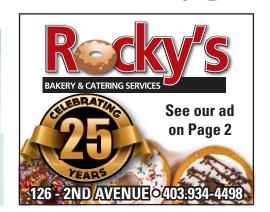


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Page 4



Festival continues

Page 5



Kings dish out hardware

STRATHMORE TIMES

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County budget discussed

IOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County council approved the final 2025-27 operating budget, and the 2025-29 capital budget during the April 1 regular meeting.

Additionally, council approved all three readings of Bylaw 2025-07, being the Property Tax Rate Bylaw.

Changes to the budgets since last they were brought before the Committee of the Whole include the final requisition values for designated industrial properties, local school districts, and Wheatland Housing Management Body.

Funded through capital reserves, \$660,000 has been set aside for the Fire Association capital budget, based on council's resolution number 2025-03-37.

Fire Association capital items are considered as part of the county's operating budget because the Association owns them, and the Association is funded through the Fire Capital Reserve, not by the county's current operational values.

Estimated municipal expenditures and transfers set out for 2025 are \$47,768,155 capital, and \$54,979,861 operational budgets.

Over the next few years, the county is anticipating a positive financial impact in the realm of \$200,000 based on their participation with Calgary's new hydrogen hub.

Coun. Glenn Koester expressed concerns that since 2021, the county's unrestricted reserves are down by \$26 million, and restricted reserves are projected to be down by \$20 million.

"Our net reserve draw down for capital is \$1.54 million for this year if we do a three per cent increase. To make revenue neutral, we need an 8.1 per cent increase in taxes," he said. "Also relating to that, our operating expenses is requiring a transfer from reserves of another \$3.82 million."

Reeve Amber Link iterated her support for the budgets and bylaw as presented are rationalized by the significant affordability of living pressures which have been experienced both by ratepayers and businesses over the last five years.

Continued on Page 4



Award winners!

Rylan Geerheart (I-r) and Nathan Gregory received trophies for their accomplishments in U7 hockey at the East Wheatland Athletic Association awards banquet on April 4 at the Standard Community Hall. See Page 2 for more coverage.

Melissa Piche Photo









The East Wheatland Athletic Association (EWAA) hosted its banquet and awards night at the Standard Community Hall on April 4.

Melissa Piche Photos

Dishing out the hardware

MELISSA PICHE
Times Contributor

The East Wheatland Athletic Association (EWAA) hosted its inaugural banquet and awards night on April 4 at the Standard Community Hall, marking a memorable evening of celebration and

community spirit.

The evening was well attended by players, families, coaches and numerous supporters filling the hall with energy and pride. Drew Gregory ser-

ved as master of ceremonies, guiding the night with enthusiasm and charm.

Highlights of the evening included recognition of all players with emphasis on having fun and creating lasting relationships with a unified love of hockey. Both the U13 and U15 teams had exceptional success this season, bringing home not one, but two banners to be hung from the rafters. Awards were handed out to players for their dedication, sportsmanship and achievements throughout the season.





Town renews Culture and Wellbeing Taskforce

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Town of Strathmore council passed a motion during the April 2 regular meeting to adopt Culture and Wellbeing Tast Force Terms of Reference, and allocate \$30,000 from the financial stabilization reserve to the taskforce.

The purpose of the allocation being to support culture and wellbeing events and initiatives throughout the local community.

As part of the town's successful application for the Settlement, Integration, and Language Project (SILP) grant, the Culture and Wellbeing Task Force was approved to ensure ongoing community consultation and engagement as a part of the grant

Originally, the term of the task force was set to expire at the end of May 2025. Coun. Melissa Langmaid motioned for the term to be extended until Sept. 10. This motion was passed in a vote of

Coun. Jason Montgomery inquired as to whether one of the primary functions of the Task Force was intended to put on cultural events as part of its mandate which includes wellness and cultural activities, public art projects, and to help review town facilities infrastructure programs.

"The new (mandate) speaks to coordinating and identifying opportunities for stakeholder and community engagement that speaks to provide community input on matters related to provision of culture and wellness initiatives in Strathmore," said Mark Pretzlaff, director of community and protective services. "Some of the elements are listed as in the mandate that includes wellness and cultural activities as well as public art projects, as well as to help review town facilities, infrastructure programs, and physical services where that can be identified as barriers to individuals with disabilities."

Coun. Wiley expressed opposition to migrating \$30,000 from the financial stabilization reserve, stating those funds should be utilized for stabilizing the town's finances, not cultural activities.

He added previous events hosted by the Task Force have been "incredibly unpopular" based on low attendance numbers.

