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Great race

Page 7



Kings camp opens

County accepts LPRT decision

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County council voted Aug. 15 during the regular meeting of council to not appeal the Land and Property Rights Tribunal's (LPRT) decision regarding a proposed abattoir within the county.

The decision from the tribunal to overrule the county's defeat of the application to develop the abattoir was accepted as information by the county, and further actions or appeal will not be pursued.

Deputy Reeve Scott Klassen expressed discontent with the process and the result handed down from the LPRT, also noting having received inquiries from ratepayers wondering what council could do, if anything, to possibly continue to oppose the abattoir.

"I do not think there is any chance of doing anything ... it is just unfortunate. I am really disappointed in—the whole thing was discretionary," he said. "We did our decision, it went to LPRT, they overturned it ... it was not a decision that was made lightly as a local area person. I still have a number of people who talk to me about this on a daily basis."

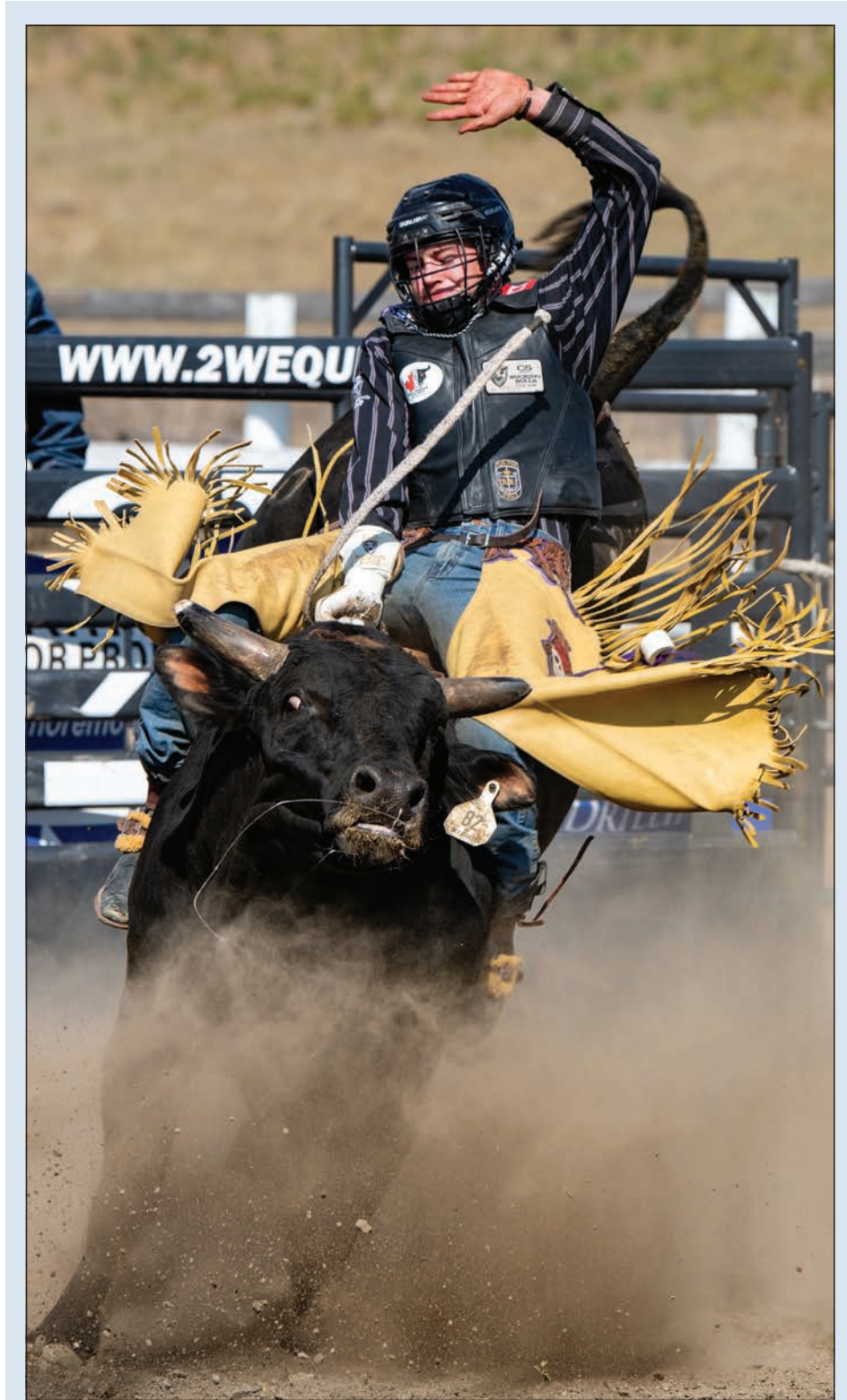
Klassen noted during the meeting he believed the process and requirement to spend taxpayer dollars to attempt to appeal the appeal with the LPRT would be a futile endeavor.

Coun. Tom Ikert expressed concerns during the meeting regarding the greater system of appeal allowing applicants to subvert the county and public discussion, should a development be defeated by the Municipal Planning Commission or by council.

"I have a real concern that these quasi-judicial boards can just run rampant over a decision the majority of the planning commission made," he said. "What kind of a message does it send for anybody who wants a development in the county and you do not have to take on public consultation because the public consultation might get messy and then you can just take it to a board and you have a 50 per cent chance of winning."

On May 9, the application was presented before the county Municipal Planning Commission requesting approval for a development permit for the purpose of the facility, which once completed will process an estimated 26,000 head of cattle per year.

Continued on Page 4



Winning ride!

