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VOLUME 16 ISSUE 18

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Chaos host provincials

Raceway given the green light

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Alberta Wilderness Association (AWA) has expressed opposition to the province's latest decision regarding the Badlands Motorsport Resort development.

Alberta's Environmental Appeal Board has announced it will allow the development of the resort in the Rosebud River Valley. Part of the AWA's objection is with regards to the destruction of critical bank swallow habitat.

In their report, the Environmental Appeals Board said the federal Species at Risk Act (SARA) "does not have jurisdiction, nor would it be appropriate to opine on whether SARA applies to the Approval Holder."

"We are disappointed ... the Rosebud Valley is a really, mostly pristine ecosystem and that kind of ecosystem, especially in the prairie region is largely, really difficult to find," said Ruiping Luo, a conservation specialist with AWA. "It is really important habitat; it has been considered an ecologically significant area; there is a lot of different species in that region including the bank swallow and a few other species at risk."


In particular, the AWA stated in a release, bank swallow populations have declined roughly 98 per cent in Canada, and this species relies heavily on spaces such as that of the Rosebud Valley.

Additionally, the AWA noted collisions with vehicles are among the top five reasons for the bank swallow's population decline.

The property which the Badlands Motorsport Resort and the associated water management system, which was approved the Environmental Appeals Board, falls largely within Kneehill County, with a small segment crossing the boundary into Wheatland County.

Continued on Page 4

Page 7



New performance



Wonderful wedding expo

Vegas Entertainment, a Calgary-based DJ company, was one of many vendors to take part in the 2024 Strathmore Wedding Expo on April 28 at the Legacy Farm Barn. The goal of the event is to bring together local vendors and give them a chance to showcase themselves to brides and grooms. The wedding expo is an annual event presented by MaxSPL Music. See Page 8 for more coverage.

Joe Lepage Photo

STRATHMORE TIMES

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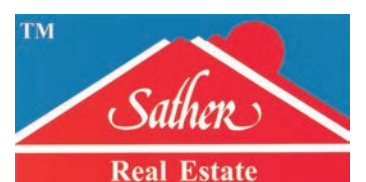
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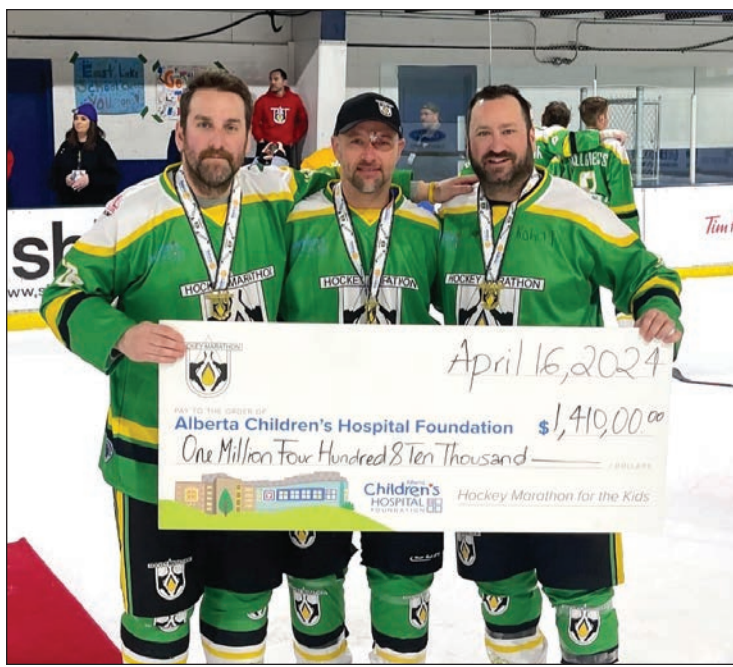
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Strathmore's Devin Olson was one of the 43 participants in this year's Hockey Marathon for Kids game, which took place in Chestermere. The game, which took place over the course of 11.5 days, saw more than \$1.5 million raised for the Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation.

Photos Courtesy of Devin Olson

Strathmore man participates in world record hockey game for charity

JOHN WATSON
 Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Local Strathmore man, Devin Olson, was one of the 43 participants in this year's Hockey Marathon for Kids game,

which took place in Chestermere. The game, which takes place every two years, ran from April 5-16, raising \$1.5 million over the course of the event.

Players donned their skates to raise funds and awareness for the Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation in an effort to break the world record for most consecutive hours playing hockey.

Olson explained this was his first time joining the event after being in the stands two years ago watching it unfold.

"I took my two daughters over and they put on such a great, entertaining event over there and with the children's hospital, it was a big part of my life when I was a kid ... when a friend of mine asked me if I wanted to go in, I said yes right away," he said. "Beforehand, it was a little nerve wracking. You start hearing a lot of the stories of the effects and different injuries and different things that come out of it. As it got closer, that was on your mind all the time, but you knew what the cause was and you kept focused on that."

Olson explained over the course of roughly 11.5 days, players tended to have gotten an average of 16 hours of sleep. This, being in comparison to about 140 hours spent on the ice per man.

He joked when asked how one might prepare in advance, physically, to participate in such a feat, Olson simply said, "You don't."