Montgomery echoed Wiley's concerns and questioned local government's role in cultural activi-

"It is not the place of the government to be putting on those types of events or using tax dollars to put on those events, and even if the intent is to be inclusive, the problem with events like this in the name of inclusivity is actually that they become quite exclusive," he said. "The task force would be picking and choosing ... the cultures or the groups that they want to highlight or focus on and that would obviously be at the expense or at the risk of excluding other groups or other individuals or cultures who are not being focused on or highlighted by this group."

Langmaid said it was the Task Force which developed a local newcomer resource hub, as well as that it is premature to judge future activities of the Task Force under the new terms of reference.

Coun. Denise Peterson added due to work completed by the Task Force, members of Siksika Nation who had previously felt unwelcome in the community had expressed to her a change of heart being among the impacts of the Task Force.

Calling for a recorded vote, the motion to adopt Culture and Wellbeing Tast Force Terms of Reference, as well as to transfer the \$30,000 from the financial stabilization reserve was passed 5-2 in favour. Montgomery and Wiley were the two councilors opposed.

Hussar Ag Society finalist for BASF Growing Home grant

IOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Hussar Agricultural Society is among the three finalist organizations in Alberta for Growing Home with BASF which will be awarded portions of a \$160,000 prize fund.

BASF Agricultural Solutions developed their Growing Home initiative to support organizations acting as a backbone for rural communities. It serves to help spread awareness about these organizations serving to positively impact their communities.

The program was launched in 2023 as BASF's marquee community giving program. In its first year, as well as in 2024, the program offered \$25,000 as the sole award for one organization in each province.

Among the prizes available this year, the firstplace winner will receive \$25,000. The second and third place prizes, respectively, are \$10,000 and \$5,000 each.

We have a really strong agricultural group and community in Hussar, so when we knew that this grant money was available, we definitely wanted to apply to help show the support to our area and

help keep our facilities open and keep our activities happening," said Ashley Kirkpatrick, secretary treasurer for the Hussar Agricultural Society. "The application was like, what roles do you play in agriculture, or the way your community supports agriculture was one of the main (criteria), and then it was either a project or why you thought you would deserve and fit into the values of BASF as a whole."

Kirkpatrick explained a brand-new ice plant was established in Hussar in 2020, and the Agricultural Society is in the final payments of that project.

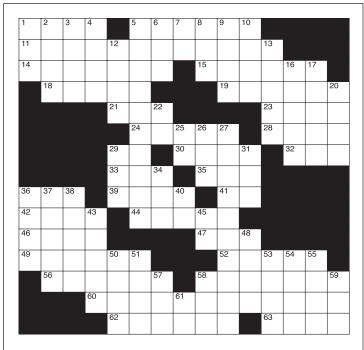
The goal for the winnings is to go towards the ice plant, as well as other upgrades such as roofing repairs.

Placement for the prize winners now that the finalists have been established will be based on votes submitted to the contest prior to the April

Any person who is over the age of 18, regardless of their home community, is eligible to cast a vote for the organization they would like to see most funded.

Continued on Page 4

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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Garden tool
- 5. A way to preserve
- 11. Gratitude 14. Domestic sheep
- 15. Simpler
- 18. Cavities containing liquid
- 19. Large fish-eating bird
- 21. Ocular protection index
- 23. Phil ___, former CIA 24. Icelandic poems
- 28. Pop
- 29. Device
- 30. Actor Rudd 32. A pituitary hormone
- 33. Focus on an object

- 35. Corpuscle count (abbr.)
- 36. Young women's association 39. Not shallow
- 41. Doctor
- 42. Furniture
- 44. Hindu male religious teacher
- 46. Highly spiced stew
- 47. A way to communicate
- 49. Almost last 52. Astronomer Carl
- 56. Small horses
- 58. A slender tower with balconies
- 60. A disrespectful quality
- 62. Fully shaded inner regions
- 63. Short convulsive intake of breath

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Popular Sunday dinner option 29. Where a bachelor lives 2. Oil cartel
- 3. Agile
- 4. Greek goddess of discord
- 5. Genetically distinct variety
- 6. Indicates badly
- 7. Popular Mr. T character
- 8. Consumed
- 9. Chinese dynasty 10. NFL great Randy
- 12. Within
- 13. Palm trees
- 16. Fungal disease
- 17. Tall, slender-leaved plants
- 20. Affirmative! (slang)
- 22. A passport is one
- 25. Two outs in baseball (abbr.)
- 26. Swiss river
- 27. Deferential

- 31. Portable computer screen material 34. A crying noise of a bird
- 36. Sticky, amorphous substance
- 37. Starchy dish of dried tubers
- 38. Type of acid
- 40. Partner to "Ma"
- 43. 16 ounces
- 45. The Bay State 48. A well-defined track or path
- 50. Substitution
- 51. Defined period
- 53. Group of toughs
- 54. Region 55. Famed Scottish Loch
- 57. Blood relation 58. Not around
- 59. Recipe measurement
- 61. Father to Junior



Mario Prusina Publisher

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Performing artists

Week 2 of the Strathmore Performing Arts Festival (SPAF) was busy with instrumental, piano and band concert. The festival wraps up with the Showcase Concert and Awards Night on April 9 at the Hope Community Covenant Church.