Grady Young of Leader, Sask. scored an 83-point ride on the bull RIP during the Wheatland Charity Bullarama on Aug. 26. After the dust settled from the bull riding, fans were entertained by the Chris Buck Band. See Page 13 for more coverage.

Joe Lepage Photo

STRATHMORE TIMES

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Strathmore Triathlon returns

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore Tri-S'more triathlon returned, Aug. 26, for its annual race, and this year was alongside the Tri-Diva women's triathlon occurring at the same time.

"We are bringing together two triathlons into one that had been around for over 10 years each, and then after the pandemic and the world changing, we decided to consolidate," said Race Director, Tom Bamford. "Now, we have these two races that occurred usually in June or September altogether and it offers swim, bike, run triathlon for people that are doing anything from ages four and up, with different distances."

Bamford added the Platinum Racing team, which hosted the events, was contacted by the previous race directors to host this time around.

Aside from the Tri-S'more triathlon, which was open to everyone, the Tri-Diva event was for women only, with designated pool, biking and running lanes to accommodate the

separate athletes.

The combined event was recorded to have over 100 participants, with aspirations to grow it as people find out about it, or who may be reminded that it is taking place annually.

Last year, the Tri-Diva triathlon by itself saw roughly 75 athletes participating. With the addition of the Tri-S'more, the goal is to bring some life back into the run.

"The Strathmore Tri-S'more race has not been around for a while, so we are, in some ways kind of reinvigorating it to people and letting folks know it even exists," said Bamford.

Platinum Racing hosts athletic events all over Western Canada, including the Ironman race in Calgary, and was excited to take the reins on racing in Strathmore to ensure the continuation of the event.

The Tri-Diva and the Tri-S'more triathlons are considered standalone events and are not a part of any larger racing circuits.

"It is not part of some sort of point system or anything — the sport just is not that sophisticated. It is meant for the average person to enter and train for and enjoy," said Bamford. "You do not have to have a license, you do not have to have any kind of requisite, it is very open for access for people who want to give it a go. We do this because we love giving athletes a chance to give triathlon a shot."

Categories for the races included ages four to eight, nine to 13, 13 to 17, and adults of any age. In order to accommodate everyone who was interested, there were multiple race lengths available for adult participants to attempt.

More information regarding the races for future years, as well as other events throughout Western Canada is available via the Platinum Racing website.




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Strathmore's Tri-S'more and Tri-Diva were hosted concurrently at the Strathmore Civic Centre, Aug. 26. According to organizers, between the two events, more than 100 people came out to test their athletic ability, or simply to enjoy the workout and challenge of a triathlon.

John Watson Photos

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An honour to server our community

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

The first few months of my time as your MLA for Chestermere-Strathmore has been an incredible experience and a true privilege.

Standing up for you and your family has and will continue to be the greatest honour of my life. As Alberta Day arrives on Sept. 1, I am particularly proud of what we have done for the people of this province, and what we will continue to do going forward.

Alberta's government is committed to fighting for all Albertans, whether that be by supporting our province's economic prosperity, standing up to a divisive and misguided government in Ottawa, and everything in between.

Since the beginning of 2023, Alberta has led Canada in job growth, creating 40,000 net new jobs. Further, at \$1,290 per week, Albertans are enjoying the highest average weekly earnings by far in the entire country. Major industrial projects being advanced right here in our riding only add to our bright future.

Unfortunately, we also are dealing with an affordability crisis that is a worldwide phenomenon. I was honoured that Premier Smith recently appointed me to be the Parliamentary Secretary for Affordability and Utilities. I will be supporting Minister Neudorf to find solutions that can ease some of the burden of running our households and businesses.

While we have more work to do, there's no question that our Affordability Action Plan has made a noticeable difference for Albertans. We are paying the lowest prices in the country for fuel and compared to other major provinces, some of the lowest prices for housing.

At the same time, we have had to push back against an overbearing and misguided federal government in Ottawa, which consistently stands in opposition to our great province and its unrivaled prosperity.

Through decrees that target our electricity grid or oil and gas sector, Ottawa is intent on punishing Alberta for its success, but we, as your elected representatives, will not let that happen. Reality is on our side when we push back against the Trudeau government's nonsensical plan for a net-zero energy grid by 2035 that would inevitably increase our electricity prices and harm our livelihoods.

All summer, I have attended amazing community events throughout the riding. We were especially blessed to have Premier Danielle Smith spend a day with us at the Strathmore Stampe, riding in the parade and watching the Running With the Bulls! Your enthusiasm is infectious and I look forward to meeting many more of you in the near future.

On Friday, Sept. 1 I encourage you to take some time to celebrate Alberta Day and reflect on why we are so lucky to call ourselves Albertans.

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

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Thought for the Week
~
Mark Twain said, "When in doubt, tell the truth."

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<p>SACRED HEART CATHOLIC Holy Cross Collegiate School Gym 709B - 2nd Street, Strathmore 403-934-2641 Pastor: Fr. Tomy Manjaly Masses: Saturday 5 pm Sunday 10 am www.sacredhc.ca</p>	<p>HOPE COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH 245 Brent Blvd, Strathmore 403-934-2424 Pastor: Heidi Wiebe Sunday Worship 10 am www.hope-community.ca</p>
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County will not pursue further appeal regarding abattoir

Continued from Page 1

Prior to discussing the application in open session, the county had received more than 20 letters of opposition from local ratepayers on the subject, complaining about a host of subjects. Many of these letters specifically raised grievances regarding potential foul odours caused by the facility.

Details regarding the decision to defeat the application are available publicly through the Aug. 15, 2023 council meeting agenda.

Following the decision, the application was brought by the applicants to the LPRT, for which a hearing was held on June 28-29. The county hired legal counsel to represent them during the process.

