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CALGARY HERALD WEEKENDER

Wondering what to do in Calgary this Canada Day long weekend? There are no shortage of options in our city. Read on!

ERIC'S PICKS

Arts writer **Eric Volmers** offers up a few suggestions on how to liven up your weekend:

What to see: Long weekend fundraiser for Mikey's on 12th

Well, this is it. While Mike Clark will soon be opening an establishment at the old site of Bowness Hotel, this will be the final weekend for Mikey's on 12th. Over the past seven years, the beloved live venue has become a favourite watering hole for musicians, music lovers and fans of great tacos, not to mention assorted riff-raff formerly or currently under the employ of the Calgary Herald/Calgary Sun. So if you were one of the many who religiously crowded into the Beltline joint on Sunday afternoons to watch Tom Phillips hold court over the "Sit Back" jam (also known as "church"), or took in Tim Williams' stunning blues sets on Tuesday evenings, or watched the wonderful Guilty Pleasure showcases over the past few years, you don't want to miss this final hurrah. Bands include Allan Barrett, Lovebullies, Steve Pineo and Tom Phillips on Friday, The Blues Jam and Tyler Allen Band and Pepper-Box on Saturday; the Sit-Back Jam with Tom Phillips and Fashionably Late Karaoke with Connie on Sunday; Ridley Bent & The Killer Tumbleweeds, Honey Grift, and the Steve Pineo Trio on Monday.

When and Where: Mikey's on 12th, Friday to Monday.

Sound Atlas Music Festival

Focusing on works by living composers and co-presented by Calgary's mixed-chamber ensemble Latitude 49 and Juno-winning Land's Ensemble, the contemporary music festival is in its second year. This year, the festival will highlight the work of composer Jared Miller — a Juno-nominated, Juilliard-trained rising star who was named composer-in-residence of the Victoria Symphony at the age of 25 — over three days at Contemporary Calgary.

When and Where: June 27 to 29 at Contemporary Calgary

Ghosts of Canoe Lake: New Work by Marcel Dzama

A co-founder of the influential Royal Arts Lodge as a student in the University of Manitoba's fine arts program and the designer of album covers by the Weakerthans and Beck, Marcel Dzama became what Galleries West calls "a bonafide arts star." The Winnipegger's new exhibit at Contemporary Calgary, which opens today, is described as his return to the international arts scene after a decade in New York City and exhibiting internationally. He delves into childhood memories and Canadian art history, including references to the Group of Seven, with the new works.

When and Where: Contemporary Calgary, June 27 to Oct. 27

DINNER&DRINKS

Restaurant columnist **Elizabeth Chorney-Booth** has the scoop on what's tasty in Calgary. Here's what she has her eye on this week:

The Diablo pizza with pepperoni, thin sliced jalapenos, mozzarella and homemade sauce is shown at Cold Beer and Pizza. Photo by Jim Wells/Postmedia

Cold Beer and Pizza serves… cold beer and pizza

If you like beer and you also like pizza, do I have a place for you! Cold Beer and Pizza is a new hot spot on 17th Avenue that has two counters inside: one lined with taps full of local craft beers and another in front of a kitchen cooking up outstandingly delicious Roman-style pizza, sold by the slice, half-metre, or full metre. The concept (and name) may be simple, but the food and the beer is definitely not an afterthought — this is good stuff. Even better, it's a fun place to hang out with a retro-cool look, a free photo booth, and what will very likely turn out to be one of the most happenin' patios of the summer.

Read my full profile of Cold Beer and Pizza here.

Primary Colours was photographed on May 15. Photo by Darren Makowichuk/Postmedia

Primary Colours finds the right tone

Primary Colours, the Britannia restaurant run by Monogram Coffee and chef Matthias Fong, recently closed down for a few days to give itself a refresh and a reset and the result is subtle, but much-welcome. Streamlining their offering, the restaurant's coffee counter has been replaced with a bar and weekday brunch service has been swapped out for a sophisticated lunch menu that better reflects what's served at dinnertime. If you haven't been (or haven't been for a while) do check it out — Fong is cooking up some fun and elegant dishes that will get a better chance to shine now that the restaurant's concept has been tweaked.

ON STAGE

Veteran theatre critic **Louis B. Hobson** has all the latest on stage in Calgary. Here's what's happening:

Walking with a legend

Stage West's production of Dean Regan's A Closer Walk With Patsy Cline begins a week of previews this weekend with the official opening July 5. Sarah Horsman stars as the the country and pop music superstar who died in a plane crash in 1961. The play follows her tenacious rise to super stardom featuring more than 20 of her iconic hits such as I Fall to Pieces, Crazy and Back in Baby's Arms.

More information here.

Photo by Hannah Anson

Shakespeare gets a contemporary makeover

Full Circle Theatre presents Riverona, a mash up of Shakespeare with teen TV dramas. Part 1 of this love letter to Romeo and Juliet and pop culture of the past few decades plays tonight and Friday in the Evergreen Community Spaces at 1709 8th Ave. N.E. at 7 p.m.