Photos Courtesy of the SPAF











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ALBERTA JUSTICE

The Strathmore courthouse is closed for renovations. Court matters will be held at: Alberta Court of Justice Calgary Courts Centre Courtroom 1407

Courtroom 1407 601 – 5th Street SW Calgary, AB T2P 5P7

If you have any questions, please contact:

Drumheller Court of Justice at 403-820-7300 or email at Drumheller.Courts@just.gov.ab.ca (between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.)

Calgary Regional Court of Justice at 403-297-4396 (between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.)

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Level: Intermediate



6

8



3

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County passes operating, capital budgets, property tax bylaw

Continued from Page 1

"This has been a key consideration in our deliberations around setting our tax rate and balancing that with prudent investment in infrastructure, as well as consideration of our reserves and future asset management planning and capital maintenance needs," she said. "We have substantial capital maintenance responsibilities into the future and we do need to be cognizant of that and I think we have struck a good balance with what we are considering today while also being cognizant of those affordability pressures on our residents and our businesses."

Joel Chiasson, manager of financial services, who presented before council, explained the property tax bylaw outlines the total budget numbers, including annotation related to the operating and capital budgets.

Additionally, it breaks down the details between tax revenue funded, and other funding sources such as reserves and grants.

"\$43.6 million is represented by the total cumulative tax levy ... which represents (a) three per cent tax increase," he

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Location Pastor - Shan Simpson

Pastor - Eric Horstia Sunday at 10:10 a.m. C3 Prayer - Tuesday at 7 p.m. said.

Coun. Shannon Laprise motioned that council approve first and second readings of the bylaw, as well as that permission be granted to hold third reading. These motions were all passed unanimously.

Laprise followed, motioning to pass third and final reading of the bylaw. At this time, Coun. Rick Laursen requested a recorded vote of council prior to it being cast.

The bylaw was carried in favour, with a vote of 5-2. Koester and Laursen were noted as being in opposition of passing.

The capital and operating budgets were similarly carried in favour with a vote of 5-2, Koester and Laursen being opposed.

Finalists announced

Continued from Page 3

"You get one vote per province so you can vote for the other provinces as well if their finalists were something you resonated with as well," said Kirkpatrick.

Kasia Kistelski, external communications manager with BASF, explained finalist organizations were evaluated largely based on their submitted nomination story.

This application needed to include information about why a respective community was deserving of the grand prize, what they intend to do with the money, their community story, their purpose, and what services they provide, among other criteria.

"Back in 2023 we were trying to find a way to give back bigger and better and this was my passion project. We had a program that was very similar that we just needed to elevate and revamp to try and get more engagement from our customers," said Kistelski. "It is really heartwarming to see the amount of nominations that we get. In the first year, we were seeing over 400 nominations ... and in 2023 we only expanded the program for Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba."

In 2024, as well as this year, BASF saw over 600 nominations for the Growing Home initiative.

For those who are interested in voting and having input on the victors, they will have until 11:59 p.m. April 15, mountain standard time, and are able to do so online (www.agsolutions.ca/growinghome).

Kings celebrate past season, announce financial injection

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Agra Risk Wheatland Kings hosted their annual awards banquet, April 4, at the Strathmore Family Center to celebrate the players and their accomplishments over the course of the seas-

After a franchise record-breaking season, which saw the Kings finish second in the HJHL Southern Division with 55 points, the team was ultimately eliminated 3-1 in the second round series versus the Medicine Hat

A total of 10 awards were presented to players over the course of the banquet. The winners were presented as follows: Top Scorer - Cole Tweit; Top Defenseman – Tegan Skehar; MVP - Tegan Skehar; Strathmore Times Player of the Year – Cole Tweit; Top Forward - Philip Raycroft; Most Improved Player - Hayden Baker; Rookie of the Year - Derrick Ford; Most Dedicated Player - Joel Romano; Most Defensive Player - Lachlan Stewart; King of the Year - Adam Moore.

"We really just selected our best-on-best and the coaches knew who they wanted for those awards," said Cody Holdaway, general manager for the Wheatland Kings.

"Especially for our graduating players - our grad class, I think three out of the four of them have played four straight seasons with us, so it was definitely a big night for a couple of the guys."

Lachlan Stewart, Kobe Gosling, and Joel Romano have been with the Kings for the last four years. Tegan Skehar was with the Kings for two

"They are all definitely big pieces of our roster and our leadership group for sure, but we are already working on building bigger and better for next season and we are going to be a force to be reckoned with again," said Hol-

He added despite being an emotional night for the players, it was all about celebrating them rather than dwelling on the disappointment of elimination.