County administration undertook getting a cost estimate to challenge the LPRT's decision, and advised council the first step in the appeal process, being a permission application, would cost between \$25,000 and \$35,000.

If that application is granted, the cost estimate for an appeal hearing is between an additional \$50,000 and \$60,000. Council was advised that costs beyond these estimates were possible should other parties become involved or complications arise.

Coun. Rick Laursen provided the motion to accept the recommendation from county administration to accept the LPRT decision as information and to not pursue further appeals. The motion was carried by council.



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Homeschooling option

MELISSA PICHE
Times Contributor

With back to school right around the corner, parents are feverishly scrambling to do all the last-minute preparations.

For homeschooler Jennifer Keeling and her family, preparing for back to school looks just a little bit different.

Keeling has been homeschooling her three children (24, 20 and 15) for 19 years, with only one of her children currently in school, as her oldest children have since graduated.

However, Keeling is well-versed on what needs to be done to prepare for the upcoming school year.

“In terms of back to school, the thing people have to do is register with a homeschool board or notify the government that they are going to homeschool,” she said.

From there, Keeling explains, the parents have to present a program plan and that needs to be submitted to their facilitator who is a certified teacher.

“And then you pick your curriculum based on what you said your plan is going to be and what your goals are for homeschooling,” she said.

Once Keeling figures out a curriculum, then she has to start looking for the books and material for the year.

The Education Act in Alberta requires children ages 6-16 to attend school, whether that be homeschooling, virtually or in person. That is why it is imperative to register with a homeschool board.

Keeling said there are two main things people need to establish for homeschool prep. First, the formal homeschool board, this has the regulations with the government where they (the homeschool

board) write the reports on what your kids are learning. Second is the more informal or social groups where you gather to have sports, social time, art classes and participate in field trips if you wish.

“A good idea for a lot of people is to have a support group,” Keeling explained. “Then they offer advice and they can tell people what to do.”

When COVID-19 hit, many parents were faced with having to navigate the idea of assisting in their children’s education from home. This prompted many people to explore the idea of homeschool going forward.

“With COVID there was a lot of new homeschoolers – (a) huge, huge increase,” said Keeling.

When she first began homeschooling, she said in her group there were between 10 and 15 families, now there are over 50.

Keeling has a degree in education; whether this has helped her homeschool is debatable.

“I think in some ways I had to let go of some of that and relax a bit for homeschooling so that we could have a bit more freedom with how they learn,” she said. “There are lots of moms that don’t have degrees in education and that are awesome homeschoolers.”

One of the perks of homeschooling, from Keeling’s perspective, is the freedom it allows her and her children.

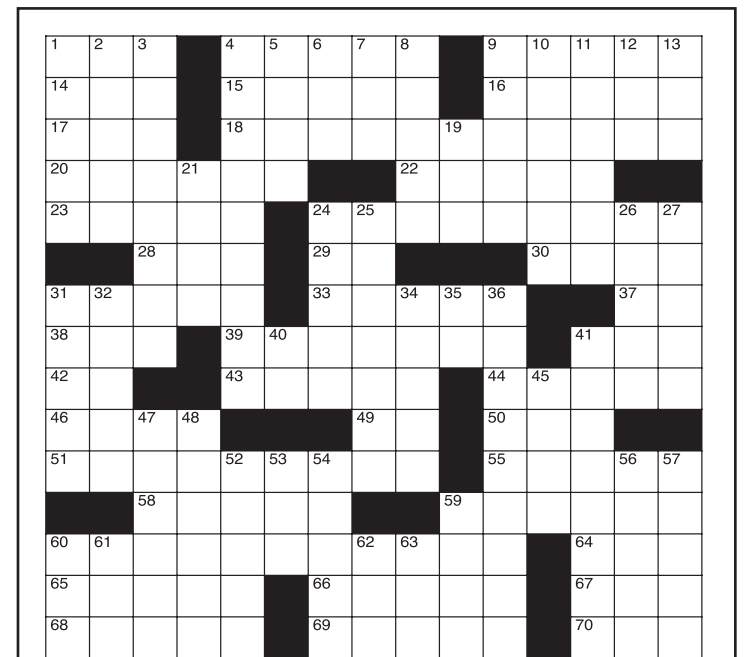
“We can gradually ease into it throughout September,” she said. “A lot of the deadlines for having your program plan done or (being) registered with your homeschool board are at the end of September so you can gradually ease into things, which is really nice.”

Being able to set your own schedule and your own pace is another bonus to the homeschooling community.

It’s hard to lay out a typical school day for the Keeling family as one day could be filled with activities for most of the day, so there may not be a lot of book work. Then there are days where they sit down and do the core courses with reading, writing and math, for example.

Families who choose to homeschool are eligible for funding from the government to purchase curriculum materials, supplies, computers, admission to museums and lessons, for example.

Some good resources for anyone who is thinking about homeschooling can be found on social media or the Government of Alberta website for homeschool information (alberta.ca/home-education).



