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STRATHMORE

TIMES

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 48

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Page 3



Perfect parade

Page 8



Provincial hosts

Town reviews 2024 budget

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore, during the regular meeting of council on Nov. 14, held a department question and answer period between council, the town finance department, and the rest of the budget team.

The budget process for 2024 began with a community delegation night, hosted by council, Oct. 26 for local organizations to make requests for funding to council all at once, as opposed to throughout a given year.

Following this, proposed budget documentation was released to council and the public, Nov. 1. A week later, council hosted a community engagement session, being a “Coffee with Council,” regarding the budget to address public questions and concerns.

As it has been introduced to council, the 2024 budget currently suggests a 5.05 per cent increase in total taxes for residents and businesses.

In 2023, the total tax increases were 4.9 per cent for residents and businesses, respectively. For the town, the difference represents a net change of \$988,000 of property taxes.

“Administration realizes that this is a difficult time for residents and businesses, as they have been challenged yet by another year of high inflation,” said Leana Aschbacher, senior manager of financial services. “We expect that the town, along with residents and businesses, will still continue to feel the impacts on the hikes and prices across the market in the next year, and possible the few years coming.”

The proposed budget for 2024, according to Aschbacher, is largely focused on reducing the town’s debt and building reserves, while maintaining existing programs and service levels.

Town administration has also written into the town budget an assumption that the town will be less able to benefit from government grants, such as the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) operating grant.

By operating under the assumption that grants such as the MSI will be unavailable to the town, as an organization it is easier to plan around and not be reliant on a successful application.

Continued on Page 4



Strathmore lights up the night

People turned up in droves for the grand opening of the Celebration of Lights at the Strathmore Agriculture Grounds on Nov. 25. Besides the wonderful light displays, there was plenty to see and do, including horse-drawn sleigh rides, caroling, hot chocolate before ending the night with a magnificent fireworks display. See more coverage on Page 2.

John Watson Photo

STRATHMORE TIMES

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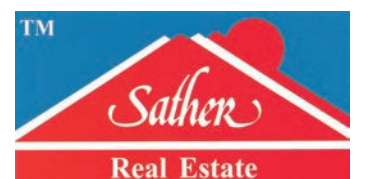
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Cookie craving

The streets and shops of Strathmore were full of eager families ready to collect their cookie for the annual SWCC Cookie Walk on Nov. 25.

Melissa Piche Photos



2023
Celebration of Lights

The Celebration of Lights was illuminated for the first time this year, Nov. 25 at the Strathmore and District Agricultural Society Grounds, following the annual Santa Parade through downtown Strathmore. The event was also paired with a fireworks display put on by Heckya and Lakewood of Strathmore.

John Watson Photos




Royal Canadian Legion
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Christmas Tea & Bake Sale

December 2
 * 1 pm *
 Strathmore Legion
 \$5/person
 Includes Strawberry or Lemon Shortcake
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Strathmore launches second annual Toys for Tickets campaign

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Strathmore has launched its second annual Toys for Tickets program to take place over the majority of the Christmas season.

“Toy donations in lieu of parking tickets is a great way the town can be innovative and make a difference in our community. Last year, participants donated over \$700 worth of toys to the Strathmore and Wheatland Christmas Hamper Society,” said Mark Pretzlaff, on behalf of Community and Protective Services.

Having kicked off Nov. 13, those who are issued municipal enforcement non-moving violations are able to, instead of paying the ticket to the town, donate a new, unwrapped toy of equal or greater value.

At the end of the campaign, any donated toys will be handed off to the Strathmore and Wheatland County Christmas Hamper Society so that they may be sent off to children in need.

“The Toys for Tickets program came in a couple of years ago and it was just an idea for a program – I think other places do it as well, and it is a program designed where, if you unfortunately get a ticket for something and you need to pay it ... it is a way of paying a ticket, but it is a way of doing something really nice so that a child in the community can be looked after at Christmas time,”

said Mayor Pat Fule. “We had some good results last year. In 2022, there were 22 total tickets that were given out during the campaign period; 14 people paid them normally and eight used the opportunity to buy a toy of equal value so that a child got something really nice at Christmas.”

According to Fule, the eight toys donated last year added to a value of \$705.14, with an average ticket value of \$88.14.

To donate, every person who receives a ticket between Nov. 13 and Dec. 11 can bring the toy, unwrapped in their original packaging with proof of purchase to the town municipal building.

Donations of multiple toys are also accepted, so long as the total value is equal to or greater than the penalty of the issued ticket.

“For those people who do not get a traffic ticket, they will also have an opportunity here at the Strathmore Municipal Building to still donate a new unwrapped toy,” added Fule. “There is going to be a Christmas tree in the lobby and we will make sure that those gifts are also donated to the Strathmore and Wheatland County Christmas Hamper Society.”