The Kings have also announced a \$10,000 capital injection provided by Kidco Construction for the team to be able to renovate their dressing room.

"\$10,000 is a lot of money. The dressing room is really the heart of our team. It is where our team prepares and builds for every game, so now thanks to Kidco ... we now have all the money necessary to complete a full and total renovation of our dressing room," said Holda-

He explained the team has been fundraising for this project for the last three years. Now, with the new injection, there is enough of a budget pooled to pull the trigger.

The current locker stalls are approximately 15 years old. The facility has effectively been unchanged since the Strathmore AAA hockey team was previously playing

Holdaway said he was proud to announce the old locker stalls were ripped out, Mar. 6, and will be ready for use prior to the start of the upcoming

"We had been pitching this donation to several large corporations over the past month, and then the day before the banquet, we started conversations with Kidco," he explained. "There are actually a lot of our alumni who work for Kidco so we have a pretty strong relationship with some of the higher-ups."

A contract with Southern Stars Custom Woodwork was signed relating to the project on April 7. Holdaway anticipates a project timeline of approximately one or two months.



Breakfast has always been considered the most important meal of the day. However, popular trends like intermittent fasting now promote skipping breakfast. What is important when it comes to weight is the number of calories you eat daily, not necessarily the number of meals.

Eggs have fallen in and out of favour over the years but they are a nutritious food. The yolks seem to bear the brunt of warnings but one egg yolk contains 55 calories, 21.7 grams of protein, 4.5 grams of fat, and

118 mg of cholesterol. How you cook the egg affects fat content so poaching is often the desired method.

Hiccups can be caused by eating too quickly, drinking alcohol or stress. They usually resolve on their own but here are a few home remedies you can try. Breathing into a paper bag; sucking on a lemon; putting a teaspoonful of sugar on your tongue and swallowing; stimulating the gag reflex by pulling on your tongue and sticking your finger in the back of the throat.

Scanning for cancer just took a big leap forward with the invention of the next-generation PET/CT scanner. This machine has cut the current standard of 40 minutes to just 2 minutes per scan. In those 2 minutes, doctors can get unprecedented data that increases the chance of early detection, identifies smaller cancers and measures a drug's efficacy over time.

Hours: M-F: 9-7 pm Sat: 9-6 pm • Sun & Holidays: 11-5 pm





The Agra Risk Wheatland Kings hosted their awards banquet on April 4 at the Strathmore Family Centre. Joe Lepage Photo

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- 188 Aspen Creek Crescent
- 101 Aspen Creek Crescent
- 130 Aspen Grove
- 7 Aspen Landing
- 66 Park Lane Drive
- 122 Park Lane Drive

BRENTWOOD

808 Bay Road

45 Brentwood Drive (alley)

BRIARWOOD

806 Briarwood Road 868 Briarwood Road

CAMBRIDGE GLEN

- 118 Camara Court
- 140 Camara Court
- 144 Camara Court
- 152 Camara Court
- Sagewood Villas -
- 150 Cambridge Glen Drive
- 132 Camden Court

DOWNTOWN

- 14-303 Waddy Lane
- 129 Waddy Lane
- 110 1st Avenue
- 328A 3rd Avenue
- 328 4th Avenue
- 118a 5th Avenue
- 113 2nd Street
- 126 Lakeside Views
- 19-134 Village Way
- Strathmore Municipal Library -
- 85 Lakeside Boulevard

520 Lakeside Boulevard

EDGEFIELD

- 712 Edgefield Crescent
- 733 Edgefield Crescent
- 610 Edgefield Gate 602 Edgefield Street

GREEN MEADOWS

- 7 Grande Pointe Estates 82 Green Meadows Drive
- 13 Greenview Crescent
- 39 Greenview Crescent

HILLVIEW

- 208 Highland Circle
- 360 Highland Circle 420 Highland Close
- 474 Highland Close
- 76 Hillcrest Boulevard
- 176 Hillcrest Boulevard
- 184 Hillcrest Boulevard
- 196 Hillcrest Boulevard
- 1105 Hillcrest Manor Estates 1217 Hillcrest Manor Estates
- 1285 Hillcrest Manor Estates
- 141 Hillvale Crescent
- 228 Hillvale Crescent
- 237 Hillvale Crescent
- 118 Hillview Lane
- 130 Hillview Lane
- 72 Hillview Road
- 83 Hillview Road
- 124 Hillview Road

LAKEWOOD

839 Lakewood Circle

- 1 Centre Street
- 116 Centre Street
- 51 Parkwood Crescent
- 52 Parkwood Crescent
- 12 Plainsview Road

