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Page 11



Prestigious award

NEW Office Hours

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Look on Page 16 for Town of Strathmore Municipal Notices

Contact Us Today!

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Town approves CIP funding

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore received a request for funding approval through the Community Improvement Program (CIP), which was presented during the Dec. 14 special meeting of council.

The CIP is a local program designed to support community organizations that improve Strathmore's identity and quality of life, according to administration.

Recommendations put forward through the CIP Evaluation Committee would support three applicant organizations in their efforts to create opportunities to connect with and celebrate the Strathmore community.

Mark Pretzlaff, director of community and protective services, recommended that council approve funding through the Community Improvement Program in the amounts of \$2,500 for the Rocky Mountain Symphony Society, \$1,500 for the Wheatland Crisis Society, and \$5,000 for the Strathmore Performing Arts Society.

Questions were immediately raised by council members regarding the request for funding by the Rocky Mountain Symphony Society, as they are not specifically a Strathmore-based organization.

"The organization itself if actually not based in Strathmore, and that was one of the comments of the CIP evaluation committee. They felt that without their support, that these types of events would not potentially happen or come back to Strathmore," explained Pretzlaff. "They feel that maybe in the future, this group can partner with an organization that is within Strathmore and potentially secure better funding through the CIP program."

Mayor Pat Fule inquired whether there was firm commitment from the symphony as far as a certain number of performances in town.

Pretzlaff indicated this is the first time the symphony has applied for the program and though they have performed in Strathmore before, have not made a concrete commitment to return.

Coun. Wiley remarked that according to his understanding, it is the goal of the symphony to perform in Strathmore twice per year.

As indicated by administration in the request for council decision, should council approve these recommendations, there would be approximately \$11,000 remaining in the CIP fund

Inversely, should council not approve the recommendations of the CIP Evaluation Committee, the applications would need to go back to the CIP Committee for further review. This would necessitate additional staff, as well as time from the volunteer committee members.

Council ultimately voted to approve all three of the indicated applications for funding through the CIP in each of the requested amounts.



Christmas celebration!

George Freeman School got into the Christmas spirit when they hosted their annual Christmas Festival on Dec. 15 at the school. Many of the local schools held their Christmas/Winter concerts last week and this week, before the last day of classes on Dec. 23 for the Christmas break. See Pages 8-9 for more coverage.

Joe Lepage Photo



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Hope's Cradle expands from Strathmore to Steinbach

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Hope's Cradle initiative, which launched the first station of its kind in Strathmore last year, is expanding to a second municipality in Canada.

Gems for Gems, the organization responsible for facilitating Hope's Cradle, is partnering with the Steinbach Fire Department to establish the new cradle in their community.

"We are definitely thrilled with the expansion, and that is definitely our goal - to be able to have Hope's Cradles accessible to everyone in need," said Jordan Guildford, founder and CEO of Gems for Gems. "We want to be able to have Hope's Cradles in every community we possibly can, so we are certainly very grateful for the Steinbach Fire Department."

Hope's Cradle is an initiative launched in order to give mothers a safe and anonymous way to abandon a child, no questions asked.

When a child is left inside a cradle, which is effectively a warm and secure box at a fire station, an alarm is triggered for a firefighter to retrieve the child and ensure their safety.

The program aims to address the problem of mothers abandoning children in places such as dumpsters, where they would likely perish, and instead giving them a way out when there are no other options to her.

"Steinbach is incredibly well-situated as far as being able to be visited and is an accessible place for people in need," said Guildford. "With the media attention that we got from our first location in Strathmore, they heard about us and reached out wanting to be able to bring on to their community, and they got the necessary funds together quickly."

Guildford added Gems for Gems has been steadily receiving correspondence from municipalities across Canada, and she is optimistic about the expansion of the Hope's Cradle program in future years.

For a municipality's fire department that is interested in hosting a Hope's Cradle, the organization would need to raise \$20,000 to finance the construction and establishment of the program.

"I believe that the more fire stations that step up, the more that will join them. It is taking more bravery than I thought it



The Hope's Cradle program, which debuted in Strathmore in 2021, is expanding into Steinbach, Man. The host organization, Gems for Gems, hopes more municipalities across the country will follow suit and request the development of their own Hope's Cradles. Pictured are images captured at the launch of Strathmore's Cradle, Dec. 2021. **John Watson File Photo**

would ... I though because it was just so smooth and seamless in Strathmore, that it would continue that way," said Guildford. "Strathmore had done a lot of work with lawyers prior to even connecting with us to ensure they would be safe liability-wise, should anything go wrong."

The primary concern Guildford specified was in regards to the possibility of local firefighters being deployed to a location with no one available to retrieve an infant dropped off at the same time as a fire.

For mothers who leave their child with the Hope's Cradle, there is a 30-day period where they would be able to reclaim the child, should they have utilized the service to escape from a situation such as domestic abuse.

If a child is not reclaimed within the 30-day grace period, they are introduced into the adoption system.

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Siksika Nation's Alayiah Wolf Child new Calgary Stampede First Nations Princess

IOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Siksika Nation's Alayiah Wolf Child has been crowned the Calgary Stampede's 2023 First Nations Princess, joining Springbank's Sarah Lambros, her Stampede Princess counterpart.

Wolf Child explained this is her first time venturing into a competition of this type and is thrilled to wear the crown for the upcoming year.

"I'm really excited. I was nervous at first, but I think the nerves have finally settled down and I am just really excited for what is to come next," she said. "My best friend is actually a princess alumnus, and so she motivated me to step out of my comfort zone and challenge my own social anxiety."

For Wolf Child, significant involvement with the Calgary Stampede runs deep into her family history.

"I wanted to fulfill the family's legacy that runs as far back as my great-grandfather, who was a rider in the rodeo. I just wanted to leave my little sprinkle of Alayiah to the family history."

The Calgary Stampede First Nations Princess contest involved public speaking, attending social events, as well as performing a dance, among other elements

Wolf Child and Lambros described their respective competitions as bearing likeness to an extremely extended and complex job interview.

Regarding the Stampede, Wolf Child added she is proud to be representing her culture and helping to share the identity of First Nations with not only those who attend July's main event, but also at events where Stampede royalty are requested to attend.

"I will be present in the Elbow River camp and sharing my knowledge about the different dances of Treaty Seven, along with the three different languages of Treaty Seven," she explained. "We will also be making appearances with the Grandstand show and be able to watch the Indian Relay Races, which I am really excited for."

As a dancer, Wolf Child said she specializes in women's jingle dress dancing, though also has some knowledge of women's traditional dancing through her mother.

For other young Indigenous women who are curious about the competition or who may have an interest in giving it a try, her recommendation was to take their shot and throw their hat in the

"Go for it and pass down your knowledge towards the next generation, and hopefully we can continue sharing our knowledge with the world and try hard," she said. "I hope for all these little girls who look up to Stampede royalty to chase after their dream and make it a reality one day. It is also a lot of fun."



Alayiah Wolf Child (right) has been crowned the 2023 Calgary Stampede First Nations Princess. Her counterpart, Sarah Lambros, was crowned Stampede Princess for the upcoming year. The two have already assumed their responsibilities which come with the titles and have been actively representing the Stampede. Wolf Child hails from Siksika Nation

Photo Courtesy of the Calgary Stampede

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True champions

WAR AMPS CANADA

Nine-year-old Colton Sheppard, of Strathmore, and Bruce Bush, 10, of Invermere, B.C., are both energetic young boys who enjoy all kinds of sports, including hockey.

At first glance, these two appear to be two typical boys, yet they share something special: they are both amputees.

