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Page 5



Skatepark brainstorm

Page 8



Awesome Aggie Days

COVID-19 Update

in Strathmore & Wheatland County (as of June 13, 2022)

2808 Cases since COVID started 4 New Cases in last seven days 31 Deaths



Look on Page 2 for Town of Strathmore Municipal Notices

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A transparent animal control bylaw

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Strathmore Town Council has amended its animal control bylaw to be more transparent regarding penalties for the behaviour of aggressive dogs.

Mark Pretzlaff with town administration presented to council at the June 15 regular meeting to bring back the proposal for amendment, following its introduction to the Committee of the Whole on June 8.

"The existing animal control bylaw does not include a list of penalties for various things such as vicious dogs, (lacking) a license, and things like that," said Pretzlaff. "In light of that, we brought this to council last week for their consideration ... we are hoping at this time that we can amend the bylaw just to include the penalties and fines at this time"

The idea is to be able to give bylaw and municipal enforcement staff an opportunity to enforce the fines if necessary and grant a better understanding that education to residents and ratepayers is the first priority.

Administration would also have a more adequate amount of time to fully vet the bylaw, as it is, according to Pretzlaff, quite dated, and will eventually need to undergo more significant updates.

Currently in Strathmore, a vicious dog biting or injuring a person comes with a first penalty of \$1,500, and a second penalty of \$3,000. These penalties were implemented based on existing bylaws of and are in line with other similar municipalities.

Councillor Richard Wegener expressed that he feels the fines currently detailed are light and could do to be raised for those with an aggressive dog.

"As I look at that and realize the kind of damage that can be done, especially if young children are involved, I just don't think those penalties are high enough," said Wegener, who cited his awareness of a person who had been attacked by a dog in their youth that resulted in lifelong mental trauma, as comprising some of the basis for his opinion.

Continued on Page 4



Impressive expressions!

Aerial Students from Expressions, the Dance Gallery hosted a two-day showcase in Kinsmen Park June 18-19. The recital featured students performing hoops, trapeze and silks.

Joe Lepage Photo





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to sign up and help.





Public Hearing Notice July 06, 2022 | 6:00 p.m.

Bylaw #22-18

Bylaw #22-18 proposes to amend Land Use Bylaw No. 14-11 by redesignating a portion of NW-22-24-25-W4M in Lakewood as listed in the map below.

The 0.199 acres of R1N to P1 is to accommodate a proposed park. The Direct Control District Overlay proposes to reduce the minimum side yard setback for internal lots (lots other than corner lots) from 1.5m to 1.2m in this phase of development.

Public Hearing Process

A copy of the proposed Bylaws may be inspected by the public during regular office hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday at the Town Office (1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore, AB), or can be found on the Town website (https://strathmore.ca/en/town-hall/public-hearings.aspx). Please contact the Town Office if you would like an opportunity to review and provide input on the proposed amendments prior to the Public Hearing.

The Public Hearing will be held via ZOOM and in Council Chambers on Wednesday, July 6, 2022, commencing at 6:00 p.m. with procedures in accordance with the Municipal Government Act, Section 199 and the Town of Strathmore Council Procedural Bylaw #22-18 and amendments thereto. Any person or group of persons, or person acting on someone's behalf, who claims to be affected by any or all the proposed bylaws may present suggestions or concerns by making a submission to the public hearing. Please contact Johnathan Strathdee at johnathan.strathdee@strathmore.ca by 12:00 noon on Wednesday, June 29, 2022 in order to register to present. Each person wishing to address Council at the Public Hearing shall complete their verbal presentation within three minutes.

Written submissions to the Public Hearing or the name of any person wishing to make an oral presentation at the Public Hearing must be received by the Planning and Development Department prior to 12:00 noon on Wednesday, June 29th, 2022 as outlined in Bylaw #22-18 amendments thereto. If your written submission is not received by this time, please provide fifteen (15) copies for distribution at the Public Hearing. Each person wishing to address Council at the Public Hearing shall companies and provides a public desuments once submitted to the public desuments once submitted to the public Hearing.

distribution at the Public Hearing. Each person wishing to address Council at the Public Hearing shall complete their verbal presentation within three minutes. Please note that written submissions will become public documents once submitted to the Town, unless otherwise requested.







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Chestermere-Strathmore

Leela Aheer, MLA



Chestermere-Strathmore MLA Leela Aheer announced her candidacy for leadership of the United Conservative Party on June 8.

John Watson

Aheer details her thoughts and campaign for UCP leadership

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Following her announcement on June 8 of her intent to vie for the leadership position of the UCP, Chestermere-Strathmore MLA Leela Aheer elaborated about her plans, if chosen by her party, to lead very differently than previous leader, Premier Jason Kenney.

"I'm hoping to lead with the province. It's such a huge privilege, but you can't do it by yourself. You have to be able to understand the will of the people, listen to them, be there with them and participate," said Aheer, who emphasized her intention to engage both with the UCP as a party, as well as with Albertans in order to rebuild the trust she feels was betrayed during Kenney's tenure.

She said there has been a failure of the UCP to communicate, engage and lead through difficult situations, namely the COVID-19 pandemic. She added, however, that no leader should be crucified based on the results from the pandemic alone.

"You have to be able to take a step back and take a look at what's going on and decide how you're going to move forward and listen to our (experts), whether that's Dr. Hinshaw, or Dr. Yu, or whoever, and be able to find out what our next steps are, and really take action quickly," explained Aheer. "I was really heartbroken to see that there seemed to be no compassion or action or ability to even understand what was happening at the time. By the time September had hit, our ICUs were full, we were losing people head over (heels, and) it was just brutal.'

Aheer said gaining the trust back of Albertans who gave the UCP the opportunity to lead is paramount. To do this, she said the name of the game is to be transparent, available, communicative, and willing to listen to new ideas.

"Now it's about ... being able to show people that we're not just this party that just leads and has an idea and is, you know, completely committed no matter what, to this thing," said Aheer. "We have the ability to take a step back and understand where our mistakes were and improve from that and become better."

She commented that the UCP did poorly to advertise the legislation passed, particularly at the entry of their government back into power in Alberta.

One thing Aheer intends to do is advocate for people to be able to better understand how legislation passed by the province will impact them.