STRATHAVEN

MAPLEWOOD

PARKWOOD

1 Maple Green Way

15 Mapleridge Estates

30 Maplewood Green

31 Maplewood Green

- 308 Strathaven Bay 304 Strathaven Drive
- 305 Strathaven Drive
- 352 Strathaven Drive
- 372 Strathaven Drive
- 91 Strathaven Heights
- 301 Strathford Boulevard
- 66 Strathford Close

STRATHCONA 1508 Strathcona Close 1215 Strathcona Road

1919 Strathcona Terrace 1922 Strathcona Terrace

STRATHMORE LAKES

- 10 Strathmore Lakes Bay
- 14 Strathmore Lakes Bay 21 Strathmore Lakes Bay
- 39 Strathmore Lakes Bay
- 186 Strathmore Lakes Bend
- 102 Strathmore Lakes Place
- 51 Lakes Estates Circle 55 Lakes Estates Circle

THORNCLIFF

12 Thomas Drive

THE RANCH

232 Ranch Close 255 Ranchwood Lane

WESTMOUNT

- 11 Westview Place
- 15 Westview Place 20 Westview Street (alley)
- 13 Wheeler Place

WILDFLOWER

192 Wildrose Drive



- 413 3rd Street

- 835 Lakewood Circle

Upcoming Meetings

Council and committee meetings will now be open to the public and via teleconference. For public hearings it is strongly encouraged that you attend in person.

April 15, 2025 | 9 a.m. May 6, 2025 | 9 a.m.

Council Meeting Council Meeting

May 13, 2025 | 9 a.m. **Municipal Planning Commission** To join the call, dial 403-917-1764 and enter the PIN 47001 when prompted.



=AILA

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the nomination process

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WE'RE HIRING!

Public Hearings Wheatland County Council Chambers May 6th, 2025 at 9 a.m.

Agenda packages can be found on our website.

Wheatland County will consider the following applications for Public Hearing at the Regular Council meeting on Tuesday, May 6th, 2025. The following public hearings begin at 9 a.m. and proceed until all applications have been heard:

Bylaw #: 2024-34 (LU2024-015)

Legal Description: NE-21-25-24-W4M **Proposal:** To redesignate a ± 6.68 hectare (± 16.52 acre) portion of NE-21-25-24-W4M from Agricultural General (AG) District to Country Residential (CR) District, in order to create four ± 1.67 hectare (± 4.13 acre) parcels and a \pm 54.51 hectare (\pm 134.82 acre) remainder.

Comments may be forwarded in writing to Wheatland County or in person at the above meeting. The application files may be reviewed in the County Office during regular office hours - Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Any comments provided will become part of the public record in accordance with Section 40 (1) of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection Privacy Act. Any personal information on submissions made regarding applications is collected under the authority of the FOIP Act Section 33 (c) and subsequent versions of the Act.





Fire on Ice

The Strathmore Skating Club host their annual gala, Fire on Ice, on April 5 at the Strathmore Family Centre. The event featured skaters in PreSTAR, STARSkate and synchro teams, as well as two guest Joe Lepage Photos













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May 4, 2025



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FREE ADMISSION

Library hosts annual Edible Book Day

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore Municipal Library hosted their annual Edible Book Day on April 5.

Edible Book Day is a community program where members of the community are invited to create an edible representation of a book. Effectively, the only rule being that the display is consumable and everything else is open to interpretation.

"At the end of it, we do eat the creations, so it does need to be edible. Typically, it is things like cakes or usually desserts ... cookie decorating has become really popular," said Laura Henderson, public services manager for the library. "We had to take a break obviously due to COVID-19, and in that little break we lost steam there a little bit, but it definitely has been slowly getting more and more popular each year. Last year, we had about 11 or 12 entries in all three categories that we have, but we have had over 50 people come in and vote and enjoy the treats."

Edible Book Day has been in operation at the library since 2015. The idea at the time was based on an international event that has been around since the 90's and is typically held at the beginning of April.

The categories this year are for juveniles, 15 years of age and under, and the adults, being for those 16 and older. Additionally, a third category for

family entries has been created in order to encourage participation from those interested in getting their little ones involved.

After votes from the attending community are counted, a first-place prize will be awarded to each of the winners in each category.

Entries were accepted right up until noon, April 5, at which point the voting began and took place throughout the afternoon.

"(Community response) has been really positive. It is kind of a bizarre event - it is a really different one ... It started just in my first couple of years here at the library so I was not as involved at the time, but I think because of its uniqueness, it kind of spurs community interest," said Henderson. "It is really unique in that I have not found many contests like this anywhere ... when we were able to relaunch it, I wanted to launch it with a bit of extra to see if we could drum up interest. I had trouble finding anything quite similar, but it has become a really unique, different event that we offer and in the community in general."