Sheppard was born missing part of both feet, and Bruce was born a right arm amputee. They met for the first time recently at a local minor hockey tournament where their teams played against each other. Sheppard was watching the game from the bench when a player from the other team caught his attention. Excited, and pointing in the other boy's direction, he told his mom, "Look, mom! That kid has a prosthetic arm!"

After the game, Sheppard and his mom, Chelsea, introduced themselves to Bush and his family, and they shared their experiences about living with amputation. They also found out that the boys are both members of The War Amps Child Amputee (CHAMP) Program. As "Champs," they are eligible to receive financial assistance for artificial limbs and assistive devices, as well as peer support.

"It was a nice surprise for Colton to find someone on the ice 'just like him,'" said Chelsea. "Colton and Bruce can relate to each other in ways that they can't with their other friends or fellow hockey players."



Members of The War Amps Child Amputee (CHAMP) Program, Colton Sheppard of Strathmore (left) and Bruce Bush, met for the first time at a hockey tournament.

Photo Courtesy of Martine Lepine

Both families agreed to stay connected, and the boys are planning to get together over the holidays, whether on the phone or playing video games online.

The War Amps receives no government grants. Its programs are possible through public support of the Key Tag and Address Label Service.





Season's Greetings Trimmed With Our Best Wishes

BBB SERVING SOUTHERN ALBERTA AND EAST KOOTENAY

BBB Tip: Got a lap to spare or a hand to lend? Animal shelters could use your help



Several rescue animals could use a little time out from the shelter and a new home, and maybe you have a little extra time or sp

Many shelters may be at capacity with dogs, cats, or rabbits in need of a home, and this is putting a strain on the staff and the animals.

Because of this, area shelters are asking pet lovers for some help. Fostering a pet may be the ideal stress reliever for both you and the shelter.

If you could use some tail-wagging happiness or a purr-fectly content companion, reach out to a local shelter to see how you can help by fostering.

The Better Business Bureau has some tips when volunteering to help a shelter:

- · Be ready to devote 30-60 minutes a day to pet care, walks, etc.
- Think about the best way to involve the whole family in daily care from feeding, to walking to playing, and keeping an eye on the pet. If you are working from home, can you make a plan to keep your fostered guest entertained while on a conference video or audio call? · Consider your space.
- Many breeds, larger ones especially, need a lot of room to run and play.
- Do you have a yard or a nearby park where your new pup can get lots of exercise?
- · Consider your family.
- If you have young children at home, a puppy may be a handful. A grown dog with a calm temperament might be a better choice
- · Consider other pet family members.
- Are your other pets willing to bring in another member to the pack? Carefully think about temperament and if there are enough places in the home for them to be

R E L E V A N C E R I A L

P S E U D O N Y M

MORES OAF

R A C E S N A K E D N E S S

E D E R

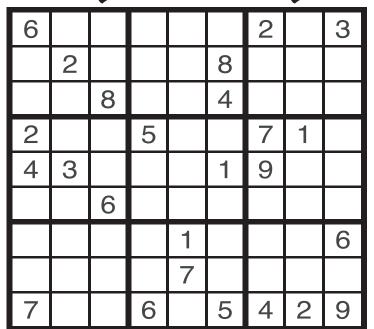
Thought for the Week

Is it

possible to do the right things for the wrong

reasons?

R A K E R E L L I



Level: Intermediate



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CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS I am writing this article as the last of the Advent scriptures finally begin to explicitly reflect the birth of Jesus which we celebrate as Christmas. Of course, outside my role within the church, those birth narratives have been swirling all around me for weeks, along with numerous other cultural narratives presenting various takes on the meaning of Christmas narratives about family togetherness, about marvelous winter activities, about finding the perfect gift for that special person, and the like. And come December 26 almost all of that will be boxed up and put away until sometime next November, because the Christmas we've been waiting for throughout Advent will be over. Or so it seems.

The early church fathers, however, did not consider the celebration of the incarnation as the end of their waiting for the coming of Christ. Rather many considered it merely the beginning of the end - the mind-staggering event of God taking on human flesh, so that

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(1 PET. 2:9)

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the divine Christ could do what only a human could do, and so that the human Christ could do what only a God could do. What began at the manger would play out over time through Jesus' public prophetic ministry, his rejection and crucifixion, his vindication in the resurrection, and his ascension to glory. But even that is not yet the end, as the fullest expression of the kingdom announced by the angels is still to come.

The sign of the baby lying in a manger was not the completion of the angels' declarations of 'Peace on Earth' and 'Goodwill among humans', but an invitation to live into the realities of the coming kingdom of peace and justice even as we wait and long for its fullest completion. The Christmas invitation to live, by faith, according to a spirit of goodwill toward all is not just for December, but for every season of our lives.

So, whether you read this before or after December 25, I wish you a Blessed Christmas. Rev. Malcolm Kern, Priest St. Michael & All Angels Anglican Church

STRATHMORE ALLIANCE

325 1 Ave • 403-934-3543 Corner of 1 Ave & Wheatland Trail Lead Pastor: Mike Wiebe

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Pastor: Kevin Enns

office@bowriveralliance.com Broadcasting services on church Facebook page. www.bowriveralliance.com

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Rev. Malcolm Kern

Sunday Worship 2:30 pm strathmoreanglican@gmail.com tinyurl.com/StrathmoreAnglican

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Loop System for the Hearing Impaired W/C accessible

It's been an honour

LEELA SHARON AHEER Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

It has been an honour to serve you in this house as a minister, a private member, and an opposition member.

I'd like to share some of the many accomplishments in my riding of Chestermere-Strathmore and Rocky View and thank the partners, colleagues, and friends who have worked so hard to see these projects through.

In March, the Wheatland County Food Bank was awarded over \$300,000 and in May, the Carseland Fire Hall celebrated their grand opening.

Changes were made to improve local EMS services: adding paramedic staff and expanding to 24-hour service in Chestermere, changing the Core Flex shifts in Wheatland County to avoid

Other projects include

- multiple playground grants plus stabilization grants during COVID-19 for non profits and community organizations.
- We modernized Indus School originally built in 1952.
- Carseland expanded their school and developed Speargrass park.
- Chestermere recreation centre fixed their roof
- The Springbank recreation centre upgraded their facility
- The Bearspaw Lions Club enhanced their facility
- Langdon has a new emergency service building, school, and Baseball Diamonds
- The re-surfacing of 1A Highway between Chestermere and Calgary
- We attracted new businesses creating thousands of jobs with state-ofthe-art facilities such as: Phyto Organics in Strathmore, Canadian Gypsym and De Havilland in Wheatland County
 - · We expanded broadband

The Canadian Infrastructure Bank made a historical \$815 million joint investment with us to increase irrigation lands in Southern Alberta by more than 200 thousand acres.

And this is small by comparison to the thousands of hours spent by folks building our communities - a direct result of the tenacious advocacy and passion in the ridings I represented.

It has truly been the greatest honor of my life to represent you and work on behalf of the people of Alberta.

I will miss it all so much. A huge thank you to the constituency staff who are on the front lines.

Thank you to all the ministers, ministries and to my colleagues for the past

Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister of New Zealand said that "I really rebel against this idea that politics has to be a place full of ego and where you're constantly focused on scoring hits against each one another.

"Yes, we need a robust democracy, but you can be strong, and you can be kind."

This list of accomplishments shows what we can do when we work together through strength and kindness.

Next week we are very excited to write about the presentation of the late Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medal (Alberta) recipients and their accomplishments.

As always, we love to hear from you. (Leela Sharon Aheer is the MLA Elect for Chestermere-Strathmore)

County exploring options for 2023 operating budget

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

County Council discussed the unapproved 2023 interim capital and operating budget during the Dec. 6 regular meeting, for which an update was brought forward by administration.

