

CALGARY Street TALK

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MAY 2008 STAMPEDERS KICKOFF BREAKFAST SPECIAL EDITION



Lord of the Ring
Henry Burris awarded
President's Ring
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Dignity
Barb Higgins shares her strongest
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FAMILY FLOURISHES IN NEW HOME:
Rapid Exit program
puts families on fast track off the streets

Photo by Ken Price

Vendor Code of Conduct

Calgary Street Talk vendors are proud of their newspaper and the people who sell it. They each sign a Code of Conduct that stresses the importance of a high standard in customer service because they realize that the conduct of one affects all the others. On occasion, certain persons obtain copies of *Calgary Street Talk* and sell them without authorization; this can be accompanied by undesirable behaviour. The authorized vendors and the publishers are anxious to eliminate such incidents.

If you witness or experience any unacceptable behaviour, please report it directly to the offices of *Calgary Street Talk* at 221-8780.

Vendors Needed

Calgary Street Talk has openings for new vendors. If you are looking for a way to earn money while learning new skills, this is the job for you. We require our vendors to be genuinely interested in working and trying to improve their circumstances. We currently have a number of excellent locations available.

For more information, please contact *Calgary Street Talk* at 221-8780.

Top Sellers

April's top sales leaders resulted in a tie for first between #4 **Mike Abhar** and #381 **Wade Ackerman**, second place was taken by #442 **Steve Gale**, followed by #68 **Rob Champion**.

Vendor Incentive Program

#383 **Gordon Eddy** is fulfilling his hopes and dreams.

We are dependent on supporters to donate to our Vendor Incentive Program. We like to award at least one \$25 food gift certificate to deserving vendors each month to recognize initiative, improved sales or to acknowledge participating in the *Calgary Street Talk* program.

For information about the Vendor Incentive Program please call 221-8674.

