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Future rodeo stars

AUPE rally hosted in Strathmore

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Members from the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees (AUPE) rallied in Strathmore, Aug. 15, to raise awareness for their members currently fighting for better wages with their employers.

“Today is the first Time for Action Rally in Strathmore, Alberta, and today, we are rallying because we have 82,000 members in AUPE who are at the bargaining table right now with their employers, and we are trying to secure meaningful wage increases that address the cost of living increases in this province,” said Curtis Jackson, vice president of AUPE, assigned to the South region. “All of our workers are currently making far less than they used to make when you factor in what the cost of living increases have been over the past couple of decades, in particular, we have been hit really, really hard since the pandemic with inflation rates skyrocketing to 7.5-8 per cent.”

Jackson explained it feels as though it is akin to a black eye given Alberta is the “richest province in Canada,” yet it is the only province to have experienced a 108 per cent increase to utility bills.

Additionally, the cost of living, from rent to mortgages to food have become exponentially more expensive.

“Our members right now are being offered meager wage increases, that do not even begin to cover the cost of inflation that the government projects for next year, so they are continuing to ask us to do more with less,” said Jackson. “Our members need more. They need better wages, we need more workers, we need to address the worker shortage in this province, we need to address the unreal workloads that are burning workers out, and we also need better supports, specifically mental health supports for our workers.”

Continued on Page 4

Page 8



Home run fundraiser



Variety of sports

Roughly 30 girls took part in the first Hustle Girls Sports Camps from Aug. 12-16 at the SMP Sports Centre. The sports camps, which were for girls ages 7-14, featured volleyball, basketball, fitness, yoga, boxing and more. See Page 8 for more coverage.

Joe Lepage Photo

STRATHMORE TIMES

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The Wheatland & Area Hospice Society hosted their annual Farming For Hospice on Aug. 15 at a farm near Carseland. The crop harvested is a fall rye supplied by Stamp Seeds, and the commodity will be distributed to distilling end-users via Origin Partners.
 Joe Lepage Photos

WAHS harvests farming for hospice crop

JOHN WATSON
 Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Wheatland and Area Hospice Society (WAHS) hosted their harvest event, Aug. 15, as well as a meal in the field, celebrating the rye crop and fundraising efforts this season.

"It is a joint community event with six combines that came, and we had our partners at Brandt and Premium Ag there, and some local farmers who helped us harvest the crop," said Teri McKinnon, one of the directors on the WAHS board.

This year marks the fifth year that Farming for Hospice has taken place, hosted by the WAHS, which continues to raise money to contribute towards the ongoing Wheatland Lodge and hospice project, aiming to be constructed in Strathmore.

"We are getting closer to our goal with this fundraising; it is our major fundraising event of the year. We are getting closer to the \$6 million mark which will pay for the build at Kinsmen Park, as well as most of the equipment and furnishings," said Joni McNeely, chair of the WAHS. "We are very, very grateful and humbled by the remarkable support of the community, the towns, villages, and the county residents."

The land used to seed and develop the rye crop was donated to the WAHS by Nutrien, similar to how Farming for Hospice has been operating for the last several years.

Local farmers volunteer their time and equipment to help the WAHS prepare the land, seed,

spray, fertilize, and harvest the crops. The irrigation necessary for cultivation is also provided by Nutrien.

"Now, we harvest it and then the commodity, the crop itself, we sell. We sell acres, and each acre is \$300, but that money is a charitable donation that goes to cover some of those input costs for fertilizer and stuff," said McKinnon. "The commodity, the crop itself, the money that we make from that commodity goes directly to the Wheatland and Area Hospice Society and our fundraising goals."

The rye crop had been presold to Origin Grain prior to harvest. McKinnon added Origin Grain is an organization which ensures the crops and plant material goes into the local food supply within Alberta.

In addition to the Farming for Hospice annual harvest, Drew Gregory hosts an event each November in order to aid the hospice society in selling acres for the following year's seeding and harvest.

"I do not think we will stop this initiative once we have hit our fundraising goal because we will continue to support and nurture the hospice once it is built. Four walls is one thing, but service and care and all the extension of the palliative needs, we will continue to support that," said McKinnon.

The next step for the WAHS is to see their application for funding from the Province of Alberta approved to help further prepare for shovels to hit the ground.



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County council to evaluate how fire ban areas are determined

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County council has directed administration to bring forward a report on fire bans to a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

Discussion suggesting the report was introduced to council during the Aug. 13, regular meeting of council by Coun. Tom Ikert.

Ikert suggested it would be prudent for the county to evaluate whether there would be merit in developing a way to declare segmented or isolated fire bans within the county, instead of implementing a blanket, county-wide ban, for situational consideration.

“At the time of the fire ban that was put on county wide, the peas on my property were three feet high, green, the canola across the field was in full bloom, green, there was no way that anything on the west side of the county could have burnt ... you would have been unable to start a fire without maybe 100 gallons of gasoline,” he said. “I understand that we have a massively big county, things are incredibly dry on the east side of the county, but we put these fire bans on and we forget that this impacts business people. You put a fire ban on, and if you’re selling firewood, your business is done because you can’t have a fire.”

