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# TIMES

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 32

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Reds take gold

Page 13



Great concert

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Look on Page 16 for  
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## Super Stampede!

JOHN WATSON  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The 57th annual Strathmore Stampede turned out to be a smashing success over the Heritage Day's long weekend, Aug. 4-7.

Ryan Schmidt, president and CEO of the Strathmore Agricultural Society, said the team could not have asked for a better turnout for the weekend, nor for more ideal weather conditions to operate under.

"The weather has been just perfect, not too hot, not too cold, a little rainfall here and there to keep the dust down (and) we have never had such an incredible turnout for Strathmore Stampede," he said. "Numbers are up everywhere, people are enjoying themselves and having a wonderful time. We have so many volunteers coming out and the comments I have heard about the volunteers has just been amazing."

Schmidt added both headlining events taking place at the grandstand on Saturday, being the Running with the Bulls and the chuckwagon races were completely sold out, hitting the 5,000 persons capacity.

Significant growth was also observed on the Friday of the event, being up roughly 20 per cent from last year.

Speaking to new activities this year, Schmidt said the Heritage Towne activities were a big hit with Stampede-goers.

"The pig racing has been very popular and there were different stalls you could stop to learn about different trades like leatherworking, blacksmithing – we had the petting zoo, you could learn how to garden ... we are really moving this whole heritage zone towards an agricultural faire style," he said. "Next year, we want to bring in the chili cookoff – I have been pushing for that for a couple of years now."

The aim for the area, he explained, is to continue building on a very old-school style theme, showcasing fair activities from as far back as the 1920's for people to experience.

Similar to last year, the Strathmore Stampede team had to make two extra emergency beer runs, once on Saturday, and again on Sunday to keep up with how quickly attendees were going through cans.

Already looking ahead into next year, Schmidt was excited to announce Clint Black will be making an appearance at the Cowboy Town Concert. According to Schmidt, Black has not toured in Canada for approximately 25 years.

Additionally, next year will also see the completion of the infield suites adding to the experience for watching grandstand events for those wishing to book the rooms, as well as the rooftop patio.



### Championship ride!

Edgar Durazo took home the bull riding championship at the 2023 Strathmore Stampede held Aug. 4-7. Durazo, who calls nearby Speargrass home, rode Vold Rodeo's Wild Time to earn a score of 89.5 points on Day 3. His score held up as the championship ride, earning him two Strathmore Stampede titles in three years. For coverage of the Strathmore Stampede rodeo, see Pages 10-11.

Joe Lepage Photo



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The Strathmore Wheatland Chamber of Commerce hosted the annual Strathmore Stampede parade on Aug. 5. There were 89 entries taking part in the event, which brought out one of the best crowds in years.

Laureen James and Melissa Piche Photos

# Strathmore Stampede Parade 2023 a golden event

LAUREEN JAMES  
 Times Contributor

Strathmore Stampede Parade 2023 participants wowed crowds with their float decorating abilities and friendly smiles.

There were 89 float entries this year according to Mary Lynne Martens, who was judging on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce. The other three judges were Erin Stewart of Canadian Gypsum, Carlee McIssac of CM Maps and Socials, and Eric Heuver of Eagle Lake Turf Farms Ltd.

"This year is the 50th anniversary of the Strathmore Ag Society and parade participants were encouraged to deck out their floats to represent the 50-year anniversary's golden theme," said Martens.

The Strathmore Wheatland Chamber of Commerce organized the event and had their work cut out for them when it came to judging. The judging was based on criteria such as expression of the

theme, originality, workmanship and overall appearance.

Kai He, who moved to Strathmore with his family two weeks ago, said he enjoyed his first parade.

"We enjoyed the parade very much," said He. "It was our first parade in Canada."

Parade-goers started lining the streets well before 9 a.m. on Saturday and the crowds really enjoyed the colorful floats and entertainment. The four judges had to be quick to judge each entry as they passed by and gave bonus points based on how an entry encouraged the crowd with smiles, cheering and their excitement of being in the parade.

Extra points could also be earned if their float was entirely decorated, including the tow vehicles, floats and participants.

Strathmore residents are asked to keep an eye on the Strathmore Chamber of Commerce, as well as the Town of Strathmore's social pages and websites where the winners will be announced.



**Enjoying the party!**

Many local businesses and community groups hosted plenty of events during the Strathmore Stampede weekend. Many were either a breakfast or BBQ lunch/dinner, while Origin Brewing hosted their birthday bash. Some of the places holding an event were Fueling Brains Academy, the Strathmore Legion, Lord of all Lutheran Church, Magnum Services, Remedy RX, Siksika Early Intervention, Strathmore Ford, Origin Brewing, Royal Lepage, Martin Shields hot dog fundraiser, Trellis and Strathmore Dodge.

Joe Lepage and Melissa Piche Photos

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**YOUR WEEKLY HEALTH ADVICE**  
Gord Morck Pharmacist  
**Capsule Comments**

How's your sugar consumption? A British meta-study (an analysis of 79 other studies) analyzed sugar and its relation to health. Conclusions were that higher sugar intake was linked to a greater risk of more than 45 health problems including obesity in kids, high blood pressure, coronary heart disease and depression. Diabetes Canada recommends Canadians limit their intake of added sugar to 10% of their total calorie intake. If you eat a 2000 calorie diet, that's a maximum of 50 grams (about 12.5 tsp) of free sugar per day. Read the food labels.

Modern DNA analysis of a few hairs taken from locks of Beethoven's hair, has brought to light some of the medical problems the composer had to endure. As well as liver injury and some kidney problems, the analysis noted symptoms of Paget's disease of the bone. Also, on autopsy, the nerves along the auditory canal were thickened resulting in his deafness in the latter part of his life.

Genetic testing is being used more often to detect risk of some cancers. If your family medical history includes breast cancer for example, you might qualify for gene testing. A positive result doesn't necessarily mean you will get breast cancer. And a negative result will not guarantee you won't get it. But a positive DNA test will alert patient and doctor to be more vigilant about any breast cancer symptoms in the future.

