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STRATHMORE

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 26

TIMES

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Venom in action

Town open to gateway initiative

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Town of Strathmore council has voted to support funding applications by the Prairie Economic Gateway initiative.

Mayor Pat Fule was authorized to sign the letter of support as of the June 24 meeting of council, following a presentation on the current state of the project.

"The Prairie Economic Gateway Initiative is a first of its kind collaboration between the City of Calgary and Rocky View County to enable rail service, industrial development, and economic diversification in the Calgary region," said Angela Groeneveld, senior manager of economic stability and investment. "The Gateway is the epicenter of an island port that will enhance nation building by extending investments beyond our congested seaports and into the hinterland where significant industrial lands and capacity exist."

The partnership is projected to generate over \$7 billion in economic activity and create more than 30,000 jobs across the Calgary region over the next 10 to 12 years.

Once established, it is intended to leverage the regional strategic locations on the Calgary Pacific Kansas City rail network in order to enable greater interprovincial trade and global market access, as well as unlock new opportunities.

Groeneveld added she advocated directly with the Province of Alberta and with Prairie Gateway on behalf of the Town of Strathmore to be included on any discussions regarding the project moving forward.

The project is largely in its foundational stages at this time and is anticipated to be under discussion for the next several years.

Responding to an inquiry from Fule, Groeneveld explained she anticipates a number of jobs relating to the project eventually being available to Strathmore residents as it carries forward.

Continued on Page 4

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Softball fundraiser

STRATHMORE TIMES

Address

129 2nd Avenue
Inside the
Strathmore
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Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Look on Page 12 for
Town of Strathmore
Municipal Notices

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www.StrathmoreTimes.com



High-flying act

Motorcycles soared through the air as part of the Monster Trucks All Out Tour at the Strathmore Stampede Grounds on June 27-28. The two-day event featured three outstanding shows during the course of the weekend. See Page 8 for more coverage.

Joe Lepage Photo

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Popsicles in the Park

Strathmore FCSS hosted Popsicles in the Park at the Lions Splash Park on June 24 during an afternoon of connection with the community where participants could learn about local programs and supports and cool off with a free popsicle. Emily Pye (left photo, l-r) with FCSS, Ashlyn McCormick with the Town of Strathmore hand out popsicles. Hailey Denny (l-r), Logan Denny and Ryker McCartan take a break from playing and enjoy a popsicle.

Adelle Ellis
Photos



Strathmore United Church THRIFT Celebrates it's



This Sale will be held
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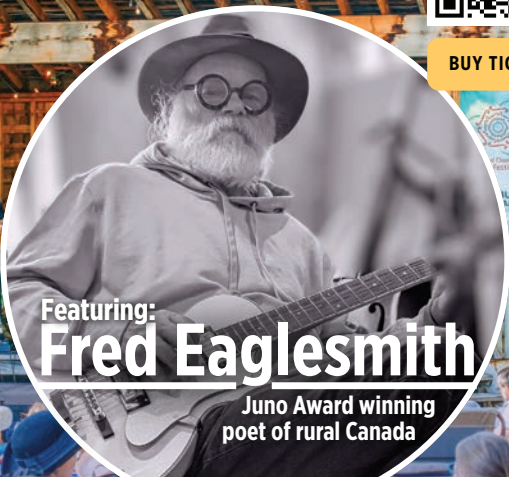
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Jayden Wilson, shown here competing at the Canadian Rodeo Finals barrel racing championship on Oct. 4 in Edmonton, will take part in her first Calgary Stampede rodeo later this month.

Photos Courtesy of Jayden Wilson



Gleichen barrel racer to compete at Calgary Stampede

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

One of Canada's top barrel racers, hailing from Gleichen, will be competing in the Calgary Stampede Rodeo, July 3-12.

Reigning Canadian champion and ranked among the Top 30 barrel racers globally, Jayden Wilson is gearing up to tackle the event as yet another rodeo along her annual circuit.

"This is my first Stampede. It is very exciting, I feel like, especially growing up, I think the Calgary Stampede is a big deal for anyone. Everyone in North America seems to know about it," said Wilson. "Especially when you grow up just down the road, we have gone to it every year for as long as I can remember to watch. To get the opportunity to go compete at it is pretty exciting."

Wilson explained as a Canadian, the threshold to receive an invitation to compete at the Stampede is a high bar to clear. Only the Top 4 in the country recognized within the year will be invited to Calgary.

For this year, the standings were taken from 2025 Canadian pro rodeos following the conclusion of the Canadian finals. Winning those, Wilson received an automatic invitation to the Calgary Stampede.

She described the feelings as being "surreal," having worked her whole career to achieve this.

"My whole family comes from horses and rodeo. My mom's a barrel racer, my dad was a saddle bronc rider, and my sister is also a barrel racer," she added. "It is just something that we have always done, and growing up, I think I started when I was eight or nine actually rodeoing and then moved up through the junior, the amateur rodeo, and then now the pro rodeo ranks."