Regarding the brute force tactics of the UCP under Jason Kenney to get legislation passed with little to no consultation, Aheer explained it was not something she had expected and feels it betrayed one of the defining factors which put the party in

John Watson Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Adelle Ellis Reporter / Office Manager

Mario Prusina Publisher

not consulted. It was one of the biggest core issues that Albertans had," said Aheer. "The lack of consultation on so much of the legislation and then finding out that there was no validating people behind the legislation that we're doing, you have to wonder where that legislation is coming from? Is it only helping out a certain small group of people? Is that a lobby group?"

Regardless of which new candidate leads the party, Aheer wants the culture of brute-forcing legislation through as quickly as possible and pushing an agenda, to change.

nities for debate of legislation and acceptance of amendments, even those which may be proposed by an opposing party.

have that debate and to do it in a way where you're actually building legislation that is good for the people," said Aheer.

With regards to the Canadian Energy Centre, or the "Energy War Room," Aheer has made it clear she intends to cease its operation, as adequate results from its establishment have not been made

"It will not continue. It's done ... It didn't serve its purpose and we have no outcomes from it to be able to prove that was worth it to Albertans," said Aheer. "I was all for it at the beginning, I thought (it) was great because there were so many attacks coming from groups that are paying to shut really good resources down. The experiment didn't work, we should have acknowledged that it didn't work, we should have let it go and we should have dispersed that entire situation."

Under Aheer's potential leadership of the party, she intends to take another look at education and the newly adopted curriculum put forward for the public education system.

Aheer proposed to slow down and give teachers more time to look at the new curriculum and adapt, as well as to highlight things teachers and educators like, and use those points as pilot projects and examples of how to move forward.

"It's really hard for school boards and other organizations to trust us to try and bring this curriculum forward," she said. "So there's a lot of work that needs to be done there to earn back the trust of parents and families and school boards and students and teachers.'

Aheer said she thinks Albertans are ready for someone like her to lead the province and that regardless of whether she wins the race for the party. she emphasized that she is humbled by the support she has received and the experience of putting her name forward.

Jody Schneider Production

"We got in based on the fact that the NDP had

She said she would like to see more opportu-

"It is absolutely imperative for democracy to

21. Partner to "flowed"

22. The best day of the week

24. Egyptian river

30. Indigenous peoples of central Canada

31. Sanctuaries in Greek temples

33. NJ senator Booker

CLUES ACROSS

1. Half-conscious states 8. Unnatural

13. Deep regret

14. Rogue 15. Took without permission

19. An alternative

20. After B

23. Helps you hear

25. Lake ___, one of the Great

26. Make free from bacteria

32. Most unclothed

40. Views 44. Rugged cliff 45. Not quiet

46. Body part

47. Newt

48. German city

34. Tibetan lake

1467-1519

35. Desecrate something sacred

38. John , English educator

39. Obtains in return for labor

49. A way to save money 50. NBC's Roker

51. Dire Straits frontman

55. Actress Lathan

57. Most meager

58. Poems 59. Companions

CLUES DOWN

1. Draws over

2. Recur

3. Current unit

4. Neither

5. Certified Radio Operator (abbr.)

6. Power of perception

7. Peace

8. Supplemented with difficulty 9. The last section or part of

anything 10. Dorm worker

11. Bones

12. Most unnatural

16. Spanish island

17. The skill to do something 18. Where golf games begin

22. Untethered

25. Print errors

27. The sport of engaging in contests of speed

28. Ones to look up to

29. Stringed instrument

30. Gives whippings

32. Type of tie 34. Make more concentrated

35. Die 36. Part of a winter hat

37. Young men's club

38. Bathrooms need it

40. U.S. president

41. American novelist

42. Take into custody

43. Hurts

45. Type of gibbon

48. American actor Lukas 51. Partner to cheese

52. Some are covert 53. Political action committee

54. To and

56. Atomic #28

Contributors: Doug Taylor, Laureen F. Guenther, Joe Lepage

Rose Hamrlik Advertising

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BBB Tip: How to get a good side hustle without getting scammed

Side hustles have become a popular way to make extra money, build a small business, or transition that a freelance career. But not all part-time side gigs are what hey seem. Just like with traditional employment, scams, con artists use fake opportunities to lure unsuspecting victims into a trap. Their objective? It may be identity theft, a fake check scam, or a shipping scheme. Whatev their ploy, scammers hope to get their hands on your



How to avoid side hustle scams:

Keep work on treelance job sites where it belongs. <u>Upwork</u> reports that one common scam on freelancer job sites involves circumvention. In this con, a supposed employer first approaches you on the website. Then, they ask you to do work and accept payment outside of the site. These scammers may try to convince you to accept payment through PayPal or another outside payment method, claiming they want to help you avoid any fees the freelancer website charges.

Watch out for too-good-to-be-true job postings.

Any job that offers extremely good pay rates for an easy job that requires no special skills is likely a scam. Car wrap scams are a good example of this tactic.

o matter how good a job seems, do your research before applying. Go directly to the company's website to verify the bb posting. If you find the exact same post popping up in multiple cities or people reporting the job is a scam, don't ngage with the company.

Watch out for work from nome scams.

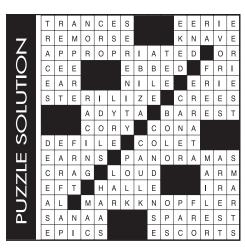
Work from home gigs are perfect for students or stay-at-home moms, but they are also more likely to be scams. In fact, a 2020 BBI peoput found a rise in work from home scams since the COVID-19 pandemic. Scammers impersona well-known retailers like Amazon and Walmart and post the jobs on major employment platforms.

Many scammers offer to hire you for a position, only to tell you they will send you a check for supplies you need before you start work. Typically, the scammers "overpay" and ask you to send back some of the funds via a wire transfer or prepaid gift cards. After you send the money, you'll get a notification from your bank that the check you deposited was a fake. You'll have lost any money you "returned" to the scammer.

disagreements with legitimate employers.