He explained he brought the issue forward, suggesting there must be a better way to restrict

fire use within the county such that if there is little risk in some areas compared to others, low risk areas are not penalized.

Michael Bourgon, manager of emergency and fire services for Wheatland County, explained the county is currently under a fire advisory, as opposed to a full fire ban.

“Initially when we put this in place, there was a lot of fires going on up north in Jasper, there were a lot of resources that were being used,” said Bourgon. “That is some of the things we take into account, not necessarily just what we have, like how dry it is, we had no rain in the forecast at that point in time. Through our bylaw, we do discuss it with all the fire chiefs and unanimously, everybody wanted to put (the ban) into place.”

Bourgon explained the fire ban lasted roughly a week before it was reduced to an advisory, which allowed private residences and campgrounds to be able to operate fire pits and barbecues. Under a fire advisory, permit burning and fireworks remain prohibited.

Regarding the motion for administration to bring a report to the Committee of the Whole, Reeve Amber Link requested that administration include information regarding how the process of determining and establishing fire bans works, and how fire risk is analyzed.

The motion to return a report to the Committee of the Whole was passed by council unanimously following discussion.



Burger fundraiser

Strathmore Legion # 10 hosted a charity barbecue on August 13. Funds raised will help Sergeant Rob Nederlof who is biking from Edmonton to Regina in support of Wounded Warriors Canada.

Melissa Piche Photos

Local documentary in the works about CPR Demonstration Farm

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A local film is being made about the Canadian Pacific Railway demonstration farm in Strathmore, with ambitions for release next year.

The farm was established in 1908, being the first ever Canadian Pacific Railway demonstration farm, which assisted new settlers with learning about agriculture in southern Alberta.

“In 2022, the (Wheatland and Area Historical Society) reached out to me as they were looking at possibly doing a film and they needed to raise some money. They reached out to me and I helped them create a presentation that they could take out into the community to raise some funds,” said Wanda Reinholdt, writer and director of the documentary. “The County of Wheatland has given some funds; I am uncertain of any other funds ... and so we began the process of developing the film. Of course, it all takes time and they are all volunteers, and so it took some time to raise the funds, and then once they had the (money), I began to do some research and writing.”

Stated in a release, the mission of the Western District Historical Society and the purpose of the film is to capture, preserve and share the Strathmore community’s distinctive history.

Ongoing research regarding the film is focusing on how the first settlers lived, including how the first Canadian Pacific Railway demonstration farm

assisted them to learn how to thrive as farmers.

Additionally, the team is looking into who the families were who were attracted to and settled in the area due to the railway coming to the prairies.

“What is interesting about this story is that very few people in the area know that this happened. Strathmore is very, very important in the history of Canada, in the history of Alberta, in the history of everyone in the area in Wheatland County,” said Reinholdt. “The demonstration farm in particular was very important, and what happened at the demonstration farm did change history for Canada, for Alberta, and made ... everything that the Canadian government was doing with the railway and bringing settlers to the West a success.”

The demonstration farm is recorded to have assisted new settlers in learning how to cultivate a variety of crops, how to raise and successfully keep chickens, pigs, lambs, goats and other domesticated animals, as well as how to irrigate.

Irrigation became critically important for local crop cultivation, as the Wheatland County area occupies the Palliser’s Triangle – a region of former desert once considered to be an arid wasteland.

Those whose families have a history with or ties to the demonstration farm are asked to contact Reinholdt at 403-901-5081, or to visit the legacy farm project website to get in touch with the team.

The documentary aims to be filming early into next year, with a goal to release in the fall of 2025.

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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Mongolian city __ Bator
- 5. Coconut palms
- 10. Rounded knob
- 14. Japanese city
- 15. Type of sandwiches
- 16. A type of shape
- 17. Son of Shem
- 18. French modernist painter
- 19. Grandmother
- 20. Mammary gland of female cattle
- 22. Hill or rocky peak
- 23. Secret political clique
- 24. Songs to one’s beloved
- 27. “Boardwalk Empire” actress Gretchen
- 30. Father
- 31. Chinese philosophical principle
- 32. Restrict the number or amount of
- 35. Combined into a single entity
- 37. Brother or sister
- 38. Evil spirit
- 39. Materials in the earth’s crust
- 40. Partner to cheese
- 41. Of the sun
- 42. Baseball great Ty
- 43. After B
- 44. Place to relax on the beach
- 45. Folk singer DiFranco
- 46. Partly digested food
- 47. Small dog breed
- 48. Japanese honorific
- 49. Salts
- 52. Beard moss genus
- 55. Mountain pass
- 56. Type of sword
- 60. Albanian language
- 61. Metric weight unit
- 63. Italian Seaport
- 64. Longtime late night host
- 65. Extremely angry
- 66. Wading bird
- 67. Days in mid-month
- 68. Omitted from printed matter
- 69. Upper body part