Further to this, Canadian women generally have a 12% chance of developing breast cancer. If genetic testing shows a patient is carrying the BRCA gene mutation, the risk increases to 70%. Genetic testing is becoming an integral part of cancer diagnosis and treatment.

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# Sacred Heart Church officially breaks ground

**JOHN WATSON**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Though construction had already begun, Tuesday, Aug. 1 marked the official groundbreaking for the new Sacred Heart Church which is being established in Strathmore.

The new place of worship is being constructed from the bones of the old IGA building, which previously served as a grocery store before closing down.

Nettie Hendricks, fundraising chair for the Sacred Heart Church, said the process has been a rollercoaster of emotions attempting to raise \$10 million for the project, and now to see it finally beginning to take shape.

"We fundraise, we know it is not enough, prices go up, the new hit of COVID-19, fundraising stopped, and so with all those cycles, all the progress stops, starts, and then you lose some of the enthusiasm," she said. "Then, something good happens and all of a sudden you are just going again. So, getting the green light two weeks ago from the Diocese that we were a go to start with construction has been awesome."

Thus far, approximately \$6 million has been raised for the establishment of the church out of the project's \$10 million total estimated budget.

The church is anticipating to stomach a \$1.5 million mortgage on the building, though is hoping through continued donations to the project, that number will come down.

"That is still a heavy load for a small community like Strathmore to carry, so all the fundraising will continue as we go through construction," said Hendricks.

The previous church at which members of Sacred Heart would gather was shut down nearly two decades ago due to health concerns regarding the building.

Since then, members have been gathering to worship in gymnasiums of Catholic schools in order to host services.



Community members celebrated the official groundbreaking of the new Sacred Heart Church being developed in Strathmore, Aug. 1. The new church is expected to see completion in 2024, located at the site of the old IGA building.

John Watson Photo

"The good thing is that in this journey of moving ahead, people have realized that we should not be attached to bricks and mortar, we should be attached to each other," said Hendricks. "Everybody was all gung-ho, we were all moving forward, and then when COVID-19 came, we were not allowed to do fundraising, we were not allowed to have groups, so everything became quiet. It was like the fire was almost out."

The overall build project is expected to take 10 months, breaching the goal stated in March 2022 of having an operational church by the end of 2023.

Come project completion in 2024, the church could also serve as a commercial kitchen for Strathmore's low-income and homeless community who are not able to make ends meet, and who need a little extra help.

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### Golden weekend!

After dropping their first game of provincials, the Strathmore Reds went undefeated the rest of the way as they hosted the U13 AA Tier 2 Provincial Championship in Langdon Aug. 4-6. The Reds went 3-1 in the round robin before beating the Calgary Cardinals in the final.

Joe Lepage Photo

Team Photo Courtesy of the Strathmore Reds

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# MLA Chantelle de Jonge named Parliamentary Secretary

JOHN WATSON  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Chestermere-Strathmore MLA Chantelle de Jonge was recently appointed Parliamentary Secretary for Affordability and Utilities, and will be reporting to Minister Nathan Neudorf, of the same ministry.

The province announced her appointment on July 13, to which de Jonge declined to comment on immediately following, until she had “settled into her new position.”

A couple of weeks later, de Jonge said she is excited to be working with her teams both in the constituency, as well as across the province.

“I am honoured by my appointment by the premier to this role. Affordability was a really top concern I was hearing out the doors from the constituents of Chestermere-Strathmore, and all of Alberta during the election,” she said. “I am really excited to get to work in this new position with Minister Neudorf and make Alberta an even better place to live, work in, and raise a family.”

De Jonge added she intends to immediately begin working with Neudorf to push back against federal regulations

attempting to reach a net zero power grid by 2035, instead favouring power that is “reliable and affordable.”

She did not comment regarding provincial investment into clean and renewable energy sources, though the province has recently launched grant funding opportunities into the hydrogen sector.

The ministry will also be exploring the potential phase out of the regulated rate auction for electricity, with the goal to “protect consumers from spikes in electricity and natural gas prices.”

A specific focus is being directed towards housing and utilities, food costs and insurance, with the goal to be able to reduce the cost of living for Albertans.

“This is my first time holding public office, so of course that part of the job is new, but I am no stranger to advocacy and no stranger to working to better communities,” said de Jonge. “Specifically on the file that I serve on as parliamentary secretary, I do have academic experience in utilities and economics, and it is that understanding that is so important to put forward good policies to the benefit of Albertans and ensuring that life does remain affordable.”

She added for both her constituents, as well as folks throughout the province to be on the lookout over the next few months for announcements in regards to local affordability.

De Jonge particularly praised the province’s investments into affordable housing for low-income Albertans, funding designated for the Every Kid Can Play program, and the extension of the fuel tax until the end of this year.

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**Thought for the Week**

~

*When you make a new friend, you open the door to all kinds of growth because of all the possibilities that person brings to your life.*

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## Local hits the stage

MELISSA PICHE  
Times Contributor

Strathmore’s own Robin Murray is starring in the production of *Ride the Cyclone*, the Musical, set to hit the stage at various times between Aug. 11-26.

Presented by Brown Cow Collective – a Calgary-based theatre company – the show will be held at the DM Maschke Farms in Olds, Alta.

Murray, who plays the role of Mischa, a Ukrainian rapper, also took part in the company’s show *Hair, the Musical*.

*Ride the Cyclone* will run nightly Aug. 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 24, 25 and 26 at 8 p.m., while the 2 p.m. matinees will run Aug. 12, 13, 19 and 20.

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# Legacy Barn hosts Premier, UCP members

**JOHN WATSON**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Legacy Barn in Strathmore was excited to be hosting Premier Danielle Smith, as well as members of the United Conservative Party (UCP) for a private event and party fundraiser on Aug. 5. Helping spearhead the fundraiser was newly elected Chestermere-Strathmore MLA, Chantelle de Jonge.

Scott Silva, director of business development for the Legacy Farm project, said the event loosely tied into the Strathmore Stampede, as it was occurring simultaneously with the UCP's meeting, and the team was happy to welcome members of the party.