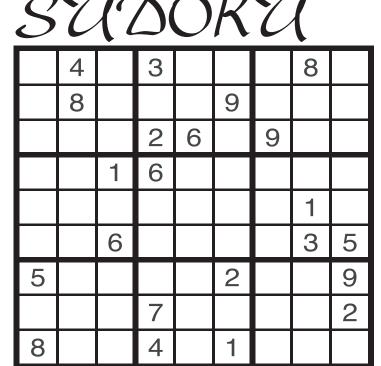
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Thought for the Week

Tact is the art of making a point without making an enemy.





Langdon's park revitalized

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Langdon Community Association (LCA) has officially announced the revitalization of Langdon Park, which will see several sporting courts and a community garden constructed in the area.

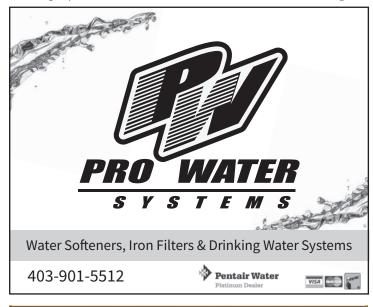
Chair of the LCA, Chrissy Craig, said the revitalization is long overdue and that the park will be an excellent place for the community to come together and enjoy local recreation.

"This is a really exciting project. In the centre of town, we have a park that is underutilized — it's got an old beach volleyball pit (and) the remnants of a playground that was removed (about) eight years ago," said Craig. "This project is just transforming the park into an actual park that people will want to visit and gather and spend time in."

The revitalization will include the construction of two tennis courts, eight pickleball courts, and a full size basketball court. Nearby, there will be several garden pods which will be available for community use, as well as other amenities.

"We also have a fire pit area and a gazebo area in which people can hang out, there can be musicians or theatre performances in this pavilion for people to gather around," said Craig. "It's set up with these different pods and areas so that if we ever get into a pandemic again, there are places for people to gather safely so the community can be together but apart

The project is able to be realized due to a \$476,916 grant



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from the federal government, through the Canada Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF), as well as through a \$200,000 contribution from Rocky View County, along with a further \$200,000 from Accurate Screen and Grating.

The project was kickstarted by the donation made by Accurate Screen and Grating, after observing Langdon's lack of recreation amenities, particularly for local youth.

Renovations at the park are already underway with the tennis and basketball courts nearly complete. Construction on that segment began in the summer of 2021 and was completed in the spring of 2022.

"It's a huge budget because it's a huge project. It's a huge area (that) doesn't look that big on paper but when you actually walk in the park, it takes up a whole quite big portion of the park," said Craig. "The LCA has thought about how we can bring people back into the park for a really long time. It's (part) of our main strategic planning because the park just doesn't have a lot of things to bring into it."

The project must be completed by Oct. 30 of this year, but the goal is to have it completed before the end of Sep-



It takes a village

God's Closet was once again hosted at the Strathmore Seventh Day Adventist Church on June 1. The event, which occurs once quarterly at the church, allows members of the public to come in and collect clothes for growing children which were donated by the community

John Watson Photo

Town makes animal control bylaw fines more transparent

Continued from Page 1

Councillor Denise Peterson reminded council that the animal control bylaw does not include any potential resulting civil or criminal charges, which may be handed down to the owner of an animal deemed vicious that attacks another

Wegener specified he would not be putting forward a motion to make another amendment to the bylaw while it was under discussion before council.

An amendment was brought forward to change all references of "dog" specifically within the bylaw to "animal" in order to broaden the definition of what is libel under the bylaw.

Instead of "vicious dog," the bylaw would refer directly to any "vicious animal" that has, without provocation, chased, attacked or bitten an animal or person. This motion was ultimately de-

The amendment to add the penalties to be written directly into the bylaw was passed unanimously.

Several local organizations host community event for local skatepark

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Wheatland Youth Network, Canadian Mental Health Association and Skatemore Girls partnered to host an event on June 17 for Strathmore youth to have their voices heard regarding their local skatepark.

Project and Network Coordinator with the Canadian Mental Health Association, Victoria Odell, said the idea behind the event was for local youth to influence positive change for their skatepark.

"There are a lot of youth in the area who are using the skatepark, it is recognized as a place of gathering for kids from the ages of seven to 18, but it is also recognized as an area that needs a bit of work — needs to have a better reputation in the community," said Odell. "It's a little bit of an eyesore, so what we're doing today is bringing youth together, trying to build relationships amongst youth, as well as get the opportunity to have the youth tell us what they want to see."

Odell explained that based on community response, many local youths enjoy coming to the skatepark as a place to hangout, practice their skills and be a part of a community, but they want to see more from the space.

Currently, the concrete pad is marred by graffiti, including several obscenities. Odell said many youths who use the space would like to establish street art on it instead of the graffiti and turn the park into a better reflection of their community.

"(They have suggested) having more areas that they can ride on; somebody mentioned a pump track so they can strengthen their skills. A lot of youth are recognizing that the concrete is not visually appealing so they would love an opportunity to paint it," said Odell. "Once you bring the youth in and get the youth to direct the change themselves, they're invested in it themselves, it becomes their space, they have more ownership of it and we're hoping that also means it will make sure things are taken care of better."

Becca McDonald, who started Skatemore Girls last year, added that many of the ideas put forward by those using the park are effectively simple, but would go a long way towards improving the space.

"We also talked about how this space is ... good the way it is, so we don't want to change it too much, we just want it to feel safer for everybody to come spend time here," said McDonald. "We just thought maybe if we can put some love into this space then the community will see that and we'll all be able to take care of each other better here, knowing this space is well taken care of"

The Town of Strathmore was successful in acquiring a grant from the Rural Mental Health Project through the Canadian Mental Health Association, of which a portion went into Friday's event.

The main goal of the Rural Mental Health Project is recognizing that each rural community is unique and that methods used to bring people together in larger urban centres don't work the same for smaller demographics.

According to Odell, the idea is to essentially give local communities say and influence over local facilities and programs that they would like to see, and how they can continue to grow.

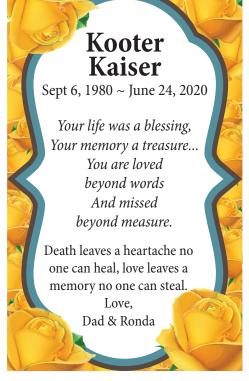


Local youth were invited to participate in a community activity at the local skatepark on June 17, and let their voices be heard about how to potentially improve the space. The celebration was backed by the Town of Strathmore, Canadian Mental Health Association and Skatemore Girls.