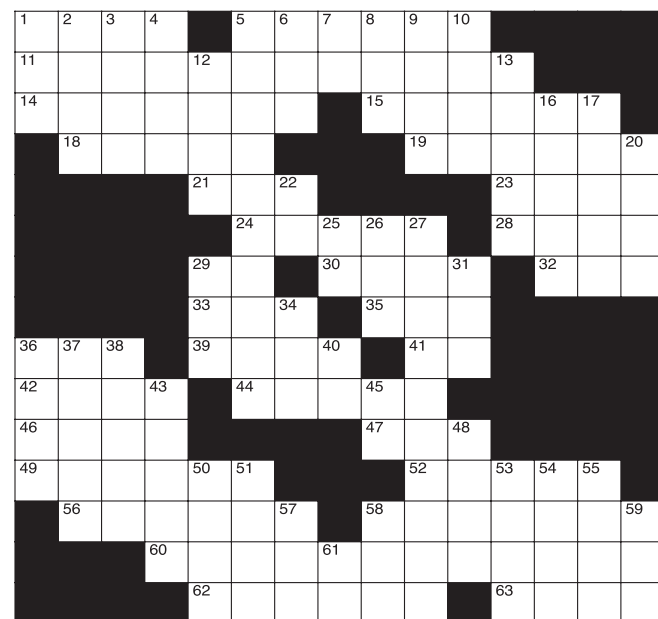
Fule added he also wished to thank those who decide to donate a toy, should they receive a parking ticket, and contribute to the program, as the effort will go a long way towards making a child’s Christmas much better.



Sticky situation

Students at Wheatland Elementary School were rewarded for their efforts during their most recent food drive by taping their principal and associate principal to a gymnasium wall. Over 2,600 items were collected in all to support the Strathmore and Wheatland Christmas Hamper Society. The school also participated in Soup for Soldiers, donating food to the legion to support local veterans.

John Watson Photo



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Old English letters
- 5. Sculpture
- 11. Showing up again
- 14. Tie the knot again
- 15. Washington city
- 18. Stiff structures in invertebrates
- 19. Mark over a vowel
- 21. Explosive
- 23. Popular race: __ 500
- 24. Pile up
- 28. Mint
- 29. Commercial
- 30. A minute amount (Scottish)
- 32. Small Eurasian deer
- 33. Baseball stat
- 35. Numbers cruncher
- 36. Japanese masked drama
- 39. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
- 41. Blood group
- 42. Assist in wrongdoing
- 44. Language spoken in Cameroon and Chad
- 46. Grayish-white
- 47. A woolen cap of Scottish origin
- 49. Microorganism
- 52. Place under prohibition
- 56. Calm, dependable
- 58. Congressman
- 60. Force
- 62. As a result of this document
- 63. One of two main branches of Islam

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Make a mistake
- 2. Gordon and Snider are two
- 3. Geographical region of Finland
- 4. Ejected saliva
- 5. A way of performing
- 6. Scotland’s longest river
- 7. One of the six noble gases (abbr.)
- 8. Body art
- 9. Two-toed sloth
- 10. Electronic counter-countermeasures
- 12. Foolish person (Brit.)
- 13. Of the wind
- 16. Grand home
- 17. Sound
- 20. English river
- 22. Symbol indicating ownership
- 25. Exclamation of surprise
- 26. Pouch
- 27. Apart from
- 29. Satisfaction
- 31. The bill in a restaurant
- 34. Sea bream
- 36. Port in southern Japan
- 37. Double-reed instruments
- 38. Center
- 40. South Dakota
- 43. An orderly crowd
- 45. Indicates position
- 48. __-pedi
- 50. Nonsense (slang)
- 51. Republic of Ireland
- 53. Nocturnal flyers
- 54. American state
- 55. Clusters in fern fronds
- 57. Patriotic women
- 58. A person’s brother or sister
- 59. Breed of sheep
- 61. Popular film “Despicable __”

Town passes updated fees amending bylaw

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Town of Strathmore Council passed all three readings for Bylaw 23-35, being the Fees Amending Bylaw during the Nov. 15 regular meeting of council.

Town council briefly discussed the bylaw, and it was recommended in the agenda by administration that all three readings be given.

“When council approved our 2024 fees bylaws, we had two items that were excluded from the fees bylaw. One was our safety codes and one (was) our cemetery fees,” said Leana Aschbacher, senior manager of financial services for the Town of Strathmore. “This bylaw presented here tonight is due to adding our safety code fees back into our 2024 fees bylaw as we were out for an RFP in November 2023 so we have now closed this and we have awarded the contract.”