Wilson began participating in rodeo sports when she was in grade school, taking part in gymkhana and similar events around Strathmore prior to starting with barrel racing.

Now 28 years old, she competes all across Canada and has expanded her reach into parts of the American rodeo scene.

"I went down to Texas in the winter for a few of the big Fort Worth and San Antonio rodeos I qualified for ... I went to a few in North Dakota, Wyoming, Montana – so I go a little bit, but mainly I focus on Canada," she said. "I feel like I have a lot of faith in my horse. He is who I have run for four years now, so that helps a lot but I'm sure when I get (to Calgary), there will be some nerves. Everybody I talk to says there is not really any stage quite like Calgary when you actually get there."



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Thought for the Week

~

Perhaps in order to live in harmony and fulfillment we need to demand that our actions match our words.

SUDOKU

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RCMP warns public of various scams

ALBERTA RCMP

RCMP is warning residents about an increase in sophisticated phishing scams targeting community members.

In these incidents, fraudsters are contacting victims by phone while claiming to represent financial institutions. The calls may appear legitimate, as caller ID can be manipulated to display the name and phone number of a bank. Fraudsters advise victims of alleged suspicious transactions on their credit cards or bank accounts and then request account information, passwords, or verification codes to “secure” the account. Once this information is provided, fraudsters gain access to the victim’s accounts and transfer funds.

In some cases, fraudsters instruct victims to cut up their bank card and advise that a courier will be sent to collect the card. Although the card appears damaged, critical information remains intact, allowing fraudsters to continue using it. The collected cards may then be used to withdraw funds and make unauthorized purchases.

RCMP would like to remind the public that while banks may contact customers regarding suspicious transactions, they will not ask for passwords, personal identification numbers (PINs) or arrange for couriers to collect bank cards. Financial institutions can freeze accounts or stop transactions without requiring customers to provide sensitive information over the phone.

If you receive a suspicious call, consider the following tips:

- Hang up and contact the company directly using the

phone number listed on the back of your bank card, account statement, official website or by attending in person.

- Never provide passwords, PINs, verification codes, or banking information to an unsolicited caller.
- Do not click on suspicious links contained in emails, text messages, or social media messages.
- Be cautious of caller ID information, as it can be spoofed to appear legitimate.

If you believe you have been the victim of fraud:

- Contact your financial institution immediately.
- Report the incident to your local police service.
- Contact Equifax and TransUnion to place fraud alerts on your credit file.
- Report the fraud to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre.

Residents are reminded to remain vigilant and remember: if something seems too good to be true, it probably is.

Town to support Prairie Economic Gateway

Continued from Page 1

“Looking at the size of it and why they are going to be going after, I personally see many different levels of employment there,” she said. “A lot of the jobs that are coming into the communities right now in the country surrounding us are specific trade and specific post-secondary training. When we did the workforce study on Strathmore, we do not have a lot of that type of opportunity (or) employers available for those (types of work[]).”

It was noted 1,300 acres are under discussion for allocation in Rocky View County to support the project within the immediate Calgary region, which includes support for Strathmore, Wheatland County, and Siksika Nation.

Groeneveld suggested manufacturers in Strathmore will come to have the opportunity to get their products to foreign markets by way of this rail project upon its completion, however it will not expand closer to Strathmore than the existing plans for Rocky View County. Instead, current rail infrastructure will be integrated.

“This will be huge for the Town of Strathmore, just from more jobs landing within it for our residents, as well as the opportunity for some spin-off businesses, especially with the initiatives that we have been talking about as far as making or promoting an eastern corridor,” said Coun. Matt Hyde. “I am excited about this – I think it is going to be great for our community; I think it is going to be great for the region, and overall, great for the Province of Alberta.”

Further information regarding the project has been made publicly available via the City of Calgary and Rocky View County.

STRATHMORE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Meeting in the Lutheran Church
112 Lakeside Blvd.
1-888-506-1066 ext. 101
Pastor: Donald Wright
Services held every Saturday
Sabbath School: 10 AM
Worship Service: 11 AM
www.strathmoreadventist.ca
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HAPPY CANADA DAY

Gold medal painter

MARIO PRUSINA
Times Editor

Strathmore Times Local Journalism Initiative reporter John Watson earned a gold medal at the inaugural Game Con Canada Brush Masters miniature painting competition in the Large Model category on June 19-21 in Edmonton.

The Brush Masters, presented by Red Claw Gaming, debuted as a new platform designed to celebrate the artistry and technical skill behind miniature painting.

Watson's winning entry had previously been submitted to Maple Palette in London, Ont., earlier this year, where it received a bronze medal before being awarded gold at Brush Masters.

"It was really interesting hearing what the judges had to say this time around. My entry was the same one I took to Maple Palette ... in April and I was awarded a bronze medal there, yet here, I was awarded a gold," said Watson. "It goes to show judging can often be very subjective."