The summary of 2023 capital budget changes, which was attached to the county's agenda and is available to the public, shows a table outlining itemized changes to the budget, as well as the reasoning for such adjustments.

The total package of all capital projects for 2023 brought forward to council on Nov. 15 equated to approximately \$25.5 million. All noted adjustments which were presented at the Dec. 6 meeting caused an adjustment to the total, bringing it to an approximate \$25.3 million.

Administration recommended several different paths forward for county council to choose from to approve as the final 2023 capital plan. Each of the presented scenarios assume the 2022 Carry Forward items as being approved for continuation or completion in 2023.

The first scenario is described as the simplest and most straightforward process by administration, and suggests approving the full package of projects proposed to the county to begin or see continuation and completion in 2023. This includes an approximate \$21.9 million for the 2023 budget, as well as nearly \$3.4 million for 2022 Carry Forward items.

The second scenario suggested approving ongoing 2022 projects, as well as those indicated as critical priority for the county in 2023. The total budget for this scenario would equate to approximately \$17.7 million.

The caveat to this suggestion would be the delay of preliminary engineering and planning for a host of future slated high priority projects. This would include a number of road projects, for ex-

Scenario 3 would only eliminate medium priority projects from the budget and leave all others as approved. This would eliminate roughly \$2 million from the budget plan.

The last proposed scenario was described as being identical to Scenario 3, other than including an amendment to defer two specific project to a future year. These included paving projects for Range Roads 264 and 243, for \$1.7 million and \$2.4 million respectively, to reduce the county's budget by roughly \$4 million.

Concerns raised during the county's discussion of the budget included a lack of use of roughly 20 per cent of the 2022 operating budget, which was attributed to unavailability of building material.

Councillors voted to direct administration to continue exploring the first and fourth scenarios, and return to council with more information at a future meeting.

The proposed interim budget and approved county projects are available for public viewing

County considering new water management infrastructure

IOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County is exploring options for supplying water, wastewater and stormwater servicing to major development areas within the west portion of the region.

McElhanney Engineering was brought on to evaluate potential options for the county, and report to council regarding their findings and recommendations.

At the Dec. 6 regular meeting of council, Troy McNeill spoke on behalf of McElhanney Engineering, to share the second report the company has generated regarding potential options for the county.

McElhanney conducted a desktop analysis on water wells in the area west on Highway 1 within Wheatland County, as well as explored options for wastewater and stormwater processing and distri-

"The purpose of the study was to really look at the optimal long-term water, wastewater and stormwater servicing solutions for the communities in the west side servicing area in Wheatland County and determine whether the county should provide water and wastewater services on their own or look to regionalization in some form," explained McNeill.

According to the county, it is intended for the McElhanney study and final report to provide a reference and a basis for the county in the planning and decision-making process in relation to the supply and installation of major water management infrastructure within the targeted region.

McNeill's presentation to council shared updates on McElhanney's progress since the Oct. 11 presentation to the County Committee of the Whole.

The full report from the meeting, which is available to the public, details McElhanney's findings from the desktop water well study, their recommendations for wastewater options for the county to consider, options for water and wastewater servicing, and the next steps in the process.

As detailed in the study, part of the goal was to establish whether communities should be provided with services in isolation, or whether regional solutions between the various county communities would be more beneficial in the long term.

Regarding the wastewater options described in the report, the suggestions include an omni processing system located in the east portion of Muirfield, a forcemain to Cheadle with a lagoon and irrigation at Cheadle, or a forcemain to the northwest portion of Strathmore.

"I call it a septic field on steroids. It is basically going through a pre-treatment system ahead of time through some of the solids and things like that – there is a bit of a mechanical process, then it is a biological process underground with a bunch of special medium that it filters through," explained McNeill, regarding the omni processing system option.

McNeill recommended council finalize the report, sign off on it, and direct administration to bring back options from the report to council for further investigation and study in terms of moving forward with preferred options.

Council accepted the report as information, and will have received a final report by Dec. 20. Upon review of the final report, administration will present county council with their recommendations in the new year.

STRATHMORE

Mario Prusina Publisher

John Watson Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

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Jody Schneider Production

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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. We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Local Journalism Initiative. Canada

NEXT HOME GAMES Tuesday, January 10 • 8:30 pm vs Mountainview **Sunday, January 15**

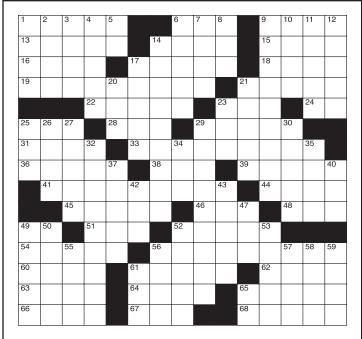
• 4:30 pm vs Coaldale

Rhett Harten

Strathmore Family Centre **Gold Arena**

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Kobe Gosling



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Take weapons away from
- 6. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 9. Most ancient Hindu scriptures 13. Actress Lathan
- 14. Baseball's strikeout king
- 15. British codebreaker Turing 16. One who lives by disreputable
- dealings
- 17. Tropical American plant 18. Opposite of right
- 19. Importance
- 21. Monetary units 22. Lawmen
- 23. Cool!
- 24. Affirmative answer
- 25. Thrust horse power (abbr.) 28. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
- 29. Muslim nobleman
- 31. About aviation
- 33. Scientific instrument
- 38. Not polished

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Union of Soviet Socialist Republics 2. The back side of the neck
- 3. A type of imine
- 4. Black bird
- 5. Partner to "Pa'
- 6. Puts together in time 7. Lucid
- 8. Transmits genetic information from
- DNA to the cytoplasm
- 9. Demonstrates the truth of
- 10. Ancient Greek City
- 11. Nishi language
- 12. Slang for fidgety 14. Southwestern farmers
- 17. Metric weight unit 20. Instant replay in soccer
- 21. Less polished
- 23. Popular pickup truck model
- 25. Slang for a cigarette
- 26. Large pile
- 27. Solid geometric figure
- 29. One from the Big Apple

41. Alias

44. Large wrestler

awkward

49. Atomic #90

51. Mock

52. Whales

54. Peoples

old age

63. Muslim mystic

66. Have witnessed

67. Disallow

68. Proverb

64. German river

48. Sunscreen rating

60. Ottoman military

45. Relative quantities

46. One who is big and

56. A state of being unclothed

61. Gatherer of fallen leaves

62. Norse personification of

65. Measuring instrument

- 30. Male admirers 32. Balsam is one
- 34. Local area network 35. Canadian law enforcers
- 37. Koran chapters 40. Cooperstown, NY
- museum (abbr.) 42. Certificate (abbr.)
- 43. An official who carries a
- mace of office
- 47. Briefly in fashion
- 49. Volcanic ash 50. Dutch city
- 52. Made of wood
- 53. Legendary golfer
- 55. Restaurant
- 56. None 57. Spanish city
- 58. Stony waste matter
- 59. Father 61. Confederate soldier
- 65. The ancient Egyptian sun god







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.

January 10: Council Meeting January 11: Municipal Planning Commission January 11: Agricultural Service Board

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 INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR 2023 COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FUNDING

Wheatland County recognizes that its residents utilize various recreational, cultural and other community enhancement facilities and resources and has established the Community Enhancement Fund to provide financial support for such venues and activities.

The Community Enhancement Fund provides grant funding from Wheatland County to enhance, promote, and support groups and organizations that bring a broad range of enjoyment, benefit, beautification, recreation, entertainment, participation, and enhancement projects to Wheatland County. The program is intended to invest tax payer dollars annually to support recreational, cultural and other community activities, facilities, and resources that are utilized by Wheatland County residents.