Because there was the time off in between due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the library has opted to not consider a theme or celebration of 10 years since the inauguration of the event.

Similarly, operating the event openended instead of hosting a theme allows participants more freedom to create whatever they please.



County discusses current fire ban system

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

During the March 28 Committee of the Whole meeting, Wheatland County discussed the maintenance of a tiered fire ban system for issuing advisories, restrictions and bans across the county.

County administration was directed, during the Aug. 13 regular meeting of council, to present a report on fire bans during a committee of the whole meet-

Currently, the county utilizes a tiered fire ban system to regulate activities which could cause grassland fires or wild fires. Fire advisories, restrictions and bans are temporary measures which are implemented based on changing conditions.

"Fire advisories are issued when fire hazards are moderate, outdoor burning is permitted in approved fire pits, incinerators and burning barrels. Fire restrictions are implemented when fire hazards are severe. Burning is restricted to CSA- or ULC-approved fire pits only," said Sherry Baers, general manager of community and development services. "Total fire bans are declared under extreme fire conditions. Only gas or propane fire pits, camping stoves and barbeques are allowed. Fire bans are issued under Section 11 of the Fire Service Bylaw 2019-06."

Baers explained when issuing a fire ban, factors including recent precipitation, future forecasts, water shortages, fire department resource availability, fine fuel moisture content, abundance of combustible materials, and recent wildfire incidents in neighboring municipalities are considered.

Assist Business Centre, connectFirst Credit Union,

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When conditions indicate a fire ban to be warranted, the Regional Fire Chief or designate consults all County District Fire Chiefs and Association Fire Chiefs to assess and confirm fire danger levels within their respective districts.

Notifications to the public regarding fire bans and restrictions are distributed via the county's website, social media channels, and the Alberta Fire Ban website. All active fire permits are also suspended during these times.

Due to the rural nature of the majority of the county, as well as its reliance on volunteer fire services, a county-wide approach to fire restrictions and bans is considered more effective in order to avoid local fire services becoming overwhelmed, and to ensure both clear communication and compliance.

"Feedback from our County District Fire Chiefs and Association Fire Chiefs is that they fully support the current system and do not wish to see a split system," said Baers. "The benefits include ensuring the fire chiefs are consulted before bans are issued; it reduces the risk of grassland and wildfires, providing clarity for fire crews when responding to incidents and enabling effective enforcement of the bans."

Coun. Tom Ikert voiced a problem with fire bans being the adverse effects on the livelihoods of residents, saying though he understands the necessity, he disagrees with the notion.

Baers explained fire chiefs within the county voiced disagreement towards the idea of changing county policies and practices regarding fire bans and restrictions.

Ongoing concerns regarding whether

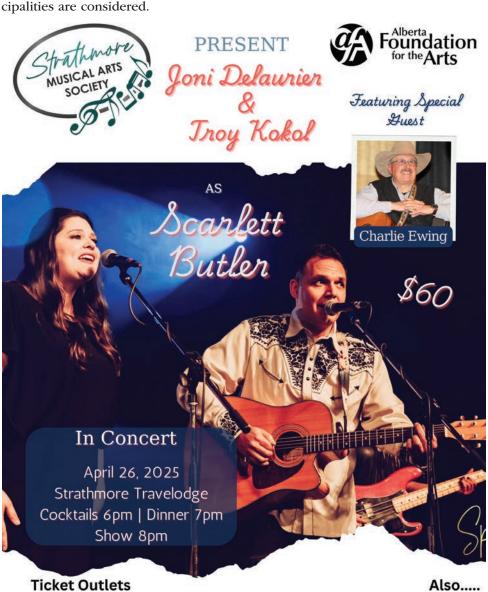
to adopt segmented restriction and ban practices within the county are in regards to potential difficulties towards enforcement, clarity of information, and debate regarding which fire association responds to which incidents.

Coun. Donna Biggar motioned that

county administration be directed to maintain the tiered fire ban system which is currently in place and is consistent across the county.

The motion was carried in a vote of 6-1 in favour. Ikert was the sole vote in opposition of the motion.





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Budget 2025

CHANTELLE DE JONGE Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

Last month, Alberta's government introduced Budget 2025 – a plan that meets the challenges of today and delivers real tax relief for hardworking Albertans. With these tax cuts, our government is keeping an election promise to reduce the tax burden on Albertans and make life more affordable. The last thing families need is a government that raises taxes, erodes our competitive advantage, and drives up the cost of living.

Recently, an NDP opposition MLA during a meeting of the Resource Stewardship Committee, questioned the value of cutting taxes for hardworking Albertans and dismissed the annual savings made possible by tax cuts in Budget 2025. While another NDP MLA floated the idea of bringing British Columbia–style taxation to Alberta – a plan that would add more than \$20 billion in new taxes, including steep hikes to income taxes and a seven per cent Provincial Sales Tax.