Each entry was evaluated across six criteria: technical execution, construction and craftsmanship, composition and visual design, creativity and artistic vision, impact and storytelling, and ambition and challenge.

Watson said the feedback from judges was one of the most valuable parts of the experience.

"The feedback given was also fantastic. That, I feel, is the real value of competing at this level," said Watson. "Critiquing can be harsh, but it also points you in exactly the right direction to continue improving."

The judging panel included some of the most recognized miniature artists, led by Alexandre Dos Santos, widely regarded as one of the top painters in Canada, along with

Courtney DeVries, Dan Osborne, Greg Vader and Oscar Lars. Entries were divided into five categories: Single Model (54 mm or smaller), Large Model (greater than 54 mm), Vehicle/Machine, Diorama/Display/Unit, and Bust/Open.

Medals were awarded in bronze, silver and gold tiers, along with trophies for Best in Category and Best in Show.

Beyond competition results, Watson highlighted the community aspect of the event.

"Competition aside, just being at the events is an amazing way to feel a sense of community, meet people, and speak with people who are just as enthusiastic as you are," he said.

Looking ahead, Watson said he is planning to continue competing across Canada and internationally.

"Moving forward, there are a handful more competitions here in Canada that have my attention, such as Sword and Brush, which takes place in November. Then, it'll be on to international events such as AdeptiCon. The latter still frightens me because that would mean competing for a Golden Demon – one of the most prestigious painting awards in the world."





Chantelle de Jonge
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YOUR WEEKLY HEALTH ADVICE
Gord Morck Pharmacist
Capsule Comments

There are two main types of sunscreens. The *reflective* type contains titanium and/or zinc oxide which don't allow UV rays to penetrate. The other type which accounts for the majority of them; they absorb the UV rays, altering their properties so they don't damage the skin. Most people don't apply enough sunscreen. Probably if you double the amount you normally use, that will be enough.

More drownings occur in July than in any other month and many of these deaths involve alcohol. In the U.S., the Centre for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that 31% of all drownings involve blood alcohol concentrations of 0.10% or higher. Alcohol impairs judgment and increases risk-taking...a dangerous combination for swimmers and boaters.

As we age, our bodies become less efficient at metabolizing alcohol. Kidney function declines with age along with the rate the body breaks down the alcohol. A higher blood alcohol level may result with even two standard drinks of alcohol. Be safe this summer and be aware of the effect of alcohol on the body.

Thinking of doing some tidying up the house this summer? There is a link between high levels of *cortisol*, the stress hormone, and clutter. The more the clutter, the more the stress. If clutter in your home is causing you stress, start small and declutter one room only (or even one drawer!) and work up from there. You'll find you feel a lot less stressful.

**Hours: M-F: 9-7 pm
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Flags for Canada

Motorists passing the Strathmore Legion received a Canadian flag on June 26 ahead of Canada Day, which of course is July 1. The annual event was sponsored by local realtor Debbie Mitzner of RE/MAX Landan Real Estate, helping residents show their Canadian pride.

Joe Lepage Photos

Rougeau family celebrates centennial of family farm

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Rougeau family celebrated 100 years of agriculture operations within the Wheatland County area, over the weekend.

Purchasing the land from Canadian Pacific Rail (CPR) in 1926, the farm was homesteaded the same year by Martial Rougeau Sr., who came west from Saint-Édouard, Que.

It was eventually taken over by Martial Rougeau Jr., now 96 years old, in 1965, then passed down in 1994 to its current steward, Ted Rougeau.

“We just invited all our friends and neighbors and some business associates just to come and have a burger and a refreshment. (My wife), Diana, has gone through quite a bit – she has pictures and antiques and a bunch of stuff on display,” said Rougeau. “You just have to keep going one generation at a time ... there is quite a bit of (nostalgia) when you get looking at all the old pictures and stuff and how they did things in the past and how we do things today.”

Over the last century, the family has mostly farmed grains and oilseeds, with the previous landowners having ranched cattle for a time.

During the course of his original operations, Martial Sr. constructed a grain elevator by hand between

1953 and 1955, which is still in operational condition today.

Rougeau added cropping methods are among some of the more significant changes to how farming operations have evolved.

“Now, we do a lot of conservation farming. Not that the prior generations were also stewards of the land, but we seem to have more equipment and technology at our disposal to really do quite a job of maintaining the soil and producing the yields,” he explained. “A big difference, I think, over time has been the physical labour part. It is not nearly as labour intensive as it was in the past. Our equipment is so much bigger, and with the technology (and) GPS, there is a lot that makes it easier.”

When the land was first purchased, Rougeau estimated it was between 600 and 800 acres. Over the years, the family has been able to accumulate in the realm of 4,000 acres for their farming operations.

As part of the centennial milestone, the family applied for and was granted a century farm award by the provincial government recognizing them for the occasion and their family’s commitment to the industry.