VENDOR BIRTHDAYS IN MAY 2008

#316 **Terry Flamond** - May 8

#442 **Steve Gale** - May 9

President's Luncheon

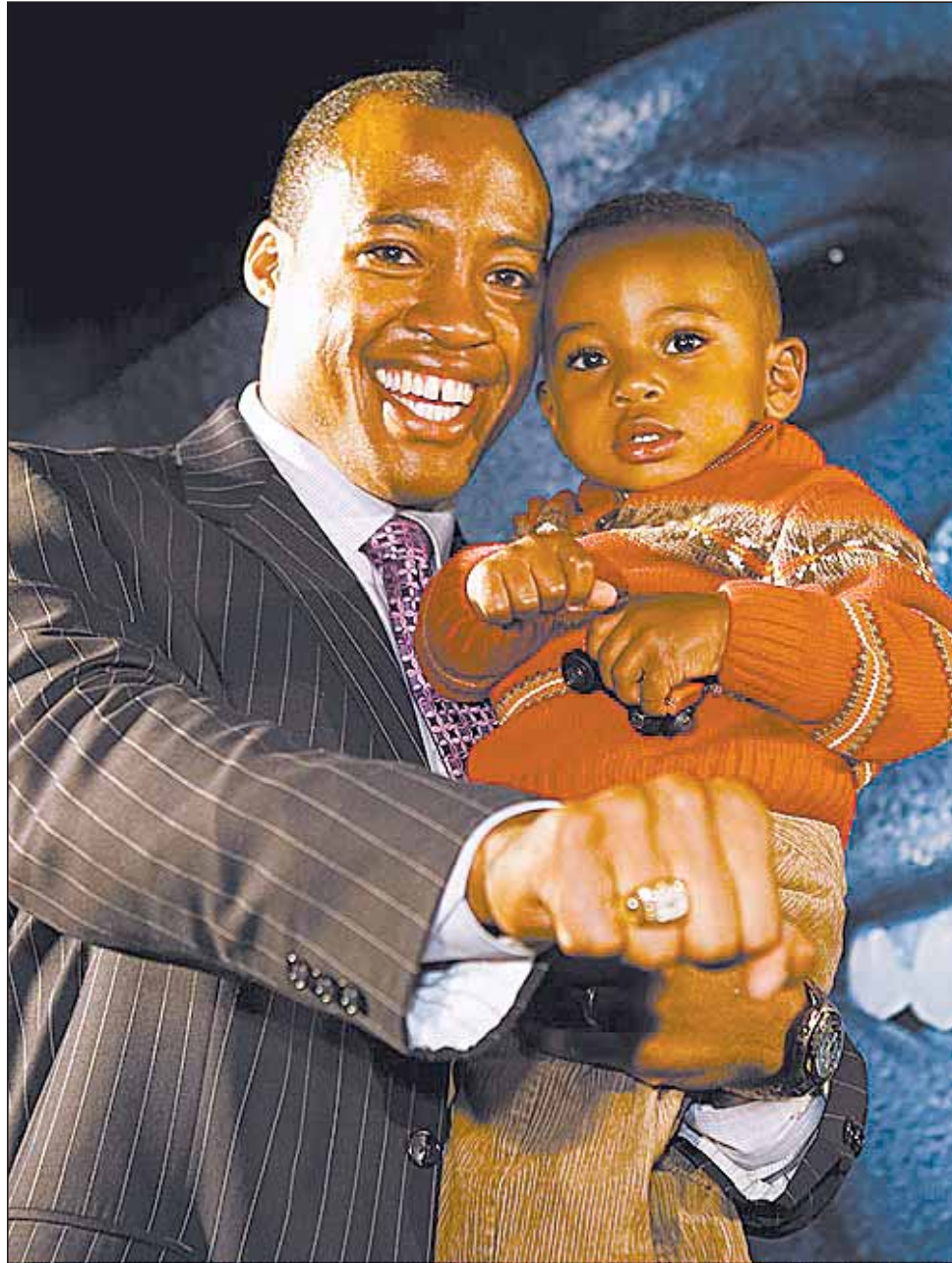


photo by Cory Shannon

Calgary Stampeder's Quarterback 'Smilin' Hank' Henry Burris holds up his son Armand as he shows off the President's Ring presented to him earlier this month.

Smilin' Hank's Family

By Herman Pontes

A star QB has many fans, but when they include his teammates, the recognition is especially meaningful.

It was a choked-up Henry Burris who took the stage to receive the 2007 Stampeder's President's Ring, an award voted on by the players and given to the most inspirational Stampeder, on and off the field. He spoke of the importance of his family in his personal development.

"I had the benefit of having a mom and a dad, who worked hard to give me a home and put food on the table," he said.

It is the importance of family that led Henry to support Big Brothers and Big

Sisters of Calgary by founding his All-Star Weekend, which ran May 8-10 this year. Every child has a dream, and Henry is committed to supporting children in fulfilling those dreams.

Burris also spoke with pride of his own family, his wife Nicole and son Armand, who have offered him so much support and joy.

"But now I have a Calgary family," he added, alluding to the players, staff and fans of the Calgary Stampeder's. The importance of teamwork and community effort continue to drive him, as he seeks to lead the Stamps in a successful 2008 season, and continues to support family and children's programs in the Calgary community. ■

Street Talk Distribution

Here is a list of authorized active *Street Talk* vendors, each of whom works his or her own hours.

The best time to find one is during the morning, lunch and afternoon rush.

Vendor #1: "Saint"- Pete
17th Avenue & 7th Street SW

#2: Bob Bland
6th Avenue & 2nd Street SW

#4: Mike Abhar
4th Avenue & 1st Street SW (A.M.)
Eau Claire Market (lunch & early P.M.)
6th Avenue & 4th Street SW (late P.M.)

#7: Andie
23 Ave. & 4 St. SW

#19: Norm "The Mayor" Mansell
City Hall, 8th Ave. & Macleod Trail SE

#68: Rob Champion
Plaza Theatre, Kensington

#187: Bruce S.
8 St. & 9 Ave. underpass AM
4 St. & 9 Ave. underpass PM

#217: Carolyn Miller

#242: Eugene M.
The Bay at 8th Ave. & 1st St. SW

#251: Ed Gorman
18th Ave. & 4th St. SW

#253: Darrell S.

#273: Ray R.
Safeway at 410 - 10th Street NW

#381: Wade A.
9th Avenue & 1st Street SW

#383: Gordon E.
12th Ave. & 14th St. SW

#397: Lois O.
6th Ave. & 4th Street SW

#442: Steve Gale
Banker's Hall

#509: Barbara Randle
Kensington Safeway

#515 - John Beck

#519 - Ed Legault

#520 - Shane Taylor

CALGARY Street TALK

MAY 2008 SPECIAL EDITION
A SPARE CHANGE NEWSPAPER

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Contributors: **Paul Drohan, Marina Giacomani, Barb Higgins, Robert Perry, Herman Pontes, Ken Price, Tim Richter, Cory Shannon**



Calgarian Barb Higgins is an award-winning documentary writer and producer who has been delivering Calgary's news on the CTV network for more than a decade.

The Simple Greatness of DIGNITY

By Barb Higgins

It broke my heart.

On April 26th, The Calgary Homeless Foundation held an event called Homeless Connect. It was the first of its kind in Canada. 50 social agencies that deal with poverty issues set up booths at the Telus Convention Center on a Saturday morning. It was 'one-stop shopping' for medical care, advice on finding a job, finding a house, legal issues, you name it.

When the doors opened at 9 am, there were 200 people lined up outside. One of the doctors who volunteered had tears in his eyes and choked out, "I'm very moved by this. I just walked through all those people in line to get in, and I'm very moved." He clearly was. We all were.