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Midway between east and southeast
- 4. At right angles to a ship’s length
- 9. William Penn’s business partner
- 14. ___ de plume
- 15. Accomplished soccer coach
- 16. Bone cavities
- 17. ___ juris: independent
- 18. Popular Philly sandwich
- 20. Northern Ireland county
- 22. Performing artist
- 23. S S S
- 24. Lacks flavor
- 28. Commercials
- 29. Anno Domini (in the year of Our Lord)
- 30. Qatar’s capital
- 31. Indigenous peoples of Alberta
- 33. Popular footwear
- 37. Indicates position
- 38. Anglican cathedral
- 39. Aircraft part
- 41. Before
- 42. Blood group
- 43. Secretary organ
- 44. Fencing swords
- 46. The small projection of a mammary gland
- 49. Technological advancement
- 50. Male parent
- 51. Dissociable
- 55. More cold
- 58. Cape Verde Islands capital
- 59. Blood disorder
- 60. Creative
- 64. Sun up in New York
- 65. Made angry
- 66. Relieves
- 67. Brooklyn hoopster
- 68. Seasonings
- 69. Movable barriers
- 70. Attempt

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Occur as a result of
- 2. Spiritual essences
- 3. Representative
- 4. Entering
- 5. Nobel Prize-winning physicist
- 6. Midway between northeast and east
- 7. Consumed
- 8. Tablelands
- 9. Kids’ craft accessory
- 10. Not known
- 11. Sound directed through two or more speakers
- 12. A major division of geological time
- 13. Wild ox
- 19. Shock treatment
- 21. Turner and Lasso are two
- 24. Genus of flowering plants
- 25. Relating to ductless glands
- 26. Stock certificate
- 27. Satisfies
- 31. Places to enjoy a rest
- 32. Edward ___, author and writer
- 34. “___ but goodie”
- 35. One hundredth of a liter
- 36. Shabbiness
- 40. TV personality Roker
- 41. Triangular upper part of a building
- 45. Speed at which you move
- 47. Offend
- 48. A reference point to shoot at
- 52. Forays
- 53. Biblical city
- 54. Blatted
- 56. Northern sea duck
- 57. Shabby (slang)
- 59. Allege
- 60. Tax collector
- 61. Whereabouts unknown
- 62. Chinese philosophical principle
- 63. Indicates equal

Brave Park to open at end of September

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Strathmore’s newest recreational space, Brave Park, is expected to see completion by the end of September and will be free to use for everyone.

“We are very excited as Brave Park, a lot of our pathways, and some of our amenities in Lakewood are now starting to come to fruition,” said Scott Silva, director of sales and marketing with Lakewood of Strathmore. “It has been several years with the new development team working hard at this, including our redesign, our amenities, (and) our financing with our regional partner, Connect First.”

Once open, Brave Park will occupy three acres of land, consisting of a playground, pickleball court, and an open programmable space for sports and other recreational activities.

Additionally, the park will feature a monument dedicated to fallen soldiers, officers, firefighters and frontline emergency workers.

“On top of that, we are going to have a free Wi-Fi setup from our partners at Shaw. The park itself will be totally free,” said Silva. “We are going to be doing all of the landscaping in the park, so that means all brand-new sod and it is going to be irrigated from our friends over at Eagle Lake, and then we have got all of our pathways going in and

around the park.”

The development of Brave Park has been privately funded throughout its construction without aid from the town or outside grant funding.

Silva added he is extremely proud to have worked with the surrounding community and with the participating development group to be able to bring the project together as a necessity for the community.

“A lot of parks are funded through donor programs, sponsorship programs, regional grants ... or even sometimes donations from the town or municipality. In this case, we received none,” he said. “We did not go after any because we wanted to ensure everybody understood that this was a prime directive from our development group and how important this directive was from us.”

Silva explained the plans for the park have been in place for over a year, and the park equipment was purchased initially in 2022. Development was delayed due to supply chain complications arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Though an exact grand opening date has not yet been set, the plan is to have the park open and usable by the community by the end of September. The space may yet be temporarily closed off following completion in order to plan for the official grand opening event.



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Upcoming Council Meetings

- September 6, 2023 | 6pm Regular Council Meeting
- September 13, 2023 | 6pm Committee of the Whole
- September 20, 2023 | 6pm Regular Council Meeting

Want to speak at a Council Meeting?

Members of the public are welcome to speak at Council or Committee of the Whole Meetings during the Public Comments or Public Hearing portion of the meeting. Learn how at Strathmore.ca/CouncilMeetings

Summer fire safety

Strathmore is under a Fire Advisory. This means you can still have a BBQ or use your fire pit, but please remember to follow the safety guidelines in place.

Visit Strathmore.ca/FirePits to learn more about fire pit safety.

School is almost in!

School resumes on September 5 for both the Golden Hills School Division and Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools. Now is a great time to start making a mental note of locations with school zones – and mark your calendars for when school zones come into full effect on September 5.

School Zones are in effect the following times on school days:

- 8 to 9:30 a.m.
- 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Playground Zones remain in effect from 8:30 a.m. to one hour after sunset. If you're driving through a school or playground zone, slow down and keep an eye out for children.

Thanks for driving safely and looking out for our students!

Aquatic Centre Shut Down

The Strathmore Aquatic Centre has scheduled a maintenance shut down for August 31. The pool will be closed while staff and contractors take care of routine maintenance and specialized cleaning. We'll be providing updates about the facility reopening at Strathmore.ca, when they become available.

Council is back in Session.

Public are welcome to attend the meeting in person or watch meetings online under the "live" tab on the Town of Strathmore's YouTube channel.



Would you like to speak or present at a council meeting? Residents can comment on agenda items or present to Council by submitting a delegation form. Register to speak, present, or learn more at Strathmore.ca/councilmeetings.

When can you water?

Southern Alberta has been experiencing dry conditions and record low natural flow levels on the Bow and Elbow Rivers. On August 15, the City of Calgary issued Stage 1 mandatory outdoor water restrictions and since Strathmore's water supply comes from Calgary, we've adopted these restrictions too.

Environment Canada is predicting a warm and dry winter, and these measures will help proactively manage Calgary and Strathmore's water supply needed in the Glenmore Reservoir. It also supports river health and our neighbours downstream who depend on the river.

Please note that drinking water quality remains high; this is an issue of water quantity, not quality.