Rougeau added his kids and their families have also begun helping out on the farm, continuing the trend into the fourth and fifth generations.

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.

July 7, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Council Meeting

July 8, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Municipal Planning Commission | ASB

August 11, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Council Meeting

For call-in details, access links, and agenda packages, please visit our website.

<https://wheatlandcounty.ca/agendasandminutes/>



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- Be 18 years of age or older
- Valid Class 5 drivers license
- Provide a satisfactory criminal record check including a vulnerable sector check
- Provide a satisfactory drivers abstract
- Be willing to learn how to become a firefighter through training courses provided
- Eligible to work in Canada



OPEN HOUSE

Nightingale
Community Hall
254040 RR245, Wheatland County

JULY 7, 2026 | 7:00 P.M.

Wheatland County residents are invited to attend an upcoming community open house in Nightingale.

The evening will include project updates, opportunities to ask questions, and time to connect directly with County representatives. While the open house is taking place in Nightingale, all Wheatland County residents are encouraged to attend and take part in the conversation.

We look forward to seeing you there and hearing from our community.



Evening Agenda

- 7:00 P.M. Presentations and Community Updates Begin
- 8:00 P.M. Formal Question & Answer Period
- Following Q&A Informal Discussion and One-on-One Conversations with Council and Administration



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- Heavy Truck Operator (Hamlet Crew)
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Spurs battle Lions

The Strathmore Spurs U11 soccer team hosted the Calgary New Castle Lions on June 27 at the Ranch Market Soccer Field. Mother Nature allowed the game to be played, but it definitely would have been rained out if the game was scheduled for the day after.

Joe Lepage Photos



Venon fall to Axemen

Despite two goals and one assist from Judah Nation, the Strathmore Venom Jr. B lacrosse team fell 7-5 to the Calgary Axemen on June 26 at the Strathmore Family Centre. Nolan Van Den Bussche and Cole Maser also tallied a goal and an assist for the Venom, who will now prepare to host the Badlands Sun Devils on July 5 at the Strathmore Family Centre.

Joe Lepage Photos



Playing for Jess

Players from five teams took to the diamonds at the Ag Grounds on June 27-28 for the sixth annual Jess Bray Memorial Slo-Pitch Tournament. The event honoured the memory of Jess Bray through a weekend of friendly competition, camaraderie and community spirit. Among the participating teams was the Red Centennials, named after Bray's little league baseball team, while another represented the law firm where he worked. Jess' mother and grandmother were also in attendance to celebrate his legacy alongside players, volunteers and supporters.

Joe Lepage Photos





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Truck roar

The Monster Trucks All Out Tour made its way to the Strathmore Stampede Grounds on June 27-28, delivering giant outdoor shows filled with high-flying, ground-pounding action. Fans witnessed iconic monster trucks including ROBOSHARK, BUCKING BRONCO, and OUTFOXED, along with the Canadian debut of T-REX, as they battled it out in nonstop competition over the two-day event.

Joe Lepage Photos

RCMP gives tips to reduce home theft

ALBERTA RCMP

As the weather warms up and community members spend more time away from the home, the Alberta RCMP is reminding Albertans to secure your property to help prevent yard theft and break and enters.

In 2025, there were 3,132 residential break and enters in Alberta RCMP jurisdiction, with 283 occurring in June of last year alone. Property and yard theft are often crimes of opportunity. Simple practices like Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) can help secure your property and prevent theft.

The following CPTED tips can help keep your property safe:

- **Lighting:** Ensure your yard is well lit. Consider installing motion sensor lights at every entry.
- **Sightlines:** Keep clear sightlines to yards, garages, and entries to prevent places for criminals to hide. Make sure trees and bushes aren't overgrown, creating cover for a potential thief.
- **Gates:** A locked gate can help deter a criminal who may not want to waste time trying to get through.
- **Windows:** Keep windows covered and locked when you're not home. An empty house is a criminal's playground.
- **Alarms:** Consider installing a security system, especially on seasonal properties or if you travel often.

This will help ensure that if anything does happen to your property, authorities will be alerted.

• **Locks:** Always lock any sheds or garages. Keep valuable items like lawn mowers, barbecues, and bikes stored out of sight.

CPTED is an international concept that has proven to discourage crime and promote security. These simple tips can have positive effects on our communities.

The Alberta RCMP encourages the public to report any criminal or suspicious activity to police. If you discover a crime has taken place on your property, you should report it to police immediately. Reports tell us where to look, who to look for, and where to patrol in the future.

If you see something suspicious, report it to your local police service. If you see a crime in progress, call 911. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), online at www.P3Tips.com or by using the "P3 Tips" app available through the Apple App or Google Play Store. To contact the RCMP non-emergency line within any Alberta RCMP jurisdiction call 310-RCMP (7267).