As the people streamed in and made their way through the hall, I quietly wandered around to take it all in. That's when I saw my strongest memory of the day.

I had just left the medical area where a man was showing the doctor his foot. The doctor seemed to be testing if the big toe was broken. Not wanting to intrude, I turned and walked down the aisle of booths.

That's when something caught my eye.

Two men sat perched on metal stools. Their clothes were unkempt and their hair was long and wiry. Both men were getting their hair cut. It's such a simple act and yet it grabbed me. The men looked so vulnerable. The stylists were cutting off the rough edges and underneath the hair were nice looking people.

I didn't stop to watch - but the image was burned in my mind. My heart tightened as I walked away. My mind kept playing back the men slumped in the chair, their harsh exterior being so easily cut away.

I couldn't understand why two men getting their hair cut broke my heart.

I called a friend and shared what I'd seen. She understood it this way, "It's about dignity. Sometimes it's such a simple thing - but we all deserve our dignity".

Dignity is such a simple gift. We give a smile, or a haircut. We give our time to teach a skill, or we buy a paper from a Street Talk vendor. Simple acts create big impact.

Thank you for being at the Stampeders Kickoff Breakfast today. Thank you for supporting CUPS and the Street Talk paper. You are making a difference, in ways you will never know. h more rapid than the climate change itself." ■

COMMUNITY

CUPS

HEALTH CENTRE

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Calgary Street Talk welcomes your comments, questions, suggestions and article ideas. Please write or telephone. Letters to the editor are assumed to be for publication, must be signed, must include phone number, and may be edited for length.

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A HOME to Care



"We didn't have nothing," says Edna, seen here with her son Jessie and partner Clint. "Next thing you know, there's a big yellow truck outside."

Story and photos by Ken Price

I'm greeted at the door by an 11-year-old and I ask if his mom is home.

"Nope," he says dryly, and looks me up and down. After a moment, unable to contain it any longer, a huge grin stretches across his face, "Just kidding!"

He yells for his mom as he bounds down the stairs.

"Mom, the guy is here!"

Once downstairs, he's somber again. He's not allowed to go skateboarding until he's finished helping his mother, Edna, with the dishes.

They live with Edna's partner, Clint, in a basement suite on the north side of the city. It's an attractive block with trees lining the street. There are other families with kids and pets. They were able to acquire this home thanks to the Rapid Exit program, recently implemented by the Community Urban Project Society.

Now that they have their new home, they share the same problems as every other parent on the block. They have to get their son to school. They figure out what to make for dinner after work - Edna works at a drycleaners and Clint works in an auto body shop. They still

search for a good cutting board (Clint assures me it's not so easy). It was only a few months ago their problems were far greater.

"We did have a place," says Edna, "but the lady there didn't want us there. Jessie was being a little tyrant."

They lost that house on March 12, 2007, Edna remembers to the day. It would be almost a year before they would have a stable home again.

They spent several months sleeping in their car and staying with Inn From the Cold. They have no problem describing what that was like.

"Stressful," they say, almost in unison.

On the nights they spent with Inn From the Cold, they were bused to a different church every day.

"You get stuck in a rut," Clint says. "You never know where you are going to spend the night."

When you are constantly moving around, he explained, it's difficult to gain the stability in order to build your life. Most of the day is spent figuring out where to find dinner and which church you will be bused to next. Many nights are spent sleepless, curled-up on a little cot in a church full of people.

all Their OWN

"You have to wake up early, and then spend the day at CUPS deciding where you're going to go until bedtime," Edna adds.

There are days when you are unable to take a shower, and it didn't bode well when they met with landlords, he says.

"I would show up all dirty after work. Once they found out I was staying at Inn From the Cold, they assumed I'm a crack addict. Maybe not exactly like that, but they made that association."

Then there would be nights when there wasn't room with Inn From the Cold, or they just needed a break from it, and they slept in their car on the outskirts of town.

"At least we knew where we were going to sleep that night," Clint says, shrugging. "We had a tent out there. No one ever took our stuff."

The hardest part of that period, though, was the effect it was having on Jessie. He was getting in fights in school, and trying to hurt other kids. Eventually, there were times when he tried to hurt himself, and once threw himself out of a window.

Edna accessed programs at CUPS' Family Resource Centre, learning strategies for dealing with Jessie's behavior.

It was at CUPS one day she caught up with another family she had met at Inn From the Cold. It turned her life around. Her friends said they just had a meeting with a Housing Locator. They suggested Edna do the same.

"We hopped to it," Edna says.

In December they met with Richard Mugford, a CUPS Housing Locator, whose job it is to make relationships with landlords around the city and put clients in homes.