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Two-toed sloth
- 2. Cooking ingredient
- 3. Iranian city
- 4. Accuses
- 5. Corrie
- 6. Delivered a speech
- 7. Collection of sacred books
- 8. Theatrical
- 9. Very fast airplane
- 10. Arm bones
- 11. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- 12. __ fide: legit
- 13. Gemstone
- 21. Counsels
- 23. Corporate bigwig
- 25. Cool!
- 26. Touch lightly
- 27. Small Milky Way constellation
- 28. Satirical website
- 29. Border lines
- 32. Soft drinks
- 33. Capital of Guam
- 34. Six-membered ring (chemistry)
- 36. Bar bill
- 37. Car mechanics group
- 38. Notable Bill Murray character
- 40. Health care for the aged
- 41. Gurus
- 43. A passage with access only at one end
- 44. Reduce
- 46. Spy organization
- 47. The upper surface of the mouth
- 49. Plants of the lily family
- 50. Type of reef
- 51. Oral polio vaccine developer
- 52. Mottled citrus fruit
- 53. Lose
- 54. Former Brazilian NBAer
- 57. Baseball great Ruth
- 58. __ Clapton, musician
- 59. Chance
- 61. Spanish soldier
- 62. CNN’s founder

STRATHMORE TIMES

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Thought for the Week
~
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RCMP manhunt for shooting suspect continues

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Alberta RCMP have confirmed the search for Elijah Blake Strawberry, one of the suspects in the Rocky View Shooting, Aug. 6, is still ongoing.

Police have released they believe Strawberry is still in Alberta and have not issued any more information so as to not potentially alert him and hinder police efforts.

Strawberry is described as being 6-feet, 1-inch tall, 169 pounds, having several arm and face tattoos and brown hair.

RCMP advise the public Strawberry is considered armed and dangerous, and should not be approached if seen. Instead, any member of the public who may witness Strawberry is asked to call 911 immediately.

Staff Sgt. Mark Wielgosz, detachment commander at the Strathmore RCMP, said Strawberry is not believed to be actively targeting the public, and comparisons should not be made to other incidents in that regard.

"I want to stress that we are bringing all resources available to bear in an effort to find Mr. Strawberry. And as in my prior messaging, I want to ensure that if Mr. Strawberry is watching or anyone known to him, to do the right thing

and turn yourself in," said Wielgosz. "With the dedication and efforts of our investigative teams, you will be found. Again, we want to see a safe, peaceful resolution to this portion of the investigation, and we are welcoming any tips from the public or any assistance that they may have to help bring this part of the investigation to a close."

Alberta RCMP disclosed Aug. 16, in partnership with Crime Stoppers, any successful tip that leads to the arrest of Strawberry is now eligible for a \$2,000 reward.

"We are open to receiving tips from anyone, regardless of what walk of life they are coming from. We are following up on all tips to ensure we are obtaining all evidence that we can in relation to the investigation, but certainly if any information is received that leads us to Mr. Strawberry's whereabouts and leads to his apprehension, of course we would accept any tips," said Wielgosz.

"Tips from the public, tips from the 'underworld' ... or from anyone, any walk of life. If there is information that they have, we are asking for it."

Prior to the initial publication of this article, the last update released by the RCMP took place Aug. 17. RCMP have stated they will aim to provide significant updates regarding the investigation as often as possible.

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Raising awareness for better wages

Continued from Page 1

He added AUPE workers are worried about job security and the risk of seeing the public health sector become privatized, which would lead to public health workers being out of their jobs.

"Public sector workers in the Town of Strathmore contribute to the Strathmore economy," he said. "When a public sector worker gets paid for working in Strathmore, nine times out of 10, their money is going to stay in Strathmore."

The rally in Strathmore is part of the natural progression of the campaign, Jackson explained. Over 50 town halls across Alberta were hosted throughout June, including in Strathmore. At these rallies, it was indicated that employees had a desire for employers to hear and see them, and to be taken seriously at the bargaining table.

AUPE aims to continue hosting similar rallies across the province to raise more awareness and draw attention to the debate.

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The Strathmore and District Agricultural Society hosted their annual rodeo school, Aug. 12-15 at the rodeo grounds. Students were invited to participate in workshops for several rodeo sports, including barrel racing, saddle bronc, bareback, and bull riding, instructed and coached by industry professionals.

Joe Lepage Photos

Strathmore Ag Society hosts annual rodeo school

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore and District Agricultural Society hosted their annual rodeo school, Aug. 12-15, at their rodeo grounds once again, inviting kids to come out and get an introduction to, or to enhance their skills in a variety of rodeo sports.

Current and former professional rodeo athletes were brought in to help oversee the camp, and coach the youths who came out to participate.

“Scott Schiffner asked me if I would come and help this year ... I have done the professional rodeos, made the Canadian Finals, won several pro rodeos, so I guess he thought I was qualified to come and help teach the kids,” said Diane Skocdopole, a professional barrel racer. “I really enjoy it and I enjoy being able to give back to the future generations and get them started correctly so they do not have as many obstacles as I did starting.”