How to Apply:

Applications and Guidelines for the Community Enhancement Fund are available at the Wheatland County Office and on the County website: www.wheatlandcounty.ca/cerb

Deadline:

Applications must be post marked on or before January 31, 2023.

Please note that eligibility for 2023 funding is dependent on filing all previous funding reports with Wheatland County by January 31, 2023.

For more information please contact Jessica Salmon at 403-361-2021 or jessica.salmon@wheatlandcounty.ca

Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Call for Members

Wheatland County is seeking a representative from Division 2 and Division 6 to sit on the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (SDAB). If you reside outside of these Divisions and still wish to apply, please submit your application for consideration.

The SDAB reviews subdivision and development appeals in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Government Act; and shall exercise any other powers, duties, and functions as assigned by Wheatland County bylaws or policies. Members of the SDAB serve a three-year term and meet as necessary during the day or evening.

Following your appointment to the Board, SDAB members must successfully complete training provided by Municipal Affairs. This training may be in person or online and members will be financially compensated for their training and their attendance at appeal hearings.

For more information regarding training, please go to: https://www.alberta.ca/subdivision-and-development-appeal-boards-training.aspx

If you require additional information, please contact the Wheatland County Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Clerk, Michelle Van Haarlem, at (403) 361-2000. Please forward letters of interest to michelle.vanhaarlem@wheatlandcounty.ca.



Address: 242006 Range Rd 243, Wheatland County, AB T1P 2C4 **Phone:** 403-934-3321 **www.wheatlandcounty.ca @wheatlandcounty Office Hours:** Mon-Fri 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.











Careers with Wheatland County

Available opportunities include:

 General Manager of Community and Development Services

Closes December 30, 2022



Visit our website for more information and APPLY TODAY! wheatlandcounty.ca/careers/

Environmental Stewardship

\$250 Awarded to Environmental Stewards!

Nominate someone you know who goes above and beyond to benefit the Wheatland County landscape and environment!

Community Stewardship Award

This award recognizes a Wheatland County community member or group that has made an outstanding contribution to environmental sustainability in the municipality. All Wheatland County residents or community groups are eligible for this award.

Youth Stewardship Award

This award will be given to an individual or group of individuals under the age of eighteen who have shown leadership or strong interest in environmental stewardship. Wheatland County residents, community groups, and school groups are eligible for this award.

J. Laslo Legacy Award

This award will be given to an agricultural producer in Wheatland County who has shown leadership in the implementation of beneficial management practices. The winner is dedicated to reducing the environmental impacts of their operation, and has an interest in promoting positive efforts to others in the industry.

Award recipients will be recognized by Council at Wheatland County's Annual General Meeting, their name will be added to a plaque displayed at the County office, and they will receive a \$250 cash prize!

Nomination Information

Contact the Agriculture and Environment Department:

Ph: 403-361-2007

Email: AgandEnv@wheatlandcounty.ca Submit nominations by January 1st, 2023

For more information wheatlandcounty.ca/documents/ environmentalstewardshipawards









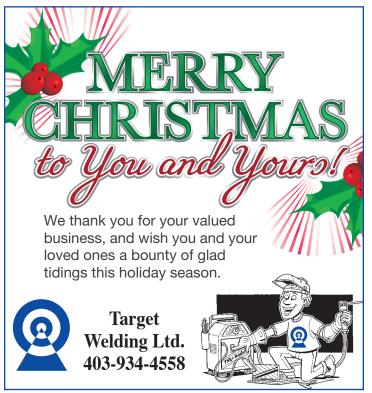


MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR



Arts on 817 presented Songs of Joy and Peace featuring Shannon Gaye and the Kristian Alexandrov Trio on Dec. 17 at the Strathmore United Church. The concert featured jazz-infused favourites, gospel classics and evocative original songs that were perfect for the snowy winter's evening.

Photo Courtesy of Arts on 817













Biletsky



With best wishes and gratitude, we hope your holiday is healthy, happy and bright!



Ashlee Samaska 403-990-4962 Ashlee@heartandsoldyyc.com











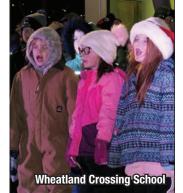
George Freeman School, Westmount Elementary School and Wheatland Crossing School each go into the holiday spirit by hosting their annual Christmas

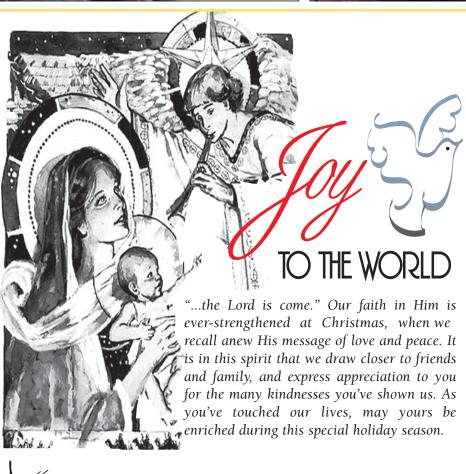


on Dec. 14, the two other schools hosted their events Dec. 15. Meanwhile, Sacred Heart Academy hosted a virtual online concert last week. Most of the other local schools can be heard this week, prior to the last day of classes on Dec. 23. Melissa Piche and

Joe Lepage Photos



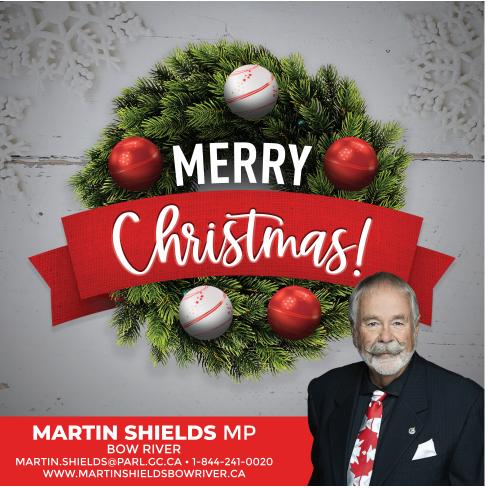


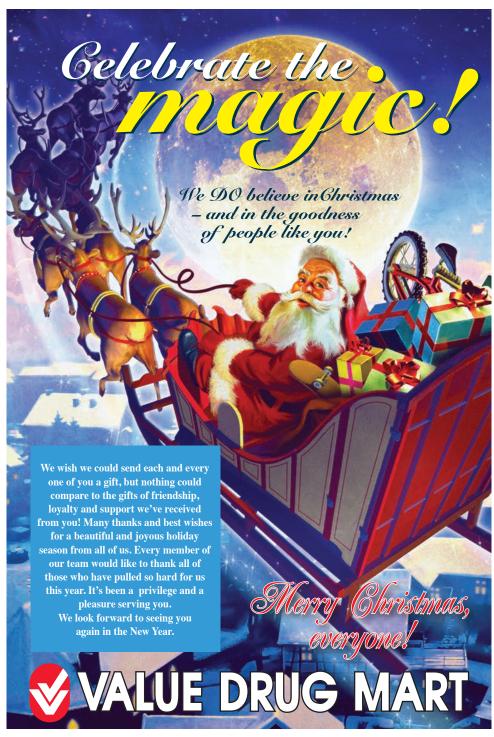


Wheatland Funeral Home Ltd.

Glen & Brooke Van Bussel & Family Francis & Lynn Van Bussel & Family Dean Haubrich **Wyatt Petersen**









Storm squeak by

to Rockyford on Dec. 17.