Richard got to know her well. He looked at her financial situation, assessed any barriers to housing, and asked what she and Clint wanted in a home.

"After that, it was just a

matter of her being patient with us while we found her a home," Richard says.

In February they walked into a home they could call their own. They were among the first few families to be housed by the Rapid Exit program.

It wasn't a 'jump for joy' occasion though. Edna, with a heavy sigh, described the moment they walked into their new home as a "relief." After a year, they could finally relax.

No more forms to fill out. No more buses to unknown destinations. No more cots.

"There's no one looking over our shoulder all the time," she says with a laugh. "We can come and go as we please."

Especially relieving was the improvement seen in Jessie almost immediately. He brightened up. He is now visibly hap-

pier.

"He's not trying to hurt people anymore," Edna says.

The Housing Locators like Richard at CUPS have a term for the kind of landlords like the one who agreed to help Edna's family.

"We call them the 'hidden socially conscious,'" he says. "After the [Rapid Exit] program started, and received more press, landlords were giving us a call wanting to help out."

They found a great number of people who weren't 'stereotypical' landlords – the kind who is only interested in making money.

"They were families who wanted to help other families, and were looking for a way to reach out," he says. "They just wanted to feel sure their investment was protected."

There are approximately 30 landlords participating with the Rapid Exit program.

As things were set in motion, Edna's family was put in contact with several other people who wanted to help. They met another landlord who wanted to donate piles of furniture she was stuck with. Edna and her family were fully furnished before they even had time to worry about it.

"We even got the mayor's armoire," Edna boasts.

Since CUPS implemented the Rapid Exit program, funded by the Government of Alberta, in October 2007, 42 families have been put in homes with private landlords. The success has already been amazing. Out of those 42 families, 40 of them are still housed. Two families are in alternate housing due to domestic violence.

On average, it takes 70 days from the day they are met at CUPS to the day they walk in to their new home.

Especially gratifying, is the 81 children that, in only half a year, have been taken off the streets and put in homes.

The Rapid Exit program is in support of the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness, overseen by the Calgary Homeless Foundation.

The Rapid Exit program is based on the Housing First model, "an approach to ending homelessness that centers on providing homeless people with housing quickly and then providing services as needed," according to the National Alliance to End Homelessness. This differs from the old school of thought that tried to offer social services to the homeless so they would then be 'ready' for a home.

Results from the Housing First model have shown that social services are more effective after people have the security of their own home. Then, they are less likely to repeat the cycle of homelessness. ■



CUPS Housing Locators like Jeff Halvorsen (left) meet with Edna and Clint weekly to ensure their needs are met.

Laying the Foundation: THE CALGARY HOMELESS FOUNDATION paves the way with the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness



By Tim Richter
Tim Richter is President and CEO of the Calgary Foundation to End Homelessness

The Calgary Homeless Foundation has been named implementer of the 10 Year Plan. The philosophy of the Plan is Housing First, a model first seen in the United States. Housing First is revolutionary because instead of making people housing ready - free of addictions and mental illness-individuals are placed in

housing and provided the supports to become and stay housed. Housing first is what it says, and it works.

To date, three months after the launch of the Plan, our project outcomes have been very successful. What we are seeing is the beginning of our journey in Calgary to end homelessness for good. Our early success gives us the hope and drive to achieve the goals set out in the 10 Year Plan; we will end homelessness in Calgary. We launched the Plan on the anniversary of Calgary Homeless Foundation's first 10 years; we will end homelessness on the Calgary Homeless Foundation's 20th anniversary.

One successful project aligning under the 10 Year Plan is CUPS' Rapid Exit Housing, Families Projects. The pilot, funded by the Calgary Homeless Foundation and operated by CUPS, is recruiting private landlords willing to rent to homeless families. To date, CUPS has successfully housed 42 families - 53 adults and 81 children - through this program. The speed the program is housing families experiencing homelessness since launching in mid December is expected to far surpass the first year outcomes set out by the plan of housing 50 women or families in crisis moved from emergency or transi-

tional shelter into housing with support.

Pathways to Housing, operated by the Alex Community Health Centre, is another successful project aligning with the Housing First model. This project places hard to house individuals referred to the program into housing and provides drug, healthcare, employment, mental health services and assistance with day to day issues. To date, this project has housed 19 clients, and provided them the supports to successfully maintain their housing. One Pathways client, a refugee from Sudan, says, "...My life is like a dream... I have this apartment... I was asked if I want to meet the Premier... tomorrow! I keep thinking, why me?"

The 10 Year Plan has also committed to producing three Project Homeless Connects per year - one day aimed at providing one stop services to individuals at risk or experiencing homelessness. Held this past April 26th, 2008 at the Telus Convention Centre, the day was a huge success. We had no idea what to expect from people at the inaugural event. It turned out to surpass even our expectations. We saw over 600 people that day, with 150 people in line before the doors opened at 9:00 AM. 80 people had their hair cut, 100 saw the doctor.