For more information on CPTED and preventing residential break and enters, please follow us on Facebook @RCMPinAlberta, X @RCMP-Alberta, and on YouTube @RCMP-GRC Alberta.

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Artificial intelligence and the consumer experience

BBB RELEASE

Today the Better Business Bureau released a report over-viewing the consumer experience to date with Artificial Intelligence.

During the last three years, BBB has received more than 100,000 complaints, reviews, and scam tracker reports mentioning artificial intelligence and automation. While reporting categories encompass different types of issues, there is one clear concern across all types of consumer sentiment data: customers often feel unheard or dissatisfied when dealing with automated and AI services.

“We are hearing from consumers on a regular basis who are excited about the potential of this technology but also often voicing their displeasure when interacting with platforms and entities deploying a range of Artificial Intelligence,” says Mary O’Sullivan-Andersen, President and CEO of

Protect yourself before you buy tickets

BBB RELEASE

Last year, the Better Business Bureau (BBB) received more than 140 reports about ticket scams related to sporting events, concerts, theatre, and more.

BBB warns consumers to be smart when searching for and purchasing tickets to ensure they purchase from a trustworthy source. BBB and the National Association of Ticket Brokers (NATB) are working to raise awareness and educate fans about the smartest ways to buy tickets on the secondary resale market.

“Most tickets are now provided in digital form,” says Mary O’Sullivan-Andersen, President and CEO of BBB Serving Alberta and East Kootenay. “Download your tickets to a digital wallet in advance, and of course buy them from a verified, reputable source. In some instances, consumers are paying hundreds and even thousands of dollars for tickets. Do your research before you purchase tickets to protect yourself from scammers.”

Tips for buying tickets:

- Consider your source. Know the difference between a professional ticket broker (a legitimate and accredited reseller), a ticket scalper (an unregulated and unlicensed ticket seller), and a scammer selling scam tickets.
- Sign up for alerts. Many venues and official ticket platforms offer email or app notifications for presales, special offers, or alerts when tickets become available. This can help you avoid the need to purchase from unverified resellers.
- Check out the seller/broker. Look them up on BBB.org to learn what other customers have experienced. Check to see if they are a member of the National Association of Ticket Brokers.
- Buy only from trusted vendors. Buy online only from vendors you know and trust. Look for the lock symbol in the web address to indicate a secure purchasing system. Don’t click through emails or online ads; a common ticket scam trick is to create a web address that is similar to a well-known company.
- Consider ticket insurance. For high-cost tickets, purchasing ticket insurance can help protect you if the event is canceled or rescheduled. Ensure the insurance terms are clear and from a legitimate provider.
- Know the refund policy. You should only purchase tickets from a ticket reseller that provides clear details about the terms of the transaction. Sellers should disclose to the purchaser, before purchase, the location of the seats represented by the tickets, either orally or by reference to a seating chart; and, if the tickets are not available for immediate access to the purchaser, disclose when the tickets will ship or be available for pick up.
- Use payment methods that come with protection. Always use a credit card so you have some recourse if the tickets are not as promised. Debit cards, wire transfers, or cash transactions are risky; if the tickets are fraudulent, you won’t be able to get your money back.
- Be wary of advertisements. When you search the web for online tickets, advertisements for cheap tickets will often appear. Use good judgment; some ads will be ticket scams, especially if the prices are low.
- If you’re unsure, verify your tickets. Pay a visit to the arena where the event will be held. Present your ticket to “Will Call” (customer service), and they can verify if your ticket is legitimate and show you how to tell if it is fake.

BBB Alberta and East Kootenay. “The vast majority of these reports are negative with some consumers expressing high levels of frustration.”

Here is what the study found:

- Of nearly 20,000 business reviews mentioning AI since 2023, more than 90 per cent indicated negative sentiment.
 - BBB received nearly 100,000 complaints, with many in online retail, e-commerce and tech-forward industries.
 - Consumers expressed confusion and frustration with an inability to solve their issues.
 - Many felt ignored or left behind when not able to connect with a human representative.
- BBB tips to avoid AI scams:
- Avoid unexpected phone calls with an automated voice.
 - Automation is spreading through all scam types, research individualized tips on our website (bbb.org/scamstudies).
 - Know that scammers can create new phone numbers on the fly and a new number may be the same scammer.
 - Be wary of ads at the top of searches, as they may imitate real AI websites.

“As is always the case, consumers need to trust the businesses they are interacting with,” says O’Sullivan-Andersen. “This study indicates there is a level of discontent right now and there’s much more work to do.”



WE'RE ALL EARS

Questions? Comments? Story Ideas?

Let us know how we're doing.

Your opinion is something we always want to hear. Call or contact us online.

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Strengthening healthcare in Alberta

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

Alberta is improving its services and infrastructure to keep up with real life: a cancer system ready for more patients, surgical care that gives people more options, and municipal infrastructure that can support new homes and growing communities. Last week, our government focused on expanding that capacity so families can get the care they need, communities can plan for the future, and Albertans can count on the services they rely on every day.