The Strathmore Storm U18 Tier 3 team

overcame a 2-0 deficit by scoring two goals in the second period en route to a

3-2 win over Foothills on Dec. 16 at the

Strathmore Family Centre. The Storm

capped off their 2022 portion of their

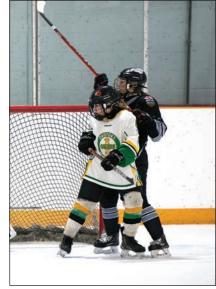
schedule with a high-scoring 12-8 loss











Storm close out 2022

The Strathmore Storm U18A female hockev team closed out 2022 with a trio of games in three nights, including a tough loss to Okotoks on Dec. 16 at the Strathmore Family Centre.

Joe Lepage Photos



Joe Lepage Photos



Rules for living a long, healthy life: don't smoke; keep blood pressure in healthy range; keep your weight down; maintain a low resting heart rate. Also, eat whole grains, leafy vegetables, nuts. Don't eat anything with added sugar including processed foods. Get a good night's sleep (6-8 hours). Keep alcohol consumption to a minimum (nothing before 5pm). Exercise daily even if it's just a walk for a block or

Another thing to add to this list is to keep your vaccinations up to date. For seniors, ensure vou have had your shingles, pneumonia shots and COVID-19 shots as well as your yearly flu shot. And when boosters for COVID-19 are available, get it done.

If you have hearing aids, use them. Many people are selective as to when they wear them ("I just wear them when I go out".) but it is best for the brain if they are used all the time and just take them out to sleep. The hearing nerves in the brain need stimulation to work properly. Just as we need exercise to keep our bodies functioning properly, the ears need to hear sounds and recognize them to function optimally. That means if you are prescribed hearing aids, use them. Make inserting them in your ears part of your morning routines.

As 2022 comes to a close, thank to everyone who enjoys reading this column. A very Happy New year to you all and all the best for 2023. We look forward to serving you again throughout the coming year.

Hours: M-W: 9-6 pm • Th-F: 9-8 pm Sat: 9-6 pm • Sun & Holidays: 11-5 pm



SHS senior girls basketball *MERRY * takes silver in first tournament of the season

JOHN WATSON

. Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore High School (SHS) senior girls basketball team brought home silver from their first tournament of the season at Strathcona Christian Academy.

Head Coach Dion Galandy said despite having played several league and exhibition games for the season so far, he knew going in it was going to be a tough tournament.

"We played okay against Grande Prairie on Thursday (Dec. 8) night. It was a closer game than we thought it would be in terms of them scoring, but when you are up a lot of points, sometimes you let off a little bit," he said. "Then on Friday we played the home team (SCA) and they had a pretty good lead on us early in the game. We just fought until we pulled ahead and took a lead with about a minute to go."

Galandy added his team, after pulling a literal last-minute win out of their hats the previous day, went into the gold medal game exhausted on Saturday (Dec. 10).

Between a fatigued team and being down two of their starting players, he said the result of the game was not a true reflection of what the girls are capable of.

"It could have been better, but it also could have been worse, and we had our chances. We just couldn't land a lot of shots," said Galandy. "You always need a bit of luck in a game no matter what, whoever you are, and we did not have any luck at all on Saturday."

He added he will be working on helping the girls to improve in every aspect of the game, and still has a lot of season left to do so.

Especially at this point, where initial

league rankings have vet to be determined, he is not concerning himself with perfection.

"In early season tournaments like this ... you just focus on playing hard and not worrying about mistakes, because mistakes will happen regardless, and you just have to play through them," he said. "You never know what will happen in a preseason game or a tournament because you don't know what the other teams are like. It is all about you executing and if you do make a mistake, it is okay because that is what happens in sports."

Galandy said he is working to develop his team with a very balanced play style as opposed to focusing directly on either offense or defense.

Initial provincial rankings are set to release in the middle of January, and as of Dec. 14, the SHS Spartans had only suffered one loss.

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For the 27th consecutive year, you have the opportunity to remember loved ones and support the Strathmore Hospital and **Pallitive Care With A Donation to** the Hospital Foundation.

Donations of \$10 or more receive an income tax receipt.



	his ad or list names on a separate sheet of paper
1	Strathmore District Health Foundation 200 Brent Blvd., Strathmore, AB T1P 1J9
Christmas Greeting to:	
Donation Amount:	
Please make che	ques payable to SDHS Foundation Tree of Hope









Residents of Strathmore and Wheatland County who were nominated and selected for the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee award were recognized at the Strathmore Legion, Dec. 18. Chestermere-Strathmore MLA Leela Aheer presented the medals to all local recipients who were present at the ceremony. The award is meant to recognize an individual's contributions to their local community and their volunteerism.

John Watson Photos

Strathmore volunteers recognized with QEII Platinum Jubilee medals

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Strathmore's recipients of the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee medals were celebrated at the local Legion branch, Dec. 18, for their service to the community.

A total of 7,000 Albertans received the award as a symbolic recognition of the late Majesty's 70th anniversary, and was based on the number of Albertans recognized with the 2005 Alberta Centennial medal, as well as the 2012 diamond jubilee medal program.

Chestermere-Strathmore MLA Leela Aheer presented Strathmore's medal recipients with their awards during a brief ceremony, followed by a luncheon

Among the award recipients included Mayor Pat Fule, and Deputy Mayor Denise Peterson, who had been recognized for their awards at a prior event in Calgary.

Peterson had been nominated for the award by Coun. Melissa Langmaid during the same meeting of council at which nominations for members of the community to put forward was discussed.

"It was a humbling experience to sit in the presence of these community members who had been nominated across the southern end of the province for contributions that they have made to their respective communities," said Peterson. "It was an indication of the fact that people who volunteer never do it in isolation – that there are always many people around who contribute in their own capacity to be able to volunteer."

Recipients of the awards were nominated to receive them by their fellows within the community. Fule explained there was an application process to complete, during which, the nominee's contributions were described.

Fule added he felt very humbled to be able to celebrate so many within Strathmore who have given so much of their time and effort to better their community.

"They give up so much of their free time, they take time away from their families, and they do it all to help our community just be that much better," he said. "They, by their actions, and the things they do by volunteering, it helps to make Strathmore a better place, whether it's volunteering in the food bank, or hospice society, or here at the Legion with supporting veterans."

Peterson added for her, having so many opportunities to volunteer and give back to her local community has been rewarding in its own right.

Following something of a legacy, she said her grandmother and mother were both recipients of medals during Queen Elizabeth's 25 and 50-year commemorative celebrations, respectively.

This year's local award winners include Brenda Knight, Carol Gardner, Corrie Carrobourg, Geoff Van Steenis, Heather Bangle, Heather Vanderveer, John Kittler, John Whieldon, Joyce Bazant, Karen McKee, Keith Clayton, Lorraine Farran, Mardelle Bazant, Marjorie Ireland, Peter Tindall, Simon Bradley, Steve King (Marilyn), Steven Dunn, Terence Murray, Valerie Schaning, Pam Collett, Lynne Fair, Odo Melcher, Denise Peterson, Pat Fule, Leslie Schultz, Martin Gauthier and Darcy Burke.







Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame members Donna and LeRoy Anderson were terrific. Everyone had a good time. "Best one ever" said many attendees.

Thanks to the Strathmore Times and Country 105, Sobey's, Walmart, Rocky's Bakery and The Happy Gang for helping us out. Special thanks to Corinne Koppel and students at Westmount School for making a Christmas card for everyone who came.





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Please ensure at least 48 hours to book in your time slot. (You must be mobile enough to get in and out of my car) walker & canes are fine.









St. Michael's & All Angels Anglican Church

Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m. – Christmas Morning Holy Communion service.

RCCG Peculiar People Assembly

Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m. – Christmas Carol Service Christmas Day.