One young woman, 25 weeks pregnant, saw the doctor. She was rushed to hospital; if she hadn't, her baby would have died within 48 hours. That is amazing. Two more of these are Project Homeless Connects are planned for 2008; one in September and one December. The ultimate goal of the Project Homeless Connect is a full time opportunity centre as a single access point for all services and supports by December 2010.

As we work with our partners to align under the 10 Year Plan, we also have many pilot projects underway that will begin to move people out of homelessness and into housing with supports. We are also working towards our goal of providing 850 affordable housing units by 2010. To do this, we need to begin the development of these units today, and are working with existing partners. We are also exploring new relationships to efficiently and cost effectively produce these affordable housing units.

The Plan has proven to be innovative and bold; this is the beginning of the achievements of the 10 Year Plan and our mission to end homelessness in Calgary. For more information on the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness, visit www.calgaryhomeless.com ■

VOLUNTEERS TALLY HOMELESS

By Robert Perry

On the evening of May 14, around 100 volunteers gathered at the Centre of Hope. We were pulled together to be part of the 2008 Homeless Count, officially called the 2008 Voices From The Street Count of Homeless Persons. A total was not ready at the time Street Talk went to press.



We were registered, oriented, supplied with cigarettes and other small intangibles, and we headed out to our assigned locations across downtown and the belt-line area.

2008 is a continuation of the biannual count started in 1992 by the City of Calgary. This year we had a significant change. From 1992 through 2004 a street count was conducted by teams of volunteers who canvassed shelters, downtown, and other areas known to have people living there. The difference this year - the city has grown, homelessness has grown, and the geographic scope is large. The City of Calgary needed to have a rethink.

The City of Calgary posted on its website, "The City of Calgary can no longer effectively conduct a street count because the extent of street homelessness has exceeded our ability to coordinate a point-in-time count that will adequately and safely locate and count the street homeless population. Because of this, the 2008 Count of Homeless Persons and subsequent counts will not include a street count."

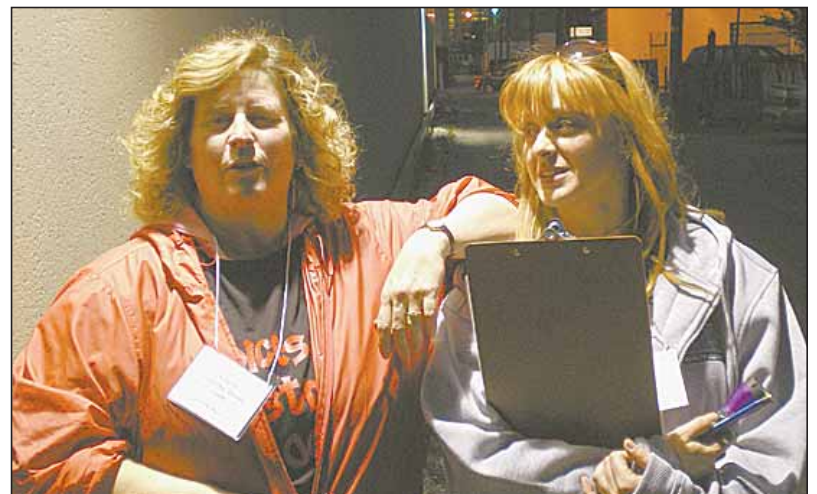
They are going to conduct a shelter

count and apply a "probability model based on past count data and weather conditions." Added to the actual number account in the shelters, a total is found. The statisticians at the City are confident that their method will work. However this wasn't good enough for the Salvation Army, The SEED, The Drop-In Centre, Alpha House, CUPS and the

Calgary Homeless Foundation. We wanted to collect data, not to complement and assist their findings. We organized our own street count.

We walked the streets, parks, and back alleys, talked to

people and visited homeless in as many places as we knew where to look. We were looking for important information about the size, demographics, characteristics and experiences of Calgary's street homeless population. We asked what their current job situation is, how long they've been in Calgary, and if they use any social work services. ■



Two people you would want to meet in a dark alley at night - the Director of the Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter Deb Welliver (left) and CUPS Family Resource Centre Coordinator Lisa Garrison volunteer to count the homeless on the street.

Fast Start for Rapid Exit

by Herman Pontes

“Reasonable people adapt themselves to the world. Unreasonable people attempt to adapt the world to themselves. All progress, therefore, depends on unreasonable people.”

- **George Bernard Shaw**

Tim Richter, Project Manager for Calgary's 10-year Plan to End Homelessness, quoted Shaw at an open house for the Rapid Exit program, held at CUPS Community Health Centre on February 21, 2008. In praising the innovative qualities of the program, he went on to say, "CUPS are my favourite unreasonable people."

