmonton, was from seed, in the late sixties to early seventies.

It is aerated, raked and fertilized regularly, usually twice a season.

The lawn starts out like most do...brown, then turns to a lush green where I have to cut every 6-9 days. Then toward the end of June these small brown spots appear, usually about 6 inches in diameter. They are grouped. They appear in the centre (15 feet by 15 feet) of the lawn which is about 25 feet by 25 feet.

We have no dogs or cats, our children our grown, our grandchildren, when visiting would only be on the lawn for an hour or so.

There are no trees that shade the lawn, shade from our home when the sun moves around to the west. Our home is on the east side of the street, the lawn at the rear. It averages ten or so hours of sun a day. We water when required.

If you cannot diagnose from the pictures do you charge club members for an inspection and if so how much!

John Tidridge  
780-474-1594

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Good morning Patti

I spoke with Councillor Caterina on Friday: I said I would send him a copy

of the interview... I have outlined, in bold, the portion that my questions relate to...

I can see now why he did not remember the interview.... And perhaps given a second opportunity may want to add some more information.

The Councillor offered to meet with me... and Thursday morning was suggested....if you could be good enough to set up the time.

One more thing... about you telling me I misspelled your name... and thanking me for being polite; I worked for the City for 35 years (check with Betty Loree in the Action Centre, she will remember me) ... I was surprised at your reaction, as I was when you 'demanded' my name when I asked for Tony's e-mail address... you are in the unfortunate position of having to work for the tax payer, and as such, must become accustomed to being treated impolitely (not that I was impolite then either!!) ...it goes with the territory... being in the position of an employee of the city and councillor does not give you the right to demand anything from tax payers!! It's a tough job but it looks as though you can do it!!

Cheers!!

John T

***Tony Caterina~ our new councillor on the block***

Stacey Brotzel    Highlands/Bellevue  
Reporter

Tony Caterina could be in serious need of some lip balm after his win in Ward 3. At his election night party, there were two cheek kisses for everyone. Champagne bottle in hand, he shouted across the boisterous Italian restaurant on 118 Avenue: "I don't care who you are, you are going to be kissed!" As a campaign worker observed, "It's an Italian thing."

There was a lot to celebrate, as the second time was lucky for

this Edmonton businessman. After losing in 2004, Caterina won a council seat this time around with just more than 9,000 votes. He takes over from retiring councillor Janice Melnychuk, joining incumbent Ed Gibbons at the Ward 3 plank of the table.

So what are his plans? Seconds after officially winning the council seat and minutes before he passed around the champagne, he laid out a view ideas.. New ideas ..

On a new arena: No way. "Rexall Place is one of the few jewels in Ward 3, and residents don't want to see it go." Caterina says this infrastructure doesn't need to be duplicated using tax dollars. "The Oilers are a private organization. If they decide to build a new arena, good luck to them."

Caterina also is putting up road blocks to a 111 Avenue road diet. Considering the area's growth pressures, he says, the people of Highlands/Bellevue must understand the need to move traffic in the northeast. 'To try to slow things down is completely the opposite way to go."

Other things on the Caterina agenda include expanding air services at City Centre Airport and amalgamation. He wants to send a positive mega-city message to the residents of St. Albert and Sherwood Park. "Being part of a larger group is more beneficial to them as far as property taxes go, for example."

On Caterina's website, you'll find him holding a picture of the leaning tower of Pisa. "Straighten this place out," the caption reads. That's the Caterina rallying call as he packs up his briefcase and heads to his new job at city hall.

Back at the party, Caterina hugs his wife of 23 years tight and kisses her on the lips, insisting he is ready for the life of a politician. One of his three sons will take over his business while he concentrates on council. "My first priority is Ward 3. If it's good for Ward 3, then it's good for Edmonton."