Cancer touches many Albertan families, and we are taking action on how we support patients early and quickly. Through Alberta's new 10-year Strategic Plan for Cancer to 2036, our government is setting a clear path to expand screening, speed up diagnosis, improve treatment, and strengthen supportive care across the province. The plan includes more than 40 actions focused on prevention, early detection, innovation, workforce growth, and more consistent access to care across the province. Budget 2026 builds on this work with \$1.2 billion over three years for cancer care, including \$223 million in new operating funding to hire more oncologists. For patients and families, this strategy is about building a cancer system that is faster, more connected, and more responsive when people need it.

Long waits for surgery can have serious impacts on patients and their families. That is why Alberta's government is launching a dual practice model in September 2026 to increase surgical capacity and give physicians more flexibility to deliver both publicly funded and privately paid surgeries. The model will include procedures such as orthopedic surgeries, hip and knee replacements, and cataract surgeries. Emergency care, life-saving ser-

vices, and cancer care will remain exclusively publicly funded. With safeguards such as minimum public-service requirements, reporting rules, and ongoing monitoring, this approach is designed to protect the public system while expanding options and helping more Albertans get lifesaving care sooner.

Communities cannot grow without the infrastructure to support them, and municipalities need practical tools to build and maintain it as their populations grow. To help meet those needs, our government is launching a new minister's council on infrastructure financing to explore innovative ways municipalities can fund critical infrastructure without simply increasing the tax burden on Albertans. Working with municipal leaders, industry, and the Building Industry and Land Development Association, the council will examine new financing tools, partnerships, and approaches used in other jurisdictions to help meet local needs. This work, together with Budget 2026's \$7.1 billion in municipal infrastructure support, will help communities plan for growth with more flexibility and confidence.

Alberta is growing, and the services and infrastructure Albertans rely on are growing with it. By setting a long-term cancer care strategy, expanding surgical options with safeguards, and helping municipalities find better ways to fund infrastructure, our government is focused on making sure that Albertans can get care sooner, communities can build what they need, and families can count on services that are ready for the future.

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

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

Canada Day

Bike

parade

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Wednesday, July 1 2026 12:30 pm Start Kinsmen Park

FREE Family Fun!

Bring your pre-decorated Bike or Stroller - Meet at 12:15pm
Popcorn & prizes for all, 3 winners (1 in each age group)
Helmets are mandatory for all riders
No Registration Required

Strathmore

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TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

Obituary



BUZZARD, Faye (Ockey)

FAYE BUZZARD (OCKEY) passed away peacefully on Thursday, June 25, 2026, in Airdrie at the age of ninety-four.

Faye was born on April 19, 1932, in Stavely, Alberta, to Herman Russell Ockey and Thelma Wynder Ockey. She was one of thirteen children and grew up in Rosemary, Alberta where she attended a one-room schoolhouse. As a young woman, she later moved to Brooks, where she worked as a telephone operator. It was there that she met Reginald Bunney.

Faye married Reg and together they had three sons: Michael, Clayton, and Richard. Later in life, she married Ralph Buzzard, and together they welcomed their daughter, Shauna.

Over the years, Faye's life was full and rich with hard work, love, and adventure. After her time in Brooks, she, Ralph, and their family moved to Sardis, B.C., where Faye worked in the canneries, before later settling in Redland, Alberta. There she and Ralph raised calves, chickens, and horses. In the 1980s, both worked for the County of Wheatland—Ralph as a truck driver and Faye as a camp cook.

Faye was a deeply resolute partner, proudly supporting Ralph in his chuckwagon and horse racing pursuits, always traveling with him, and taking part in parades with their team of horses. She lived an active life and found joy in many simple pleasures—playing softball as a young woman, and over the years she loved gardening, and especially making music. She loved to play the guitar and piano, sing, and dance, and she delighted in sharing the fruits of her garden with family and friends.

When the day's work was done, Faye cherished quieter moments as well. She loved playing games, doing crosswords and puzzles, crocheting, and reading; these simple joys brought her peace and contentment.

Her faith was a guiding presence throughout her life. Faye believed Sundays were a true day of rest—a time set aside for reflection, family, and worship, never for extra work. She often filled her home with music, playing beloved church hymns on the organ in her living room. She had a natural ear for music, and those melodies became a lasting part of the warmth and comfort she created for those around her.

Known for her warm smile and mischievous twinkle, Faye had a wonderful sense of humor. She loved to laugh and bring joy to those around her. Her happiest moments were spent surrounded by her family, whom she cherished deeply.

Faye was predeceased by her parents, Herman and Thelma; her beloved husband, Ralph; her grandson, Colin Brandt; and eight siblings: Reeve (Ron) Wilde, twins Thelma and Thelda Ockey, Ileen (Norman) Parker, Larene (Boyd) Gedlemen, Verene (Delmar) Sillito, Rex Ockey, and Sandra (Don) Sillito.