For Skocdopole, it was her first time being asked to come coach at the Strathmore rodeo school, though she said she was excited to participate and help out, adding there really were no resources similar to the camp available to her when she began her own rodeo career.

The four-day camp offered each sport two days of coaching, feedback and practice for the students.

In addition to the sports skills and practice, the students are taught about nutrition, health and fitness which is also required for success in their respective sports.

“There is a lot of information in a couple of days, but we rerun through the basics as best as we can, and we get these guys on some pretty good horses and we have a sports medicine team here,” said Jake Vold, bareback riding

coach. “Rodeo is pretty foreign to a lot of people and a lot of kids these days. There are not as many ranch and farm kids coming up ... it’s a tough sport, it takes a lot of grit and try and determination, and you have to be tough.”

Jackson Campbell, one of the students in attendance, said he has been attending the camp for the past four years and is excited to see how much it has helped him improve.

“Each year I get better and better and it shows in the stand ins and all that ... It is just a great opportunity for kids

and adults to try to improve their skills whether it’s bareback riding, bronc riding or bull riding,” he said. “There is going to be great stock – they are never going to put you on something that is going to hurt you or anything like that. It’s going to be stock that’s going to be able to improve your skills, and it is going to give you that confidence boost, but the main thing coming into rodeo is to make sure you are confident in what you are doing, and that there are people here to make sure that you don’t get hurt.”

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YOUR WEEKLY HEALTH ADVICE
Gord Morck Pharmacist

Capsule Comments

The Brain Injury Association of Canada’s mandate is to improve the quality of life for all Canadians affected by acquired brain injury and promote its prevention. A good goal. To prevent brain injury, wear helmets when skiing, skateboarding, biking, scootering and playing sports where head injuries are possible.

With the legalization of cannabis in 2018, hospitals have seen an increase in visits to ERs and poison centres. Cannabis poisonings can be life-threatening, especially in children, sometimes resulting in coma, being put on a ventilator or in rare cases, death. Keep your cannabis supplies safely locked away and keep edible cannabis separate from regular food and drinks. Some edibles look like candy to kids so keep them locked away as well.

If you are the type of person that gets angry easily, you could be harming your heart and blood vessels. A small study of 280 adults grouped them into one of four groups: anger, anxiety, sadness and emotionally neutral. Each participant was asked to recall and talk for 8 minutes about a memory that evoked the assigned emotion. Those in the anger group showed significant impairment to blood vessel dilation compared to the neutral group. Lesson? Control your anger.

Excessive screen time at night can be an impediment to a good night’s sleep. Many people “doom scroll” before bed...sometimes for a half-hour or more. The brain processes electric light as sunshine which suppresses melatonin production which can delay sleep. The solutions? Stop using your screens at night. Read a physical book, take a warm bath, listen to a podcast or make a To-Do list for the next day. But stop your screen addiction in the evening.

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NOTICE OF VOTE



Otipemisiwak
Métis Government

This Fall, the Métis Nation of Alberta will be holding the following District Captain and District Council Elections for the Otipemisiwak Métis Government.

District Captain elections will be held for Foothills Métis District, Jasper House Métis District, Fort Edmonton Métis District, and Lac La Biche Métis District.

District Council elections will be held for Rockyview Métis District, Calgary Elbow Métis District, St. Paul - Cold Lake Métis District, Athabasca Landing Métis District and Wabasca-Desmarais Métis District.

From **October 29 to November 5, 2024**, eligible Métis Citizens will have the opportunity to vote by one of the following methods:

IN-PERSON VOTING

Polling stations will operate throughout Alberta from 8am to 8pm during the voting period. Exact dates and addresses of polling locations are yet to be confirmed, and will be posted at **MetisElectionsAB.com**

MAIL-IN VOTING

A mail-in ballot will be sent to each Citizen who is eligible to vote. If you don't receive a mail-in ballot, or need a replacement, visit **MetisElectionsAB.com** to request one.

ELECTRONIC VOTING

You can vote online at any time during the vote period. More details will follow about where and how to vote electronically.

To learn more about the vote, including the process for nominations or how to request voting assistance, visit **MetisElectionsAB.com**



Del Graff, Chief Electoral Officer, Otipemisiwak Métis Government

Notice issued on August 15, 2024



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.

September 3: Council Meeting

September 10: Municipal Planning Commission

September 17: Council Meeting

To join the call, dial 403-917-1764 and enter the PIN 47001 when prompted.

Agenda packages can be found on our website.



REGISTER NOW!



Wheatland County Community Enhancement Regional Board

Wheatland County invites applications for membership on the Community Enhancement Regional Board (CERB) with appointment to commence November 01, 2024. One representative from each of Electoral Division will be appointed. The Community Enhancement Regional Board consists of two members from each Electoral Division, appointed by Wheatland County Council. Membership on the CERB is appointed for a two-year term with alternating expiry dates. The Community Enhancement Regional Board meets three times every spring to evaluate applications and decide on the allocation of Community Enhancement Funding to Wheatland County community groups.

Application Deadline: September 30

For more information, or to submit a letter of interest, please contact Jessica Salmon at 403-361-2021 or via email at jessica.salmon@wheatlandcounty.ca.