Olson added players were required to stay within the arena for the entire duration of the attempt, being monitored closely by Guinness World Records officials. He recalled that players often lost track of what day it was, having only the 12-hour display clock to estimate by.

"You just kind of went and followed your schedule, and by the time you got done your game you went and had an ice bath and did your prep thing – you got maybe an hour of sleep, and then you are back up and ... stretch really well and go the nurse to get your blisters taped up," he said. "You didn't really have a lot of time to sleep and you found when you did sleep for that hour, you were almost more tired so a lot of the times you just stayed awake."

The donation window remained open until the end of April, though Olson did not have updated numbers prior to publication.

He himself was able to raise approximately \$12,000 of the contributions which went towards the final total.



THANK YOU

The Planning Committee of the 2024 Women's Conference would like to thank everyone who came out to participate this year!

Billi J. Miller- our keynote speaker brought us laughter and tears with her wisdom and heartfelt stories that matter with her work.

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- Pacey Strangling Wolf

We also want to thank Heather Andrews for emceeing and keeping us on track!
 Hope Community Covenant Church for the use of the wonderful facility,
 Hope Youth Group, and Kim's Katering for the wonderful lunch and pastry's.

We look forward to seeing you all in 2026!





Fantastic hosts

The Strathmore Chaos hosted the U13 Division 4 girls provincial championship April 28-29 at the Strathmore High School and the Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre. The Chaos hosted 15 other teams during the two-day event and won their last game of the tournament to close out their season.

Joe Lepage Photos



Environmental Appeals Board releases verdict regarding badlands racetrack water management

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Alberta Environmental Appeals Board and Minister of Environment and Protected Areas have handed down their decision in the matter of Approval No. 00406489-00-00.

This, being the case regarding the water management plan for the Badlands Racetrack Development.

Nine appeals had been filed regarding the Water Act Approval No. 00406489-00-00, which had been issued Jan. 8, 2020, and was appurtenant to the filling in of three wetlands, modification of three wetlands, and construction, operation, and maintenance of a stormwater management system for surface water runoff to the Rosebud River and wetlands on Section 22-27-21-W4M.

This section of land is proposed for development of the Badlands Racetrack project. The appellants consisted of local residents who maintained concerns that the water management plan would have adverse impacts on the river, local wildlife, and the surrounding environment.

The appellants were granted standing, as one of whom resided on land the Environmental Appeals Board had previously found as potentially impacted by the proposed stormwater management system, and because an appellant claimed their economic interests were directly affected by activities authorized by the approval.

In the Notice of Appeal, it was requested that the approval be stayed, that the approval be rever-

sed in its entirety or that the approval be varied to reflect Alberta's statutory framework, and access be granted to the affected wetlands for additional reporting.

Dissent to the Badlands Racetrack Development and its associated projects has been expressed by residents of Wheatland and Kneehill Counties since its inception.

The proposed \$400 million Badlands Motorsport Resort project would occupy 172 acres within Kneehill County, along the Red Deer River watershed with frontage along the Rosebud River. Site boundaries also include those of Wheatland County on the west and south sides.

Rebecca Schulz, currently the sitting minister of environment and protected areas, ordered several variances to Approval No. 00406489-00-00, many of which detail requirements to survey, monitor, and report on impacts to the affected wetlands.

Further, the variances also included directions requiring a Wetland Avoidance Report, detailing why designated regions could not be avoided and alternative build designs may not be viable prior to the authorization of any disturbances to those areas.

This also includes the requirement of a field survey to determine whether prairie falcon nests are present in the southwest corner of the proposed project site.

The complete report by the Alberta Environmental Appeals Board, as well as the ministerial orders were publicly released in a 215-page document on April 15.

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67				68					69			

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Excessively theatrical actors
- 5. Footwear
- 10. A way to disfigure
- 14. Exchange rate
- 15. Hawaiian wreaths
- 16. North-central Indian city
- 17. Bungle
- 18. Extremely angry
- 19. A short note of what's owed
- 20. Criminal organization
- 22. Mimic
- 23. Try to grab
- 24. U.S.-born individuals
- 27. Some are covert
- 30. Order of the British Empire
- 31. Don't know when yet
- 32. Payment (abbr.)
- 35. Winged angelic being
- 37. Variety of Chinese
- 38. A way to be anxious
- 39. Famed wrestler Hulk
- 40. Partner to cheese
- 41. Slang for sergeant
- 42. Canadian flyers
- 43. Actress Ryan
- 44. Highly unpleasant vapor
- 45. Body part
- 46. Halfway
- 47. Cool!
- 48. Consume
- 49. Salts
- 52. Upper bract of a floret of grass
- 55. Housepet
- 56. Cavalry-sword
- 60. Symbol of a nation
- 61. Frocks
- 63. Used to carry food
- 64. Portuguese folk song
- 65. Sharp mountain ridge
- 66. Ireland
- 67. Where golfers begin
- 68. Greek mythological sorceress
- 69. Fluid suspensions