Lease

John Watson Photos





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Pickleball Club advocates to council for more play space

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Strathmore's pickleball club has opened discussions with Town Council regarding the idea of permanent courts to be constructed within the community.

Sheila McLeod presented to Strathmore Town Council on June 15 on behalf of the Strathmore Pickleball Club, to talk about their ideas for permanent courts and what the project would need to look like.

McLeod had an additional goal while presenting to council: to raise awareness about the current state of the sport in Strathmore.

"We're aware of the December 2019 Strathmore Recreation and Culture Master Plan where pickleball is indeed addressed, however, we would like to provide some useful input since we believe that numbers and interest in pickleball has changed significantly since the study was commissioned," said McLeod, who during her presentation emphasized the inclusive nature of the sport, such that anyone of any age, skill level or physical conditioning can play.

"It gets people out into our community, and it doesn't depend on needing much organization or equipment," McLeod continued. "It's inexpensive for both the Town and for the players. Once facilities are in place, there is very little cost. People bring their own equipment and maintenance is at the low end."

McLeod suggested that particularly during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, being able to play and remain active in the sport was a contributing factor to club members' physical and mental well being.

Strathmore's pickleball club currently hosts 145 active members and McLeod expects that number to swell as awareness and popularity of the sport increases.

"We would like to express very strongly that Strathmore needs, in the future, a dedicated outdoor facility separate from tennis," said McLeod. "We would like to build a junior program in partnership with the town. We know that developing a strong interest in our youth will be essential to the continued growth of the sport."

McLeod added that the club is anxiously awaiting the tennis courts to be resurfaced, in hopes for permanent pickleball nets to be set in place so that both club members and the public can access courts freely.

Council expressed curiosity as to what the limitations currently are within the community regarding the number of potential courts that may be available and how current spaces are shared between sporting communities.

Currently, the pickleball club shares court space with local tennis players. Part of their intention in raising awareness of their perceived need for more courts is to ensure everyone can play, and that no one wants to be unable to do so due to space constraints.

If Strathmore were to have a dedicated facility with a minimum of 20 courts, McLeod explained there would even be potential to host provincial and national level competitions.

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New Zealand has a health goal for the country that is quite unique. The government wants to create a whole generation of non-smokers. Starting in 2027, anyone born after 2008 will not be able to buy cigarettes. It's a way if ensuring that young people never start smoking. Canada is watching with interest.

The mRNA technology used to create the hugely successful COVID vaccines could be used in the future to design a cancer vaccine to treat patients with advanced melanoma. The company, BioNTec, that partnered with Pfizer on the COVID-19 vaccine, is the company researching the melanoma vaccine.

There has been an increase in thyroid cancer in women over the past ten years. Although there is no known way to prevent this type of cancer, you can do a few things by eating nutritiously, maintaining a healthy weight and being physically active. Also, one can be aware of the signs of thyroid cancer. These include a painless lump or swelling in the neck. Other signs include unexplained hoarseness or difficulty swelling that persists. As with all cancers, early detection increases the chances of a cure.

Vaccination status is a good medical reason to be considered when one is hoping for an organ transplant. Many transplant hospitals in the U.S., when choosing who gets an organ, are giving preference to those who have their immunizations up to date over others who don't. This happening in Canada as well.

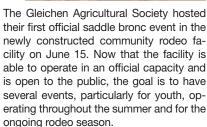
Hours: M-W: 9-6 pm • Th-F: 9-8 pm Sat: 9-6 pm • Sun & Holidays: 11-5 pm











John Watson Photos

Gleichen now able to host rodeo events in official capacity

OHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Gleichen Agricultural Society (GAS) hosted their first Canadian Professional Rodeo Association (CPRA) and Professional Rodeo Cowboys (PRC) approved event at the newly completed community rodeo grounds on June 15 with a saddle bronc competition.

According to Stephanie Yule, GAS member, the organization has hosted rodeo events for years, but until now, festivities were hosted on private property.

"We decided that we would build a rodeo ground in town for public use, and host a bronc riding, and we are going to host some youth rodeos throughout the summer," said Yule. "We have talked about it for years. A ton of people in the community have talked about it for years and years and then finally (we said) 'you know what, COVID-19 is over, things are opening up, let's do it. Now is the time, let's put in the effort and get it done so that we can have all our family and friends use it and see it and enjoy it."

Yule added construction on the facility began months ago, but she did not provide a specific date.

She commended the local community for their efforts in bringing the facility together for use on such a short timeline

"It has been overwhelming. There have been so many people who have stepped up with volunteer hours, donating supplies, donating their skills — especially their skills, that has been very, very amazing," said Yule. "It took a lot of community support, a lot of volunteer hours ... and a lot of manpower to put this on. We have (a lot) of people who stepped up."

In order to host sanctioned and official events, the GAS was required to go through proper channels to get permissions from the CPRA and PRC.

Now that the proper logistics have been sorted, the GAS is able to host any variety of rough stock events it is equipped for.

"I feel like it's already starting to snowball. There has already been people contacting us asking if they could rent the facility, asking when other events are happening, what they can do to help us and how they can join," said Yule. "This summer especially, we are going to focus on having a few little youth rodeos and they will be during the week because we know that everybody's weekends are pretty booked up over the summer."

For a first event, Yule added the turnout was far beyond what she had hoped for to kick off the local rodeo season and to break in the facility.

Along with the rodeos for youth, the facility will be available to rent out over the course of the summer.

For those who are interested, keep up with the GAS social media pages for more information on upcoming events at the facility.

Communities in Bloom judges to return to Strathmore

JOHN WATSON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Strathmore will once again be competing at the provincial level of Communities in Bloom this summer and is preparing to host the judges come August.

Rob Pirie, spokesperson for Strathmore's Communities in Bloom, presented to the Town Committee of the Whole meeting on June 8 to inform them of the situation and the goals for the town prior to the judges' arrival.

"In 2018 the judges were impressed with our downtown and it was only half done," said Pirie. "Our pathway system is very extensive and thanks to our partnership with Western Irrigation District, our pathway system is something to brag about."

Communities in Bloom evaluates municipalities based on a grading system out of five "blooms" that are awarded based on several categories.