Wheatland County Business Directory

Have you heard? Wheatland County now has an expansive **online business directory!**

If your business, regardless of size, is based within Wheatland County, don't miss out - explore our new investwc.ca website and join today!



Address: 242006 Range Rd 243, Wheatland County, AB T1P 2C4
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Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
www.wheatlandcounty.ca @wheatlandcounty



Lakewood hosts opportunity for \$50,000 prize towards new homeowner

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Lakewood of Strathmore hosted the conclusion of a contest to win \$50,000 towards the purchase of a property in Lakewood, Aug. 18.

“Over the last almost four months, we have been running five chances to win \$50,000 challenge, and just last week, we drew our Top 15 finalists,” said Scott Silva, director of sales and marketing for Lakewood of Strathmore, on Aug. 15. “Out of those Top 15, we are going to be randomly selecting a Top 5, and those Top 5 play for five chances to win \$50,000 towards their new home.”

For those who were not selected to participate in the Top 5, they would receive runner up prizes.

Tom Hufkens from Calgary, who has purchased property in Lakewood, ended up walking away with the \$50,000 prize.

“I did not really sound keen when we left the event yesterday, but on the way home it was like, ‘wait a minute, we just won a ton of money!’” said Hufkens. “It was a little bit surrealistic I think to realize that I had just won. We are really excited; we are really looking forward to getting some of the upgrades that we went back and forth on whether we should get.”

Hufkens has purchased a property in Lakewood and is currently working with a builder to see a custom home constructed. His \$50,000 prize will be utilized to add to the construction and finishing of his new home.

The contest came together as a scavenger hunt quiz put together as a partnership initiative between Lakewood of

Strathmore and their associated builders within the community.

“It took contestants or players through the various builders’ websites, with the idea to engage them into not only learning more about the builders, but wanting to build in Lakewood,” said Silva. “Every week, we released a new question about a builder that took them through a bit of a hunt through their website, answering anything from when did they start or what kinds of floor plans do they have.”

Silva explained this took place over the course of approximately six weeks, before community clues were hidden at Lakewood of Strathmore events.

Participation was open to anybody so long as they were of legal age of majority, though it was more so encouraged for those who are actively considering purchasing a home in the community of Lakewood.

Silva also clarified the \$50,000 prize is not something that is being taken off a previously inflated home price, it was designed to be a hard contribution to a winner’s home at previously established market value.

“It comes down to being anywhere from a five per cent down, more than five per cent in some instances, it can be a basement-plus, as far as getting your development, all your exterior landscaping, maybe a third car garage upgrade, an entertainment room, there are a lot of different ways that this could be applied,” he said. “It is completely up to you, even if you were working with the builder before and you only had a \$650,000 budget, now there is an extra \$50,000 to go a bit further, or conversely, reduce your cost by \$50,000 altogether.”

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Welcome Back

to class

Classes will begin for students at Sacred Heart Academy (K-6) and Holy Cross Collegiate (7-12)

Wednesday, August 28

To determine start dates for Little Flower Pre-Kindergarten please visit sacredheart.redeemer.ab.ca

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Sacred Heart Academy Pre-Kindergarten

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www.redeemer.ab.ca/register



Fore a good cause

The Strathmore Golf Club played host to the second annual Greg Rider Charity Golf Classic on Aug. 16. The four-person scramble raised funds for the Strathmore & Wheatland County Christmas Hamper Society. After the round of golf, there was an after party with musical guest, fittingly – Greg Rider.

Joe Lepage Photos



Grand slam fundraiser

The fourth annual Home Run for Huntington's took place on Aug. 16 at the Kinsmen Park Ball Diamonds. The event, which saw 13 kids, six ladies and 13 men take part in the home run derby, also featured face painting, checking out a fire truck, lots of food, a 50/50 draw and a chilly dunk tank.

Joe Lepage Photos



Hustle time

The first Hustle Girls Sports Camps was held at the Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre from Aug. 12-16.

Joe Lepage Photos



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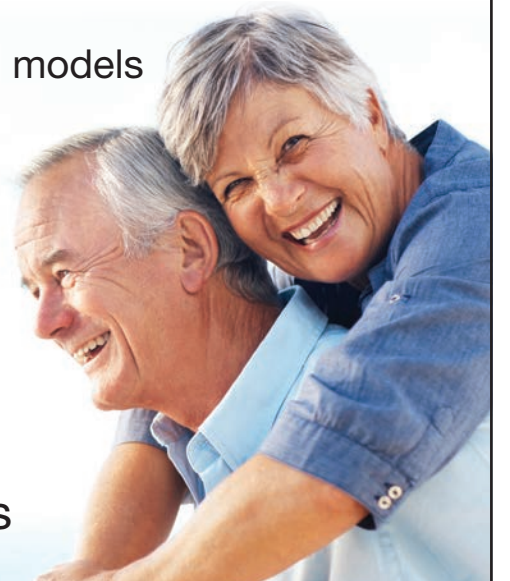
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The Alberta advantage

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

Alberta is booming, leading Canada in job creation and capital investments, and our government is laser-focused on maintaining Alberta's competitive advantage, to ensure businesses and industry are able to thrive, innovate, and create jobs for generations to come.