During Stage 1 Outdoor Water Use Restrictions, as outlined in the Water Utility Bylaw, the following outdoor watering activities are permitted:

- Using a sprinkler to water lawns, gardens, trees and shrubs is limited to one day per week according to a specific schedule that is determined by property address
- Property address ending with an even number can water on Wednesday or Saturday.
- Property address ending with an odd number can water on Thursday or Sunday.
- Watering is limited to a maximum total of two hours from 4am – 10am or 5pm – 10 p.m. Always check soil moisture first and use only the water that is needed.

On any day and at any time:

- Watering using handheld watering can or hose with shut-off spray.
- Watering new grass or seed.
- Filling an outdoor pool or hot tub.
- Using water collected in a rain barrel.
- Watering for construction purposes such as grading, compaction or dust control.

The following outdoor watering activities are not allowed:

- Washing outdoor surfaces, windows, exterior building surfaces, sidewalks, driveways or walkways. As an alternative, use a broom to clean hard surfaces.
- Washing a car on a driveway or street.
- Filling fountains or decorative features.

There are exceptions for health and safety reasons or core business needs:

- Washing outdoor surfaces for childcare facilities, food and beverage establishments and kennel and animal care facilities.
- Washing vehicles to follow health and safety regulations.
- Watering plants, shrubs, and trees for sale.
- Exterior window washing and car washing provided by a business with a license to provide these services.



TRASH TO TREASURE SEPTEMBER 14-17, 2023

Trash to Treasure Days encourage residents to put any usable items out prior to the Heavy Item Garbage collection so others can pick them up and give them a new home.

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

HEAVY ITEM GARBAGE SEPTEMBER 18-22, 2023

HIG returns the week of September 18-22! Place all items at your regular garbage pickup location by 7 a.m. on September 18 and affix with an HIG or mattress sticker. Stickers are available for free at the Strathmore Municipal Building anytime prior to April 17.

Examples of HIG Items:

- Washers, dryers, dishwashers, and stoves
- Furniture (sofas, love seats, tables, chairs, dressers etc.)
- Mattresses, bed frames, and box springs
- Carpet (must be rolled and no longer than 4ft)
- Separated/salvageable metal materials (small quantity)
- Small amounts of lumber (4ft length, bundled and tied)
- BBQs (propane removed)

Learn more about HIG or Trash to Treasure at Strathmore.ca/HIG



The Wheatland Kings officially began their new hockey season when they hosted their main camp Aug. 26-27 at the Strathmore Family Centre. The local Junior B team will play four exhibition games before their home opener on Sept. 23 at the Strathmore Family Centre.

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Joe Lepage Photos

YOUR WEEKLY HEALTH ADVICE
Gord Morck Pharmacist
Capsule Comments

Many people who list penicillin as an allergy may not have a true allergy to this antibiotic class. Over 90% of patients who report this allergy aren't truly allergic. Penicillins are often the first antibiotic of choice when treating an infection. They are usually inexpensive and effective. It's important that you and your doctor look into your history of drug allergies to determine if penicillin is a true allergy.

When taking your medication, it is good to take it with an 8 oz cup of water to ensure the medicine does indeed go down. Taking it with less water might not push the tablet or capsule right into the stomach and might cause heartburn as a side effect. Drugs like the NSAID class (ibuprofen, naproxen, ASA) and others may cause this side effect.

The thyroid gland controls our body metabolism. It influences heart rate, alertness, body temperature, mood and has many other functions. If thyroid levels are too low (hypothyroidism), you may have these symptoms.... fatigue, chills, dry skin, swelling (due to water retention), poor concentration, forgetfulness and depression. Thyroid function can be checked easily with a blood test. If concerned, see your doctor.

Vaping is becoming recognized as a global public health concern. Reforms are underway in Australia to ban all vaping products. A prescription will be required for smokers who want to quit tobacco smoking. This is classed as a legitimate use. Countries like Singapore and Thailand have also banned vaping. Youth vaping is on the rise in Canada and Health Canada is looking into the matter.

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Sat: 9-6 pm • Sun & Holidays: 11-5 pm

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Kings prep for upcoming season at main camp

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Wheatland Kings main camp took place Aug. 26-27, welcoming the team back to the ice following the summer and getting the boys prepared for the upcoming season.

"I would say it went pretty well. For some of these guys, it was their first skate, but we have got a lot of these guys who have been skating with us all summer, so they are doing well," said Lee Smith, general manager for the Kings.

Kings Head Coach, Doug Raycroft, added he is excited to have his team back and rearing to take on the upcoming season, and really push for the championship this year.

"Our thought process is, we want to win the championship. As the season develops, we just want to give our players the best chance to do that," he said. "We have a certain number of ice times per week to get them ready for these games and we are just going to do our best to do that."

The Kings will be taking on a few extra players post camp, but most of the team was on the ice during the weekend getting ready for their first games in September.

Last season, the Wheatland Kings were a very young team, with a roster largely full of players who are now seasoned and returning this year.

"We have got a few new guys, but to be honest we had

one of the youngest teams in the league last year and now they are all a year older," said Raycroft. "We look good this year. We lost a couple of veterans who were aged out, but mostly we have got 16 returning players."

The playstyle of the team has historically been to run at high speed and keep a fast-paced game. Raycroft said he wants his boys to get used to keeping the tempo and the pace of the game as high as possible.

The idea being the faster they move, the more they move the puck and the faster the team as a whole is able to play.

Both on and off the ice, Raycroft added there is a great group of leaders on the team and he is looking forward to seeing them carry the Kings forward this year.

"Some guys are more vocal in the dressing room and other guys are leaders on the ice. We have got a really good core so we do not have to worry about that much this year for sure," he said. "We have got almost the whole team back except for a couple of guys, so we will just be building on what we had last year."