During the 2018 evaluation, Strathmore was awarded five out of five blooms by the provincial judges.

The town will be evaluated in six areas including: community appearance, environmental action, heritage conservation, tree management, landscape, and plant and floral displays.

Points towards blooms will be awarded in those categories based on the town's tidiness and lack of garbage, environmental stewardship, conservation efforts and trees and landscaping, among other criteria.

Strathmore had originally planned to welcome the Communities in Bloom judges back to the community in 2020, but the event was cancelled due to ongoing concerns regarding COVID-19 at the time.

The town has been provided with an evaluation guide and to-do list to work through prior to the judges' arrival and the

evaluation event.

According to Pirie, local Communities in Bloom members and town staff have already begun to prepare for the evaluation event.

"Our commitment to the environment is evident by our recycle yard, our composting, our solar panels on (our town hall), the field house, and of course, the new solar farm," said Pirie. "Our new town hall with the numerous trees, the First Nations healing garden (and) the farmers market are all something to show off."

Judges will be evaluating not only town owned areas, but also businesses, institutions and residential areas. To prepare for this, Communities in Bloom will be reaching out to the Strathmore Wheatland Chamber of Commerce and local business community to request their best efforts towards the evaluation.

Public involvement in beautifying and maintaining the town is also included in the evaluation. This includes participation such as volunteerism to plant trees, picking up garbage and litter and volunteering for local celebrations.

Pirie said he is confident that with the help of the community, Strathmore has good odds of once again being awarded five out of five blooms, if not winning the provincial evaluation for the bragging rights.

"Strathmore has done a lot since 2018 ... last year Strathmore planted about 350 trees ... we've had the new tree by-law (and) our pathways have expanded," said Pirie. "Since that time, we have completed the new Town Hall with various trees, we have the healing garden and all those are all things that they look at."

The judges will arrive in town on Aug. 4 and will be shown a tour of Strathmore to showcase its development and the beautified community.





Thunder struck

Strathmore Thunder U11 Div. 1 team hosted the South Bow River Bandits on June 9 at the Hillview Ball Diamonds. Thunder return home on June 28 (6:45 p.m.) to host West Valley.

Joe Lepage Photos



Hitting the streets

The Town of Strathmore in conjunction with the Strathmore Mi nor Hockey Association, hosted a 3 on 3 street hockey tournament on June 18 in front of the Strathmore Family Centre. The U11 Lucky Pucks and U13 Squidwards won their respective divisions. The plan is to grow the event to feature more age Joe Lepage Photos





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The Moors for final project

LAUREEN E. GUENTHER Times Contributor

Emilee Nelson, a Rosebud School of the Arts graduating student, will perform an excerpt from The Moors from July 2-4 in Rosebud's Akokiniskway Gallery as her final project for school.

Nelson, performing under the name Em Nelson, said they loved The Moors the very first time they read the play.

"The whole play follows three members of a house on the English moors, whose monotonous lives are interrupted by unexpected guests who shift that status quo," said Nelson in an email interview. "The mastiff lives his life on the vast and bleak English moors, dreaming of something more," which he gets when "a hoor-hen falls from the sky and upsets his quiet existence, setting them both down a strange path of love, control, and the universal need to belong."

"The play is strange and absurd. The excerpt I chose follows not the humans of the story, but the strange menagerie outside of the house," said Nelson.

"There's a freedom in the characters being animals, freedom from human shape and movement, from gender binary and stereotypes, it's just two souls wondering about their place in the world."

Along with choosing this piece as their final project because they found it fun and "spark with joy and curiosity," their reason for choosing it also goes deeper.

"I see my own sorry in it," said Nelson. "I see my journey in gender expression and coming out. I see my escape from an abusive relationship, and I see my breath of relief as I find a soft place to land."

Throughout the process of production, the story has become even more meaningful to Nelson, who, as a non-binary person, says they are often unsure of their place in the world.

"Belonging is fundamentally human ... we all need a soft place to land when things get tough," said Nelson. "Building community has been a large part of my time in Rosebud and I have learned to chase that feeling of belonging, which is why I think this piece speaks so deeply to me."

Nelson's "dream team" cast and creative team includes Nathan Schmidt as director, Islay McKechnie playing the role of moor-hen and Nelson themselves are performing as the mastiff. Anja Darien is designing costumes, makeup and posters, Brad Graham is lighting designer, Danai Allen is sound designer and Mark Lewandowski is stage manager.

"Our world has been through so much in the last two years and we are in desperate need for imagination and escapism," said Nelson. "This story speaks to the need for belonging, the need to be needed, and in a time where we are so divided and polarized, how do we find common ground between creatures that could not be more different?"

With their performance, they hope to spark conversation and "help people embrace the 'other' that exists in all of us."

Nelson will perform the excerpt of The Moors at 4:30 p.m. each day from July 2-4 in the Akokiniskway Gallery in Rosebud. The \$10 tickets can be purchased at the door or by email (9.35theatre@gmail. com).



Students with the Holy Cross Collegiate music band enjoyed a successful school year with various awards and honours. **Photo Courtesy of Sarah Haughey**

It's good to be live again

SARAH HAUGHEY HCC Music Director

Holy Cross Collegiate (HCC) students have had an amazing year playing live shows again. The spring brought a wealth of performance opportunities which were greatly appreciated by the

The young musicians had an opportunity to participate in the Alberta International Band Festival as well as the Strathmore Performing Arts Festival (SPAF). The Holy Cross World Drumming Ensemble received a Shining Star Award for their traditional Japanese Taiko performance at the SPAF. Both the World Drumming Ensemble and high school band were invited to perform at the festival's annual showcase concert.

Three high school students were accepted into the Alberta Youth Wind Symphony this year. The Wind Symphony is comprised of dedicated music students from across the province.

Althea Rueda (Grade 12), Ryann Tashlikowich (Grade 12) and Mickaela Boll (Grade 11) represented HCC this year and Boll's audition landed her the role of principal percussionist.

The HCC drumline competed at the Canadian Drumline Association Festival in Calgary this year, alongside drumlines from across the province including the Calgary Stampede Winterguard.