CLUES DOWN

- 1. "Mad Men" leading man
- 2. Water (Spanish)
- 3. Annoy
- 4. Bulgarian capital
- 5. Japanese title
- 6. Capital of Zimbabwe
- 7. Giraffe
- 8. A mixture of substances
- 9. Midway between south and southeast
- 10. Staffs
- 11. Turkish title
- 12. Type of acid
- 13. Thin, flat strip of wood
- 21. Russian river
- 23. Ribonucleic acid
- 25. Partner to flow
- 26. Airborne (abbr.)
- 27. Earthy pigment
- 28. Genus of earless seals
- 29. "Key to the Highway" bluesman
- 32. By or in itself
- 33. Hot fluid below the earth's surface
- 34. Partner to trick
- 36. British Air Aces
- 37. Ammunition
- 38. Supervises flying
- 40. Health care for the aged
- 41. Flanks
- 43. Millimeters
- 44. Where wrestlers perform
- 46. Not around
- 47. Flightless bird
- 49. Bell-shaped flowers of the lily family
- 50. Expressed concern for
- 51. Satisfies
- 52. Flew off!
- 53. Wings
- 54. Load a ship
- 57. Vigor
- 58. British title
- 59. Whiskeys
- 61. ___ Adams: founding father
- 62. Body of water

STRATHMORE TIMES

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Strathmore Times is published every Wednesday by Strathmore Times Inc. and is distributed by Canada Post to Strathmore, Carseland, Cheadle, Cluny, Gleichen, Hussar, Lyalta, Namaka, Nightingale, Rockyford, Rosebud, Speargrass and Standard. We also have various pickup locations throughout our coverage area. Our 10,910 issues are printed by Star Press Inc., Wainwright, Alberta. The content in the Strathmore Times is copyright and reproduction without the proper written consent of the Strathmore Times is strictly prohibited.

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Raising funds

The Strathmore Rusty Spurs 4-H Club hosted a bottle drive in the area on April 7. Funds raised will be used to continue working with the club's horse projects through lessons and clinics.

Photo Courtesy of Lynn Wolfs

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Thought for the Week
~
Could it be that the shortness of our lives urges us to fulfill our capacities.

SUDOKU

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RCMP investigate homicide in Gleichen

ALBERTA RCMP

On April 24, at approximately 7:20 p.m., Gleichen RCMP were contacted by EMS who indicated that they had responded to a call of an unresponsive male. Upon their arrival, the male was deceased and had injuries consistent with being assaulted. Alberta RCMP Major Crimes Unit were called and have taken carriage of the investigation.

An autopsy was performed at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Calgary on April 25. The manner of death was deemed to be a homicide.

As a result of the investigation, on April 26, RCMP charged Siksika Nation resident Richie Lance Bearhat (27) with second-degree murder.

Bearhat has been taken before a justice of the peace and remanded into custody with his next court date set for April

29, 2024, at the Alberta Court of Justice in Red Deer.

Additionally, RCMP arrested Siksika Nation resident David Bruce Drunkenchief (20) for second-degree murder.

If you have any information about this crime, please call the Gleichen RCMP detachment at 403-734-3056. 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 report crime online, or for access to RCMP news and information, download the Alberta RCMP app through Apple or Google Play.

AWA responds to Environmental Appeal Board ruling

Continued from Page 3

"The Alberta Environmental Appeal Board recently upheld a decision by Alberta Environment and Parks to issue Water Act approval to the Badlands Recreation Development Corp. The development borders the Rosebud River along Wheatland County's northern boundary; however, it is within Kneehill County. Wheatland County recognizes and respects local government autonomy in deciding land development within their jurisdictions," stated Wheatland County.

James Zelazo, CFO for the Badlands Motorsports Resort stated the result handed down by the Minister of Environment and Protected Areas was not unexpected, and he did not consider the appeal process to be so much as a speedbump in the development process.

Zelazo declined to comment on record about his position regarding the decision, as he believed it to ultimately not warrant considerable attention.

Luo said the AWA is still deliberating their next steps, and exploring legal counsel, whether any further appeals are viable, and further campaigning to relevant governing bodies, as well as the public against any developments

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Sacred Heart Church hosted a homecoming dinner at Holy Cross Collegiate School, April 23, as part of the diocesan renewal. The event celebrated the imminent opening of the new Sacred Heart Church building, which aims to see completion in June.

Photos Courtesy of John Hilton-O'Brien



Sacred Heart Church hosts homecoming dinner at Holy Cross Collegiate

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Sacred Heart Church hosted a “homecoming” dinner at Holy Cross Collegiate, April 23, as part of the diocesan renewal.

The renewal is an initiative churches across the Diocese of Calgary are participating in. According to Father Cristiano Bouvette, speaking on behalf of Sacred Heart Church, each parish is supposed to be developing strategies to “breathe new life and invigoration” into the parish community.

“(The) event was one of these initiatives, seeking to bring people together and to try and invigorate the spirit of community there,” he said. “For us in Strathmore specifically at this time, as we are preparing to soon move into our new church, we are really focusing a lot on the theme of homecoming and just working on trying to make sure that we are helping people feel comfortable with coming into our new church building together, whether they have been actively practicing their Catholic faith or not.”

This particular event, he added, he hopes to be a prefiguration of things to come through the church parish, as the community readies itself to reconvene regularly under the new building.

According to the ongoing construction schedule, the new Sacred Heart Church is to be open to the parish and to the public in June, though an exact date has not yet been set.