Rapid Exit takes its name from a housing program in the Minneapolis area. Research on services indicated that homeless families who were housed recovered more quickly, and achieved more, than families who spent extended periods without stable housing. The aim of the program, then, was to house families as quickly as possible, to encourage development in other areas of their lives.

CUPS social workers Lisa Garrisen and Marina Giacomini were impressed by the results of the Minnesota project, so much so that they created a similar one here in Calgary. In case you haven't heard - there is an acute shortage of affordable housing in The Heart of the New West. More than 2200 families are currently on the Calgary Housing waiting list; it can take up to two years to get a place to call home by this means.

Rapid Exit remedies this desperate situation by employing Housing Locators, who travel throughout the Greater Calgary area, actively looking for suitable family accommodations. These locators are also Landlord Liaisons who serve the interests of property owners and mediate with Rapid Exit tenants. Darrin Bachmeier and Mike Perrin, who have housed two families through the mediation of liaison Courtney Strome, say the relationship works.

"You always have a mix of tenants, good and bad, but we've never had any problems with Rapid Exit tenants."

Rapid Exit has a two-year budget of just under \$1 million, provided by the Alberta government and an anonymous donor. In addition to staffing needs, this budget provides subsidies to needy families, either in the form of partial rent cheques to their landlords, or by supporting daily needs and groceries. The program's goal is to house 60 families in its first year of operation. After two months of accepting referrals, it has already housed 20. The program's success demands its growth, since there are already another 20 families on the Rapid Exit waiting list. "In our second year we'll be hiring three more staff and a coordinator," said Marina Giacomini, Director of Housing and Supports for CUPS. Through a partnership with the Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter, the loca-

tors/liaisons work out of the CWES administration offices.

The Rapid Exit Open House proved to be an educational opportunity not only for landlords and social agencies, but also for needy families. Even as speakers were addressing the audience of about 50, Blanca Oropez was making an appointment with housing locator Richard Mugford. Hesitant in her English, Mrs. Oropez shared more details of her story in Spanish. Blanca's family migrated from Mexico to Montreal, only to discover there was no work there. They recently moved to Calgary, only to discover that well-paying jobs were actually located in Alberta's north. Blanca's husband is now spending 28 days away, working on an oil sands project. For the past three weeks, Blanca and her three children - one still an infant - have been staying in the Salvation Army's Centre of Hope, but she is anxious to settle her family, particularly as her eldest daughter needs to start school. Blanca had great hope that Richard and the Rapid Exit team could help them get the start they need.

Progress, as Shaw asserted, does result from a refusal to accept the status quo. An innovative program has made it possible for some of Calgary's needy families to end the cycle of couch surfing and shelter hopping. The number of families who have benefited from Rapid Exit so far may be small in comparison to the 2200 who are still waiting for housing, but it is growing. But what will happen when this two-year pilot project comes to an end?

"I'd like to see it become a permanent project," said Marina Giacomini. "It should be the first step in a family's road to stability. The long-term goal is to emancipate families from services. Families are resilient. After all, as Tim Richter pointed out, homeless families weren't always homeless. If they were housed before, why shouldn't they be again?" ■

Families Need Housing First



by Marina Giacomini
Director of Housing and Supports
for CUPS Community Health
Centre

Although we are very sorry to see her go, we are excited to announce Marina Giacomini has accepted a position with the Calgary Homeless Foundation. We wish her great success in the future.

Housing First is an approach to ending homelessness that is gaining popularity around the world. The innovative work of the concept's pioneers, like Dr. Sam Tsemberis from New York City, has demonstrated homelessness can be ended for many people, even those with multiple housing barriers or challenges. The key is to provide the privacy of a permanent residence along with the right services.

The current model of emergency shelter for homeless families has actually been found to prolong homelessness. Traditionally we have believed in keeping

families in shelters to "work on their issues," so they would become "stabilized," and more ready to be successfully housed. The Housing First alternative has proven this false and instead demonstrates that families are in fact "more responsive to interventions and social services support after they are in their own housing, rather than while living in temporary/transitional facilities or housing programs." For more information about Housing First visit www.beyondshelter.org.

Funded by the Province of Alberta, the newly launched CUPS Rapid Exit Housing Families project is putting Housing First in action for Calgary families. Since mid-December the program has housed close to 40 families in market units with private landlords. Half of these families are women and children who are fleeing domestic violence and have no place to go when their stay at the women's shelter is up. The other half of the families accessing Rapid Exit are coming from the Inn from the Cold family shelter program, or are sleeping on the floors and couches of friends or relatives. Wrap-around services for basic needs, financial support, case management, counseling, and therapy are available to all of the families in the Rapid Exit project. These services are provided through the CUPS Family Resource Centre and CUPS' other partnerships including the ISACC project (Integrated Services & Case Coordination) with Aspen and the Distress Centre Calgary, and a partnership with Jewish Family Services.