Navigating a journey through grief

The FLC Seniors Acting Club is presenting the premiere of Rose Bene's drama Lost And Found: Beth's Journey which looks at how one woman deals with the sudden death of her husband, and the family dynamics which ensue. The 90-minute play runs tonight through Saturday at 7 p.m. in Theatre 1308, located at 1308 Edmonton Trail N.E. with 2 p.m. matinees on Saturday and Sunday.

LOCAL ARTS

Kevin Martin, of Calgary, and Gurleen Maan of Abbotsford, will compete in Season 10 of Amazing Race Canada. Courtesy, CTV.

Professional poker player, wrestler among Calgary contestants on Amazing Race Canada

A professional poker player, a husband and wife in advertising and a wrestler are among the Calgarians who will be competing in the 10th season of Amazing Race Canada. The series, hosted by Jon Montgomery, has teams racing throughout Canada to vie for top prizes. Season 10 premieres Tuesday on CTV. Entertainment writer Eric Volmers has more on the Calgary competitors.

Read more here.

With citywide water restrictions, how is a gardener to survive?

Oh woe, what is a gardener to do in a city with water restrictions?

The Calgary Horticultural Society has some tips and advice on what works well in drought-like conditions.

Read more here.

Jennifer Lawrence movie, JonBenet Ramsey miniseries set to film in Calgary this summer

The Alberta film and television industry will have a busy summer, with a high-profile film starring Oscar-winner Jennifer Lawrence and a miniseries about JonBenet Ramsey among the projects set to go into production within the next few months. A source close to the productions, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said both projects have been green-lit.

Read more here.

EXPLORE

Adventures and journeys in Alberta and beyond:

Moving cattle down the road to pasture in the Oxley Creek valley west of Stavely on Tuesday, June 18. Photo by Mike Drew/Postmedia

Flowers, birds, and a southern Alberta traffic jam

Nature photographer Mike Drew returns to the the T-shaped line of ridges that run along the north end of the Porcupine Hills.

> "The road I picked to go up to the ridge runs straight south across a broad valley filled with green pastures, wildflowers and twisty diamond willows. It is a short, steep, gorgeous drive. But don't try it after a rainstorm. I knew better, I really did, and there was even a sign at the north end of the road stating that it was best in dry weather. But the rain had passed several hours before and I had ground-shredding four-wheel drive. What could go wrong?"

Take a look at Mike's photo essay here.

Watch here for a new post **from Mike later this weekend.**

SPOTLIGHT

Canada Day at the Confluence
This day of free activities will include walking tours, live music from Canadian musicians, an Indigenous artisan market and more. The Confluence also offers great views for the fireworks, scheduled for about 11 p.m.

Where and when: The Confluence Historic Site & Parkland, Monday 11 a.m. to late.

Check out these other events this weekend.

GET OUT!

Members from Three Left Feet during Canada Day celebrations at Fort Calgary in Calgary on Saturday, July 1, 2023. Photo by Darren Makowichuk/Postmedia

Ten things to do this Canada Day long weekend in Calgary

The Canada Day long weekend is here, and Calgary has plenty on the go. From sports to theatre to Canada Day activities, the city has it covered. We highlight 10 exciting activities and events happening in the city this weekend, and on the holiday Monday.

Canada Day at St. Patrick's Island Park
St. Patrick's Island Park will be host to three stages with live music, a Calgary Fire Department water vessel display, face painting, playgrounds and food trucks.

Where and when: St. Patrick's Island Park, July 1: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Fairy Tales Queer art and film festival
The Calgary Queer Arts Society presents Fairy Tales, which, entering its 26th year, is the longest running queer art and film festival in the Canadian Prairies. Fairy Tales 2024 will showcase 33 short films, 15 artists, 10 makers, seven feature films and two DJs, as well as a market and arts exhibition.

Where and when: The Grand Theatre, June 27 to 30.

Calgary Stampeders Family Day
The Calgary Stampeders are hosting the Winnipeg Blue Bombers this weekend for a special family-themed game day. Before the game, there will be a free family tailgate bash with face painting, inflatables, games, giveaways and more. After the game, families can join players on the field for photo opportunities.

Where and when: McMahon Stadium, 5 p.m. on June 29.

Heritage Park's 60th birthday celebration

Heritage Park celebrates 60 years this weekend with live music, games and complimentary treats like birthday cake. There will also be a parade and other lively performances.

Where and when: Heritage Park, July 1: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Check out these other events this weekend.

ARTS HISTORY

Herald editor and history buff **Monica Zurowski** opens the archives to see what was entertaining in Calgary through the years:

Bruce Stotesbury, Calgary Herald

Mall performers 'break' into dance

A break is precisely what might happen to the uninitiated and unfit who venture boldly but unwisely into the spine-twisting antics of break-dancing. It's a craze that is sweeping North America, however, and when done properly has magnetic abilities in drawing crowds. Ron Houle, launched into orbit, and Lee Margarson were part of a Stephen Avenue Mall break-dance demonstration on Thursday.

June 1984: Breakdancers hit our city streets

Back in Calgary 40 years ago, crowds would gather along Stephen Avenue Mall to watch the latest type of street entertainers — breakdancers! This style of street dancing had become popular in New York in the 1970s and by the early 1980s it had spread across the continent. This front page photo of the Calgary Herald on June 22, 1984, noted the dancing had "magnetic abilities to draw in a crowd."

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