The Town of Strathmore’s Development Services department currently uses a contractor for safety codes services. The contract was awarded to Park Enterprises Ltd., as described, after requesting proposals for services from the private sector.

According to town administration, the last time the fees were increased for safety codes services, including the rates for plumbing, electrical, and gas permits, was in 2019.

Strathmore’s Development Services department received updated fees this month from Park En-

terprises, and it was noted that the town’s current fees are low compared to other municipalities within the surrounding region.

Development Services, in the town’s meeting agenda, noted their intention to increase fees gradually so as to bring the town to a more comparable rate to the rest of the region within a few years.

The purpose of the rate bylaw is to provide clear and transparent rates to allow the town to operate and ensure local revenue is stable.

Following Aschbacher’s presentation to council, there were no further questions, nor discussion prior to Coun. Richard Wegener motioning for council to have first reading to Bylaw 23-35, being the fees amending bylaw. The motion was passed unanimously without discussion.

Coun. Denise Peterson motioned to give second reading to Bylaw 23-35, which was similarly passed unanimously without further discussion.

Wegener motioned for council to give unanimous consent to have third and final reading of Bylaw 23-35 in the same meeting as its previous readings, in accordance with the updated procedural bylaw. This motion was carried.

Coun. Debbie Mitzner motioned for council to give third and final reading to Bylaw 23-35. Finally, this motion was carried without further discussion by council.

STRATHMORE TIMES

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125 2nd Avenue, Strathmore, Alberta T1P 1K1 • 403.934.5589

Strathmore Times is published every Wednesday by Strathmore Times Inc. and is distributed by Canada Post to Strathmore, Carseland, Cheadle, Cluny, Gleichen, Hussar, Lyahta, 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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Celebrating the Reason for the Season

Strathmore United Church:
 Dec. 24, 10:30 a.m. – Advent Four Worship
 Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m. – Candlelight Service

Strathmore Alliance Church:
 Dec. 24, 10 a.m. – Regular Worship
 Dec. 24, 6 p.m. – Candlelight Service

Hope Community Covenant Church:
 Dec. 24, 10 a.m.
 Dec. 24, 5 p.m. – Christmas Eve

St. Michael and All Angels Anglican:
 Dec. 24, 2:30 p.m.
 – Christmas Eve celebration

Lord of All Lutheran:
 Dec. 24, 10:30 a.m. – Children's Service
 Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m. – Candles and Carols
 Dec. 25, 10:30 p.m. – Communion Service

RCCG Peculiar People Assembly:
 Dec. 24, 10:30 a.m.
 – Christmas Carol Service
 Dec. 25, 9:30 a.m. – Christmas Service

Harvest Healing:
 No morning service on the 24th.
 Dec. 24, 4 p.m.
 – Christmas Eve celebration

Sacred Heart Parish (HCC Gym):
 Dec. 24, 10 a.m./5 p.m./8 p.m.
 – Christmas Eve
 Dec. 25, 12 a.m. (Midnight Mass)/10 a.m.
 – Christmas Day
 Dec. 31, 10 a.m./5 p.m. – New Year's Eve
 Jan. 1, 10 a.m. – New Year's Day

Bow River Alliance Church:
 Dec. 24, 10:30 a.m.
 – Brunch and Carol Sing
 Dec. 31, 6 p.m. – New Year's Eve
 Potluck and Game Night

Strathmore Full Gospel Church:
 Dec. 24, 10:30 a.m.
 – Christmas Sunday Service




Musical celebration

A gathering was hosted at the Strathmore Legion to celebrate the conclusion of the harvest season for the Wheatland Hospice Society. Drew Gregory and several other featured artists performed for guests in attendance

John Watson Photos



Great bandits

The Strathmore Musical Arts Society hosted the Two Bit Bandits on Nov. 25 at the Strathmore Travelodge. The Alberta-based band played a mix of classic rock, funk, country, 80's, 90's, R&B and modern pop hits.

Joe Lepage Photos



Trellis hosts Kairos Blanket Exercise at Civic Centre

JOHN WATSON
 Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Trellis hosted a Kairos Blanket Exercise at the Strathmore Civic Centre, Nov. 24, which is an event designed to help non-Indigenous people understand recent Indigenous history in Canada.

“The Kairos Blanket Exercise is a visual experience – it is for things that have happened to people in Canada. The exercise that we host is specifically for the Treaty 7 area,” said Verona Wood, a youth and family support worker who spoke on behalf of Trellis. “What it is, is a visual interactive experience for people so that they understand and are able to experience what has happened to the Indigenous population over the years – everything from what it looked like in the beginning to what it looks like now.”