"We want to give a big thank you to the Town of Strathmore, they were the ones that had started the dialogue with Chantelle ... in the end, because it is a political event, Chantelle and her organization had to reach out to us directly," he said. "We were very excited to be working with them on this first fundraising after her new election, and we were also looking forward to hosting the Premier ... have her down at the barn and show off a piece of Alberta history."

Silva described the event as a "bit of a mix and mingle" for party members, both elected and pe-

destrian, and both about bringing together the local region and community, as well as to showcase support for the Premier and MLA de Jonge.

The barn had been set up in order to accommodate roughly 200 people, with the ability to grow beyond that, should the need have arisen.

Tickets were on sale prior to the start of the event, which was advertised as an opportunity for members to have a good time slightly away from the Strathmore Stampede for a while to interact with their fellow party members.

"We love bringing attention to (the barn). The tourism destination is something that we are rapidly developing, so by this time next year, we are hoping that it will be more operational for families and young agronomists, and agriculturalists who are excited to come down and learn and be inspired," said Silva. "It is really good to have everybody there, bring that attention to the barn and everything that we are doing. Of course, the barn is more than just a piece of history, we host a lot of different events ... and we want to be able to do more."

Those who are not currently members of the UCP but who maintain an interest in becoming so are able to sign up online. Membership to the party will grant access to similar events and meetings hosted in the future.



## Live performance

Ken Stobbe got fans into the Stampede spirit when he performed live at the steps of the Vault Cultural Collective on Aug. 3. Stobbe played some old country and a bunch of 50's and 60's tunes to the crowd and passersby.

Joe Lepage Photo

# Town Councillor facing multiple criminal charges

**JOHN WATSON**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Town of Strathmore Coun. Jason Montgomery has been charged with sexual assault, publication of an intimate image without consent, extortion, and criminal harassment.

A publication ban protecting the identity of the alleged victim is in place. A document relating to the victim's status which was anonymously posted to a public Facebook group, Tuesday, Aug. 1, was removed minutes following publication.

The Town of Strathmore released a written statement, also to Facebook, Aug. 2, indicating its awareness regarding the charges against Montgomery.

"The town has been made aware that there are charges against Councillor Jason Montgomery. The town must respect the judicial process and let it run its course, including respecting the publication ban that the court has issued in this matter," the statement read. "The town has received inquiries regarding the eligibility of the Councillor. Councillor eligibility is governed by provincial legislation, specifically the Local Authorities Election Act (Sections 21 and 22) and the Municipal Government Act (Section 174)."

The statement concluded, adding the town is unavailable to comment further on the matter.

Applicable mentions in this context from the Municipal Government Act, Section 174, Subsection E, state Montgomery may be disqualified as a councillor if he is convicted of an offense punishable by imprisonment for five or more years, or if he is deemed guilty of an offense(s) under Section 123, 124, and/or 125 of the Criminal Code of Canada.

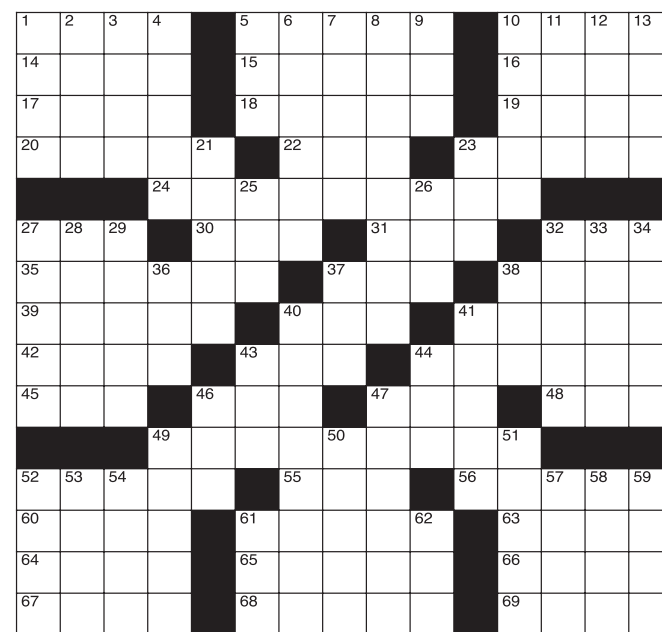
Sections 123, 124, and 125 of the Criminal Code of Canada do not apply to the offenses Montgomery is accused of, therefore removal from service on council will be applicable should he be convicted for imprisonment for five or more years.

The Local Authorities Election Act Sections 21 and 22 describe ineligibility for nomination to become a councillor.

In regards to the Municipal Government Act, Montgomery would be restricted from re-election if he is declared disqualified by a judge to hold the office of a councillor, as noted in Section 24(1), Subsection B.

Montgomery is scheduled to appear in Strathmore Provincial Court next on Aug. 15. Court sessions on that day will begin opening at 9:30 a.m.

The Strathmore Times has requested a search for information from the courts and has not yet received access to the relevant public documents.



## CLUES ACROSS

- 1. A way to pick up
- 5. Presents
- 10. Type of guitar
- 14. Actor Idris
- 15. A citizen of Iran
- 16. Creative
- 17. Harness
- 18. Weight unit
- 19. You better call him
- 20. Utterly devoted
- 22. Male cat
- 23. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- 24. Risk-taker
- 27. A team's best pitcher
- 30. Cool!
- 31. Women's \_\_\_ movement
- 32. Georgia rockers
- 35. Step-shaped recess
- 37. The princess could detect its presence
- 38. Type of truck
- 39. Butterhead lettuces
- 40. Angry people see it
- 41. Lines where two fabrics are sewn together
- 42. Soviet city
- 43. Carpet
- 44. Traveled all over
- 45. Thin, straight bar
- 46. Body art (slang)
- 47. Congressman (abbr.)
- 48. No seats available
- 49. Breaks apart
- 52. Arabic name
- 55. Ballplayer's tool
- 56. Type of sword
- 60. Baseball team
- 61. Upper bract of grass floret
- 63. Italian Seaport
- 64. Ancient Syrian city
- 65. Shoelace tube
- 66. The Miami mascot is one
- 67. South American nation
- 68. Popular video game "Max \_\_\_"
- 69. Body part