Our hard work is paying off. Recent data from Statistics Canada shows that, just last month alone, Alberta created 46,400 full-time jobs. Our economy is diversifying as well, with job numbers

up across a variety of sectors, including construction, natural resources, health care, social assistance, and education. These new, full-time jobs are more than just numbers on paper. They represent regular paycheques families can rely on to pay their bills and save for the future.

Additionally, new projections from the Conference Board of Canada show that over the next five years Alberta will continue to generate more jobs than any other province in the country. While a number of other provinces battle for second place, Alberta is indisputably the biggest job creator in

Canada and will continue to be for years to come. We recently announced that we are hosting a national summit on productivity to find ways to increase productivity, which will lead to higher wages and lower inflation.

This past week, we also learned that Alberta has hit a significant economic landmark, passing British Columbia in venture capital investment for the first time ever. The latest data from the Canadian Venture Capital & Private Equity Association highlights Alberta as a powerhouse in venture capital investment, raising \$95 million more than our neighbours to the west. Alberta's technology and innovation sector has been building momentum for a while, but in

the past five years, we have seen exponential growth. In total, Alberta companies raised an impressive \$383 million across 41 deals in the first half of this year. The continued growth of venture capital investments is great news for Alberta because with this new investment comes new, high-paying jobs. While we have further to go, Alberta is on a great path and our best days are still ahead.

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

(Chantelle de Jonge is the MLA for Chestermere-Strathmore and the Parliamentary Secretary for Affordability and Utilities)

SWCC returning local trade show for third year

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore Wheatland Chamber of Commerce (SWCC) is bringing back their annual trade show for the third year running, this time to be hosted at the Strathmore Civic Centre.

Cody Holdaway, secretary for the SWCC, explained hosting the event aims to promote the local Strathmore and Wheatland County business communities, including anything from home-based and family-run businesses, to large industrial operations, and even a handful of local nonprofits.

"The whole event is purely to promote the Strathmore and Wheatland business communities," he said. "The Town (of Strathmore) had approached the chamber and (suggested) that the town needs a trade show, but the town did not have any sort of major trade show other than the Strathmore Stampede, so the chamber in partnership with the town decided to do it."

Previously hosted in the Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre, Holdaway explained booth sales for businesses to participate at the show have been high, and the event has been steadily growing since its inception.

This year, the event was decided to

migrate to the civic centre due to scheduling conflicts that arose at the Sports Centre, though the new venue offers a similar amount of floor space and occupancy limits.

Holdaway added one of the goals this year for the trade show is to bring in more activities to engage a younger audience, as parents engage with businesses and potentially do some shopping.

"We are looking to add that kid zone – in past years we have brought a bouncy castle; we are looking to do that again, hopefully some cornhole boards. The chamber is playing with the idea of a face painter, just some more things to do to keep the kids engaged," he said. "The chamber is also looking to set up what we are calling 'Food Truck Alley' and we are hoping to get a plethora of food trucks to set up outside the trade show."

Holdaway explained the show has space to host roughly 40 businesses at booths this year, with spaces at the show selling quickly. Information about booking a booth is available through the chamber's website. The same is true for food trucks that are interested in participating.

The show is scheduled to take place on Sept. 14, operating from 10 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

RCMP warns of "phishing" scams

ALBERTA RCMP

RCMP have recently received numerous reports of "phishing" scams in the form of fake emails, text messages, or phone calls that trick victims into sharing sensitive information or downloading harmful software. The fraudsters make it seem like the fake messages and calls are from a safe and trusted source. In some cases, they have even requested the purchase of gift cards in lieu of payment.

If someone is asking you to pay with gift cards, it is because the cards are easy to purchase, hard to trace and nearly impossible to refund once the balances have been spent. The fraudsters may even suggest which stores to attend to purchase these cards and immediately ask for the card number and PIN associated. They will attempt to convince you the matter is urgent, will request continuous contact and advise you not to tell anyone about it. Businesses and government agencies will not instruct you to pay them with gift cards.

Here are some tips from the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre to help protect yourself from "phishing" scams:

- Don't click on links from unsolicited messages and don't download attachments from unsolicited messages.

ges.

- Watch for spelling mistakes.
- Don't trust a message just because the email address looks legitimate; fraudsters can spoof the address.
- Be suspicious of calls that require immediate action. Hang up!
- Never send cash, cryptocurrencies or any other funds to unknown persons, unverified addresses or bank accounts.

- Beware of messages claiming to be from the Government of Canada or a law enforcement agency; they will never contact you to offer funds via email or e-transfer.

RCMP continue to investigate these incidents and are asking anyone with information regarding this or any other crime, to contact your local RCMP detachment. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), online at www.P3Tips.com or by using the "P3 Tips" app available through Apple App or Google Play Store.

The RCMP encourages everyone to report all frauds to police, by phone, in person, or using the RCMP app. To report crime online, or for access to RCMP news and information, download the Alberta RCMP app through Apple or Google Play.