Sacred Heart Parish (HCC Gym)

Dec. 14, 7 p.m. – Advent Reconciliation

Service (2 priests will be assisting)

Dec. 14, 7-9 p.m. – Eucharistic Silent

Adoration

Dec. 24, 5 p.m./8 p.m. – Christmas Eve Dec. 25, 10 a.m. – Christmas Day Dec. 31, 5 p.m. – New Year's Eve Jan. 1, 10 a.m. – New Year's Day

Harvest Healing

Dec. 24, 6 p.m. – Christmas Eve Service No Service Christmas Day.

Hope Community

Dec. 24, 5 p.m./7 p.m. – Christmas Eve No service Christmas Day

Dalemead Church

Dec. 24, 4 p.m. – Sleigh/Wagon Ride with refreshments around a controlled flame Dec. 24, 5:30 p.m. – Christmas Eve Carol Service

No service Christmas Day

Strathmore Alliance Church

Dec. 24, 6 p.m. – Christmas Eve Service No Service Christmas Day.

Bow River Alliance Church

Dec. 18 – Christmas Singing in the community

Dec. 24 – Carol Sing at the church (check the website for service times)

No service Christmas Day.

Strathmore Full Gospel Church

Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m. – SFGC Christmas Sunday service

Lord of All Lutheran Church

Dec. 19, 7:30 p.m. – Candlelight Service at Wheatland Lodge for families and residents

Dec. 22, 6:30 p.m. – Candlelight Service at Sagewood for families and residents Dec. 24, 3 p.m. – Family Carols and Candles and "Jesus Birthday" for children

Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m. – Gentle Candles and Carols Service

Dec. 25, 10:30 p.m. – Christmas morning Communion Service Jan. 1, Family Worship to welcome 2023

Strathmore United Church

Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m. – Christmas Eve Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m. – Christmas Day

Langdon Library Society moving forward with local library establishment

This is just

another piece

of the puzzle

to get that

library set up

and going.

Debra Carrobourg

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Langdon Library Society (LLS) and the Marigold Library System (MLS) have reached an agreement regarding the new facility which is under development in Langdon.

"It's an agreement that we are going to be cooperating together to support the library here. It is a standard agreement that Marigold and (Rocky View) county have," explained Debra Carrobourg, president of the LLS. "It is something that they need to have signed in order for us to proceed with the library.

It was a little bit of a process but it wasn't really very much on our side. We had reviewed it and accepted it ... it just has to go through all the proper protocol at the county."

Development of the Langdon Library and Youth Centre officially began in September, a project which has been several years in the making.

Now that the agreement has been signed between the LLS and MLS, the organizations are able to begin facilitating the remaining necessary acquisitions and upgrades to the library structure in order for the facility to be in use.

"Marigold can start helping us with purchasing additional things that we need and going through their processes. It is part of that agreement that predates everything to make sure we can get the setup between our library and Marigold," said Carrobourg. "We have the building on site here and we are working on getting the permits through the county to get the renovations done. This is just another piece of the puzzle to get that library set up and going."

The actual structure is set up behind the Langdon Fieldhouse, adjacent to the new baseball diamonds and tennis courts. The structure had been preconstructed and was simply moved into place earlier this year.

Renovations to the facility include bathroom installations and other operational needs. Carrobourg said the goal is to have everything ready to officially

open in 2023.

The LLS received the structure from the Cereal Library Community when it changed from being a town into being absorbed into other municipalities and the library was lost. Until it was transferred to Langdon, it had been relegated to sitting in storage.

"We are also always fundraising

and the library will need to continue to fundraise support. Everything that we have, we are going to be putting into the building and we don't want to completely rely on money from the county," she explained. "It is a continuous ongoing fundraising process. Other libraries are always fundraising ... it will always be something that we are going and trying to make sure that we have the funds to run and offer the programs that our community needs."

Police warn public of Emergency Scam

ALBERTA RCMP

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

RCMP, along with partners from the Calgary Police Service (CPS) and the Edmonton Police Service (EPS), are warning the public of a fraudulent scam that is circulating throughout Alberta. These scams are referred to as Emergency Scams, or sometimes "Grandparent" or "Grandchild" scams.

These scams often involve a phone call being placed to the victim claiming a loved one is in trouble with the courts or law enforcement and a payment is needed to help them. The suspects will often pretend to be a police officer, judge, or family member. Suspects will usually ask for cash; however, they may also ask for payment in gift cards, bitcoin, or e-transfers. The scammers will then send an associate acting as a courier to pick up the money in person or ask that the money be mailed.

The two common themes of these scams are a sense of urgency – the payment must be made immediately or there will be worse consequences, and secrecy: no one can know because it is embarrassing or because the judge has placed a publication ban or "gag order" on the case.

In 2022 Alberta RCMP have received over 150 reports of this type of fraud with a total loss of around \$750,000. Not only is there a concern for the

amount of money being lost, but a great concern for these couriers showing up in person to collect the cash.

Alberta RCMP, and their partners at CPS and EPS, want to remind Albertans:

• Bail is always paid in person at a

- courthouse or correctional center;Never send money to anyone you don't know;
- If a person claims to be a police officer or judge, call that police service or court house directly to confirm the situation police and courts will never demand cash be picked up in person or mailed; and
- Never give out personal information over the phone or online to someone you don't know—the police or courts will not ask for personal information over the phone.

"We encourage you to talk to family, friends, or loved ones who may be vulnerable to these types of crimes, making sure they know what to watch for," said Cpl. Sean Milne, Alberta RCMP Serious and Organized Crime Unit. "If they are contacted by a scammer, they shouldn't feel embarrassed, they shouldn't keep it secret, and they should reach out for help."

Should you have fallen victim to this or any other scam, please call your local RCMP or police of jurisdiction and the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (www. antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca or 1-888-495-8501).

Vehicle stop for speeding leads to arrest

STRATHMORE RCMP

On Dec. 8, at approximately 4:20 p.m., while a Strathmore General Investigation Section (GIS) member was travelling to check a property, a vehicle was spotted travelling at approximately 148 km/hr on Highway 22X in the area of Range Road 255.

A traffic stop was initiated with the vehicle which contained four occupants. The driver was found to be bound by release conditions from an unrelated criminal matter, one of which enabled a search of the vehicle. A passenger was also bound by a release condition for a 24 hour per day curfew, and a weapons prohibition. A search of the vehicle yielded a number of items including a counterfeit driver's license with the passenger's photo on it with other identification not belonging to him, and a can of bear spray.

As a result of release order violations and possession of identity documents both unauthorized and counterfeit, the passenger was arrested. During subsequent interactions with the passenger, photos of identification not belonging to him was observed on his cell phone.

The passenger was transported to the Strathmore Detachment for a bail hearing while the remainder of the occupants were released on scene. Sean Brooks, a 36-year-old resident of Calgary was charged with: possession of a forged document (x2); failure to comply with a condition of a release order (x4); failure to comply with a condition of a probation order (x3); possession of a weapon contrary to a prohibition order; possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose; unlawful possession of a government document (x2); and possession of a controlled substance.

Brooks was remanded into custody to appear at a future date. At the time of his arrest, Brooks was at large on a release order relating on 33 outstanding charges between seven matters; and two probation orders. The investigation is ongoing which may result in further charges.

RCMP arrest two in possession of controlled substances

STRATHMORE RCMP

On Nov. 17, at approximately 11 p.m., members of Strathmore General Investigation Section (GIS) observed suspicious activity between two vehicles in the parking lot of Town Hall. Having had prior complaints of liquor consumption and loitering in the area, a traffic interaction was engaged to check on the drivers' sobriety and legal documents.

Upon first contact the odour of freshly consumed Cannabis was detected which led to a search of both vehicles. During the search a quantity of what was believed to be cocaine packed in several small packages were located. As a result, both drivers were arrested and a more thorough search was conducted which led to the additional seizure of a quantity of cash and cellular phones.