## CLUES DOWN

- 1. German courtesy title
- 2. Ancient Greek City
- 3. Ancient Hebrew calendar month
- 4. Long-legged frog family
- 5. Photo
- 6. Delivered a speech
- 7. Lute in classical Indian music
- 8. Decorated
- 9. Take a seat
- 10. Belonging to a bottom layer
- 11. Member of a Semitic people
- 12. Part of a ticket
- 13. Defunct Guinean money
- 21. Challenges
- 23. Popular BBQ food
- 25. Subway dweller
- 26. By way of
- 27. Shady garden alcove
- 28. Egyptian city
- 29. Partner to "flowed"
- 32. Widens
- 33. Old Eurasian wheat
- 34. Act incorrectly
- 36. European pipeline
- 37. Al Bundy's wife
- 38. Ocean
- 40. Root eaten as a vegetable
- 41. Sound units
- 43. Style of music
- 44. A way to drench
- 46. Hot beverage
- 47. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
- 49. Rumanian city
- 50. Urge to action
- 51. Vaccine developer
- 52. Canadian law enforcers
- 53. Wings
- 54. "Perry Mason" actor Raymond
- 57. Small fry
- 58. \_\_\_ Clapton, musician
- 59. Take a chance
- 61. Bland food
- 62. Consumed

# STRATHMORE TIMES

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The Times welcomes letters to the editor for publication. All submissions must be signed and a phone number included for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, legal considerations and taste. Please try and keep your letters under 400 words to ensure that it will appear as close to its original form as possible.

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## Running With the Bulls

The Strathmore Stampede hosted their 20th annual Running With the Bulls on Aug 5-6. New to the event this year were fireworks, a best dressed competition, and the bulls charging contestants from two directions simultaneously. Denise Slugggett of Strathmore and Geoff Burndred of Chestermere won their respective runs on Saturday and Sunday, each walking away \$1,000 richer.

Melissa Piche, Jody Schneider, Joe Lepage and John Watson Photos

# 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.

- August 15: Council Meeting
- August 22: Municipal Planning Commission
- August 22: Public Presentation Committee

To join the call, dial 403-917-1764 and enter the PIN 47001 when prompted. Agenda packages can be found on our website.

## MANAGED GRAZING STRATEGIES ON NATIVE GRASSLAND FIELD TOUR

### GEM HALL & GEM COMMUNITY PASTURE

16 AUGUST 2023  
11:45AM - 4:00PM

#### Topics include:

- Producer Funding update
- Considerations when grazing Native Grassland
- Rotational Grazing Strategies
- Tour of the Gem Community Pasture
- \*Optional tour of pasture grazing under pivots at Gemstone Cattle Co after the event\*

#### Speakers include:

- Mike Roberts, Manager of the Waldron Ranch
- Daniel Doerksen, Gem Grazing Association

Cost (includes lunch):  
FFGA Member: \$15 / Non-Member: \$20

www.foothillsforage.com/nativegrassland



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

## Careers with Wheatland County

Available opportunities include:

- Records and Information Management Specialist  
Closes August 21, 2023



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wheatlandcounty.ca/careers/

## PUBLIC PRESENTATION COMMITTEE

- August 22, 2023
- November 14, 2023

Community groups, stakeholders, and individuals may request to present at a Public Presentation Committee (PPC) meeting. To request the opportunity to present to Council at PPC, please visit our website.

https://wheatlandcounty.ca/public-presentation-committee/

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## REGISTER NOW!



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# Two new Running With the Bulls winners crowned

**JOHN WATSON**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore Stampede saw two new winners during the annual Running With the Bulls chosen over the course of the weekend, each walking home \$1,000 richer and with a shiny new belt buckle.

Denise Sluggett, hailing from Strathmore, took home the prize Saturday night, and Geoff Burndred, from Chestermere, won it on Sunday.

"I love it. I have done this event probably eight or nine times, took a few years off and got coaxed into doing it again, and here (I am) winning it this year," said Sluggett. "My kid is a professional bull rider and he was like, 'you have to go, you have to go around with the bulls.'"

Burndred on the other hand, joined the event for the first time this weekend on a whim, as he was out celebrating his mother's birthday.

"I found out I could sign up to do this, so it was kind of last minute and on a whim, and I had a good time doing it," he said. "I feel a little rough, but

pretty good. I am a little out of breath, that last bull caught me off guard and I might be a little sore tomorrow."

Sluggett added after having taken a bit of a hiatus from the event, she was more than happy to return to the ring and give it another go alongside the other runners.

She added she likely plans to use her winnings to pay off her credit card and get some debts settled.

Burndred, "a country boy at heart," said he will absolutely be returning in future years to run with the bulls again.

"It hurt more than I thought it would ... I have watched it before, I have seen people do it, but being down here on the grounds, having them run at you is way different than being up in the stands. I'm going to try to get hit so I can win," he joked. "I do not have eyes in the back of my head, it seemed like I was going back and forth and looking (at) what was behind me and what was in front of me. The bulls kind of come out of nowhere and they are quick."

Burndred plans to likely use his winnings to take his mother on a vacation for her 67th birthday.

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# at the RODEO

One of Canada's largest rodeos took place Aug. 4-7 during the 2023 Strathmore Stampede. The four-day event featured some of the best rodeo stars from all over Canada and USA.

Joe Lepage and  
Veronica Heinen Photos



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# Danger doesn't deter Durazo

LAURENCE HEINEN  
Times Contributor

Seeing his fellow competitors getting bucked off their bulls didn't deter Edgar Durazo from doing his job on Sunday.

As the last competitor out of the chutes on the third afternoon of the 2023 Strathmore Stampede rodeo, Durazo watched on as eight of his fellow riders were thrown off of their bovine counterparts.

"They do a great job bringing in a rank pen of bulls," said Durazo, who subsequently went jump-for-jump with Vold Rodeo's Wild Time to earn a score of 89.5 points from the judges. "If you get one ride like just now, it's huge. He's an outstanding bull and really fun to ride."