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Hitting the field

The Strathmore Spartans high school football team was back on the field Aug. 17, one day after their first session of the season. The Spartans have 20 returning players, 12 of them in Grade 12, along with a crop of 20 new players. Their first game of the season is Aug. 24.

John Watson Photos

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Collaboration and respect between councils

To the Editor

In addition to the recent article in last week's *Strathmore Times*, I want to apologize to Wheatland County council for a statement I made in Strathmore council's meeting on June 5, 2024. My statement was in error and county Coun. Glenn Koester who was at this meeting, corrected me right away. I thanked him for his correction, but unfortunately, my microphone was off. I definitely retract my statement and I believe that Wheatland County council is indeed in full support of the proposed lodge project. Once again, I apologize to Wheatland County council and I hereby retract my June 5 statement. I hope this can be a positive step in collaboration and respect between our two councils.

Pat Fule,
Mayor of Strathmore

Preventing grass fires

To the Editor

I'd like to start off by saying, "It's been a while since our last big prairie fire," but sadly that isn't the case. Whether you blame climate change, trains or the government, the fact of the matter is we've endured many in the past and will continue to do so in the future.

There are a few things we can do to mediate this situation.

1. Keep all garbage contained, so it's not blowing around with the wind. When a wildfire hits your yard, it will lite the loose garbage on fire, then the wind that accompanies that fire carries the burning garbage on to start another fire.
2. Cut down any standing grass around buildings, fences and any fuel sources. The standing grass is the main catalyst that keeps the fires burning. Most buildings can survive a wildfire if there isn't another fuel source next to it. The fire will follow any dry fuel source. So, keep it short everywhere.
3. Have water storage ready to fight the fires. Have a yard pump ready to go if you have an irrigation ditch or dugout on your property.

If you see tall grass around your neighbours, go talk to them so they're aware of the potential hazard.

Kevin Karambowich
Wheatland County

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TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

Obituary



CHRISTIE, Wayne

Wayne Stanley Patrick Christie - Dad - Papa - the man, the myth, the legend... lover of Diet Coke, king of the dad jokes and maker of smiles. We are deeply saddened to announce the sudden and unexpected passing of our Dad. Loved and adored by his children Stephanie (Jeremy) Goertz, Bailey (Dan) Hautzinger, Devon (Matt) Leboldus and Taylor (Chelsea) Christie and his most shining accomplishments his grandchildren; Coby, Isaiah, Ava, Foster Goertz; Brooklyn and Cohen Hautzinger; Decker, Quinn and Wade Leboldus; Joey, Bennett, Adaline and Theo Christie. Dad also leaves behind their mother, his friend and former wife Joan, his sisters Val, Rhonda, Marlene and Darlene as well as countless nieces, nephews and friends. Dad was predeceased by his parents Stan and Mary Christie. Eldest child to Mary and Stan, Dad was born March 24th, 1954 and grew up in the Strathmore area playing hockey and baseball in his spare time. Dad attended Camrose Lutheran College on a hockey scholarship and was a very proud Viking alumni, with his team recently inducted into the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame for their 1974/1975 season. Upon completion of his education, Dad returned to the Strathmore area where he continued farming and raised his family. His greatest source of pride and joy were his 13 grandchildren. He was always eager to attend the kid's hockey, baseball, soccer, dance, skipping, concerts and recitals. While attending his grandchildren's hockey games at the Strathmore Arena, he was proud to share that he was the first player awarded a penalty in that barn. He will be so deeply and painfully missed as his grandchildren's biggest cheerleader in the stands. Dad also lovingly tended to his garden, often known for starting his seeds far too early in the spring just so he could do it all over again in the coming weeks. Planting funny and unlikely things like watermelon at his grandchildren's request, and always keeping us updated on its growth status... and always quick to give us all advice on our own gardening endeavours. Notorious for his quick wit and humour, Dad was often seen bustling around town engaging in lengthy conversations with friends, neighbours and complete strangers along his path reminiscing the past, dishing out town current events, and solving all the world's problems... But no fret if you didn't cross paths with Dad in town, you simply had to tune in to his regular Facebook updates for all the happenings. A celebration of Dad's life was held on Tuesday, August 20th at 2:00 pm at the Hope Community Covenant Church followed with a luncheon. In lieu of flowers, a Memorial Tribute in Dad's name can be made to the Hope Bridges Society (Box 2496 Strathmore, Alberta T1P 0H3 or www.hopebridges.ca) or the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Alberta (#100, 119 - 14th Street NW Calgary, Alberta T2N 1Z6 or www.heartandstroke.ca)

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LEGAL NOTICES

Notice to Creditors and Claimants

Estate of VIOLET GENEVIEVE PEOPLES who died on the October 14, 2023.

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by September 30, 2024.

with STRATHMORE LAW,
ATTN: Daman K. Gill
at 101, 318-3rd Ave.,
Strathmore, AB T1P 1V9

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

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.

Notice to Creditors and Claimants

Estate of ARTHUR MICHAEL POLANKSI who died on the April 23, 2024.