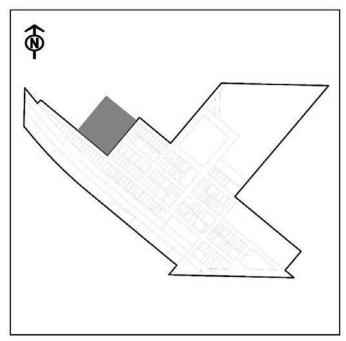
The highlight of the festival season was participating in the Alberta Band Association Provincial Festival of Bands. The HCC Grade 7 Band and HCC Grade 8 and 9 Band both scored an Excellent + (Silver +) and the HCC high school band walked away with Superior (Gold), which is the highest score given at festival and is quite an achievement. This year, over 90 schools from across the province competed and 29 received a superior ranking.

Congratulations to all the students and all their hard work and dedication to the music program this year!

VILLAGE OF HUSSAR Notice of Public Meeting - Land Annexation

What is annexation?

Annexation is a municipal boundary change to allow for future growth. In Alberta, annexations are regulated by the Land and Property Rights Tribunal (LPRT). The annexation process involves negotiations between local governments, public engagement, a formal review by the Land and Property Rights Tribunal, and a decision by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. Annexation does not change ownership rights, nor does it necessarily initiate immediate development. On November 18, 2021 the Village of Hussar submitted a formal letter of the Intent to Annex as required by the Municipal Government Act (MGA).



Get involved

The Village of Hussar is committed to an open and communicative annexation process. Join us on Thursday June 30, 2022 at 6:45 PM in Council Chambers (Village Office 109 1st Avenue East) for a public meeting to discuss the annexation of the old school grounds. For more information visit: https://www.villageofhussar.ca/planning-development/annexation

Members of the public who are unable to attend the meeting in person may attend virtually: Microsoft Teams meeting

+1 587-774-9765,,453218950# Canada, Calgary Phone Conference ID: 453 218 950#

If you are unable to attend the meeting in person or virtually and would like to provide written comments, please send them before June 28, 2022 to office@villageofhussar.ca or by regular mail to 109 1st Avenue East, PO Box 100 Hussar, AB TOJ 1S0



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No need to be sheepish about it

The first group of 100 sheep was delivered to the Strathmore Solar Farm on June 12 to help manage the grass growing below the panels and throughout the facility. Provided through a partnership with Whispering Cedars Ranch, another group of 50 to 100 ewes are expected to join the flock soon.

Photo Courtesy of Capital Power

Wilder Institute to open new conservation facility near to Strathmore

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Wilder Institute is excited to announce it will soon be opening its new wildlife conservation centre south of Strathmore, which has been under construction for the past year.

Jamie Dorgan, director of animal care, health and welfare with the Wilder Institute/Calgary Zoo, said the project is much longer in the making than the time occupied by the new facility's construction, and that the team is excited to get started.

"It's been a long time in the works, so we're really excited to be nearing the finish line and we have already started occupying the site," said Dorgan. "We got the property about six years ago and then it's taken us a lot of planning and fundraising and everything else to get set up."

The grand opening for the conservation centre was originally scheduled for June 14, but was postponed until June 28 due to adverse weather conditions.

According to Dorgan, the team began looking to relocate roughly a decade ago, as the City of Calgary was slowly encroaching on their Devonian Wildlife Conservation Centre, which they aim to keep as private as possible for the benefit of their animal residents.

"Probably over a decade ago, we started talking about moving. We have our conservation center currently just south of the city, near De Winton, but that area is becoming more and more populated with city

expansion," said Dorgan. "We've had that facility since the 1980's and as time has gone on with more people around and the area becoming more busy, it's become a bit of a concern for us."

The team's concerns are not with confidentiality¬ – in fact it's quite the opposite. The facility is not open to the public as many endangered and at-risk species are being housed and bred at the facility with the intent to release populations back into the wild. Habituating the animals to people is not beneficial to rebuilding the species.

The new site location was chosen as it was conveniently located nearby enough to Calgary, but is also on a plot where city expansion will not be of concern for a significant amount of time.

"When we found the property that we purchased, we were pretty excited about it ... it felt like a really nice location for us, for a lot of our programs, but also to have that privacy and the ability to really settle in and set up long term roots for some of these programs that we've been doing, and potentially for future programs as well," said Dorgan.

The Wilder Institute spent several years planning and fundraising for the new facility to be constructed at the new site, and just as construction was about to begin, the COVID-19 pandemic began and put the move on hold.

Now that the team is getting ready to move in, Dorgan said they are excited for the possibilities that a modern, larger and updated facility will offer them.

"Having all new infrastructure allows us to kind of

start over and maybe make a few improvements in areas for the facilities that we've been working with a long time," said Dorgan. "A lot of the infrastructure we have at our old Wildlife Conservation Center was getting a little bit old and tired for some of our programs that have been operating Since the 80s and 90s."

One example, Dorgan explained, was with respect to the marmot building, which struggled to maintain ideal temperatures in the winter critical for hibernation and breeding of the species.

The new facility will also allow the team to dramatically increase the capacity of some of their breeding programs. Dorgan said namely, there are plans to double the capacity of the burrowing owl program.

"We expect similar for our leopard frog program as well to be able to increase our capacity in terms of what we hold and potentially breeding output. Hopefully we will be producing more frogs for release," said Dorgan. "We have a lot of room to expand, so if there are future needs for more and our government partners or other partners are looking for us to expand, there is potential for us to do more on this big piece of land."

The site is not open to the public, but the Wilder Institute does plan on doing community engagement and some tours for the community to know what's going on at the facility. They will also be looking for support by way of volunteers and donations.

More information will be made available once the regular team is settled into the new facility.

FOP labeling ground beef and pork

MARTIN SHIELDS

Member of Parliament Bow River Riding

Just when you thought government policy just couldn't get any loonier, it does. Health Canada, the department that regulates everything from public health restrictions to prescription drugs to agriculture (yes, you read that right), is now mandating that Canadian ground beef and pork display a health warning label on the front of its packaging.

Canada will be the only country on earth to mandate this 'warning label' - other jurisdictions like the EU, Brazil, Israel, Chile, Mexico and others have exempted ground meat as 'single ingredient, unprocessed foods.' That makes sense. What Health Canada is doing does not, especially when considering the fact that many processed foods like sugary snacks, drinks and potato chips are not mandated to display this 'health warning la-

Besides wondering why on earth Health Canada would waste time, money and resources by attacking our agriculture sector yet again, one has to think what the basis of this mandated regulation was?