Stock contractor Nansen Vold was pleased to see Durazo succeed atop one of his prized bulls.

"When Edgar gets on, he's one of the best guys I know," said Vold, who was also happy to watch his other bulls get the better of Durazo's competition. "We had the best bulls we got here. That's what we shoot for at this Strathmore rodeo."

Durazo knew that his wild ride would be good enough to win his second Strathmore Stampede title.

"You know if you rode one of Nansen's, you're going to win," said the 31-year-old thrill seeker, who also won in Strathmore in 2021 before finishing second behind Jordan Hansen last year.

Following the completion of the four-day rodeo on Monday, Durazo's performance atop Wild Time did, indeed, stand up as the winning score to earn him a payday of \$7,547.26

Originally from Moctezuma, Sonora, Mexico, Durazo now makes his home in the community surrounding Speargrass Golf Course, which is just a 15-minute drive south of Strathmore.

"It's my hometown rodeo now," Durazo proclaimed. "I've got to know a lot of people over the years. I'm in love with this town. We're more than grateful to be here."

While Durazo won for the second time, bareback rider Clint Laye scored 87.75 points atop Dancing Queen on Monday to add another Strathmore Stampede title to the ones he won in 2019 and 2021.

"I really like the atmosphere here," said Laye, of Cadogan, Alta., whose impressive performance boosted his bank account by \$5,685.12. "It's pretty traditional. They treat the cowboys re-

ally good here and always have good crowds. They've got the best stock. This is my favourite rodeo in Canada, for sure."

After seeing Texas cowboy Rocker Steiner score 87.25 points aboard Fancy, Laye knew he had to up his game when he got aboard Dancing Queen in the chutes.

"Oh yeah, that fired me up," said Laye, whose performance vaulted him into the lead ahead of both Steiner and Strawbs Jones, of Duffield, Alta. "With the group of guys just getting ready today and the lineup of horses, I knew it was going to be fun and lots of good bareback riding. I love that about this sport."

Like Durazo, Logan Hay won his first title in Strathmore in 2021 and followed it up with a second-place showing last year.

The saddle-bronc rider replicated Durazo's feat this year by winning his second crown thanks to his stellar 89-point ride on Monday atop Elvira, which earned him a cheque for \$6,632.64.

"Strathmore's been a great rodeo for me ever since my rookie year," said Hay, whose brother Dawson won the saddle-bronc event in Strathmore in 2019. "I've always had luck here. I haven't been under 87 points ever since I've been here so it's been a great rodeo for me."

"Usually, I've done well in Strathmore and I can kind of keep it rolling for the rest of the year. I love it and it's definitely one of my favorite rodeos."

Similar to Durazo, Beau Cooper had to wait until Monday night to find out if his performance on Sunday was good enough to win it all in Strathmore.

Cooper, of Stettler, Alta., stopped the clock in a respectable time of 8.3 seconds to take the lead in the tie-down roping competition and his time managed to stand up as the best of the four-day show to earn him \$6,218.10.

"It's pretty cool to be here at home in Alberta and have a lot of success," said Cooper, who also won the Calgary Stampede tie-down roping title in mid-July. "It's been crazy since about the middle of June. I've had more success than I've ever had. I can't thank anybody but my family and my horse (Seven). It's all God's plan what he wants to happen. I'm just having so much fun and loving life and loving rodeo right now."

Meanwhile, Harley Cole, of nearby Okotoks, Alta., won his first steer-wrestling title in Strathmore by virtue of his

3.5-second clocking on Monday.

"It hasn't been going my way lately except for today," said Cole, who was happy to take home \$6,345 for his efforts. "What a place for it to happen for me."

Saskatchewan-based team ropers Brady Chappel of Moose Jaw and Tee McLeod of Waldeck roped their calf in five seconds flat on Monday to earn them a payday of \$4,779.90 each.

Chelsea Moore, of Pouce Coupe, B.C., stopped the clock in 2.8 seconds to finish as the top ladies breakaway roping competitor to take home \$2,732.58, while Stevi Hillman, of Grandbury, Tex., set the standard of

17.06 seconds in the ladies barrel racing event to win \$6,890.20.

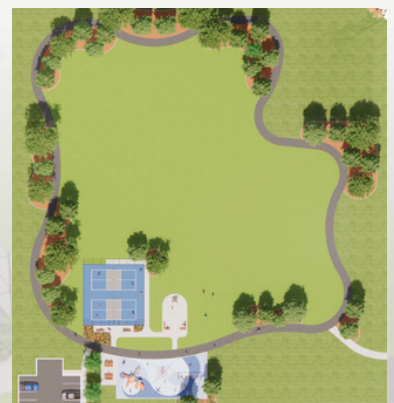
William Hale, of Bassano, Alta., posted a score of 71.25 points to win the boys steer-riding competition and a payday of \$1,416.20.

"It feels pretty good," Hale said. "I've been waiting to come to this for awhile."

Meanwhile, Denver Leitch, of Grimshaw, Alta., won the novice bareback event with a score of 69 points to take home \$900.16 and James Perin, of Maple Creek, Sask., defended his novice saddle bronc title thanks to a 76-point ride, which earned him \$990.18.



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The Top 36 drivers in the World Professional Chuckwagon Association brought their horses and wagons to the Strathmore Stampede Aug. 4-7. Ross Knight was crowned the 2023 Strathmore Stampede champion after posting a four-day best aggregate time of 5:02.06, which was 2.65 seconds faster than fellow rider Chad Fike.

Joe Lepage and John Watson Photos

# Knight crowned as newest Strathmore Stampede champion

LAURENCE HEINEN  
Times Contributor

Ross Knight knew what he had to do.

Heading into the final day of racing at the Strathmore Stampede, Knight was leading fellow chuckwagon driver Chad Fike by slightly more than a second (1.01 to be exact) atop the aggregate standings.

"I just had to stay clean and be ahead of Chad," said Knight, who did just that as he finished third in Monday afternoon's seventh heat in a speedy time of 1:14.77 aboard his Premium Ag Solutions wagon, while Fike and his Tim's Glass outfit placed fourth in 1:16.43.