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by September 30, 2024.

with STRATHMORE LAW,
ATTN: Daman K. Gill
at 101, 318-3rd Ave.,
Strathmore, AB T1P 1V9

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

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.

Notice to Creditors and Claimants

Estate of EDNA MAE MEDGYESI who died on the July 4, 2024.

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by September 30, 2024.

with STRATHMORE LAW,
ATTN: Daman K. Gill
at 101, 318-3rd Ave.,
Strathmore, AB T1P 1V9

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

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.

NOTICE



**Seepage Control Plan
2025 - 2029**

The Western Irrigation District has prepared a Seepage Control Plan for the years 2025 through 2029 in accordance with Section 164(1) of the Irrigation Districts Act.

The Plan addresses seepage in these areas:

- 1.) Section 84 (Secondary C-Canal)
Sections 18,19 T26-R24-W4M
Section 24, 25, 26, 27, 34 T26-R25-W4M
- 2.) Section 84 (Secondary C Canal)
Sections 33, 28, 29, 32, 30 T26-R25-W4M
Section 25, 36, 26 T26-R26-W4M
- 3.) Section 84R1 (Reicheneder Ditch)
Sections 20, 17, 16, 9 T26 R26 W4M
- 4.) Section 81D4 (Cairnhill)
Sections 20, 21, 16, 15, 10 T23 R25 W4
- 5.) Section 81D4 (Cairnhill)
Sections 14, 11, 02, 01, 12 T23 R25 W4

Copies of the Plan may be viewed at the District's office during regular business hours. Any comments on the Draft Seepage Control Plan must be received before office closing on September 13th, 2024. The District intends to file the Plan with Irrigation Secretariat no later than September 27th, 2024.

Any owner of land which seepage damage may have occurred may appeal the subsequent Plan to the Irrigation Council by filing a notice of appeal within 30 days of the date specified for filing of the plan with the Irrigation Secretariat if:

1. The land on which seepage damage may have occurred is not included in the subsequent plan, or
2. In the opinion of the owner, the plan does not contain adequate measures to control seepage.

Please address comments to:
Troy Tangedal
General Manager
Western Irrigation District
A-1000 Pine Street
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Upcoming Council Meetings

September 4, 2024 | 6 p.m. Regular Meeting of Council
September 11, 2024 | 6 p.m. Committee of the Whole
September 18, 2024 | 6 p.m. 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.

Citizen Satisfaction Survey

We want to hear from you

Available until **September 6, 2024**

<https://strathmore.ca/spcs2024/>



Strathmore's Municipal Development Plan



Join the community conversation on Thurs, August 22, 2024.



A *Municipal Development Plan* (MDP) is like a big-picture plan for how a municipality wants to grow and change over time. It helps ensure the community is organized and growing in a way that benefits everyone who lives there. Think of it like making a "to-do" list of all the things that need to be done to make the community a great place!

Join the conversation and help us shape Strathmore's new Municipal Development Plan at the next *Planner Chatter* engagement session.

Date: Thursday, August 22, 2024
Timeslot Option #1: noon to 2 p.m.
Timeslot Option #2: 5 to 7 p.m.

Register for the session by emailing Glen Ferguson, Project Manager at strathmoreforward@strathmore.ca or learn more about Strathmore's 2024 MDP Review at Strathmore.ca/StrathmoreForward.

Land Use Ammendment

Upcoming Public Hearing

- Purpose:** to permit the construction of a multifunctional light industrial building with a health services facility.

Bylaw #24-16

Staff received an application for a land use redesignation (*Bylaw No. 24-16*) 137 Orchard Way (Lot 23 Block 01 Plan 981 3631). The proposed redesignation aims to permit the construction of a multifunctional light industrial building with a health services facility at 137 Orchard Way in Strathmore.



Public Hearing Process

A copy of the proposed bylaw can be found on the Town's website at Strathmore.ca/PublicHearing or may be inspected by the public during regular office hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday at the Strathmore Municipal Building (1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore, AB). 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 at the Strathmore Municipal Building on **Wednesday, September 18, 2024**, commencing at **6 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 or all of the proposed bylaw, may present their concerns and/or suggestions by making a submission at the public hearing. Please contact Legislative Services by email at lsadmin@strathmore.ca no later than **noon** on **Wednesday, September 11, 2024**, in order to register to speak at the public hearing.

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, September 11, 2024** 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 your time.

Calgary Watermain Repair Water Restrictions Update

The City of Calgary has announced plans to undertake urgent short-term repairs on the Bearspaw South feeder main starting August 26. The team in Calgary has been working to analyze the situation, interpret data and develop effective repair strategies. This assessment has identified 16 sites needing attention due to points of weakness in the system.

These repairs are essential to maintain the stability of Calgary's and our water supply and mitigate the risk of unexpected failures, particularly as winter approaches. To facilitate this work, Calgary announced the Bearspaw South feeder main will be shut down from August 26 to end of September, resulting in level four water restrictions.

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Alberta Culture Days
 September 28, 2024

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