Both subjects were transported to the Strathmore Detachment where they were later released with restrictive conditions and a future court date.

Erratic driving complaints lead to arrest

STRATHMORE RCMP

On Dec. 7, at approximately 3 p.m., Strathmore RCMP received a complaint of an erratic driver swerving in its lane and at times nearly side swiping other vehicles. The vehicle was reported travelling Eastbound on Highway 1 towards Strathmore which was encountered by responding members at the intersection of Highway 1 and Westmount Road. The vehicle appeared stalled and the driver was observed exiting the vehicle in an attempt to leave the area. The driver was taken into custody. The vehicle left stalled in the intersection was stolen earlier in the day from Innisfail, and contained other stolen items including a purse and other bags. The driver was also bound by three separate driving prohibitions and was exhibiting indications of impairment by drug.

The driver was returned to the Detachment for sobriety testing however refused to complete the examination. During a search of the vehicle and driver's effects, several pieces of identification and credit cards were found which did not belong to him. Several unauthorized purchases were confirmed by the owners of the identification and credit cards.

The driver, Matthew Burton a 34-year-old male with no fixed address was held for a bail hearing and charged with: possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000; possession of property obtained by crime under \$5,000; operating a motor vehicle while prohibited (x3); unlawful possession of government documents (x8); unlawful use of a credit card; failure to comply with a demand (impairment by drug); and other traffic safety act offences.

Burton was released on conditions to appear at a later date. The investigation is ongoing and further charges may be laid.

"I'd like to thank the motorist who reported the erratic driving of this vehicle," said Staff Sergeant Mark Wielgosz of the Strathmore RCMP. "It led to the recovery of stolen property and in no small measure helped to keep our roads safe."

www.StrathmoreTimes.com

RCMP charged both Jason Piper, a 47-year-old resident of Strathmore, and Don Gilbertson, a 48-year-old resident of Lethbridge, with possession of a controlled substance for the purpose of trafficking and possession of cannabis within reach of the driver. Piper was charged with an additional count of possession of items used for the purpose of trafficking a controlled substance.

TIMES CILASSITIOS

<u>Obituary</u>



AGAR, Audrey Virginia (Hebbes)

Audrey Virginia (Hebbes) Agar passed away November 29th, 2022 at her home on the Shepard farm.

Audrey was born in Calgary, AB on August 26th, 1932. She was predeceased by her parents, Hubert P and Alecia K. (Phillips) Hebbes, her brothers Murray P Hebbes, Hubert (Bud) P Hebbes, Roger B Hebbes, and her husband, Donald J Agar, as well as her infant daughter Karen V Agar.

She is survived by her sons Kevin (Brenda) Agar, Mervin Agar, her daughter Sharon Agar, and grandchildren Darrell (Sharleen) Agar and Kara (Connor) Woodley. A private ceremony was held at Mountain View

Memorial Gardens on December 16th, 2022. Arrangements in care of Snodgrass Funeral homes (Okotoks) 403-938-3111.

To express condolences, please visit www.snod-grassfuneralhomes.com

In lieu of flowers, a tree may be planted in Audrey's name.

John 3:18

He that believeth on him is not condemned: But he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only Begotten Son of God.



TIMES CLASS OF DS

<u>Obituary</u>



BOCHEK, Roy Rudolph

Roy Rudolph Bochek passed away at the Fir Park Village, Port Alberni, B.C. on Nov 29, 2022.

Roy was born in Orkney, Saskatchewan on July 10, 1929 to Lawrence and Nellie Bochek. He married Donna Shattuck April 25th 1953.

Roy worked on farms and ranches until he became the Strathmore, Alberta Town Police Officer, and later an Alberta SPCA officer. Roy and Donna moved to Whiskey Creek, B.C. in 1979 and started a charter fishing business. He was a Cub Scout leader and a member of the Lions Club in Strathmore. Roy & Donna enjoyed playing cards with their many friends, and Roy was a long time member of the Coombs Old Time Fiddlers.

Roy is survived by daughter Karen (Glen) Groves, sons Randy (Judy) and Gary; grandsons Mark and Philip (Nan) Groves, Trent and Adam Bochek; great grandchildren David, Devyn and Violet; brothers Bob and Dale. He was predeceased by Donna, his wife of 52 years, parents and 11 siblings.

<u>Obituary</u>



HARVEY, Avril Oct. 10, 1949 - Nov. 10, 2022

Avril passed away Nov. 10, 2022 in hospital in Calgary.

She leaves behind her daughter Francine Gohlisch, step-son Michael, step-daughter-in-law Tammy and their children Jesse, Cody, Tenille and Cassidy whom she loved dearly.

She will be missed by all her friends, especially the Step One group. Special thanks to Christie at Wheatland Lodge, Pastor Dawn, Doug and Carolyn.

<u>Obituary</u>



HARWOOD, Warrene Carol (nee Neufeldt) Born October 10, 1946, Calgary, Alberta Passed away December 15, 2022, Strathmore Alberta

Warrene leaves behind her husband Garry; her sons Wade (Kassandra), Rex (Tara), Eddie (Danielle), Garry (Erin), and Joey (Amy); daughter Marcie (Blair); grandsons Colby, Carson, Riley, Spencer, Jordan, Johnny, Wesley, Lee, Luke, Tayt, and Rayden; granddaughters Haleigh, Maleah, Olivia, Maddie, McKenzie, Raina, Lanie, Carly, Brittanie, Amanda, and Anastasia; brothers Gordo and Marty (Barb); brother-in-law Merv; and sister-in-law Betty.

She is predeceased by her son Warren; parents Hazel and Stan; sister Darlene; and brother-in-law Don.

She leaves behind many close friends and her dog Gracie.

Mom was the type of person that after you met her you would never forget her and be instant friends. She loved to laugh and make people laugh with her stories and her jokes. She had various jobs through her life including AGT operator, bartender, waitress, manager, and teacher's assistant. She logged many hours in a tractor on the farm, usually baling or pulling the silage wagon, then she would cook lunch and suppers for the guys. Her hobbies were taking pictures, doing crafts, puzzles, collecting dolls and watching her owls at the farm. She was a great lady and will be missed. A Celebration of Life will be in the Spring.

To send condolences, please visit Warrene's obituary at www. wheatlandfuneralhome.ca

₡ Wheatland Funeral Home 403-934-4404 Strathmore, AB

<u>Obituary</u>





SIMS, Elviera (Vera) Dec. 22, 1940 - Dec. 15, 2022

Vera Sims (nee Thiessen) passed away peacefully, with family at her side and in loving hands at the Seton

AgeCare facility in Calgary, Alberta on December 15, 2022, at the age of 81 years.

Vera is survived by two sons; Kurt (Julie) Sims, and Clint (Laurel) Sims, as well as five grandchildren, Maxwell, Marshall, Erica, Connor, and Adam Sims. She was predeceased by her mother Nellie Thiessen in 1991, father John Thiessen in 2007, sister Alice, in infancy, and brother Fred Thiessen in 2016.

Vera is also survived by two brothers and two sisters; John (Elaine) Thiessen, Mary (Tom) Slimmon, Werner Thiessen, and Hedy Mayes (and Ron), as well as numerous wonderful cousins, nieces, nephews, and dear friends.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday December 22, 2022, at Strathmore Alliance Church (First Avenue & Wheatland Trail), at 11:00 a.m. with Pastor John Duerksen officiating. A social luncheon at the church will follow the service. In lieu of flowers, if friends desire, memorial donations may be made directly to the Strathmore District Hospital where Vera spent the majority of her nursing career (200 Brent Boulevard, Strathmore, Alberta T1P 1J9). To send condolences or watch a live stream of the service, please visit Vera's obituary at www.wheatlandfuneralhome.ca.

