



# A Howlin' Good Time OFF-LEASH NEWS

JULY 2016



## Ongoing Fundraising

Please consider helping us to cover costs for various initiatives in River Park. See details in the first article on this page.

## Pet-A-Palooza

July 23 & 24

10am to 4pm

200 Barclay Parade SW  
(Eau Claire)

Treats, food, accessories,  
toys and free swag!



## SAVE THE DATE

River Park Clean-up  
Saturday, September TBA  
9:30 to 11:00am

Enjoy a walk with your dog  
while you pitch in to help.



## UNSUBSCRIBE OPTION

If for some reason you no longer wish to receive communication, just let me know.

Candice

✉ [riverparkoffleash@gmail.com](mailto:riverparkoffleash@gmail.com)  
🌐 [riverparkdogs.com](http://riverparkdogs.com)  
🐦 [@riverparkdogs](https://twitter.com/riverparkdogs)  
📘 [riverparkdogs](https://www.facebook.com/riverparkdogs)

## Smokin' Hot River Park News Update!

June 4's combo event at River Park was incredibly successful! Drum roll please...

### River Park Clean-up Results

A round of applause and thanks to 53 people who gave their time and effort at the June 4 River Park clean-up in partnership with The City of Calgary. Big thanks to five City staff who supported the event that day as well as a special shout out to Darrell and Laurie from Marda Loop Veterinary Centre who joined in the fun handing out treats and nail trim certificates for the dogs.

### Current Fundraising Results

It was also a great day for poop bag fundraising. On June 4 we raised \$2796.70 and since then, another \$2005 has been received. To date we've raised \$4801.70 toward our goal of \$5680.50 for a two-year supply of bags. Our goal is within sight! Many thanks to all donors!

### Ongoing Fundraising Efforts

Since 1987 the leadership team has paid for all expenses related to our efforts. Acting on suggestions from park users and some leadership team members, we'll fundraise each year to cover costs (approx. \$1000) for park initiatives such as:

- Tradeshows - Marda Gras (\$410)
- Christmas/New Year's event refreshments (\$40)
- Printing (varies) - ink, paper, printing/lamination of large posters, brochures, business cards, banners
- Clean-up event supplies (\$270) - hand sanitizer, gloves, give-away items
- Maintenance (\$100) - lost & found box replacement, plastic IKEA bag dispensers, materials (fence repair, cover and paint for the water fountain, etc.)

If you'd like to make a donation, please contact us at [riverparkoff-leash@gmail.com](mailto:riverparkoff-leash@gmail.com).

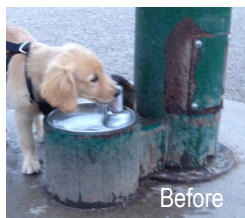
## A River Park Leadership Team Member Profile



**Lynn M** is a Friends of River Park leadership team member who volunteers her time to do many things for the park and its users. Although she shies away from any extra attention, we'd like park users to know about her contributions to River Park.

Lynn quietly goes about her efforts. Besides supplying/replacing the Lost and Found boxes and managing its contents, Lynn also supports our poop bag fundraisers, attends park clean-ups, does her own mini poop scoop efforts each day and more. For instance, when fences were recently erected throughout the park and someone pulled it down, Lynn took it upon herself to fix it. Lynn is also the self-appointed keeper of the fountain in the middle of River Park. She preserves the fountain for every dog and person who uses it. In the winter she buys a plastic container and covers it and then just before the water is turned on in April or May, she removes the cover and scrubs it clean. This year, Lynn truly went above and beyond when she painted it!

Thanks to Lynn's efforts, the park is a great place for all to enjoy.



Before



Winterized



TLC



After

## A Fond Farewell



On June 3 **Callie** made a peaceful journey over the Rainbow Bridge leaving behind her loving family. She was a gentle giant that lived to be just over 14 years old.

Callie was particularly fond of cooler temperatures, but regardless of the weather, she was always up for long strolls in River Park with her family, fur- siblings and furry friends. Occasionally, she'd join in a game of chase with other dogs, but she typically liked to follow her mom on their familiar routes.

In the last few months, Callie mostly enjoyed hanging out in her favourite spots at River Park and getting lots of petting from park regulars.

Callie's family would like to thank everyone who spent time making her visits special. RIP sweet girl.

## Lost and Found Keys



**Lynn M** from our leadership team recently reported a surprisingly high amount of keys in the lost and found box.

If you're missing some keys, please check out the stash the next time you're in the park.

In case you're wondering, Lynn monitors the contents and discards unclaimed keys after a month or so.



**Jaynie L** frequently noticed a line up at the River Park fountain, especially on hot days. On June 20 she brought two dog bowls for park users to share.

Many thanks to Jaynie... All of the thirsty dogs appreciate her efforts!

## Paws for Thought

Some great tips and videos to share this month!

Thanks to **Kathleen H** for sourcing and sharing [hiking etiquette tips](#) from [Pets Weekly](#)

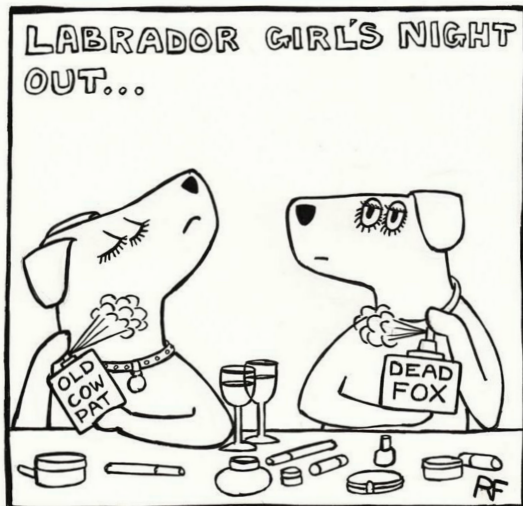


[Three videos](#) that demonstrate how a special dog can make a powerful difference for a child with autism



## K-9 Comedy Corner

Thank you to **Randy S** and **Deb M** for finding and sharing some laughs with us this month!



## Park Construction Update

Park users are raising many questions about the ongoing development in River Park.

Two members from the leadership team have sought information/updates through The City of Calgary website, 3-1-1, a Parks rep, Councillor Brian Pincott and Twitter. On May 26 **John M**, a Parks rep, shared some answers to our questions so we passed along the information in this newsletter and on social media. We were told they will attempt to display posters that notify park users of any work being done before it occurs however this has yet to happen.

We've made a few attempts at getting information through Twitter but Calgary Parks keeps referring us to submit a request through 3-1-1. **As of June 30 a new person has promised to provide an update in the near future.**

For now we placed a poster on the bulletin board to highlight the information we received. If anyone asks about development, please refer them to the City of Calgary [website](#), the bulletin board notice as well as our Twitter feed or Facebook page.

A small update from Calgary Parks:

1. Cement pads at the south and north ends of the park are platforms for the garbage receptacles. We asked if there will be gravel leading up to and placed around the pads.
2. The large fenced off area on the southeast side is supposed to re-open this year.

We promise to share any new information as soon as we receive it.

## Caring for Your Pet In Sickness and Health

This section features great online info to help keep all of our furry family members healthy and happy.

### Grieving

Learn some helpful tips from [veterinarypartner.com](#) for you and your dog:

[When a Dog Mourns the Loss of a Human](#)

[When Your Dog Mourns the Loss of Another Dog](#)



Some ideas to [help your dog cope with fireworks](#) from Jennifer Cattet, ethologist, dog behaviorist and trainer of diabetes alert/seizure response dogs