“I think that is a part of what we are beginning to sense is that there is a renewed energy among our already active practitioners, but then we are frequently discovering people who are coming out of the woodwork,” said Bouvette. “Maybe they have either been away from the practice of their faith for a while and are hearing things and are noticing the physical building itself is going up and really coming together, or they are new to Strathmore.”

The event ultimately consisted of a free dinner through the sponsorship of the Knights of Columbus and a partnership with Mike’s Bar and Grill, guest speaker Michael Chiasson, and an invited community of consecrated men and

women.

Bouvette explained events such as this largely aim to have an impact of bringing people together to develop a sense of community among church practitioners.

“I was very pleased to meet some people who I have never seen at church before, so they heard about this and decided to check it out,” he said. “Some people are recently immigrated to Strathmore. I met two families who have

just arrived from mainland China who heard about this and came to take part. Some people who have also long since lived in Strathmore but have never been connected to the parish community came out.”

Continuing forward, and in regards to the imminent church opening, the Sacred Heart Parish will be seeking for people to pre-register their attendance once the grand opening is formally announced.

Magnificent master

Hailing from Strathmore, Autumn Desjardins was awarded Best in Show in the Master’s Division of Calgary Expo’s cosplay contest, April 27. Desjardins was dressed as Mitsuba Sousuke, from the Japanese supernatural horror comedy, “Jibaku Shounen Hanako-kun.” The costume was made from scratch using a host of materials ranging from custom programmed LCD screens, a hand-knit scarf, and teeth cast from Desjardins’ own dental molds.

John Watson Photo

YOUR WEEKLY HEALTH ADVICE
Gord Morck Pharmacist
Capsule Comments

Hearing loss is common as we age. If you are a bit hard of hearing, let your pharmacist know this. When you receive your medication, your pharmacist will counsel you on important information you need to know about the drug. It’s important to *hear* it as well as *read* it.

Many people supplement their diets with protein powders to build muscle. But it’s important to remember that this supplement must be combined with some form of resistance exercise such as using weight machines. If the muscles aren’t exercised, no amount of extra protein will help.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, many young children missed their vaccinations against childhood diseases. Earlier this year, there was a measles epidemic in central England and the worry was that this would spread. On investigation, it was found that millions of children were insufficiently protected by either not getting the MMR vaccine or getting less than the required number of doses. If your children haven’t had the MMR vaccine, get it done soon.

Since the number of smokers is decreasing every year, health experts are looking for another scapegoat that interferes with good health. There is even a motto for it:

“Sitting is the new smoking”. Researchers tracked the physical activity of about 12,000 participants over the age of 50. As expected, those who had a more sedentary lifestyle had a higher risk of mortality. A sedentary lifestyle is defined as sitting for more than 10.5 hours per day. However, even as little as 22 minutes per day of moderate to vigorous exercise can lower mortality risk.

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Crowther Memorial Junior High School 9A Leadership students spent the afternoon picking up garbage as part of Pitch-In Week on April 24.

Photo Courtesy of CMJHS

Town hosts annual Pitch-In Day

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore hosted its annual Pitch-In Day, April 27, encouraging residents of the community to help clean up the town.

Mayor Pat Fule said the town works with a variety of groups every year to put on the event for people to volunteer and clean up different areas of Strathmore.

“You volunteer to try to do a little clean-up in certain areas, and I have been a part of it over the last several years,” he said. “One year I was picking up trash along George Freeman Trail, last year I was going along Westmount Drive near Strathmore Lake ... other Strathmore councillors have stepped up and volunteered too.”

Clean-up activities included litter removal, park maintenance, and local beautification projects. Those who came out to attend were asked to meet at the Town Hall at noon to collect their supplies, including gloves and trash bags.

Fule added several of the local schools also tend to come out and lend a hand with the clean-up efforts throughout the day.

Attendance at the event tends to vary, as being a largely outdoor endeavor it is weather dependent. Regardless, food and refreshments are typically brought in for the volunteers in order to make

the day more enjoyable.

“It has been running for several years now. I have been on council for 14 years and it has been running for several of them. It is something that has become kind of a tradition and different groups get involved,” said Fule. “I am not going to lie; it has become harder and harder to get volunteers in a variety of service areas and groups. It is not always easy to get people who want to or are able to get involved in cleaning up in the community.”

Despite this, Fule said the event has been able to remain steady as the years have progressed and has been relatively able to maintain attendance numbers.

The timeline of the Pitch-In Day event was vague, as once volunteers were in their respective areas, they were effectively on their own. The town had advertised a timeline of two to six hours for the event prior to its launch date.

“A few hours is basically what you do. You try to do as much as you can in your area and contribute if you can and we just appreciate all the help,” said Fule. “I think it really does a lot to improve the beauty of the town, because when you see all the various bags of garbage picked up, you see that there has been a lot removed from the town, so it does make a visual impact.”

More information regarding Pitch-In Days is available through the Town of Strathmore website.

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.

- May 7: Council Meeting
- May 14: Municipal Planning Commission
- May 14: Public Presentation Committee
- May 14: Committee of the Whole

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



2024 Dust Control Program Now Open

Wheatland County is now accepting orders for the 2024 Dust Control Program!