I've asked questions in the House of Commons on this issue and the only response back I've heard was more of the same talking points from the Parliamentary Secretary for the Minister of Health. "Science." This magic word that has been used and abused by the occupants of the government benches for years is once again being manipulated to fit the description of this regulation. "Our government will always prioritize health policies based on scientific evidence."

What scientific evidence is that? Ground meat like beef and pork are single-ingredient foods. They contain nothing more than beef or pork! Canadians know what they are buying, they don't need a reminder. Ground beef is healthy. It's a source of iron and protein and is part of a healthy Canadian diet. Not to mention it's a huge part of our agriculture economy in Alberta and across the country. To suggest that implementing this warning label would contribute to a 'healthier lifestyle' must be ignorance or flat-out malice. Plus, the CFIA has stringent regulations that producers must follow to meet the high health standards. This leaves many questions ... does the government want you to stop eating meat? Is it all part of their climate agenda because they believe agriculture contributes to climate change?

I believe this government needs to take a hard look at Canada's economy and our ability to remain self-sufficient. Much like our energy industry, Canadian agriculture is world class - and has the potential to not only feed Canadians, but the rest of the world. Canadian ag doesn't need more intrusive, nonsensical government regulations - it needs government to back off and get out of the way.

We should be champions of our ag industry, not seek to destroy it. I will always stand up for our farmers, ranchers and agriculture industry.

Be sure to follow me on social media and sign up for my enewsletter to keep up with federal news and updates: Facebook (@MartinShieldsBowRiver), Twitter (@MartinBowRiver) and Instagram (@MartinShields_BowRiver).

Should you have a question or concern of a federal matter, please email my office (Martin.Shields@parl.gc.ca).

The federal government's beef with Alberta

LEELA SHARON AHEER

Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

Hello Chestermere-Strathmore. You may have noticed that there has been quite an attack on ground beef and pork and that those attacks are being leveraged against Alberta.

This is harming our industry and the families that run these businesses. We are seeing a lack of federal consultation and we are trying to understand the labelling issues that the federal government is proposing, that are not based on evidence. We are

working with our producers to ensure that they are part of the exemption allowed for milk, eggs and other foods that are considered whole foods. For some reason, ground beef and pork are labelled as high in fat, sodium, sugar and saturated fat, but whole cuts are not. We will continue to work on behalf of and for our livestock producers. Our farmers and ranchers should be able to continue to and be proud of producing the highest quality food products in the world.

Continued on Page 10



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New food labels make no sense

Continued from Page 9

Why would the federal government want to put warning labels on the ground meat that Canadians buy at a grocery store, including beef and pork from Alberta? It does not make sense.

I wanted to update you on Clare's Law as it continues to be a valuable resource for Albertans at risk of domestic violence, with over 400 applications for disclosure since the law came into effect. Through Clare's Law, Albertans have the right to know and ask about an intimate partner's past and whether they have a history of violence. People who feel they may be at risk can submit an online application through the Clare's Law website at no cost. The government has improved the Clare's Law process to make it more efficient, easier to navigate and more responsive. This includes adjusting the risk analysis process to decrease turnaround times so applicants are provided with information as quickly as possible. Thus, ensuring applicants receive comprehensive information in a more accessible format. There is much more work to be done and we will continue to work to provide tools to help prevent and end domestic violence and sexual assault.

On another note, the prices at the pump continue to go up. I read an exceptional article, "Demonizing the oil and gas sector is counter-productive" by Donna Kennedy-Glans, contributed to the Globe and Mail, published on June 18. The most profound thing about this article was how we want to demonize the sector for the price. There are always times, as Donna says, that we have to take on corporate bad behaviour, or government for that matter, but she says, "All of these interventions by politicians may be moot if the world is in the early gambit of a third world war and our way of life is at risk. In which case, the blamers now finger pointing will be blamed for not waking up to the clear and present dangers. If the going gets tougher and the worst-case scenario becomes more fact than probability, politicians everywhere will be scrambling to obtain the most reliable, vast and readily available sources of energy. And consumers will just be happy to have gasoline that isn't rationed." In the meantime, we must try and help where we can, give back to our communities, help those in need and try and see where supply and demand takes us. If you have a moment, please read her article.

Finally, last week, as released by the Government of Alberta, the Teacher's Employer Bargaining Association (TEBA) and the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) ratified a mediator's recommended four-year agreement. This agreement comes after months of dedicated negotiations. Alberta's government thanks all parties involved for working together to bring labour stability to the education system. Alberta's government will provide additional funding to school boards for this agreement. The raise was effective as of June 10. The exact timing of when it appears on teachers' pay cheques will depend on local pay periods.

As always, we love to hear from you.

(Leela Sharon Aheer is the MLA Elect for Chestermere-Strathmore)

TIMES CLASSINING

<u>Obituary</u>



It is with heavy hearts that the family announces the passing of Fredrick Laurens Maunsell-Wybrants on the evening of June 14, 2022, at the young age of 64. Fred passed away peacefully at his

home surrounded by his loved ones after his courageous battle with cancer. Fred is survived by his wife (Joni Merrills), his two daughters Kim (Trent Bodeux), and Ashley (Corey Hanna), and his grandchildren, Madison, Brodi, and Ryker.

Fred was born in Calgary, Alberta to George and Joyce Maunsell-Wybrants. He grew up following his father's footsteps and began woodworking. He had his own woodworking shop in Strathmore, AB for over 20 years.

Many family and friends have pieces of Fred's handiwork in their homes and will continue to treasure the memories of him.

Fred was a dedicated family man and was always there for game nights or just with a hug when his family needed it. Every now and then he would tell a joke or say something silly to watch his family smile.

The family has requested a celebration of life to be held at his shop (on the Bodeux acreage) in honour of the amazing life he lived on Friday, June 24th between 1-6 pm. The family would like any donations to be made directly to the Wheatland & Area Hospice Society (www.wheatlandhospice.ca).

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

Wheatland Funeral Home
Strathmore, AB 403-934-4404

<u>Obituary</u>



KADLEC, Marilyn Jane June 19, 1948 - June 15, 2022

It is with heavy hearts and great sadness that we announce the passing of our mother and grandmother, Marilyn Kadlec.