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Highland Place Committee

Hello Laura,

I am a (new) member of the Management Committee at the Highland Place Seniors complex. I have been given the task of seeking a safe, temporary refuge for the tenants in the event of an emergency evacuation of the complex. The Highlands Community League hall has been recently demolished and we, therefore, need a place of temporary refuge in the unlikely event of the evacuation taking place.

St. Clare's Church is very close to the complex, so, it is with that in mind that I make the request, on behalf of the Committee, for the use of the church in such emergent situations. I would suggest the occupancy would be for a short duration, hours rather than days, and that minimal use of facilities, other than the building, would take place.

The Committee requested that, if in fact your church approved such use, then a key or access code be made available to the Committee. Our assurance is that the facility would only be used under the aforementioned circumstances and every effort to ensure the security of the code/key would be employed.

Sincerely,

John Tidridge

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Norton Frustrations

Hello Sean,

I am not sure whether this is your department or not but ....

The last three days have been the most frustrating of my senior's computer career... let me explain!!

On Friday I found that I could not transmit my e-mails. So I called 'interbaun'... "not our problem", says the young man... "it's caused by Norton". So I call Norton... and 'chat' to a technician... "it's fixed he says'... No it's not I find. So back to 'interbaun'... "nope", says the young lady, "its Norton's problem"... so back to Norton....they play around for about an hour.... I have now spent 11/2 hours 'chatting'... "it's fixed", says Norton....No it's not I find...so back to 'interbaun'...

"Oh, I can fix that", says 'interbaun'. And he does... in less than 5minutes. I am I annoyed? Not really, frustrated... Oh yeah!!

I check my Norton and it's disabled, can I enable it... NO. So back to Norton, who by this time are sick and fed up with me.... After being 'escalated' to three technicians I lose patience. I get rid of Norton and download another anti-virus!! And, now everything is OK.... Except of course I'm annoyed at 'interbaun' and I am out one Norton Works System 2003!

Soothe me!!

John Tidridge

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So You're Thinking Of Leaving.....

So, you don't like the way the hair is parted?  
Or, the time the morning service started?  
The music is too loud you say,  
There'd be more hymns, if you had your way!

The Elders' Board has too many women?  
Seems like those females are really winning!  
What about the snow in the back lot..  
And it seems like the blower isn't worth a jot!

So, you're thinking of leaving?  
What about your friends, who would be grieving?  
There's more to church than sermons and singing;  
There are 'hellos' and 'huggings' and kids 'a-grinning!!'

Heading elsewhere you blithely think,  
Will make you happy and bring you from the brink.  
Take it from me, who has pondered a lot, it's not really so!  
It's people and friends and kids that make the church go!!

So, before you head off to a church unknown;  
Please, make sure the problem is not part your own

J.T.

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## MUSINGS

### Rejected And Dejected

*(Written in May 2007 after a couple of weeks of rejection and dejection...both, it would seem, self-induced!)*

It has been said that the western way  
Is to find fault.  
Instead of a positive view that builds up.

If this is this case then I must say  
I am an expert in the Western way!  
Why build upon when there's much at fault!

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### The Reporter's Lament

(to be read with a bagpipe playing in the background)

Notices sent out in plenty of time,  
Two weeks, three weeks, maybe four;  
Surely that period is not out of line?  
Surely to goodness they don't want more?

Businesses they say are suffering and in pain.  
Surely at some advertising they would leap.  
It's initially free and besides it's all gain.  
Not using our magazine makes me weep!

Not only businesses turn me down,

Those groups, who to others align,  
Surely, their non-responses make me frown  
Their Lamp they do not want to shine?

