

For the Week of:

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Weekly  
Community  
Magazine

~ Priceless ~

# Here's the Scoop



## No News is "Good" News!

Produced and distributed by ADvance Distribution this week to over 14,500 homes and businesses in Airdrie and surrounding areas. Reach us at [Heresthescoop@shaw.ca](mailto:Heresthescoop@shaw.ca) or call 948-5529

### Good, In A Bad Way

*Written By Al Jones*

Well folks, here we are in a new year and the bulk of conversations I've been involved in thus far usually include the question, "Have you made any new years resolutions?" At first, I resisted, but after much thought, I have had a change of heart. I do indeed have a new year's resolution. I resolve not to be good ... now, let me explain.

A few months back, I was at a business dinner. My wife and I were seated with Sherry Shaw-Froggatt, the publisher of Airdrie Life magazine. As fellow writers will often do, she issued me a challenge. She said, "I've got a topic for you. Good is the enemy of great."

I looked at her and said, "Ummmm....Jim Collins already wrote that book."

"Yeah, but everyone has a different definition of good and great. Think about it and write your own version," she challenged me.

Since then, I've thought about how I can incorporate that phrase into my daily life so that I can actually meet her challenge. So, here goes.

Last year's Calgary Flames were a good NHL team. But the '89 Stanley Cup Champion Calgary Flames were a GREAT team. The goal for this year's Flames is to once again win the Stanley Cup and achieve greatness. Good is not the goal.....Great is.

We ask friends if they know of a good repair shop or a good hair dresser, when we should be asking for GREAT ones.

We are satisfied with being good parents. But shouldn't we strive to be GREAT parents?

*(Continued on page 2)*

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*"Every luxury must be paid for,  
and everything is a luxury,  
starting with being in the world."  
- Cesar Pavese*

*(Continued from page 1)*

We settle for being good employees. But shouldn't we strive to be GREAT at our jobs?

A good neighbour might shovel your walk when you're away. But if we were GREAT neighbours, we would shovel the walk even when you're home. Not all the time....but enough to let your neighbour know that you appreciate them as a neighbour.

Most of us are satisfied with being good at things. Once we become good at something, we become comfortable....even complacent. A good student is someone who pays attention in class and easily gets a "B" average. They are satisfied with being good, so they never strive to be better. A GREAT student is someone who struggles, but because of perseverance, extra study time and commitment, achieves that same "B" average yet still continues striving for an "A". It is the GREAT students that will be tomorrow's leaders. The good students will work for them.

So my New Year's resolution is not to settle for good. Because "Good is the enemy of Great". I don't want to be good. I want to be GREAT. I want to be a GREAT husband, a GREAT father, a GREAT friend, a GREAT volunteer, a GREAT listener, a GREAT employer, a GREAT publisher and a GREAT writer. If I seriously follow through with my resolution, then I will probably always have to strive to be better. It is only from admitting that I can be better and working on achieving self betterment, that I can ever hope to overcome being good.

I hope you all join me by making this same resolution yourselves. Together we can avoid having a good year.....we'll have a GREAT year.

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- Loretta Girzatlis



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## Virtue of the Week

### Kindness

Kindness is showing you care, doing some good to make life better for others. Be thoughtful about people's needs. Show love and compassion to someone who is sad or needs your help. When you are tempted to be cruel, to criticize or tease decide to be kind instead.

**You are practicing kindness when you:**

- Give tender attention to those who need help.
- Do thoughtful things to give others happiness.
- Practice habits that help the environment.
- Resist the temptation to be cruel.
- Accept people who are different.

#### Affirmation

I am kind. I show compassion to others.  
I have the courage to show I care.

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"The best portion of a good man is his little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and love."

- W W Wordsworth



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