She will be lovingly remembered and missed by her children: Michael (Karen) Bunney, Clayton (Karen) Bunney, Richard Bunney, and Shauna Brandt; as well as her eight grandchildren: Steven (Samantha) Bunney, Courtney (Darcy) Douglas, Jesse Bunney, Jordan (PJ) Pescod, Jaydon Bunney, Curtis Bunney, Connor (Hailey) Bunney and Jason Brandt along with nine great-grandchildren.

Faye is also survived by her siblings: Dale (Lynn) Ockey, Daron (Pat) Ockey, Myrna (Glen) Dunphy, and Kaaren (Ron) Murphy.

The family wishes to express sincere appreciation to the wonderful staff of Airdrie Care Community for the exceptional care, compassion, and kindness shown to Faye throughout her years there. We are especially grateful for the friendships she formed and the loving support she received, which enriched her life and brought comfort to our family.

A celebration of life and funeral service will be held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 60 Maplewood Drive, Strathmore, AB, at 1:00pm on July 3rd. Family and friends are warmly welcome to attend.

In lieu of flowers, those who wish to honor Faye's memory may consider a donation to the Alzheimer Society of Alberta and Northwest Territories or a charity of your choice.

Wheatland Funeral Home Ltd.
Honouring Life. Cherishing Memories

MEMORIAM

In Memory of
Todd Giroux (1974-2025)
who passed away July 4, 2025

*We are sad with our memories
Lonely are our hearts today
For the one we loved so dearly
Has forever been called away.
We think of him in silence
No eye can see us weep
But many silent tears are shed
When others are asleep.*

Missing you always
Love Mom,
Doug, Mary & Ashleigh
Kevin, Abbie & Kodie

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CLASSTIFIEDS

COMING EVENT

To old and new friends
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65th Wedding Anniversary
at the **Travelodge**, 350 Ridge Road
in Strathmore. **July 25, 2026,**
1.30 PM to 5.00 PM.

If you wish to help us celebrate, please RSVP
before July 10, so we can tell the caterer
how many to expect.

And since we are moving in the fall, it will also
give us a chance to see everyone before.

Call 403 540 0201 or email:
jenslehma13@gmail.com
NO gifts please and dress casual

Looking forward to seeing you.

**Clara & Jens
Lehmann**

NOTICE

Notice of Preparation of 2025 Assessment Roll used for 2026 Property Taxation Year for Village of Rockyford, Province of Alberta

Notice is hereby given that the 2025 Assessment Roll for Village of Rockyford used for 2026 Property Taxation, completed under the provisions of Municipal Government Act, has been prepared and is open for inspection Monday to Friday during business hours of 8:30am to 4:30 pm MST at Village of Rockyford Administration Office located at 110 Main Street, Rockyford, AB T0J 2R0. **If you have any questions or concerns about your assessment, please contact the Village of Rockyford at 403-533-3950.** Any person who desires to appeal the assessed value placed upon their property must, on or before 4:00pm of **August 24, 2026**, lodge their complaint(s) in writing, with the fee of \$60.00, to the Clerk of the Assessment Review Board, Village of Rockyford, Box 294, 110 Main Street, Rockyford, AB T0J 2R0.

Combined 2026 Assessment and Tax notices have been mailed June 17, 2026. If you have not received your combined notice, please contact the Village of Rockyford at 403-533-3950.

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Skatmore is a grass-roots community for all people to come together with one thing in common; a third space. The Strathmore Skatepark welcomes everyone, every Thursday, from 5-7pm! We celebrate diversity and inclusion. Come listen to music. Bring your instruments, chill or make art. Don't forget your finger-board! Come learn to skateboard. Come for the big cheers and the indefinite "last tries". Stay tuned for special events, sponsored by skate clubs and shops from all over the place! We greatly appreciate your support

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Upcoming Council Meetings

June 24, 2026 | 6 p.m.
July 15, 2026 | 6 p.m.
July 22, 2026 | 6 p.m.

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

Come Say Hi

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

June to early August road maintenance.
Summer Construction on Wheatland Trail.

Starting as early as today through approximately early August, you may see construction activity along Wheatland Trail (Highway 817) as the Government of Alberta through Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors begins road rehabilitation work in and around Strathmore.

Weather permitting, their contractor Aecon will be working on Highway 817 from approximately 1 km south of Highway 1 to 3 km north of Strathmore. Work anticipated to be completed between June 18 and June 30 includes:

- Concrete and sidewalk repairs at several locations within Strathmore, including near Esso, Fas Gas, and Strathmore Alliance Church
- Roadway repairs south of Brent Boulevard
- Crack sealing throughout the project area
- Installation of highway street lighting at the Highway 564 and Highway 817 intersection

To help reduce impacts on traffic, work south of Westmount Drive will generally take place overnight between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. Work north of Westmount Drive will generally occur during daytime hours due to nearby residences.