Dust control is offered by Wheatland County for landowners or residents within the County who wish to reduce the amount of dust created by vehicles traveling on the gravel roads near their homes, businesses, or farms.

Calcium Chloride:

- First Round: Application deadline is May 17, 2024 (Weather permitting, application will occur starting May 21)
- Second round: Application deadline is June 7, 2024 (Weather permitting, application will occur starting June 10)

Oiling:

- Application deadline is July 5, 2024 (Weather permitting, application will occur during July)

For more information and to complete an order form, visit our website at <https://wheatlandcounty.ca/documents/dustcontrol/>



Water Management for Livestock and Irrigation Webinar

June 5, 2024 / 7pm - 9pm

Joe Harrington - Finding & Securing Water Supplies for Livestock

- What to consider when developing additional water supplies.
- Long term water management planning.
- Potential water sources, types of water supplies, legislation that is applicable.

Len Hingley - Managing Irrigation with Limited Water Availability

- Three principles for improving your irrigation management decisions.
- Deficit irrigation - Len will define it and review recent research.
- Irrigation systems - what systems are the most efficient and is it worth it to make a change.

Sonja Bloom - Available Funding for Water Systems in Alberta



Address: 242006 Range Rd 243, Wheatland County, AB T1P 2C4
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Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
[@wheatlandcounty](http://www.wheatlandcounty.ca)



Register for FREE at: <https://www.foothillsforage.com/livewebinars>



The *Games Afoot* will be performed nightly at 7 p.m. on May 2-4, May 9-11 and May 16-18, along with two matinees slated for 2 p.m. on May 12 and May 18 at the Hope Community Covenant Church.

Joe Lepage Photos

Players' Guild prepares for spring production

MELISSA PICHE
Times Contributor

The Strathmore Theatre Players' Guild is gearing up for their spring production and it's going to be anything but rudimentary.

The Games Afoot is set to begin May 2 and will run through to May 18 at the Hope Community Covenant Church, giving people many opportunities to take in this murder mystery satire.

Robert Cole, director with the Strathmore Theatre Players' Guild, explained that the show is written by Ken Ludwig, who is touted as being perhaps the most performed playwright of his generation. He has written 34 plays and musicals with six productions showcasing on Broadway and eight in London.

"It is a comedy farce and it's about William Gillette, who is an actual actor down in the (United) States," said Cole about the play – which is fiction, but just so happens to feature a non-fiction character. "He is a person who loves Sherlock Holmes and actually tries to embody him at all times. You have an actor, playing an actor who is trying to embody an actor."

In the play, Gillette, who is a Broadway star, invites fellow cast-members to his place in Connecticut for the weekend. Throughout the weekend one of his house guests gets stabbed – spoiler. Gillette, who thinks he's somewhat of a Sherlock Holmes, takes it upon himself to solve the murder.

"There's a lot of jump scare farce sort of stuff," Cole said of the production. "Very much a murder mystery in which they try to give you clues all the way through it on who actually did the dif-

ferent murders that they talk about, and shootings and assaults and whatever else. So regrettably, it is trigger happy for some people"

The cast, which started practicing about eight weeks ago, has eight people on stage with an additional 25 plus people behind the scenes in various roles such as lighting, costumes and sound.

The Strathmore Theatre Players' Guild is always looking for more volunteers on or off the stage.

"We are always in need of assistance in some matter," said Cole. "We have a musical next year – we're going to need a whole lot more men on stage."

Cole said male actors are always something in high demand, but realistically, anyone interested can reach out on their website (<https://strathmore-players.ca>).

The next show scheduled for the fall of 2024 hasn't been released yet, however the fun doesn't stop. Patrons to the current show are encouraged to vote for the musical set to hit the stage in Spring 2025. The nominees for the musical are *Mary Poppins*, *Shrek*, *The Addams Family* and *The Wizard of Oz*.

However, this upcoming production is geared towards more of a mature, young-adult audience. Tickets start at \$20 for youth, \$25 for a single adult or a group of four tickets for \$75.

Tickets can be purchased at The Vault in person or you can visit <https://the-vaultonline.ca> under the Featured Artists tab to purchase through Shop Pay.

The show runs at 7 p.m. on May 2-4, May 9-11 and May 16-18. There are two matinees slated for 2 p.m. on May 12 and May 18.

EPCOR

FLUSHING OF WATER MAINS IN STRATHMORE

APRIL 22 - MAY 10, 2024
8 A.M. - 5 P.M., INCLUDING WEEKENDS

Flushing will take place in the following neighbourhoods:

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- Thornburn
- Maplewood
- Green Meadow
- Parkwood
- Cambridge

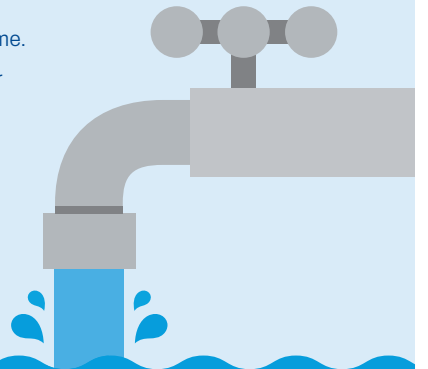
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You may experience a drop in water pressure, as well as cloudy water while this process takes place. This is temporary.