The Kings open the season on Sept. 23 (8 p.m.) against the Okotoks Bisons at the Strathmore Family Centre. A tailgate party will be held in the parking lot of the facility before puck drop.

Prior to that, the Kings have four exhibition games, including two at home on Sept. 9 (8:30 p.m.) and Sept. 17 (4 p.m.).

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Siksika Nation to have new dog sanctuary

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Siksika Nation will soon have a new sanctuary for stray and neglected dogs to help them find a forever home.

Wayne Solway and his husband are working with local animal services to get dogs off the streets both for their well beings, as well as for that of the local community.

“I have been working with public safety and I have seen, working with animal services, the sad situations with the dogs on Siksika. I have seen starvation and I have seen suffering from all the homeless dogs and packs,” said Solway. “We have situations where we have dog bites and dog packs running around chasing people and the people in the community seem to be afraid of walking around just anywhere without a stick or something.”

Noting a lack of an appropriate facility within Siksika for stray dogs, Solway decided to open his own, utilizing an inherited property from his mother to do so.

Development on the shelter has been ongoing for roughly six months on Solway’s own dime to create appropriate kennel space for incoming animals.

“We finally have got most of it built to be functional now, so right now we are taking in animals as a dog daycare in the meantime while we wait for a contract

with animal services to start taking in stray dogs,” said Solway.

Prior to the establishment of “Soulway’s Dog Sanctuary and Shelter,” dogs that were picked up in Siksika Nation were directed off to Calgary, Red Deer or even further away.

Solway said there are currently 10 kennels ready for strays to be housed in at the moment, but he intends to increase capacity and there is still a ways to go before the facility is up to Siksika Nation standards.

He added there has been a great deal of support for the facility pouring in both from Siksika Nation, as well as surrounding communities.

“I am quite surprised at how much people have noticed ... now that we are doing this, the community and the Chief and Council have been really supportive and helping me to get what steps I need to do,” he said. “It has been a process doing the approvals of the land, approvals of the space, approvals of a business on Siksika ... and in the meantime, getting it built before all those approvals. It is exciting just to have this opportunity to have this business going.”

Ultimately, the service will take in animals from Siksika Animal Services for temporary housing, feeding and care until they can find forever homes.

Those who are potentially interested in donating to the shelter, or volunteering once the facility is taking in animals are able to contact Solway at soulwaysdogsanctuaryandshelter@yahoo.com or by phone at 587-834-5634.



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<p>3 Westview Street Strathmore \$773,900</p>	<p>24 NAMAKA Drive Namaka \$375,000</p>	<p>126 Strathmore Lakes Bend Strathmore \$580,000</p>	<p>206 9 Avenue Gleichen \$30,000</p>	<p>253067A Township Road 230 Rural Wheatland County \$1,675,000</p>
<p>207 Haskayne Avenue Gleichen \$200,000</p>	<p>285038 RR244 Rural Kneehill County \$525,000</p>	<p>202 Railway Avenue Rockyford \$159,900</p>	<p>263021 Township Road 240 Rural Wheatland County \$1,350,000</p>	<p>304 N. Railway Street Gleichen \$290,000</p>



Harvest binding and stooking

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Alberta Carriage Supply, in conjunction with Eau Claire Distillery, hosted an event, Aug. 26, to bind barley and get it ready for threshing at a later date.

Cheri Hamelin, office manager for Alberta Carriage Supply, said their team provides a team of horses to aid in the process, which is aimed to mimic how early farmers and settlers would process the yield.

“Every year, barley is put into the ground that is earmarked to be harvested with Alberta Carriage Supply and Eau Claire Distillery ... using draft horses and early implements. Once that is ready to be harvested, we do the first phase, of that which is the binding,” she said. “Our horses are hooked up to the binder and it puts everything into a pile, and then we have several volunteers who come out and help us put them into stooks.”

For those who are unfamiliar, a stook is a standing formation of barley meant to aid in the drying process. Once the barley is dry, it can be threshed.

Dale Befus, owner of Alberta Carriage Supply, said their team aims to provide the experience of processing a yield the way it used to be done.

“It is a bit of a tribute to them and doing it the old-fashioned way seems

to have a bit of terroir to it and on Saturday, we had close to 50 volunteers out,” he said.

This year marked the ninth year Eau Claire Distillery has partnered with Alberta Carriage Supply and put on the binding event for public participation.

Angie Lang, marketing brand manager for Eau Claire Distillery, said their team is the only distillery in the world to still utilize the archaic and heritage methods for harvesting barley.

“It just makes it really special and we get a bunch of volunteers to come and harvest with us, so it is honestly a big community building event, and then all those volunteers can drink our whiskey knowing what they did goes into that,” said Lang. “This helps us on the education part and helps people understand the hard work that goes in to make spirits for Eau Claire.”

The process takes place across the entirety of the eight acres of land which provide Eau Claire with their source barley.

Befus added once the barley has been threshed, a celebratory long table dinner is hosted, featuring Eau Claire’s whiskey, which has already been sold out.

The threshing event will be taking place Sept. 9, having been two weeks following the initial binding of the grain.

Eau Claire Distillery and Alberta Carriage Supply hosted roughly 50 volunteers during their annual binding, Aug 26. The barley stooks will be threshed, Sept 9, followed by a long table dinner to celebrate the harvest.

Photo Courtesy of Alberta Carriage Supply

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Questions? Contact

Gerry Kroon 403-471-6473 • Keith Clayton 403-934-7893

WAHS 403-934-8199



WHEATLAND COUNTY

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 5: Council Meeting

September 12: Municipal Planning Commission

September 19: Council Meeting

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

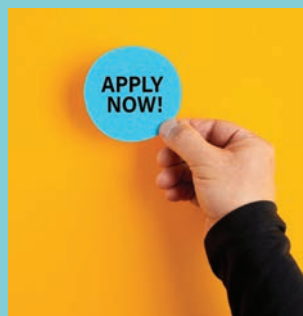
Agenda packages can be found on our website.