Attendees take part in a series of exercises which mimic the impacts of colonization on Indigenous peoples and their lands.

Additionally, the activities demonstrate an idea of how many people were impacted by the effects of disease, and residential schools, among other factors.

According to Wood, the event is usually very well-attended, with a tendency to see maximum capacity.

“The impact that we are hoping to have is just to actually share. A lot of people, they do not understand what has happened to the Indigenous people,” she said. “There are so many different stereotypes for the Indigenous population

that we want to help people to question misconceptions of the Indigenous population, understand why people are the way they are.”

Trellis makes efforts to host two Kairos Blanket Exercises per year in Strathmore and anyone is welcome to attend.

The exercises are free to attend with registration prior to the event. Folks are requested to register ahead of time to ensure there are enough slots for everyone, and anyone who attends will be able to be fed.

“We just want to share our truth; it is not about putting blame or for people to have ownership of blame or anything like that. All we are asking is that people come and learn and understand the things that are going on with Indigenous people,” said Wood. “Reconciliation is not just for the non-Indigenous people who want to learn ... we also have to be able to open up our hearts and be able to teach for non-Indigenous people. We all have to work together to create a safe environment for our children.”

Trellis has not yet indicated when the next Kairos Blanket exercise will be taking place, though there will be at least one in Strathmore over the course of 2024.

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Town Council reviews proposed 2024 budget

Continued from Page 1

The 2024 budget has an operating impact of \$37,367,600 before business cases and postponed motions are calculated. The 2024 capital budget has an operating impact of \$7,014,000.

If the Education Requisition from the province is higher than is currently estimated, administration is recommending to lower the municipal tax increase and lower the transfer to reserves in order to offset the increase.

As it stands, the education levy is set at 1.6 per cent in the 2024 budget. This is based on past trends and factors in the limited growth seen in Strathmore compared to the rest of the province.

With the approval of the Rate Bylaw, utilities were increased by approximately four per cent on both the variable and fixed utility rates.

Administration will bring the 2024 final operating and capital budget for council adoption, Dec. 7. More information regarding the proposed budget as it has currently been presented is available through the council agenda for Nov. 14, as well as via the livestreamed council meeting posted to the town's YouTube channel.



Santa PARADE

The town's annual Santa Claus parade, sponsored by RE/MAX Key, was held on Nov. 25 in downtown Strathmore. Residents and guests lined the streets to see all the wonderful floats and get a glimpse of Santa one month prior to his busiest day of the year.

Joe Lepage Photos



Skating Santa

The Town of Strathmore hosted a Skate with Santa on Nov. 26 at the Strathmore Family Centre as part of their Spirit of Christmas weekend.

Joe Lepage Photo

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YOUR WEEKLY HEALTH ADVICE
Gord Morck Pharmacist

Capsule Comments

A new fungal infection is becoming more common. This fungus has a name....*Candida auris* and it's an extremely drug-resistant yeast that invades many healthcare facilities and can be fatal. It became a fungus to be noted in the U.S. in 2016 although it was first identified in Southeast Asia in 2009. It spreads easily from person to person so science is researching new drugs to combat this dangerous fungus.

Canadians are cutting back on their alcohol consumption. But during the holiday seasons, many still drink too much. Be aware, there is no magic cure for hangovers. Hydration with plain water is the best. There are many "cures" suggested but the best cure is to avoid drinking too much.

Many people get depressed during winter when days are so short. Sometime, this can be due to the lack of sunlight exposure and can be helped by light therapy. These lights are called SAD Lights (Seasonal Affective Disorder) and sitting near the light allowing the light to reach your eyes can help you through the depressing Canadian winters.

If you notice your partner is stopping breathing during sleep, he or she may have sleep apnea. Other symptoms are daytime sleepiness, loud snoring, waking during night gasping for air, awakening in the morning with dry mouth or sore throat and mood changes such as depression or being easily upset. There is help for sleep apnea. See the doctor very soon.

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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.

- December 5: Council Meeting**
- December 12: Municipal Planning Commission**
- December 12: 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.

Careers with Wheatland County

Available opportunities include:

- **Surfacing Crew Equipment Operator**
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- **Heavy Equipment Operator**
Closes December 4, 2023
- **Heavy Truck Operator**
Closes December 8, 2023



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WHEATLAND COUNTY INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR 2024 COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FUNDING

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

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

How to Apply:

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

Deadline:

Applications must be post marked on or before January 31, 2024.

Please note that eligibility for 2024 funding is dependent on filing all previous funding reports with Wheatland County by January 31, 2024.

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

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Are you wanting to give back or become more involved in your community? Wheatland County Fire Services is recruiting volunteer firefighters!