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JUNE 22ND 2024

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PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS A NON-PERFORMING APPEARANCE

SAVE THE DATE

AUGUST 3RD 2024

STRATHMORE STAMPEDE PARADE, PANCAKE BREAKFAST 10:30AM-12PM

January 31, 2024 - April 30, 2024

\$5000

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Visit our website for details on Lakewood of Strathmore and Devmore Developments Inc's \$5000 home buyer program, applicable to new home buyers who sign a purchase agreement with our preferred builders in phase 2a between January 31 and April 30, 2024. Developer reserves the right to alter, change or remove the program at any time.

HOME BUYER PROGRAM

LAKWOOD

A Destination Lake Community



Wedding season arrives

Vendors from the Strathmore/Calgary area participated in the 2024 Strathmore Wedding Expo at the charming Legacy Farm Barn on April 28. The event, presented by MaxSPL Music, aims to unite local vendors, providing them with an opportunity to present their offerings to soon-to-be brides and grooms.

Joe Lepage Photos



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Lions Club hosts open house, struggling to find new membership

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore Lions Club hosted an open house and information meeting, April 22, at the Strathmore Golf Club, to discuss the history of the club, as well as to potentially recruit new members.

“The purpose basically is to provide more information to the public on what exactly the Lions Club is and what they do, and also I encourage them to maybe join the club if it sounded like something they would be interested in doing,” said Wayne Herdman, president of the Strathmore Lions Club.

It was originally anticipated for approximately 30 people to show up to the open house. Herdman explained the event was poorly attended, with only two people coming out to attend.

As it currently stands, the Strathmore Lions Club consists of 25 members, of which, only about half are active.

Herdman explained he has ongoing concerns regarding membership and the future of the club, which lead to wanting to host the open house.

“We are trying to get more people involved in it. It is very hard with the membership that we have to maintain our fundraising programs – Heritage Days, the live auction, and things like that,” he said. “I am very concerned about it and we need to build up the membership.”

Herdman said he has not yet had

an opportunity to speak with board members, nor other members of the club about continued recruitment efforts and what the best way to continue forward may be.

Though nothing is definite, he suggested hosting another information session, targeting a different audience, as well as to take more to social media to get the word out.

The Strathmore Lions Club has been present in the local community since its inception in 1938, boasting an 86-year history.

“I am confident that we can build up the membership. It will be a struggle for the club for a couple of years, but I think we can build up the membership maybe not as high as it had been in previous years, but I think we can do it,” said Herdman. “A lot of the fundraising too like Heritage Days and the live auction, we get a lot of support from the community, so I think we can still function to do what we do. Our Lions motto is ‘We Serve,’ so we want to be able to serve the community and I think we can do that.”

He described the club as being in desperate need of membership. Seven years ago, the club had 55 active members. Herdman’s ongoing goal is to once again hit 25 active members to continue carrying on club activities.

Herdman can be reached via strathmorelions@gmail.com or ewherdman@outlook.com to learn more about the Lions Club or to inquire about potential membership.

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Drawing time

Hope Bridges Society hosted Keisha Mastrodimos for a free drawing class at the Hope Community Church on April 25. Mastrodimos is the author of three colouring books and is an inspirational speaker.

Photo Courtesy of Janice Littlefair



Champions honoured

The Town of Strathmore hosted the Strathmore High School senior girls provincial championship team during the regular meeting of council on April 17. The town presented each player with a certificate, while the team presented council with a signed ball and photo.

Photo Courtesy of the Town of Strathmore

Strathmore mayor comments on upcoming seniors housing options

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Following the proforma presentation to the Wheatland Housing Management Board (WHMB) during the April 18 meeting, Strathmore Mayor Pat Fule spoke regarding the ongoing prospective build project.

“The lodge project has been in the works for many years now and various counsellors and various councils have been a part of the planning and been on the building committee,” he said. “It is an interesting project. The town has supported it in the past on different councils and their votes, we have provided land on the eastern edge of Kinsmen Park as part of our contribution, and that value is something we had done by more than one real estate assessor.”

Fule explained the town had an environmental assessment completed for the land which is to be occupied by the new lodge and there are prevalent improvements required prior to the start of construction.

He added the town believes the location to be a perfect fit for the lodge, as it has previously been scrub land for an extended period of time.

“It has never really been considered part of the park, and we just think that with the need for affordable seniors housing in the town and county, and for the villages, we think that part of the property where you could basically, as a senior in your golden years, step out of a lodge and be in a park would be an amazing addition to quality of life,” said Fule. “We feel that the seniors are the pillars of our building and growing community over the many, many years, and we just want to continue to support them, and we think that property will be really good for them.”

Regarding the progress of the project, Fule said the WHMB has worked hard to go through the various steps required to bring it to a shovel ready status.

Financially, he regarded the wisdom in cost sharing the building between each participating municipality, as it will lighten the overall load on each, and make the building easier to maintain, clean, and operate in the long term.

A similar project which will also soon see construction begin in Strathmore, the Shasta continuing care community, will see construction on lands behind the existing Strathmore Hospital.