> **₩ Wheatland Funeral Home** Strathmore, AB 403-934-4404

Obituary



SPENCE, Trent

Born on September 7, 1948, Trent lost his unwinnable battle with Bulbar ALS on Tuesday December 13, 2022.

Trent was born in Indian Head, SK, grew up in Calgary, AB, sharing good times with his siblings and eventually their spouses, (especially Deb & Pete) where he started a career in oil & gas, working with Kevco for over 25 years.

Trent loved sports and there was never any question about who his teams were: the Flames, Stampeders and Blue Jays. He was passionate and dedicated to coaching Tara in elite softball while she grew up, he tried, but unfortunately (for them both) Tracey was better at having parties while they travelled to tournaments than playing ball. Thankfully, Tracey eventually overcame her lack of athleticism and discovered a shared love of golf, playing as often as possible as a family. Trent loved hearing about, watching and following his nephew Stu playing golf and his granddaughters playing hockey.

After moving to Strathmore in 1997, Trent's social life flourished by making friends around town at Branders, the Green Bar, the curling rink, golf course and embracing his skill and passion at the pool tables. He accumulated many trophies and had so many good times as part of the Strathmore Pool League.

Trent left us as a beloved son to Flo & Gus, father of Tracey & Tara (Tyrell); PopPop to Rylee & Berklee; brother to Debbie (Pete), Rose (John), Ty (Dawn), Trevor (Janet), Sandy (Doug) & Todd; Uncle of Stu (Coral & Luke), Jeanette (Travis, Kayla, Dylan & Bailey), Jessica (Kelsey, Everly, Rowan & Anders), Spencer (Brit, Hadden & Lennyn), Ashley (John, Flo & Wyatt), Chad (Kazia & Kade), Trevor (Jaime, Meghan, Paisley & Hunter), Mikayla (Adam & Izzy), Rae & Kate (Murray, James & Eilidh); and a special friend to many.

Trent shared a special bond with his canine companions Leo, Mosbev. Quinn. Casper. Muffin & allofdebsdogs.

Bulbar ALS is a terrible disease and the support of close friends and

family was immeasurable in Trent's last months. A Celebration of Trent's Life was held at Branders on Sunday, December 18, 2022.

To send condolences, please visit Trent's obituary at www.wheatlandfuneralhome.ca.

> Wheatland Funeral Home Strathmore, AB

Obituary



STANLEY, **Bob** and **Dorothy**

It is with great sadness that the family of Bob and Dorothy Stanley announce their passing. Bob left for his eternal rest

in November and Dorothy joined him in December. They had lived west of Strathmore, working and serving in the community for 35 years. Married for 67 years, they raised four children, all who married, have eleven grandchildren and ten great grandchildren. They will be missed.

<u>Obituary</u>



VERGOUWEN, Morris Adrian July 6, 1933 - December 13, 2022

On December 13, 2022, Morris Vergouwen, aged 89, passed away peacefully at Dream Acres in Wheatland County, Alberta. Morris was born July 6, 1933

He is survived by his children Pat Vergouwen (Barry), Jim Vergouwen (Kristin), and Cindy Hamilton (Darren), as well as his grandchildren Kelsey, Lindsey, Martina, Layne, Calvin, Blake and great-grandson, Jackson. Morris is also survived by his younger brother Joe Vergouwen (Jean) and numerous nieces and nephews and is predeceased by his parents Pete and Nellie, brother Peter and sister Marie.

Leaving Strathmore at a young age, Morris spent several years around Carstairs. Drumheller and Hanna performing many jobs that satisfied his interest in horses, rodeo and the country life including Alberta Wheat Pool, Hanna Auction Market, Big Stone Rodeo, Calgary Stampede Ranch, and general construction work. He moved back to his hometown of Strathmore in 1979 and worked as an SPCA Constable until 1991. In the late 1980's, he purchased his farm east of Strathmore, fulfilling his dream of working the land and enjoying the country lifestyle.

Morris will best be remembered for truly living life to the fullest through simple pleasures such as watching rodeo, raising paint horses, making friends wherever he went, admiring nature, enjoying happy hour, rolling a cigarette, and spending time with his family.

Family, friends and others whose lives Morris touched are invited to join the family for a casual, 'Morris style' open house at his favourite meeting place, Smiley's Restaurant located at 330 Ridge Road Strathmore, Alberta on Saturday, January 7, 2023 from 2:00 - 4:30

In his memory, in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Wheatland & Area Hospice Society at www.wheatlandhospice.ca or Box 2154 Strathmore, Alberta T1P 1K2.

To send condolences, please visit Morris' obituary at www.wheatlandfuneralhome ca

> Wheatland Funeral Home Strathmore, AB 403-934-4404

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WYN Community Coordinator

Postion:

10-15 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 he contacted.





Summer Village of Island Lake Request for Proposals **Development Officer Position**

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located on the shores of Island Lake, approximately 20 minutes northwest of the Town of Athabasca, is looking for an outgoing and enthusiastic individual to fulfill a part time contract position for a Development Officer services within

Please visit online for complete details and instructions: www.islandlake.ca Summer Village of Island Lake, Box 8, Alberta Beach, T0E 0A0

svislandlake@wildwillowenterprises.com Position will be open until January 12, 2023 or a suitable candidate is found



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www.StrathmoreTimes.com



Form 3 A **Irrigation Districts Act** (Section 12)

Notice of Public Meeting Western Irrigation District

Change to the Expansion Limit

TAKE NOTICE that a public meeting will be held at Western Irrigation District's main office at A-1000 Pine Street, Strathmore, Alberta, on the 15th day of February 2023, beginning at 10:00 o'clock in the AM to discuss a proposed change to the expansion limit of the Western Irrigation District from the existing limit of 95,000 acres to

Additional information regarding this proposed change is available to the public at the office of the District

Dated at Strathmore, Alberta, this 16th day of November 2022.

> Sean Mascaluk, General Manager Western Irrigation District

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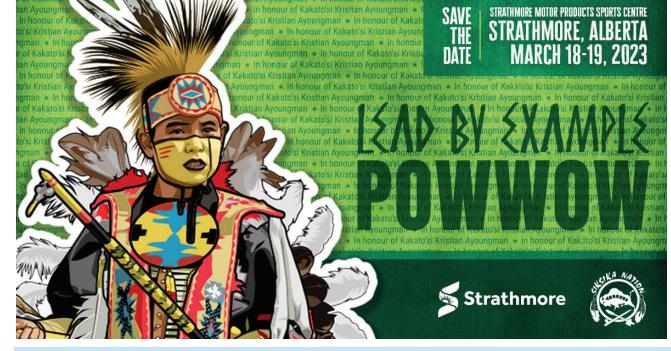
Upcoming Council Meetings

December 21, 2022 | 6pm | Regular Council Meeting | Committee of the Whole | January 18, 2023 | 6pm | Regular Council Meeting | Regular Council Meeting | Committee of the Whole | Regular Council Meeting | Regular Council Meeti

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







Snow Angels

The Snow Angel program pairs volunteers with seniors or those with disabilities that need help clearing their driveways and sidewalks in winter.

If you need help with snow this winter or are willing to lend assistance to someone in need, visit Strathmore.ca/SnowAngels

Keep in Touch

Are you a senior who is feeling lonely and would like someone to Keep in Touch?

The Keep in Touch Program connects Strathmore's residents with one another through a weekly telephone support system.

Learn more at Strathmore.ca/KIT

Volunteer Connector

Looking for a way to give back to your community? The Volunteer Connector website connects volunteers with community events, activities and organizations that require their services.

 $Volunteer\ today\ at\ Strathmore.ca/Volunteer$