Minimum requirements:
• 18 years of age • Valid class 5 drivers licence • No criminal record • Good physical health

If you're interested or have questions, please call or email Mark Romaniuk, Deputy Regional Fire Chief at 403-361-2165 or mark.romaniuk@wheatlandcounty.ca

Introducing 'Invest in Wheatland'

Wheatland County is thrilled to announce that the Infinite WC website has officially been retired to make way for the grand debut of 'Invest in Wheatland'!



This dynamic website is tailored specifically to cater to investors, spotlighting Wheatland County's unique value propositions, providing comprehensive insights into prime site selections, and offering extensive information about key industries. Moreover, it hosts an expansive County business directory.

'Invest in Wheatland' stands as the ultimate destination, serving as a convenient one-stop hub for potential investors and anyone intrigued by the county's offerings and opportunities.



Explore 'Invest in Wheatland' today at INVESTWC.CA

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Strathmore Library hosts National Child Day programming

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore Municipal Library hosted an event in partnership with Trellis Family Resource Network to recognize National Child Day on Nov. 20.

National Child Day was first declared on Nov. 20, 1991, by the Government of Canada, coinciding with the fourth anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The Convention sets out the rights of children with 54 articles which provide a roadmap of what has been deemed necessary to raise healthy and happy children and youth.

Leonor Ortega said this was not the first occasion the library has hosted an event to recognize National Child Day. This time around, there were several activities available to participate in.

“We did some activities like first, to recognize the convention of the rights of the child. We had a list of the rights that the kids could read, and we had one activity where they could select what right they would like to recognize and make a little change,” she said. “Also, we had a photo shop (with

some prompts that the kids could wear to take a photo ... we had them making crowns, we had story time, and several books related to children’s rights.”

The theme which was declared for this year’s National Child Day, was “Inclusion for Every Child,” as every child has the right to be treated fairly, regardless of where they reside, the colour of their skin, their abilities, religion, language, or gender identity.

The activities hosted at the library to recognize the occasion followed guidelines and suggestions set out by UNICEF Canada.

Being an event to recognize children’s rights, kids and youth under the age of 18, as well as their families were welcome to drop in and participate for free during the duration of the program.

“We would like for the kids to see that they have rights and how they can understand what their rights are ... and how they can talk at the family level about children’s rights,” said Ortega. “The books (in particular) are very important for kids ... and they are something that explains at their reading level what is involved in their rights.”

In addition to resources made avail-



National Child Day (Nov. 20) was recognized at the Strathmore Municipal Library. Activities were made available throughout the library for local youth to participate in and learn about some of their rights

John Watson Photos

ble locally at the Strathmore library, the Government of Canada and UNICEF have also posted free online resources which offer suggestions about

how to celebrate National Child Day, as well as recommendations about how to address the topic of children’s rights.

Christmas concert with a buzz

MELISSA PICHE
Times Contributor

The Arts on 817 is excited to present Christmas with Buzz Brass on Dec. 1 featuring vocal students of LoraLee Laycock as the “All of the other Reindeer” Opening Act.

The Buzz Brass quintet is a Canadian group of brass instrument musicians who captivate classical music enthusiasts the world over.

Sylvain Lapointe, founder and trumpeter, said that the concert in Strathmore will feature classic holiday music.

“This is our 22nd season; we did our first concert in the fall of 2002,” said Lapointe. “It’s a Christmas concert. Celebrate the holidays with Buzz Brass – we’re celebrating the holidays. We’re young Canadians, we grew up with Christmas trees and the Christmas traditions, so most of the pieces are within this tradition.”

Some of the songs concert attendees will be lucky to hear are classic familiar favourites such as Angels We Have Heard on High, Greensleeves and pieces from Charlie Brown Christmas.

“We will also be performing the Nutcracker Suite, not the entire suite but some excerpts. This is our more classical part of the concert,” he said. “We are classically trained musicians. We specialize in classical music from the end of the 19th century to the beginning of the turn of the 20th century. European, Russian music, American music and Canadian music.”

He explained that his band is well-versed in a broad spectrum of fine classical music.

Another unique aspect to the Buzz Brass is that when given the opportunity, they like to ask composers to work a famous piece of music into a brass arrangement. He explained one is called “The Planets,” by Gustav Holst; it is a famously symphonic piece that Buzz Brass has composed into a brass number. This is the sort of work that sets them apart from the rest.

This concert’s Opening Act, “All of the other Reindeer,” will delight audience members young and old.

“It’s all holiday music,” said opening act LoraLee Laycock. “I think it’s a great idea (The Opening Act segment); I think this is a great way to bring in people who haven’t been coming to the concerts. It’s a great way to expand the audience.”