Marilyn is survived by and will dearly missed by her children, Brenda & Jeff, and her grandchildren, Nolan & Payton. She was predeceased by her parents Shirley and Albert Bainbridge, husband Alex Kadlec and her brother Ron Bainbridge.

Marilyn was born and raised in Toronto, Canada where she also met her husband, Alex, and started her career as a lab technician with Canada Malting, which she retired from in 2010 as a senior lab technician. Her career brought her and Alex to Alberta in the mid 70s where they put down roots and started their family in Strathmore.

Marilyn was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother whose heart was filled with kindness and compassion for all, family always came first. When she wasn't busy with work or the kids, you could always find her out in the yard tending to her flower gardens, which she always took great pride in.

Marilyn also enjoyed traveling with her family. Summers were always filled with adventure, road trips, train rides to Ontario to visit extended family and adventures down the pacific coast to California, as San Francisco always captured her heart. She always made sure beautiful memories were made together, memories that will forever be cherished.

Mom, you and the love you always gave will be greatly missed by all that knew you.

At Marilyn's request, there will be no funeral service. To send condolences, please visit Marilyn's obituary at www.wheatlandfuneralhome.ca.

Wheatland Funeral Home
Strathmore, AB 403-934-4404

MEMORIAMS



In Loving Memory of

Walter Mercer (May 30, 1954)

Charles Mercer (October 15, 1999)

Barbara Mercer (June 30, 2007)

Mary Mercer (June 1, 2009)

Fondly remembered by Lynne (Mercer) Fair

In Loving Memory of Greg Laycock May 2, 1950 - June 29, 2012



We thought of you with love today.
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Your memory is our keepsake.
With which we'll never part.
God has you in his keeping.
We have you in our heart...
—Author Unknown



Always in our hearts, we miss you so much.

Gloria, Christina, Jon, Kennedy, Taylor, Matthew, Cole, Keith Jr.

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Notice of Preparation of 2021 Assessment Roll used for 2022 Property Taxation Year for Village of Standard, Province of Alberta

Notice is hereby given that the 2021 Assessment Roll for Village of Standard used for 2022 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 9:00am to 4:00 pm MST at the Village of Standard Office located at 120 Elsinore Avenue in Standard Alberta, and at www.villageofstandard.ca. If you have any questions or concerns about your assessment please contact service provider, Wheatland County Assessment Department at 403-934-3321 Any person who desires to object to the entry of their name or that of any other person upon the said roll or to the assessed value placed upon any property must, on or before 4:00pm of August 19, 2022, lodge (file) their complaint(s) in writing to the Clerk of the Assessment Review Board, for the Village of Standard. Please contact Village of Standard at 403-644-3968 to obtain more information on the Assessment Complaint process prior to considering filing a complaint.

Notice of Mailing 2022 Property Tax & Assessment Notice from Village of Standard.

The 2022 Assessment and Tax notices have been mailed on June 10, 2022. If you have not received your notice in the mail, please contact Yvette April, CAO. at the Village of Standard office. 403-644-3968.

Notice Date: June 15, 2022 Notice Date: June 22, 2022

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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.

June 27: Annual General Meeting
July 5: Council Meeting
July 6: 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.

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1. Call 403 - 361 - 2014 📞

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Careers with Wheatland County

Available opportunities include:

- Tire Service Technician
 Closes June 27, 2022
- Special Projects Coordinator
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Visit our website for more information and APPLY TODAY!

wheatlandcounty.ca/careers/



ROADSIDE HAYING

Applications are now being accepted!

Landowners wishing to hay Wheatland County municipal Right-Of-Ways must make an application by June 30, 2022

To apply, fill out an Access and Work Agreement

For more information or to fill out an agreement, visit our website or contact

the Agriculture and Environment Department at

403-934-3321 or agandenv@wheatlandcounty.ca



Public Hearing: Wheatland County Council Chambers July 5, 2022, at 9 a.m.

BYLAW 2022-12 ROAD CLOSURE S 5-23-23-4, Plan 0915311, Lot 1, Block 1 & NW 32-22-23-4 Applicant: Stobart Farms Ltd.

Proposal: to close that portion of undeveloped road allowance TWP 230 that lies between the S ½ Section 5-23-23-4 and Plan 0915311, Lot 1, Block 1, and RR 234 lying between NW 32-22-23-4 and Plan 0915311, Lot 1, Block 1 (excepting for a 75' stub at the north end to permit an approach if required). The proposed area of road closure would be transferred to the Applicant and consolidated with their lands. A Public Hearing will be held July 5th, 2022 at 9 am in Council Chambers.

Wheatland County 2022 Annual General Meeting

The 2022 Annual General Meeting will be held on June 27, 2022, at 7:00pm at the Rosebud Community Hall.

The purpose of our Annual General Meeting is to provide an informal opportunity to meet and discuss County initiatives with Council.

Food and beverages will be provided!

Change of Mailing Address

In 2021, Canada Post changed over 1400 addresses in Wheatland County from rural route address to the rural address as noted on the 911 blue sign. If Canada Post changed your mailing address recently, please follow the instructions below.

DID YOUR
ADDRESS
241052CHANGE
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YEAR?

We usually only accept address changes from the Land Titles Office, but due to the changes made by Canada Post

and delays at the Land Titles Office, we will accept a completed 'Change of Mailing Address Form' directly from property owners until 30th of July 2022.

To change your mailing address:

The property owner should visit www.wheatlandcounty.ca, click on 'Property Taxes' and select the 'Change of Mailing Address Form'. Need help filling out the form, please look for the SAMPLE FORM. Please complete the form and email it to tax@wheatlandcounty. ca. If you have any questions, please contact the property tax department at 403-361-2029.

Please be sure to mail the original Change of Address form to the Calgary Land Titles office.

Property tax notices were mailed April 21, 2022; if you have not received your tax notice

by mid May, please contact the Wheatland County Office. Taxes

are due June 30 and late penalties apply on July 1.

Note: Under the Municipal Government Act, Section 337, "a tax notice is deemed to have been received seven days after it is sent." Non-receipt of your property tax bill does not exempt you from late payment penalties.



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.