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, 2023. 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.



The Wheatland County Agricultural Service Board invites students pursuing post-secondary education in agriculture or environmental science to apply for the ASB Bursary! Up to \$6000 in bursaries are awarded annually, ranging from \$500 to \$1500 based on the number of eligible applicants.

ASB BURSARY



Application packages are available at the Wheatland County Administration Office or online at wheatlandcounty.ca. For more information, contact Michelle Van Haarlem at 403-361-2000 or agandenv@wheatlandcounty.ca.

Application Deadline: September 15

WREMP Resource Registration

The Wheatland Regional Emergency Management Partnership (WREMP) is seeking interested individuals or organizations with resources for emergencies!

We invite qualified parties to submit their information for a registered list of equipment, resources, and contractors for emergency services on short notice.

If interested, please scan the QR code provided or visit our website at wheatlandcounty.ca.



Address: 242006 Range Rd 243, Wheatland County, AB T1P 2C4
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Farming for Hospice raises \$120,000

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Farming for Hospice has harvested their annual crop from the land provided to them by Nutrien, and hosted an event to celebrate the crop this year.

Operating on a new format, the team pre-sold their barley crop via Team Electronic live Auction Market as cattle feed.

“We did a little pre-harvest on the Monday, (Aug. 21) because we knew Mother Nature had rain in the forecast. We sent six combines out on Monday afternoon, which was pretty fortuitous for us because we did get rain throughout the night,” said Teri McKinnon, community relations director with the Wheatland and Area Hospice Society (WAHS). “We sold it to feedlots because it was a feed barley that we grew and normally, a lot of the feedlots in and around the Strathmore area need to buy a ton of feed for their cattle.”

The WAHS team was exposed to multiple more buyers who may consider continuing to support the project in future years.

Harvesting off of 155 acres, the WAHS averaged 120 bushels per acre for their yield this year, which McKinnon said was exciting to have been able to produce.

“We (also) had a fantastic show up (Tuesday, Aug. 22)— Martin Shields

came, we had Chantelle de Jonge, we had some big donors who showed up which was fantastic, and then our partners (including) Brandt, and they showcased this brand-new grain cart that was phenomenal.”

Representatives from Nutrien, local feedlots and farmers were also in attendance for the harvest celebration.

This year, McKinnon expects to have raised over \$120,000 to contribute to the already more than \$1 million gathered through the Farming for Hospice initiative.

The team was also thankful to Nutrien this year for having donated a plot of land that has access to irrigation systems in order to make it through the drought experienced throughout the summer.

Though it is not yet confirmed, next year may see a winter rye crop grown through Farming for Hospice. Ultimately, the crop will be decided by the harvest wrap up event, Nov. 24, which will be hosted with Drew Gregory.

Similarly, the harvest wrap up will be where the land will be pre-sold to sponsors for the next summer growing season.

McKinnon stressed that the WAHS team wished to express its thanks to all the farmers, neighbors, sponsors and supporters who gift their time, money, equipment and land to benefit their vision.





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Alberta transitions provider of laboratory services

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Laboratory services in Strathmore, as well as those across the province are being transferred by the provincial government from DynaLIFE to Alberta Precision Laboratories in an effort to reduce wait times.

Alberta Precision Laboratories is owned by Alberta Health Services (AHS), and has been assisting in the provision of services to Albertans since Aug. 3, following an announcement by the province.

“It is unacceptable that Albertans are facing constant delays to get a simple test or blood work done,” said Premier Danielle Smith in a statement at the time. “Lab tests are a critical part of a patient’s health care journey from diagnosis to treatment, and Albertans must be able to access them when and where they need them. That’s why we have directed Alberta Health Services to make changes right now.”

The new community lab in Strathmore was made available to patients as of Dec. 2022 in order to continue to provide local services to the community. This was to be a temporary site while DynaLIFE constructed their permanent location, which has yet to open.

In July, DynaLIFE stated there was no specific

opening date confirmed for the permanent laboratory services location in Strathmore, however upon opening, it is anticipated to double the capacity of the temporary site.

The announcement that Alberta Precision Laboratories would be taking over from DynaLIFE was released Aug. 18, with acknowledgement from the province that over the past several months, delays and wait times have made accessing laboratory services difficult.

According to the province, an agreement in principle has been reached with ownership of DynaLIFE to transfer staff, equipment and property in all regions of the province to Alberta Precision Laboratories.

“Lab services are crucial in the diagnosis and treatment of Albertans. It is wholly unacceptable that Albertans had to face long waits and delays to get simple blood work done,” said Smith. “I’ve been clear that improving our health care system is a top priority for our government and fixing these delays is one more step we’re taking to ensure Albertans can access the health care they need, when and where they need it, now and into the future.”

The province has stated all existing appointments and lab services will continue to be provided as schedules and additional patient capacity will be added as soon as possible. Booking ap-



The new lab services building is currently being constructed in Edgefield.
Mario Prusina Photo

pointments and receiving services will be through the same avenues and locations as previously.

DynaLIFE took over lab services from AHS in late 2022, when many hospitals’ priorities were shifted to focus on emergency, inpatient, and ambulatory patients.

Since the announcement of transfer of services, the Alberta NDP have called for a financial audit into DynaLIFE.

“We ask that you investigate the failure of private company DynaLIFE to fulfill its obligations to provide lab services and the cost of moving those services back into the public service through Alberta Precision Labs,” NDP Health Critic for Primary and Rural Care David Shephard wrote in a letter to auditor general Doug Wylie.