You should expect to see reduced speeds, lane restrictions, and delays while work is underway. Paving operations are scheduled to begin after the July long weekend and run until early August, weather dependent.

Please note that Highway 817 and the above project is managed by the Government of Alberta and not the Town of Strathmore.

For more information on Government of Alberta road conditions and construction updates, call 5-1-1 toll-free or visit 511.alberta.ca

Information on Strathmore's roads can always be found at [Strathmore.ca/RoadReports](https://strathmore.ca/RoadReports)

New classes available.
Lifeguard academy.

Interested in the Lifeguard Academy? We've got some new classes for you to check out.

- Lifesaving Intermediate First Aid with CPR-C & AED
- Bronze Medallion
- Bronze Cross
- National Lifeguard
- Swim Instructor

Check out [Strathmore.ca/Recreation](https://strathmore.ca/Recreation) for more information.

Enjoy them safely.
Storm pond safety.

Storm ponds play an important role in protecting our homes and neighbourhoods. They help prevent flooding by managing heavy rainfall and slowly releasing water back into the environment. As water moves across streets and properties, it collects sediment, pollutants, and debris - storm ponds help filter this before it reaches our rivers and streams.

While Strathmore is home to many storm ponds, only Kinsmen Lake and Strathmore Lakes permit recreational use such as fishing. For your safety, please avoid any activity on or near other storm ponds. These ponds are deeper than they appear with water levels that rise and move quickly. They often contain contaminants like fertilizers, pesticides, and animal waste as well.

Visit our website, [Strathmore.ca/StormPonds](https://strathmore.ca/StormPonds) for more information.

Join our team.

Career opportunities available.

Are you looking for a new opportunity? The Town of Strathmore is hiring! We have a variety of positions available across different departments.

- Casual Lifeguard/Instructor
- Contract Group Fitness Instructor/Personal Trainer
- Lead Facility Operator (Arena)
- Manager, Financial Services

Check out [Strathmore.ca/Careers](https://strathmore.ca/Careers) for more information about current opportunities and discover your bright future with the Town of Strathmore.

Good food, great food.
Get the Good Food Box.

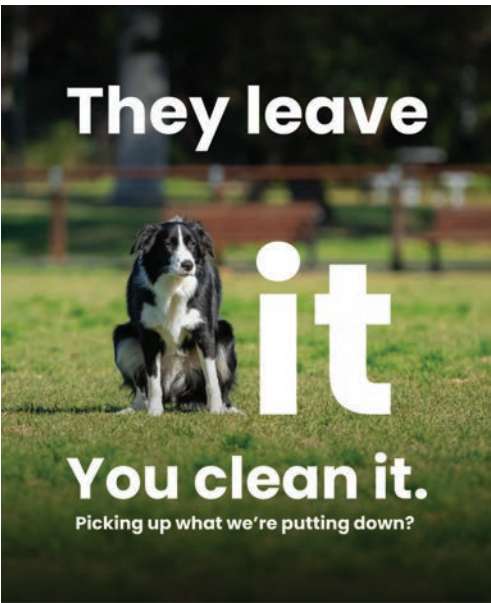
The Good Food Box is a non-profit organization offering access to quality produce while ensuring variety, freshness and affordability. It is brought to you by your community, packed by volunteers and delivered to Strathmore through FCSS. This program is accessible for everyone regardless of income level. For more information, visit [Strathmore.ca/GoodFoodBox](https://strathmore.ca/GoodFoodBox)

Bored? We can fix that.

Join a board.

Boards and committees have always played an important role in our community. If you're looking for a way to make an impact, this is your chance to get involved. The Town is currently accepting applications for Family and Community Support Services Advisory Board - 1 position open.

For questions about Volunteer Boards and Committees, please email LSAdmin@strathmore.ca or call 403-934-3133.



Register today!
Summer Camps.

We've got some fun and safe alternatives to boredom for ages 4 to 12 with our summer camps! Check out the themes of each week and register your child for their favourite theme, or register in all the weeks for a fun-filled summer!

For more information, visit our website [Strathmore.ca/Recreation](https://strathmore.ca/Recreation). For registration, you can register for camps through your PerfectMind account. Got questions? Give us a call at 403-361-2121.

Theme	Date
Water Fun	June 29 to 3, 2026
Splash and Play (Swim Lessons)	July 6 to 10, 2026
Sport and Explore	July 13 to 17, 2026
Multi-Sport Adventure	July 20 to 24, 2026
Splash and Dash (Swim Lessons)	July 27 to 31, 2026
Neon Days	Aug 4 to 7, 2026
Balls and More	Aug 10 to 14, 2026
Olympic Days	Aug 17 to 21, 2026
NEW* Fencing Camp (Ares Pentathlon & Fencing)	Aug 24 to 28, 2026
Let's Celebrate	Aug 24 to 27, 2026