At CUPS we believe in families and we know that giving parents and children the privacy and dignity of a place of their own along with the care and support to maintain it is not just Housing First but a step towards housing forever! ■

Stamps and CUPS Muster Major Momentum

By Ken Price

It's a funny feeling. We look at the year ahead and think about the struggles, the heavy hits, and the determination required - and then we smile. It's going to be great, because we have so much momentum behind us.

The Calgary Stampeders surely feel this way. The new season schedule has them squaring off against rivals the Saskatchewan Roughriders four times this year. The Roughriders bumped the Stamps out of the Western semi-final last season and went on to win the Grey Cup. But when the Riders come back to McMahon Stadium this time, the Stampeders will greet them with some new faces, and they won't be very welcoming.

Calgary has brought in their "dream coach" John Hufnagel from New York where he has been the Giants' offensive

coordinator for the past couple years. Hufnagel has a strong history with the Stampeders, having quarterbacked for the Stamps from 1976-79 and served as offensive coordinator from 1990-96.

To add to the Roughriders' list of woes is a former San Francisco 49er, linebacker Saleem Rasheed, and a troop of young guns on the offensive line.

Having new energy like this behind stars like Henry Burris, Jermaine Copeland, and Joffrey Reynolds, the Stampeders are going to have a whole lot of gallop to their game.