All of the other Reindeer will be playing a 20-minute set prior to the main feature.

“It’s so nice to have local community performers as well,” said Laycock “We’re just there to provide a little bit of local entertainment and then turn it over to the professionals.”

The Opening Act starts at 7 p.m. with the headlining concert at 7:30 p.m. on Dec.1 at the Strathmore United Church. Tickets are \$35 for adults, \$10 for 17 and under and season passes can be purchased starting at \$40. Tickets can be purchased ahead of time by visiting the Vault Cultural Collective or online at www.smoreuc.com.

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Christmas mouse

The Hope Community Covenant Church hosted their annual House of the Christmas Mouse on Nov. 25 for children aged 5-11. The participants take part in various Christmas crafts and games, decorate cookies, solve puzzles, play in the bouncy castle and so much more.

Joe Lepage Photos



Magical market

The Strathmore Municipal Library hosted a holiday market in its program room, Nov. 25, which featured a host of local vendors and artisans. The free to attend market was an excellent opportunity to support local businesses and do some early Christmas shopping.

John Watson Photos



Elder Abuse Regional Awareness Committee

Lunch and Learn!

December 11, 2023
12:00 - 1:30 pm

Strathmore Municipal Library, Program Room
85 Lakeside Blvd.

Come join us for Lunch and Learn about Elder Abuse

- Learn the types of Elder Abuse
- Learn to recognize Elder Abuse
- Please attend because you play an essential role in promoting awareness in our community

This event is free to anyone 18+ not just seniors, as this topic affects all of us as a community.

Catered lunch, refreshments and door prizes provided.

Organized by the Elder Abuse Regional Awareness Committee. Supported through funding from New Horizons for Seniors Program.

Must pre-register by December 5 due to catered lunch at Audra.Anderson@crpcn.ca



Strathmore played host to the provincial high school volleyball tournament this year, with teams taking over the courts at SHS, George Freeman, and Crowther Memorial. Strathmore's girls' team were eliminated early, however the boys made it to the semifinals before being knocked out.

John Watson & Joe Lepage Photos



Strathmore hosts high school volleyball provincials across local schools

LAUREEN F. GUENTHER
Times Contributor

Strathmore Spartans played host to the boys and girls 3A volleyball provincial championships Nov. 23-25 at various schools in town.

The boys' team was successful in reaching the semifinals of the tournament, and secured a Top 4 placement within the province. The girls' team, according to their coach, Jerry Flaws, placed 12th.

"The girls played well, but they had some inconsistencies that lead us to losses – but overall, I feel like we played the best games we could," said Flaws. "I think we learned a lot this year and we had an interesting team. We won half and lost half of our games all year, so it was definitely a growing year."

Flaws said the Lady Spartans really started to mesh towards the end of the season, but needed to work on their consistency – particularly with their serves.

Cole Hintz, who coached the boys, despite losing 2-1 in the semifinals, said it was an exciting experience to host provincials and participate at a level many other teams do not get the opportunity to.

"It is always fun to host. We have a really strong volleyball community in town, and any opportunity that we can get the best teams in the province into our gyms so that young up-and-coming athletes can watch some high-quality volleyball – that's fantastic," he said. "We've been strong all year. We started the year with a good result at U of A and U of C, and then we traveled to Swift Current ... we have done a really good job all year competing against the Top 4A and the Top 3A teams in the province."

For both coaches, the name of the game is to continue to see growth within their teams going into next year, and for those who are graduating out to be proud of their developments and achievements.

"I think the girls had a lot of fun. It is a neat experience that a lot of teams at our school do not get to experience, so it has been fun," said Flaws.

Hintz echoed those thoughts.

"We've really done a good job this year ... focusing on measurable goals that we can commit to as a team, and ways to kind of break down the game one point at a time," explained Hintz, "that allowed us to go out and compete."

Strathmore Farmers Market

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www.strathmorefarmersmarket.ca



Work of art

The Wheatland Arts Society hosted an encaustic painting arts class on Nov. 25 at their studio. Encaustic painting is the process of applying a layer of hot liquid bees wax to create a work of art. Denise Peterson (right) also demonstrated clay throwing during the event.

Melissa Piche Photos



Thanks to the generosity of the local community members who participate in the Legion's weekly Chase the Ace Contest, the Legion Executive was recently presented with a cheque for \$10,000. The recent winner of \$6,000, Ken Shackleton, was even kind enough to donate \$500 from his winnings.

Photo Courtesy of Jennifer Franssen

Strathmore Legion presented with \$10,000 through Chase the Ace program

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Strathmore Royal Canadian Legion Branch 10 Legion Executive was recently presented with a cheque for \$10,000, following the most recent conclusion of their Chase the Ace activity.