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## TOASTS

### Stephanie's

STEPHANIE ELIZABETH DOLL DICKIE NEE TYLER I WAS **ABSOLUTELY DELIGHTED** WHEN YOU ASKED ME TO BRING THE TOAST TO THE BRIDE (PAUSE)

**UNFORTUNATELY, I BURNT THE TOAST** AND SO I WILL **HAVE TO BRING A SPEECH INSTEAD!!....**

THE MC'S INDICATED THAT I **HAVE TO TALK FOR 40 MINUTES** ...WHICH MEANS I WILL HAVE TO **AD LIB FOR 35 MINUTES.....**

A 40 MINUTE SERMON **ER** SPEECH SHOULD BE A SNAP AS YOU HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO THIS SORT OF THING ALL YOUR LIFE. SO HERE GOES...**A SPEECH, WITH FIVE MAIN POINTS...**

### LOYALTY

### DECISIVENESS

### KINDNESS

### DETERMINATION

### DECEPTION

I THREW THE LAST ONE IN **JUST TO KEEP YOU AWAKE FOR THE FIRST FOUR....**

### LOYALTY

I HAVE NOTED YOUR **LOYALTY** IN YOUR COMMITMENT TO JESUS, YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS AS YOU HAVE STAYED THE COURSE WHEN THE GOING WAS ROUGH AND WHERE OTHERS MIGHT SIMPLY HAVE QUIT AND WALKED AWAY.

## **DECISIVENESS**

I SAT IN AWE, AS YOU, WITH **DECISIVENESS** DIRECTED A ROOMFUL OF PEOPLE MOSTLY OLDER THAN YOU, AS TO WHAT TO SAY, WHAT TO WEAR, WHERE TO STAND AND FOR HOW LONG....FOR A CHRISTMAS PAGEANT FOR CHATTABOX

## **KINDNESS**

I NOTED THAT WHILE AT OUR HOME, SAT ON THE SOFA, WEARING ODD SOCKS, LISTENING INTENTLY TO MY CORNY STORIES...AND HOW YOUR FACE WILL BREAK INTO A GORGEOUS SMILE AND THEN YOU WILL THEN LAUGH OUT LOUD...YOU **HAVE SHOWN KINDNESS BY CONVINCING ME** YOU REALLY THINK MY STORIES ARE FUNNY.

## **DETERMINATION**

IN YOUR STUDIES AT UNIVERSITY YOU HAVE SHOWN **DETERMINATION** AS YOU HAVE STUDIED, WORRIED AND FINALLY COMMITTED TO THE COMPUTER, TREMENDOUS PAPERS, WHICH ONLY THROUGH THE SHORT SIGHTEDNESS OF YOUR PROFESSORS HAVE ONLY RECEIVED A PLUSES!!

OH YES, AND NOW TO THE LAST ONE...

## **DECEPTION**

OH YES YOU HAVE TRIED THIS....WHEN THE **TALK GETS AROUND TO SHOWING AFFECTION**...YOU PUT ON YOUR 'SERIOUS' FACE, YOU PURSE YOUR LIPS AND SNORT...TOSSING YOUR HEAD AND RE-ARRANGING YOUR HAIR WITH BOTH HANDS.... HOWEVER...I HAVE SEEN YOU WHEN YOU THINK NO ONE IS WATCHING...YOU SNUGGLE UP TO DAVID, YOU PUT YOUR HANDS ON HIS UPPER ARM, AND YOU LEAN AGAINST IT....YOUR BROWN EYES GO ALL DREAMY....AH, **A DECEIVER, I THINK NOT**... YOU REALLY DO LOVE DAVID!!

STEPHANIE, AS I SAID AT THE START...OH YES...**I HAVE ALMOST FINISHED**...IT GAVE ME GREAT PLEASURE TO BE ASKED....IT NOW GIVES ME EVEN GREATER PLEASURE TO **ASK THOSE HERE TO STAND, TO RAISE THEIR GLASSES AS I PROPOSE A TOAST...**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN PLEASE RISE, RAISE YOUR GLASSES: A TOAST....**TO STEPHANIE, FOR A LONG AND HAPPY MARRIAGE. STEPHANIE**

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Only a reporter with nothing to do;  
It's about you he wishes to write!  
So, how do we learn more about you?  
Perhaps he needs training on how to do it right!