By virtue of his performance, Knight was crowned the 2023 Strathmore Stampede champion after posting the best four-day aggregate time of 5:02.06, which was 2.65 seconds faster than Fike (who held on for a second-place showing).

"It's always great to win and Strathmore's such a good show to win," said Knight, whose last victory on the World Professional Chuckwagon Association circuit was back in early July of last year when he edged out Jordie Fike by 5/100ths of a second to prevail in the Tommy Dorchester Championship Dash For Cash at the 2022 Ponoka Stampede.

Knight credited the fact that he had two solid outfits, which he alternated throughout the show.

"The boys really went good the first night and gave us a nice jump on the show," said Knight in regards to the outfit that won him day money on both Friday and Sunday. "They're really running three wide, so I'm pretty happy with them."

The other combination of horses he used also didn't disappoint as they finished 12th on Saturday before placing fourth overall on Monday.

A trio of former Strathmore Stampede champions in Jason Glass, Kurt Bensmiller and Obrey Motowylo finished in third, fourth and fifth respectively in the aggregate standings. While Glass prevailed at the popular show in 2014 and 2015, Bensmiller has won chuckwagon championships in Strathmore in 2012, 2018, 2019 and 2022. Meanwhile, Motowylo has one show title to his credit, which he won back in 2009.

Off barrel No. 4 in the first heat aboard his JT Equipment Corp. wagon, Brad McMann posted Monday afternoon's fastest time of 1:14.47 and won day money by 25/100ths of a second over the duo of

Wade Salmond (Burnra Welding Ltd.) and Rae Croteau Jr. (Tomco Group of Companies), who finished in a dead heat at the finish line in Heat 7 just ahead of Knight.

After his first Strathmore Stampede victory, Knight praised the efforts of his outriders – 32-year-old veteran Chance Flad and 17-year-old rookie Jory Bronken.

"I've got the oldest guy on the grounds," Knight joked in regards to Flad, who's also a formidable driver as he proved by finishing 10th overall in the aggregate standings. "He's unbelievable. He never makes a mistake. He's probably the best outrider out there. Jory just started riding (this year), so this is only his third show and he's doing really good. I hope he continues."

For his part, Bronken said he was grateful just to be a part of Knight's winning performance in Strathmore.

"It is unreal," said Bronken of capturing his first-ever outriding buckle. "I don't know how to compare it to anything. Obviously having Chance Flad riding with me, Casey Knight as my mentor and Ross, it definitely paid off really well."

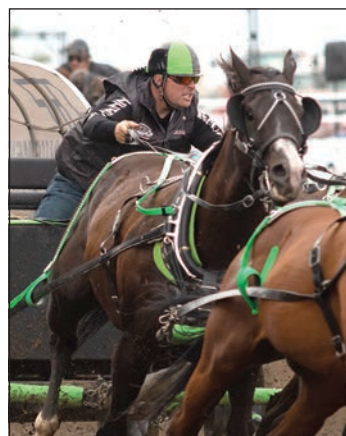
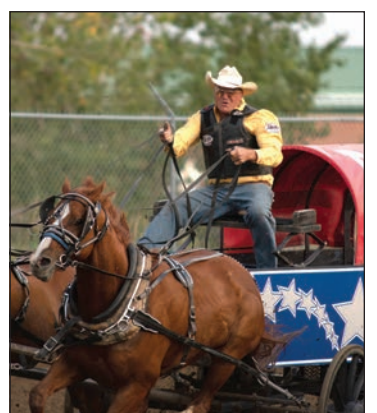
From the perspective of an experienced outrider like Flad, Bronken definitely hasn't looked out of place during his limited time on the WPCA Pro Tour.

"It's good to see a new kid coming up and getting the job done," said Flad, who doesn't mind outriding for Knight even though he's primarily focusing on his exploits as a driver this season. "He's got the nerves. It's just his third show, but he's doing well. He's kept it all together for this show and hopefully it keeps going forward for him."

After a quick one-day break, the WPCA Pro Tour will resume with the Battle of the North in Dawson Creek, B.C., from Wednesday to Sunday.

Following the Battle of the Rockies in Rocky Mountain House, Alta., from Aug. 17-20, the Top 12 drivers in the WPCA standings will have a chance to vie for bragging rights at the Century Downs World Finals from Aug. 23-27 at Century Downs Racetrack and Casino just north of Calgary.

"It's nice to come back to Rocky and then it's a short trip into Century," said Knight, who's currently sitting ninth in the World Standings behind Jamie Laboucane, Chase Vigen, Glass, Wade Salmond, Layne MacGillivray, Bensmiller, Motowylo and Chad Fike. "It makes life a little easier. Then we're done, so it's kind of depressing."





Joe Lepage Photos

### Free concert

Hope Bridges Society hosted a free intimate music concert with Lewis Frere on Aug. 1 at the Hope Community Covenant Church. Frere played a variety of old-time rock, country and classic rock as he urged the audience to sing along.



# Town releases 2022 annual report

**JOHN WATSON**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore, in compliance with the Municipal Government Act (MGA), has released its annual report for 2022, presenting an overview of its financial statements.

Each municipality is required to develop an annual report, which is submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. Scott Garnett, the Town's marketing coordinator, said the report is a comprehensive representation of the previous year for the town.

"It is a good representation of all the things that the town is up to at any given year ... it is our stats, our perfor-

mance metrics and our highlights," he said. "We store a lot of data at the town ... and we work hard every day to keep track of the things that we do because we are accountable to the public and we want to make sure that they know they are in good hands and we are working hard for their tax dollars."

The report also details the town's organizational structure both in regards to council, as well as its operational departments.

Producing the document, Garnett added, was a collaborative effort between the marketing and communications team, himself, and the finance team, with data contributions from across the town's departments.