“All indications are that the decision around lab services made by the Government will cost Albertans dearly and we believe a great deal of trust has been broken with patients requiring — and deserving — quality lab services.”

The transition from DynaLIFE to Alberta Precision Laboratories is expected to be completed by December of this year.

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What a ride

Joe Lepage Photos

Wilson Rodeo hosted their annual Wheatland Charity Bullarama, presented by Heckya, on Aug. 26 at the Wilson Rodeo grounds. The Bull Riders Canada event featured some of the best riders on the circuit with all proceeds going to the Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation.



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Training time

The Strathmore Fire Department held a training session as part of their competency review to drive the ladder truck on Aug. 27. Drivers are required to have a Level 5Q license since all the vehicles have air brakes; however, in order to drive the larger ladder truck, drivers must have a Class 3 license.

Joe Lepage Photos

Cattle gone missing

STRATHMORE RCMP

RCMP is seeking assistance with identifying the person(s) responsible for a cattle theft in Wheatland County. Between the evening of Aug. 22 and the morning of Aug. 23, six longhorn cattle were removed from a pasture, located near Highway 564 and Range Road 262. It is believed the cattle were loaded and hauled from the location using a truck and trailer.

The cattle are described as a mix of red/black steers and heifers weighing ap-

proximately 600 pounds each. The animals had purple management tags as can be seen in the attached photographs and they were not branded.

Anyone with information as to who is responsible for this theft, please contact RCMP Livestock Investigations at 403-701-1462. 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 the Apple App or Google Play Store.

Obituary

OSTER, Scott Bradley
October 15, 1978
– August 18, 2023



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our beloved son and brother, Scott Bradley Oster. Scott passed away Friday, August 18, 2023, at the age of 44.

Scott was born in Drumheller, AB, and lived in Hussar, AB on his family farm. Scott grew up working on his family farm alongside his mom and dad. Outside of his love for farming, Scott loved riding his sled with his friends whenever possible. He loved ripping up those mountain peaks as well as boating, fishing, and hockey. He especially loved watching his nephew play hockey every chance he got. He also never passed up the chance to pull his nieces for hours behind his boat.

Scott was involved in a truck accident in 2001 leaving him paralyzed and in a wheelchair. Scott had many challenges and fought daily. He conquered his life with pride and determination every day.

Whenever we think about you Scott, we will remember your fight for life. We will also miss your great sense of humor. Many times, you had us questioning whether you were joking or not but your amazing smile always gave you away. You had a smile for everyone you met along the way Scott. While we cry and cry knowing that we will never see that smile again, we will all look back and remember the life that you had. We know you are smiling down on all of us.

Scott will be deeply missed by his parents Janet and Jerry; his sister and brother-in-law, Cindy and Lee; his nephew Travis; two nieces, Ciara, and Chelsey; his aunts and uncles, Ken (Karen), Jim (Sharon), and Cathi (Robin); his cousins, Dennis, David, Michael, Laura, Brittany, and Cendra; and numerous lifelong friends. Scott was predeceased by his grandparents Ben and Fern Oster, and Phyllis Dick and David Nagloren.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to all the care he received at the Peter Lougheed Intensive Care Unit, as well as all other medical personnel that cared for Scott throughout his life. Lastly, a very special thanks to Pastor Dan Hendrickson.

A Memorial Service will be planned at a later date after the family's harvest. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Scott's name to STARS (Shock Trauma and Rescue) at Box 570, 1441 Aviation Park NE Calgary, AB T2E 8 7, or at www.stars.ca. Photos, memories, and condolences may be shared with Scott's family through www.evanjstrong.com

COMING EVENT

EDMONTON COIN SHOW & SALE – September 16/17 2023, 10 am – 4:30 pm. Lions Centre 11113 – 113 Street, Edmonton. Free market evaluations. Dealers from across Canada, auctions, displays, coin striking. Family friendly. www.edmontoncoinclub.com

HELP WANTED

FULL TIME REPORTER/Photographer position in Hanna, Alta. with the local newspaper. More info: East Central Alberta Review, Joyce, 403-575-0090. Forward cover letter and resume to: publisher@ECAreview.com.

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required for a busy heavy duty shop in Strathmore. Duties include: setting up parts room, data entry, ordering parts, stocking shelves, etc. Wage depends on experience. Email resume to: stratmc@telus.net

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MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory of Jim Miller
Jan. 11, 1930 – Aug. 22, 2006



Dad, your enthusiasm for living, faith in God, and strong love for family and farming inspired us.

On your last day you worked with tarps on haystacks and looked forward to a family get-together the next day, but God had greater plans for you than any of us could imagine. We cherish the memories of work and good times with you, while we hope for the glorious day when we will meet again.

Love you forever,
Greg, Gladys, Jean, Will, Jessie,
Rowan and Naomi

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Now Hiring

WYN Community Coordinator

Position: 16-20 hours a week - 3-4 days a week

The Wheatland Youth Network (WYN) Community Coordinator will support the development of an Integrated Youth Hub for youth age 11-24 through collaborative events, community partnerships and youth engagement in Strathmore & Wheatland County.

For more information about the position visit crpcn.ca/careers/



Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



SUDOKU

6	3	8	5	2	9	1	4	7
5	9	1	8	7	4	2	3	6
7	2	4	6	1	3	8	9	5
9	7	6	1	4	2	5	8	3
8	4	2	3	5	6	7	1	9
3	1	5	9	8	7	4	6	2
4	5	3	7	9	1	6	2	8
1	8	9	2	6	5	3	7	4
2	6	7	4	3	8	9	5	1

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