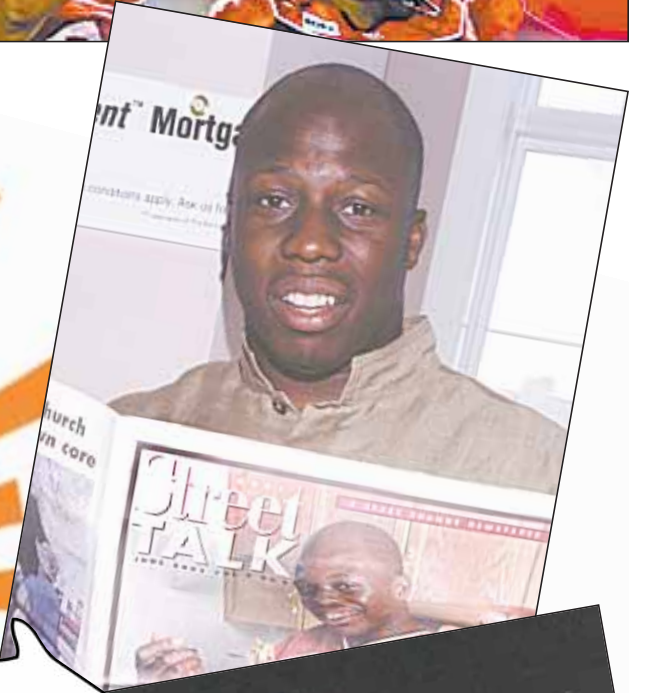
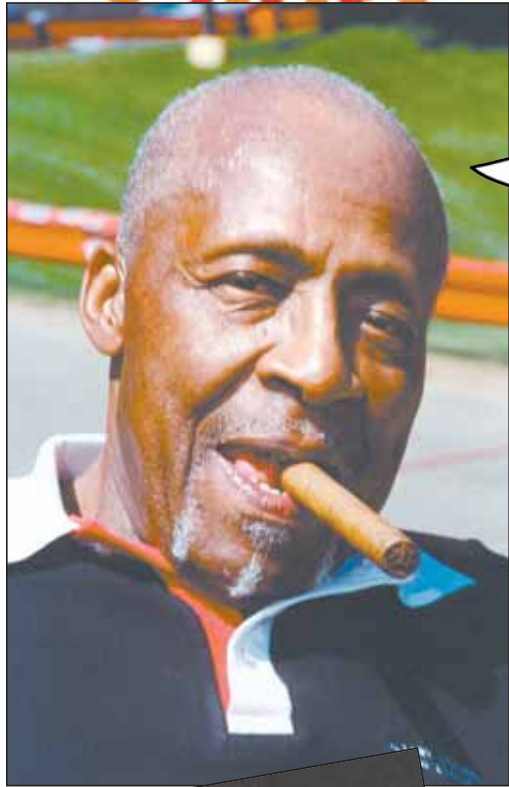
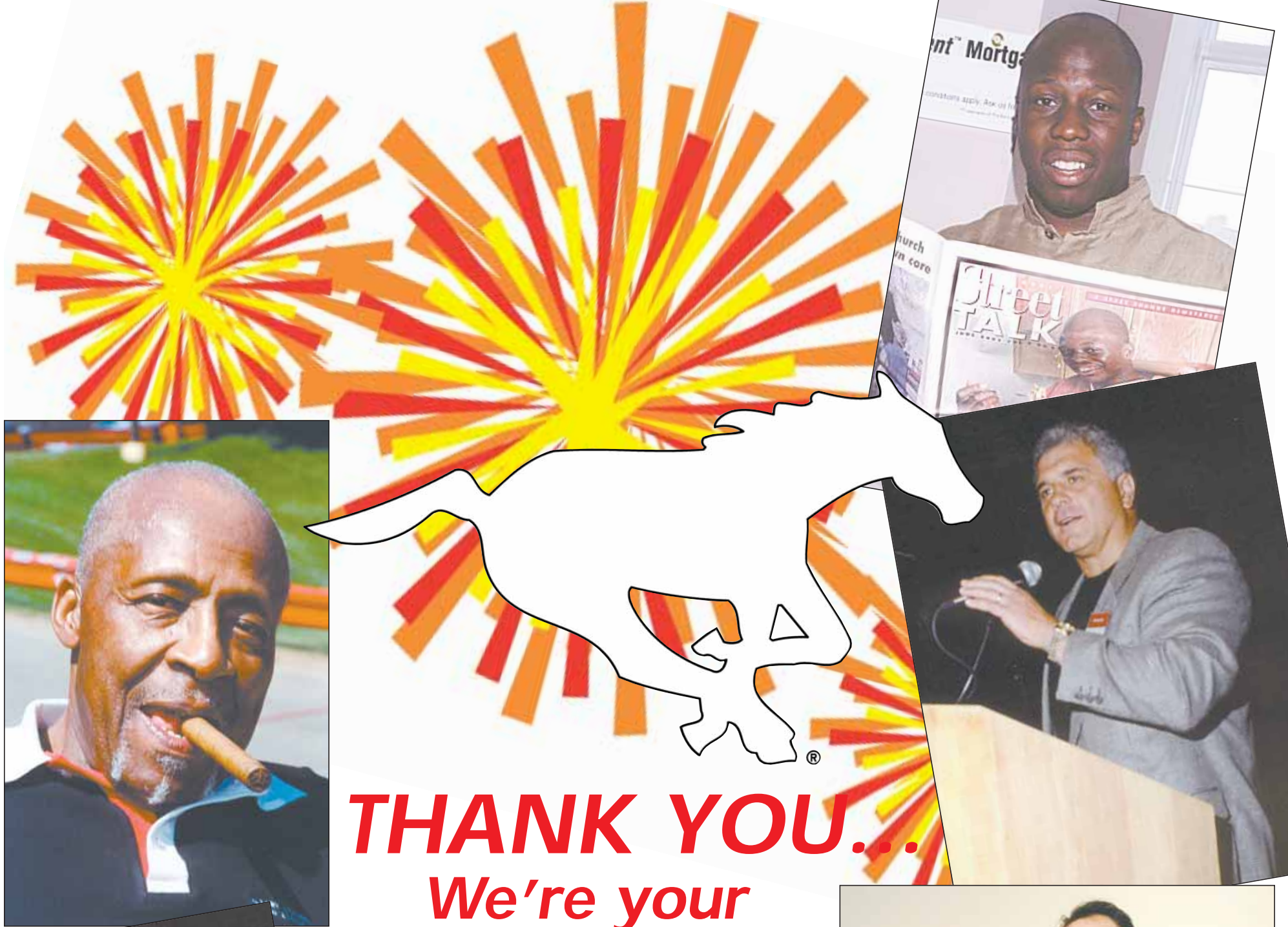
The Calgary Urban Project Society knows how great it is to have guys like these on their team. It comes as no surprise to CUPS that Henry Burris would be awarded the President's Ring by his teammates earlier this month, in large part due to his impressive list of charity work around the city.

The compassion and generosity of the Calgary Stampeders, along with the Apache Corporation, has been well recognized. Since the first Stampeder Kickoff Breakfast in 1991, over \$500,000 has been raised for CUPS.

Just like the Calgary Stampeders, CUPS is looking ahead at a very exciting year.

CUPS is a non-profit community health centre located in Calgary's downtown core. Offering collaborative and holistic services in the areas of health care, education and social services, CUPS Community Health Centre helps people make the transition from poverty to stability.

Thanks to new city-wide programs like the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness and participating organizations like CUPS, Calgary is no longer on the defensive against homelessness



THANK YOU...
*We're your
biggest fans!*

CUPS would like to thank the Calgary Stampede, the Apache Corporation, and all the guests for their generosity in making the Kickoff Breakfast a huge success. Since 1991, the Kickoff Breakfast has raised more than \$500,000 for CUPS. Calgary benefits from the health care, education, and social work services provided by CUPS as we help people make the transition from poverty to stability. ■