"Our five-year financials are in there, so you can see our performance every year and how we are doing with the town's finances. Those are in the back and they can be pretty dry sometimes, but we make it available," said Garnett. "You do not really think about it every day - you think about the road you drive on, the lights being on and the cul-de-sac you live in and the pool you swim in, but there are a lot of things that happen behind the scenes and a lot of operational things and numerical data that adds up very quickly. We like to keep track of it and it shows the complexity of the town."

The town's Statistics Canada census profile is also included within the re-

port, which was initially created by the federal government and skimmed down to simply present information specific to the Town of Strathmore.

Ultimately, he explained, the town is a "creature of the province" and must be maintained at minimum according to their standards set out within the Municipal Government Act in order to continue to exist as an incorporated municipality.

The annual report document for 2022 is made publicly available through the town's website. Anyone who may have questions may get in touch with the town's communications team and will be directed to the proper department to be answered appropriately.

# New season set to start

**MELISSA PICHE**  
Times Contributor

The Strathmore Community Football Association (SCFA) is gearing up to start their 2023 season on Aug. 14 and president Doug Thiessen is anticipating a large player turnout.

The program is designed for anyone aged 10 through high school aged who want to play football. Kids as young as nine are able to participate in practices only and are encouraged to come out and take part.

"Games are on Saturdays," said Thiessen. "We practice Monday to Thursday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m." at the Crowther Memorial Junior High School football field.

All the gear is supplied aside from their cleats; however, if a player was in need of a pair, they have many donated lightly used cleats. Bussing to away games is provided to all players. From a financial perspective the football program offers players and their families the best bang for their buck as the registration cost has been kept fairly low compared to other organized sports.

"In our best year we were up to 35 kids in the

peewee program and 25 kids in bantam," said Thiessen. "COVID hurt us and we want to get those numbers back up because it's much easier and more fun to play when you have more teammates."

Thiessen says last season the numbers were looking better with close to 28 in peewee and about 20 in bantam.

"To me, I always say football is the ultimate team sport in that everybody is needed. We take every type of body and put them to use and everybody is important to the success of the team," he said. "It teaches really good teamwork and tends to teach some discipline. For a lot of kids, it teaches leadership as they develop into their roles as we get the experienced kids to help with the inexperienced kids."

The association is on top of injury prevention and concussion protocol as their team trainers are qualified to handle these situations.

"The training has changed over the years to remove more of the head from contact," said Thiessen. "I'm not saying there aren't injuries, but it is very controlled and we are very cognizant of the concerns around injuries, especially head in-

juries."

A huge part of the SCFA fundraising is through their highly anticipated badger discount card. The players will again be canvassing the streets of Strathmore in September. The cards are \$20 each and basically pay for themselves after the first use at many local businesses.

The organization fundraises for things like bussing, maintaining equipment and field upkeep.

The association was formed in 1998 when the senior (high school aged) team was started at the Strathmore High School. The bantam program was established in 2000 and the pee wee program followed in 2009.

Thiessen has been part of the program in either a coaching capacity, board member role, or as both for 13 years. Thiessen is also a ref for football, and when he isn't coaching the peewee program here in Strathmore, he can be found traveling around Alberta heading to the next football field as a referee.

As with many youth organized sports, volunteers are essential to the organization.

"We're always open to people that want to volunteer," he said. "We can also help people that want to ref or learn to ref. There's always (an) opportunity for refs to get trained up and take the courses."

For more information, people can visit the SCFA website ([www.scfabadgers.ca](http://www.scfabadgers.ca)) or contact Thiessen directly at 403-390-9303.

# RCMP work together

ALBERTA RCMP

RCMP Southern Alberta District Crime Reduction Unit (CRU), with the assistance of Calgary Police Service and Lethbridge Police Service, closed an investigation into 25 break and enters in Calgary, Lethbridge, and several RCMP rural communities, including Raymond, Coaldale, Vulcan, Strathmore and Diamond Valley.

The RCMP first became involved on June 10, when the suspect broke into a business in Diamond Valley.

The suspect would drive an electric scooter to all locations and then used an angle grinder or concrete saw to gain access to the ATM. It is believed he stole more than \$15,000 during all break-ins. On July 14, the suspect was caught in Calgary during a break and enter at a business on 16 Ave

in NW Calgary.

David Letourneau-Janveaux (30), a resident of Calgary, has been charged with seventy (70) offences, some of which include:

- break and enter to commit theft
- break and enter to commit mischief
- mischief over \$5,000
- theft over \$5,000
- possession of break-in instruments
- unauthorized possession of a motor vehicle
- possession of prohibited weapon
- possession of a firearm knowing it's possession was unauthorized
- unauthorized transport of a firearm

After a judicial interim release hearing, Letourneau-Janveaux was remanded into custody. His next RCMP court appearance is in Alberta Court of Justice in Calgary on Aug. 16.

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# Stampede Days



There were plenty of things to see and do on the fair grounds at the 2023 Strathmore Stampede. From food trucks to free concerts to a petting zoo, there was plenty going on besides the rodeo and chucks.

Joe Lepage, John Watson and Melissa Piche Photos



## TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

### LEGAL NOTICES

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any ONE with a prior, equal, or superior right, interest, CONDUCT, treaty or Convention in/to/for/of the NAME and property of: THU GIANG DOAN and/or DOAN, THU GIANG Estate, or: JENNIFER DOAN and/or DOAN, JENNIFER Estate, or: TYGRISS GABRIEL BLACK and/or BLACK, TYGRISS GABRIEL Estate in any style or variation thereof capable to confuse, suspend or clog said NAME, Title and/or Estate is hereby WARRANTED to present their said claim to Witness: Karen Dacanay, c/o: 604, 1010 1st Street SW, Calgary, Alberta, T2R 1K4 before expiration of twenty-eight (28) days of this first publishing of this Notice.

#### Notice to Creditors and Claimants

Estate of DORIS ANNE LANG who died on the April 14, 2023.

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by September 15, 2023.

with MULLEN & CO.  
Attention: PAUL S. MULLEN  
at 118, 8989 Macleod Tr SW,  
Calgary, AB  
T2H 0M2

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

### NOTICES

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### AUCTIONS

MEIER AUCTION SALE for Grant Patterson Saturday, August 12, 10 AM, 473041 Range Road 260 County of Wetaskiwin, Equipment, Power Tools, Horse Tack Visit www.meierauction.com for Details.