Chase the Ace is a fundraiser which encourages folks in attendance to purchase draw tickets which give them a chance each week to win 20 per cent of the ticket profit pot, as well as a chance for each week's draw winner to play for the cumulative jackpot.

The game goes on each week until somebody draws the ace of spades card, at which point, the prizes will be distributed and the game will be reset.

"We are grateful for the continued support of Legion members and the larger community for their participation in our weekly fundraiser, 'Chase the Ace,' which contributes to operations of the branch," said Donovan Arnaud, branch president of the Strathmore Legion.

According to Edith Stephenson, Chase the Ace coordinator, the weekly fundraiser started in November 2018, marking this year as the fifth since its inception. Since then, Chase the Ace has raised nearly \$40,000 to support branch operations and sustainability.

"Chase the Ace is a fundraiser for us to bring in money for the legion because running that building these days is tremendously expensive with the

utilities and the insurance and the up-keep and everything," she said. "People come into the legion for a two-hour period on Friday evenings; they come in, might have something to eat, drink, they might buy Chase the Ace tickets; we also have other fundraisers going on, on Friday evenings as well."

Stephenson added attendance for Chase the Ace tends to vary tremendously, as more people tend to show up as the jackpot grows.

For each iteration of the game, the Legion must acquire a new license from Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis (AGLC) in order to host Chase the Ace, as it technically qualifies as a gambling activity.

"We have had three or four smaller winners, but then we have had three \$6,000 winners, and one \$3,000 winner," explained Stephenson.

On one occasion, she added, a draw winner pulled the Ace of Spades for the jackpot on the first night of the new game.

Stephenson explained the impact towards the operations of the legion building from Chase the Ace are tremendous, and the team behind it is excited that it tends to be very well received by legion members and the surrounding community.

Ken Shackleton, who most recently walked away with the \$6,000 jackpot, also donated \$500 of his winnings back to the Legion.

New pillar added to SHS

MELISSA PICHE
Times Contributor

Sultan Nelson was the humble recipient of the Pillar Award at Strathmore High School (SHS) on Nov. 23.

Nelson graduated SHS in 2003 and since has gone on to receive a Doctorate degree in Philosophy and a Doctor of Medicine degree.

Principal Doug Raycroft explained how the nomination process happens.

"The program was started over 10 years ago (2010). Unfortunately we had to take a little break there during Covid years," said Raycroft during his first Pillar ceremony as principal. "We have a committee of teacher and ex-teachers. We take nominations of Strathmore High School graduates and then the committee rounds down and tries to pick appropriate pillars."

Raycroft explained that the recipient isn't always an academic scholar, such as Nelson – each pillar is selected based on what the committee deems represents SHS.

The plaque outlines the recipient's achievements and is a permanent fixture on the high school wall. The Pillars of SHS is made possible by the generous donation by Steve Rodehutskor and his family. Rodehutskor was honoured in 2010 with the first Pillar.

"Steve represented a lot of the qualities that we wanted to recognize when we started this," said Raycroft. "Steve's hard work, dedication, discipline and motivation allowed him to succeed at the highest level of sport, academics and was a true professional. It's really good for school culture."

Raycroft said students are seen reading the Pillars often and when visitors come to the school, they often get caught up reading about the past achievements.

Nelson was presented his pillar by his former teacher, Dr. Michelle Ledene.

"Every once in a while, a student comes along that leaves a permanent imprint on your life and your heart, and



Strathmore High School honoured former student Sultan Nelson with a Pillar of Strathmore High School on Nov. 23.

Melissa Piche Photo

for me that student was Sultan," said Ledene, as she fought through tears. "From academics, to athletic, to giving back to his community, Sultan's passion and joy for learning was contagious."

She said she has never met a student who values education as much as Sultan.

"I'm honoured and a bit overwhelmed actually," said Nelson. "To be honest, my journey has been filled with more love and support than one can imagine."

He went on to thank his school and his adoptive parents, Denise Peterson and Roger Nelson for the warm embrace he felt as a child in a new community.

"Strathmore High wasn't just a steppingstone for me, it was truly a launching pad," he said. "As I accept this award, I carry with me every handshake, every good job and every moment of encouragement from this community. This is not just an award to me; it is actually a testament to the village it takes to raise a child. In my case, a curious young, man with dreams bigger than myself."

"Here's to Strathmore High School the teachers who are the architects of our future."

It's Almost Christmas Time...