Albertans are proud to live in the only province without a sales tax and under a government that will not change that. Any attempt to impose a provincial sales tax would undermine a foundational economic advantage. These reckless proposals demonstrate how the NDP Opposition remains completely disconnected from the concerns of everyday Albertans.

During their time in government, the NDP introduced a \$1.4 billion carbon tax, which raised taxes on everything while imposing an additional \$1,500 burden on Albertan families each year – the same amount that families will save from the Budget 2025 tax cuts. Their refusal to recognize the benefits of tax relief and failure to acknowledge how higher taxes impact families, proves they would rather make life more difficult and take more money from Albertans than support real affordability measures.

Our government understands that every dollar left in the hands of Albertans helps us build a stronger future. We will always fight for Albertans and strive to lower costs, putting money back into Albertan's pockets and supporting the delivery of vital services. Budget 2025 tax cuts will save families up to \$1,500 per year, and individuals up to \$750, helping them plan for the future and manage rising costs driven by federal policies and trade uncertainty.

We are also meeting the challenge of families by increasing financial support for caregivers who offer their homes for children and youth in care. To help ease cost-of-living challenges, Budget 2025 invests \$3.1 million to increase rates by two per cent for foster and kinship caregivers. The increase will help cover day-to-day expenses such as food and clothing as well as provide additional support for caregivers who care for children with more complex needs.

Alberta's government continues to make investments that enhance caregiver well-being, address cost-of-living and recruitment challenges, and increase stability for children and youth in care. These investments include funding to make counselling supports more accessible for foster caregivers, the refer-a-foster-caregiver program to grow Alberta's pool of licensed foster families, and new supports to help foster caregivers provide care, stability and connection for young adults aging out of care.

As always, please feel free to reach out to my office with your feedback and questions (Chestermere.Strathmore@assembly.ab.ca).

TIMES CLASSIN DS

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice to Creditors and Claimants

Estate of STEWART EDWARD (TED) CURRIE who died on the March 14, 2025.

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by April 30, 2025.

with DEBORA RICHARDSON at P.O. Box 687,

Trochu, Alberta TOM 2C0

If you do not file by the date above, the estate property can lawfully be distributed without regard to any claim you may have.

Notice to Creditors and Claimants

Estate of SONJA CHRISTINE GOSTELI who died on the February 13, 2025 .

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by May 19, 2025.

with STRATHMORE LAW, ATTN: Daman K. Gill at 101, 318-3rd Ave.,

If you do not file by the date above, the estate property can lawfully be distributed without regard to any claim you may have.

Strathmore, AB T1P 1V9

Creditors: you must include a full description and value of the debt you allege the deceased owes you and a full description and value of any of the deceased's property that you hold as security for the debt.

Claimants: you must include a full description of your claim and why you have a right to make such a claim.

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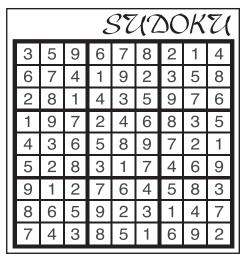
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Upcoming Council Meetings

April 9 2025 | 6 p.m. April 16 2025 | 6 p.m. May 7, 2025 | 6 p.m.

Committee of the Whole Regular Meeting of Council Regular Meeting of Council

Come Say Hi

Hearing from the community is really important to us, so you're welcome at any Council or Committee of the Whole meeting. You do not need to call ahead or register to observe Strathmore Council in action. There is ample public seating and additional standing room if needed. You can also watch livestreamed meetings online as they happen, or catch up later on YouTube.

Your trash, someone's treasure.

Trash to Treasure Returning.

Trash to Treasure (TTT) Days is back for April 10 to 13. This is a great time to let your unwanted items become someone elses beloved items prior to the Heavy Item Garbage collection.

Donators:

- Mark your unwanted but reusable items with an HIG tag and place at same location you would place items for HIG collection.
- At the end of the Trash to Treasure Days remove any items you want to keep.
- · Leave items out that you want collected during HIG week.

Collectors:

- Take only items marked with a HIG tag.
- · Respect others' properties.
- Do not discard unwanted items on another resident's lawn.

For more information, visit Strathmore.ca/WasteCollection

Heavy trash? We got ya covered.

Heavy Item Garbage Returning.

Heavy Item Garbage (HIG) collection returns the week of April 15th. HIG offers residents the opportunity to dispose of large residential waste, and is provided in conjunction with your curbside waste collection service. If you pay the residential garbage charge on your Town of Strathmore utility bill the HIG service is available to you.

Place all items at your regular garbage pickup location by 7 a.m. on April 15 and affix with an HIG sticker. Stickers are available for free at the Strathmore Municipal Building but must be picked up prior to April 15. HIG stickers will not be handed out the week of HIG.