### COMING EVENT

FIREARMS WANTED FOR OUR 2023 AUCTION PROGRAM: Rifles, Shotguns, Handguns, Antiques, Militaria, Collections, Estates, Single Items. For Auction, or Possible Purchase: Toll-Free 1-800-694-2609, Email Us @ sales@switzersauction.com or Visit Us @ www.switzersauction.com.

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### HELP WANTED

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Please contact Steve Boake at 403-899-0057 for further details.

## Branch Manager Kneehill Soil Services Ltd.

We are an independent crop inputs retailer located in central Alberta with a well-established presence in our communities. with a proven track record of providing high quality products and services to our customers. We offer an excellent starting wage, performance bonus plan and group benefits package including health and dental plans. Our company is family focused with a history of great staff retention.

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Please email cover letter and resume to: [Kneelj@telus.net](mailto:Kneelj@telus.net)

Closing date: August 18, 2023

**TIMES CLASSIFIEDS**

*Obituary*



**LEE, Larry**

Larry Lee, 64, of Calgary, AB, passed away peacefully on July 31, 2023 at Apage Hospice. Larry grew up in Strathmore, and graduated from Samuel Crowther High School in 1977.

Predeceased by Father Gordon Lee, Grandmother Violet Wiseman, Mother Shirley Lee and survived by his wife of 32 years, Christine, and his 2 children Roger (Violeta) and Denise (Mike), and four Grandchildren, Rohelio, Siray, Liam, and Roger Jr. As well as his Sister Linda Lee (Larry Chase), Sister Laurie Tanton (Ken Tanton), and Brother Lorne Lee (Marbry Lee) and Aunt Eva Thomas and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Larry's Life will be held at McInnis & Holloway (Fish Creek, 14441 Bannister Road SE, Calgary, AB) on Friday, August 11, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. Reception to follow in the Hospitality Centre at the Funeral Home. Condolences, memories, and photos may be shared and viewed with Larry's family at [www.MHFH.com](http://www.MHFH.com).



McInnis & Holloway  
403-243-8200

*Obituary*



**MCKINNEY, James Daniel (JD)**

1991-2023

It is with great sadness that the family of James Daniel McKinney (JD) announce his sudden passing on Aug 4, 2023 at the age of 31. J.D. will be lovingly remembered by his children, Ryder and Aryah

Mckinney and their mother, Shyra Butler, mom, Joanne Mckinney, his sister, Nicole Mckinney (William Camden), brother, Shawn Mckinney, grandmother, Barbara Dobson, his father James Mckinney, grandfather, Leslie Mckinney, uncle, Allan Dobson and aunt, Elaine Topola (Jerry Topola), his friend Jenn Durocher, and his extended family and friends. He was predeceased by his grandfather, George Dobson, uncle, Steven (Jimmy) Dobson and his grandmother Cecile Mckinney.

JD was born in Calgary, AB Dec 11, 1991, and spent his life in Strathmore, AB. That is where he established many friendships and everlasting connections. JD was truly one of a kind he never judged and would give you the shirt off his back without any question. He had the ability to light up any room he walked in and could make any moment better with his old soul presence. He had a love for working on vehicles, rain, snow or shine he would be outside improving his ride. His proudest moment was the birth of his children, Ryder (Ryd Ryd) and Aryah (Ya Ya).

In May 2010 he was involved in a motor vehicle accident, and he endured numerous injuries, including a severe brain injury, and he battled the pain throughout his adult life. Despite his difficulties, he always saw the positive aspects in life, and was always kind, compassionate, and humorous.

You were truly blessed if you were lucky enough to be loved by him.

A celebration of life will be held at the Lutheran Church in Strathmore, Friday August 11 @ 11:00. We would like everyone to join us afterwards for refreshments, snacks, and memories. (Details to be provided at the service)

In lieu of flowers a donation can be made in JD's name to Mental Health and Addiction Donate In Memory | [cmha.calgary.ab.ca](http://cmha.calgary.ab.ca) or stop by your local drugstore and pick up a Narcan kit-save a life.

*Obituary*



**WISE, Wayne Douglas**

November 24, 1943 - July 8, 2023

Wayne Douglas Wise, a beloved father, grandfather, and professional horse racing trainer, passed away at 79. Wayne was passionate about horses, hockey, pheasant hunting, water skiing, snow skiing, traveling, playing pool, and spending time with family and friends. His early years were on the Wise farm near Rockyford, and he later moved to Calgary, where he attended Crescent Heights High School. A highlight of his high school years was winning the Provincial Midget Championship in hockey. Wayne went on to earn a business diploma at SAIT and belonged to the fraternity Kappa Sigma Tau. Wayne was preceded in death by his mother Helen Marten (Bensted), sister Laura Wise, father Owen Wise, and stepfather Lawrence Marten.

Wayne is survived by his loving sons, Richard (Rick) and Robert (Bobby) Wise, and his cherished grandchildren, Katelyn and Jackson Wise, along with his daughter-in-law, Lisa Wise. Gordon Gowdy has been a devoted friend. Wayne was previously married to Geri Gowdy (Jasper), and was proud of the two boys they raised, their horse racing & equine business, farming at Chestermere Lake, family travels, and all the places they called home in Alberta and Arizona. Gordon Gowdy has been a devoted friend to Wayne.

Wayne's passion for horses resulted in a remarkable career in thoroughbred horse racing, featuring an impressive win percentage, from 1965 to retirement in 1991. He was highly respected within the racing community and travelled extensively for racing between Arizona, California, and Alberta. In addition to horses, Wayne had a deep love for hockey and remained an avid player. Wayne also had a special bond with his dogs, with his fondest memories tied to his beloved dog Jack who rode on his motorcycle with him in his adolescent years through the neighborhood of Rosedale.

A private Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Condolences can be emailed to [waynewise43@gmail.com](mailto:waynewise43@gmail.com)

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# Strathmore

## 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](http://Strathmore.ca/CouncilMeetings)