“I think the Shasta project is something really exciting for the town as well. It is a different project, it is apples to oranges when you compare it to the WHMB lodge,” said Fule. “The Shasta one is different because it is a for profit facility.”

The Shasta facility will offer higher levels of care for those who are no longer able to be independent, such as those diagnosed with dementia, while the WHMB hospice society is geared more for those who are still self sufficient, yet need a little help and support.

Both projects will, once completed, help to alleviate pressures on the currently existing lodge from its wait list, as well as to offer more options for those in the community getting up there in age.



Vintage photo!

Tanelle Nash found an old photo of her great-grandfather, Frederick Coenraad Neumann, taken between 1927-1930. Neumann immigrated from Holland and originally settled in the Strathmore area.

Photo Courtesy of Tanelle Nash

ARTS ON 817 PRESENTS

The Charms—Denis & Megan

Opening Act 7 PM— Melissa Matheson and The Locals

May 4, 2024— 7:00 pm

Adult - \$35.00
Youth - \$10.00 - 17 and under

Tickets can be purchased at the Vault Cultural Collective or online at www.smoreuc.com. Online purchases must be picked up at the door the night of the concert.

Heritage Fund success

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

This past week, our government announced that Alberta's Heritage Savings Trust Fund (Heritage Fund) hit an all-time high of \$22.1 billion.

As part of the new fiscal framework passed in 2023, our government has been paying down debt, keeping taxes low, balancing the budget, and growing the Heritage Fund for current and future generations of Albertans – all while investing in health care and education.

Established in 1976 by former premier Peter Lougheed, the Heritage Fund has been a cornerstone of Alberta's financial success, resilience, and prosperity through the years. The fund has contributed to the development of sectors such as technology, education, and health care. And this diversification has made it easier for us to weather the ups and downs of our resource-based economies. Unfortunately, significant investment income has been withdrawn from the Heritage Fund, meaning it has not grown into the juggernaut of Norway's \$1.6 trillion sovereign wealth fund or anything like it.

While the Heritage Fund is currently the highest it's ever been, Premier Danielle Smith has laid out an ambitious plan to grow the fund to anywhere between \$250 and \$400 billion by 2050. While this may seem like a very hard target to meet, with the moves our government is making today, economists agree we can get there.

With the strong economic policies implemented, Alberta has experienced an economic resurgence – with new jobs, investment, and population growth. The Heritage Fund represents a visionary approach to resource management that prioritizes both present needs and future sustainability. It's prudent investment strategies, focus on economic diversification, and commitment to inter-generational equity make it a valuable asset that continues to benefit Albertans today and will do so for generations to come.

I am proud our government has gotten Alberta's finances back on track, all while investing in the programs and services that matter to Albertans. Through our new fiscal framework, we are building an Alberta that is not only strong and free, but resilient to whatever challenges lie ahead.

As always, please feel free to contact me with your feedback or concerns (Chestermere.Strathmore@assembly.ab.ca).

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

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TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

Obituary

GERMAN, Garry

Garry German, beloved husband, father of four, grandfather of three, and great-grandfather of five, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on March 27, 2024. Garry's life was defined by love, family, and unwavering dedication. He generously donated his body to the University of Calgary for medical research.

Survived by his devoted wife, Mary, and sisters, Heather and Wendy, Garry leaves behind a legacy of kindness and compassion. He was a source of strength and wisdom to his children and found immense joy in the presence of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Garry's memory will forever live on in the hearts of those he touched. May his soul rest in eternal peace, knowing he was deeply loved and will be profoundly missed.

Obituary



HOFF, Edwards

Edward Ernest Hoff, of Strathmore, Alberta, passed away on April 28, 2024 at the age of 92.

Ed was born to Carl and Lydia Hoff, on September 4, 1931, in Cluny, Alberta. After graduating from Cluny Bow Valley High School and the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology, Ed worked as an electrician and then followed a calling to the mission field in 1954, travelling with the Lutheran Church to Papua, New Guinea, where he worked on electrical installations for hospitals, schools, and churches and maintained a radio network of thirty wireless stations, for five years. Once he returned to Canada and the family farm, he operated Hoff Electric for several years before turning his attention fully to farming endeavors.

Ed is survived by his wife Beverly (Aalhus); his three children, Christine (Kent), Peter (Cynthia), Richard (Lisa); step-children Nikolena (David), John (Joan), Bruce (Marilyn); grandchildren Mackenzie (Asha), Jamie (Jason), Kaela (Andrew), Bergen, Regina (Seth), Naomi, Cole, Phoebe and Sara; step-grandchildren Melissa, Jill, Lauren, Todd, Curtis, Brielle and Kaleb; as well as great-grandchildren, Oliver, Wesley and Eleanor. He is also survived by his sister, Ruth Wahl. He was predeceased by his first wife, Regina, and sisters Phyllis, Elaine and May.

Ed was deeply committed to his family and farm and contributed to his community. He was always willing to lend his skilled mechanical hand when needed. He especially enjoyed spending hours in his workshop coming up with new ideas, including improving on current farming methods, and inventing new machinery, such as the Evertight Fence Anchor, which he manufactured in his own factory. Above all, Ed was passionate about his faith and was actively involved in the Lutheran church throughout his lifetime from Luther League to leading Sunday School for many years.

