

Carol Grant: comfort zone

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Some of the clay companies that flourished over the years were Medalta Potteries, Alberta Clay Products, Hycroft China and others. The factories produced brick, tile and sewer pipes to supply the massive construction business that followed western immigration. But they also produced the typical stoneware crocks as well as hand-painted art ware. At a time when Western Canada supplied nothing but raw materials for the factories in the east, Medalta Potteries was the only western factory shipping finished goods of any kind east of Lake Superior and once produced three-quarters of all stoneware in Canada. In 1910 Alberta Clay Products constructed a huge facility using only bricks manufactured in its own kilns. A gas well was drilled on site. The plant complex was enormous with 14 round downdraft kilns. By 1912 it was the second largest plant of its type in North America with 325 employees and daily producing 80,000 bricks and 24,000 sewer pipes. ACP used heavy stoneware clay that had to be fired at much higher temperatures than traditional red earthenware bricks. The bricks were much stronger but still had to be glazed to be watertight. To achieve this they were fired in beehive salt kilns, when a certain high temperature was reached, rock salt was injected into the kiln atmosphere. It vaporizes and the sodium combines with the silica and alumina to produce a distinctive glaze. Today, the Friends of Medalta Society is overseeing the restoration of a number of buildings in the Medalta Potteries National Historic Site in order to showcase the companies, people, machines and products made there in the early to mid 20th century. Interpreters show how the casting, jiggering and pressing of stoneware pottery was done and a museum provides a historical background for visitors.

NEW ENVIRONMENT

The Medalta International Artists in Residence program has been operating for eight years hosting visiting artists from around the world. The artistic director, Les Manning, previously headed the ceramics department at the Banff school of arts for 25 years. Up until this year the resident studios were housed in very old buildings. This year the visiting artists studios were in the new International Centre for Contemporary Ceramics. In fact, much work was still being completed as we were there. All levels of government officials as well as many ceramists attended the grand opening ceremony. This was a very exciting and satisfying event for those who have worked so long to make this facility a reality. The new facility has 13 studios with a variety of kilns including salt, soda, wood, raku, gas and electric. I personally found that my experience at Medalta to be very rewarding and added both to my development as an artist as well as from a personal standpoint. The idea of getting out of your comfort zone by physically spending time in another environment is known to be a great way to promote individual creativity. I was strongly affected by my experience of working with 12 other professional artists who were all so encouraging and supportive. The other artists were from all over Canada and two were for the US. Through seeing their processes and discussions of their work I was able to have a greater appreciation of the subtleties of their work. My experience at Medalta has given me a new perspective and enhanced feeling of gratefulness. I now have a broader view of the possibilities open to me.

From the heights of Austria

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After it was clean, the calf was picked up and moved to his own stall. He learned how to walk half an hour after birth. The fluffy calf heaved his weight onto four, skinny, trembling legs. He wobbled for a couple of seconds, and then collapsed. After a couple of efforts, he managed to remain standing, wobbling slightly. It is so fun to watch the calves kick their legs up into the air like a stampeding bull as they adjust to their long stilts. I don't think my internal clock has quite adjusted to waking up to pitch darkness at 5:30 am for school. I have a half-hour bus ride to school and sometimes I catch some zzzzs so it's not too bad. The first two months of school were not really enjoyable. As the words drifted over my head, my mind would wander. From never having fallen asleep in class before, to in Austria falling asleep every day, I started to study German during class, or draw. Now, I can understand a bit of what the teachers are saying and talking with my classmates keeps me focused and not always so tired. The exchange life is another life, but a challenging and interesting life that I am enjoying. Thank you Rotary!

Love, Chantel

CLASSIFIED

PUBLIC NOTICE

A Special Meeting of Council will be held Tuesday, January 12, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in Room #208 of the Deep River Town Hall in order to enter into a closed session for the purpose of educational or training sessions, with respect to the budget, in accordance with Section 239 (3.1) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, C.25

**Tuesday, January 12, 2010
7:00 p.m.
Deep River Town Hall
Room #208**

For further information:
Gene Kiviaho
CAO/Clerk
613 584 2000 Ext. 126
gkiviaho@deepriver.ca

GET WITH IT

2010 program begins Tuesday

You asked, so here it is - "Get WITH It!" (Walking In The Halls) is back.

The "Get WITH It!" team is geared up and ready to launch another great season of warm, safe, free, fun, community activity to help all ages become more physically active.

This season's launch is next Tuesday, January 12. Make it your New Year's resolution to join us in the halls of Mackenzie High School with walking routes of varying intensities to accommodate everyone.

There will be warm-up and cool down exercises and of course, great music. The program is set to run every Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30 pm to 8 pm from January right through until March.

The first 100 people to sign up receive a free "Get WITH It" T-shirt. There will also be logbooks and lanyards to give away.

New this year, in honour of the 2010 Olympics, join a team and "Walk to Whistler."

Not sure if you should join us due

to health concerns? "Get WITH It!" is a certified rehabilitation program for those dealing with cardiac conditions.

We are recognized as a Heart Wise exercise program in partnership with the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. An AED and people trained in its use are on site every evening.

If you have not participated in the past, give "Get WITH It!" a try.

There are some new fun activities planned for this year - keep checking the NRT for details.

Volunteers are always needed. If you are able to help please contact 584-3148.

See you in the halls! And don't forget your walking shoes!

SUDOKU SOLUTION

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2	8	5	1	9	7	4	6	3
7	9	4	6	5	3	8	2	1
6	1	3	2	4	8	7	9	5
1	4	2	8	7	5	6	3	9
8	6	7	9	3	2	1	5	4
3	5	9	4	6	1	2	8	7
5	7	1	3	8	6	9	4	2
4	3	6	7	2	9	5	1	8
9	2	8	5	1	4	3	7	6



Corporation of the
Town of Laurentian Hills

Change to Garbage Pick Up Schedule starting 19 January, 2010

Effective Tuesday 19 January, 2010 Garbage pick up for **Mountainview Subdivision** and **Gutzman Road** will be changing from Friday to every **Tuesday**.

*Garbage must be set out for pick-up for 7:00am.

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