Learn more abot HIG or TTT at Strathmore.ca/HIG

Land Use Bylaw No. 24-22.

Notice of Public Hearing.

April 16, 2025 at 7 p.m. Land Use Bylaw Amending Bylaw No. 24-22 712 3rd Street & Surrounding Properties

Staff received an application for a land use redesignation (Bylaw No. 24-22) for those lands described as 710 Third Street, Plan 992HV, Block 28, Lot 2A; 712 Third Street, Plan 992HV, Block 28, Lot 2B, Civic Address NA, Area A, Plan 0313207, and 380 Ridge Road, Plan 8510985, Block 1, Lot 3, Strathmore to facilitate the development of apartment housing and redesignation to R3 – High Density Residential District with a Direct Control District Overlay.

These properties are currently designated as CHWY – Highway Commercial District in the Land Use Bylaw (LUB). At present, apartment housing is not a listed use in this district.

Public Hearing Process

A copy of the proposed Bylaws may be inspected by the public during regular office hours, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday at the Town Office (1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore, AB), or can be found on the Town website (https://strathmore.ca/en/town-hall/public-hearings.aspx). Please contact the Town Office if you would like an opportunity to review and provide input on the proposed amendments prior to the Public Hearing.

The Public Hearing will be held via ZOOM AND in Council Chambers, Strathmore Municipal Building, 1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore Alberta on **Wednesday**, **April 16**, **2025**, commencing at **7 p.m.** with procedures in accordance with the Municipal Government Act, Section 199 and the Town of Strathmore Council Procedural Bylaw #23–17 and amendments thereto. Any person or group of persons, or person acting on someone's behalf, who claims to be affected by any of the proposed bylaw may present suggestions or concerns by making a submission to the public hearing. Please contact Please contact Legislative Services at **Isadmin@strathmore.ca** by noon on **Wednesday**, **April 9**, **2025**, in order to register to present.

Written submissions to the Public Hearing or the name of any person wishing to make an oral presentation at the Public Hearing must be received by the Planning and Development Department prior to noon on Wednesday, April 9, 2025, as outlined in Bylaw #23-17 and amendments thereto. If your written submission is not received by this time, please provide fifteen (15) copies for distribution at the Public Hearing. Each person wishing to address Council at the Public Hearing shall complete their verbal presentation within three minutes.

*Please note that written submissions will become public documents once submitted to the Town, unless otherwise requested.

Please contact Legislative Services at 403-934-3133 prior to attending a Public Hearing to determine the order of Bylaw presentations in the Council Agenda to ensure efficient use of time.



24-22. 712 3rd Street (and surrounding properties)



Proposed R3 High Density Residential District, District Overlay

Tender and major project updates.

Municipal tenders.

The Municipal Tenders page has been updated with new opportunities for 2025. In accordance with Procurement Policy 1808, all tenders valued at \$75,000 or more are now available for public viewing. Visit **Strathmore.ca/tenders** to explore current opportunities.

Work on our major project, reservoir upgrades, is scheduled to begin this spring. Expect Maplewood Drive to be busy with construction, road closures, and underground infrastructure upgrades. You can stay informed on major project developments at **Strathmore.ca/reservoirupgrades**.

We all need a little help sometimes.

Seniors & Residents Tax Support.

Tax season can be stressful, but Strathmore Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) is here to help. This service is specifically designed for seniors and those who are unable to complete their taxes on their own. To ensure a smooth process, FCSS will also be available in advance to answer questions, help gather necessary documents, and make sure clients are fully prepared for their appointments.

Residents are reminded to bring all relevant documents to avoid delays. For more information or to book an appointment, contact Strathmore FCSS 403-934-9090 or come by and see them during business hours.



Land Use Bylaw No. 25-06.

Notice of Public Hearing.

April 16, 2025 at 7:10 p.m. Land Use Bylaw Amending Bylaw No. 25-06 Edgefield Phase 3, Strathmore

Staff received an application for a land use redesignation (Bylaw No. 25-06) of Edgefield Phase 3 (Lot 1, Block 3, Plan 071 1894 and Lot 1, Block 2, Plan 031 007) to facilitate the development of R1N – Single Detached Residential (Narrow Lot) District, R2 – Low Density Residential District, R3M – Medium Density Modest Residential District, P1 (MR) – Public Service District. These properties are currently designated as AG – Agriculture General District in the Land Use Bylaw (LUB).

Public Hearing Process

A copy of the proposed Bylaws may be inspected by the public during regular office hours, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday at the Town Office (1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore, AB), or can be found on the Town website (https://strathmore.ca/en/town-hall/public-hearings.aspx). Please contact the Town Office if you would like an opportunity to review and provide input on the proposed amendments prior to the Public Hearing.

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