Ed's funeral will be held Friday, May 3, 2024. Internment will take place at the Gleichen Cemetery at 11:00 a.m. and the funeral service will be held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Hussar, Alberta at 2:00 p.m.

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

Wheatland Funeral Home
Strathmore, AB 403-934-4404

Obituary



LUKACS, Sandra Charlene

August 13, 1959- April 10, 2024

Sandra (Sandy) Charlene Lukacs, age 64 of Wheatland County lost her battle with cancer surrounded by family on April 10, 2024

Sandy was born in Cardston to Lou and CJ Callaway, raised in Calgary, and the eldest of three siblings. Her brother Shane, and sister Cheryl described her as a trailblazer testing the waters for her younger siblings. She started her career right out of high school with the government of Alberta and worked as a social worker for 38 years. Her loyalty and determination were unmatched. She will be fondly remembered for her optimism, her generosity, and her thoughtfulness towards others. Her greatest joy was spending time with and spoiling her grandson Charlie, gardening, crafting, and listening to Elvis. She will be dearly missed and remembered with tremendous amounts of love.

Sandy is survived by her loving husband, Randall Lukacs, her two sons, Matthew and Sheldon Lukacs (Erica Lukacs), her grandson Charlie, and her mother Lou Callaway. She will be forever remembered by her siblings Shane Callaway (Michelle Callaway), and Cheryl Callaway.

Her celebration of life will be at her beloved Strathmore United Church on May 4th 2024 at 11am.

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Strathmorearts.com

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LEGAL NOTICES

Notice to Creditors and Claimants

Estate of WILLIAM MICHAEL BROWNRIDGE who died on the February 25, 2024.

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by May 20, 2024.

with DAN B RAMSAY
at #104, 2003 14 St NW
Calgary, AB T2M 3N4

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

Notice to Creditors and Claimants

Estate of ALEXANDRA ELIZABETH GARRIOTT, who died on February 24, 2024.

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by May 31, 2024.

with JOELY PATRICK
at TODD & DRAKE LLP
4807 51 St
PO Box 908
Cold Lake, AB T9M 1P2

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

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NOTICE



2024 NOTICE OF WEED CONTROL TREATMENTS

The Western Irrigation District will be controlling broadleaf weeds along it's right of ways for the 2024 irrigation season. The District will use 2,4-D, Milestone, Clearview and Glyphosate for weed control on driving banks and reed canary grass control along canals. This spray program will be starting in April of 2024 and will continue to the end of the irrigation season.

Also included in this weed control program will be the treatments for aquatic weeds. To control these aquatic weeds, the WID may be treating the canals noted below on the approximate dates show during the 2024 irrigation season. The Canals will be treated with Magnicide H (Acrolein, Inhibited) to control the growth of aquatic weeds and algae.

YEAR 2024 AQUATIC TREATMENT LOCATIONS AND DATES
May 13-17 June 3-7 June 24-28 July 15-19 Aug 5-9 Aug 26-30 Sept 16-20

CARSELAND DISTRICT
A - Main from Langdon Reservoir Outlet (SE 36-22-27) to Rge Rd 262 (NE 27-22-26) Glenmore Trail (SE 29-23-25) (application sites-3)

STRATHMORE DISTRICT
A - Main from Highway # 1 east of Strathmore (SW 18-23-24) to Namaka Rd (NE 33-23-24) (application sites-2)
A - Main from Namaka Rd (NE 33-23-24) to Twp 232 (Hammer Hill NE 9-23-23) (application sites-2)

GLEICHEN-CLUNY DISTRICT
Twp 242 (Hammer Hill NE 9-23-23) to Rougeau Pipeline (NW 2-23-21) (application sites-4)

STRATHMORE DISTRICT
North A from Highway 817 (NE 27-24-25) to Rge Rd 231 (NE 26-23-23)

CROWFOOT DISTRICT
Standard lateral at the split/head gate and downstream (NW 34-24-24)
Glenrose lateral at the split/head gate and downstream (NW 34-24-24)
From Rge Rd 262 (SE 10-25-26) road crossing to the end of Standard and Glenrose laterals

CHESTERMERE/ROCKYFORD DISTRICTS
1. NW 7-26-26
2. NE 27-26-26
3. SW 28-26-25
4. NE 18-26-24 Nightingale Road
5. NE 14-26-24 North Rockyford Pavement

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Upcoming Council Meetings

May 1, 2024 | 6 P.M.

May 8, 2024 | 6 P.M.

May 15, 2024 | 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.



APRIL 29 • Wildflower Ranch
• Wildflower Heights

APRIL 30 • Strathmore Lakes Estates

MAY 1 • Westmount

MAY 2 • Hillview

MAY 3 • The Ranch

MAY 5 • Downtown

MAY 6 • Aspen Creek
• Edgefield

MAY 7 • Green Meadow
• Parkwood

MAY 8 • Cambridge Glen
• Maplewood

MAY 9 • Thorncliff • Briarwood
• Bayside Place • Crystal Ridge
• Brentwood

MAY 10 • Strathaven

MAY 13 • Strathcona

MAY 14 • Glenwood
• Lakewood Meadows

*Sweeping schedule is dependent on weather and subject to change.