The Strathmore Times will be publishing a

season's greetings

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Strathmore Times

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- Gold Arena

Nov 25

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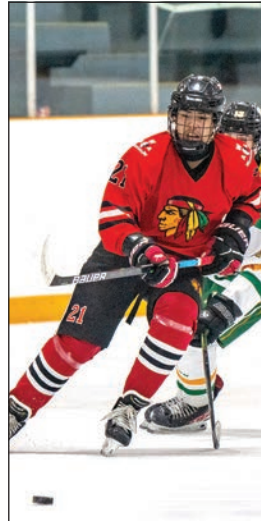
The Wheatland Kings fell to 10-8-2 on the season after dropping a pair of divisional games Nov. 24-25. After falling 7-2 on the road, the local Junior B team dropped a close 4-2 loss to Cochrane the following day. The Kings look to get back to their winning ways when they host the High River Flyers (8 p.m.) and the Okotoks Bisons (4:30 p.m.) Dec. 2-3 respectively at the Strathmore Family Centre.

Joe Lepage Photos

Rough stretch

The Wheatland Raiders dropped a close 7-5 battle on home ice Nov. 19 when they hosted the Calgary CNHA Northstars at the Strathmore Family Centre. Despite dropping three road games since then, the local U16AA team is looking to get back to the win column when they host the Airdrie Havoc on Dec. 1 (7:30 p.m.) at the Strathmore Family Centre.

Joe Lepage Photo



Fixing Alberta's health care

CHANTELLE DE JONGE
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

It's time to refocus Alberta's health care system.

We have heard loud and clear from Albertans that the current system centered on Alberta Health Services (AHS) is complex and uncoordinated. AHS has evolved beyond its original acute care system mandate and is shouldering a burden it was not intended to carry, and Albertans are facing long wait times and delays to the care they desperately need.

It's time to refocus how the system is structured and create a path toward a better health care system for you and your family.

Alberta's government announced that we are undertaking a significant refocusing of Alberta Health Services. The new structure will center around four priority sectors: primary care, acute care, continuing care and mental health and addiction. This will ensure Albertans get the health care system that works for them.

This change will ensure that you and your family are front of mind for every health decision made.

We know health care workers are the lifeline of the health care system. We know we need more doctors, nurses, paramedics and many more health care workers. Alberta's government will continue to grow

the health care workforce and every frontline job will be protected during this transition.

Our world-class health care workers will be consulted every step of the way. Their experience and expertise will help shape Alberta's refocused health care system. This will ensure doctors, nurses and other health care workers have more input and help drive health care innovation at a local level.

Refocusing the system means that Albertans will have health care that works for them, prioritizes their needs to find a primary care provider, get urgent care without long wait times, and improve access to the best continuing care options and supports for mental health and addiction.

This collaborative, integrated, province-wide health care system will improve outcomes for Albertans and empower health care workers to deliver quality care across the province.

We also want to hear from Albertans. You are the patients, family members, seniors, and caregivers who use the system each day. Engagement session dates will be regularly updated on alberta.ca/health-care. There is also a survey for you to provide your input at alberta.ca/shape-the-way.

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

Two credit unions take step towards merger

JOHN WATSON
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

connectFirst and Servus Credit Unions have approved the proposed merger of their credit unions, following a pair of votes which took place during respective Special General Meetings of both organizations.

The results of the votes were announced via press release, Nov. 10, through which 85 per cent of connectFirst members, and 84 per cent of Servus members who cast votes were noted to have voted in favour of the merge.

"At this point, we are nearing the finish line of the merger. The process has taken place over the last several months, during which time we had an intense due diligence phase whereby the board of directors of connectFirst and Service Credit Unions really did a deep dive into each other's organizations to better understand the benefits of this merger," said Kate Bowering, brand and reputation lead with connectFirst Credit Union. "After that intense due diligence phase, both boards agreed that the intent to merge is in the best interest of all their respective members."

Between the two organizations, connectFirst and Servus are comprised of more than 3,000 employees, and serve approximately 500,000 members across 80 Alberta communities. Such locations include Strathmore, Hussar and Langdon.

Bowering explained at both the local and broader

scale of the merge, it is not yet possible to explicitly state how changes will take shape for members and clients of services.

"In terms of getting specific about enhanced member benefits, it's not really something that we can anticipate right now until we get into the nitty gritty (details) to better understand the offerings of both organizations," she said. "Member impacts will be very minimal over the course of the first few months. Again, while we better understand what needs to change and how it needs to change."

Subject to regulatory approval, the merger will reportedly enable the credit unions to operate at the scale necessary to invest in new technologies, while preserving the professional culture which has encouraged the cultivation of the current client base.

There is no current timeline established regarding exactly when the merge will take place, according to Bowering, due to the complexity of the regulatory approval process.

During the transition process, she added clients can be confident that no interruptions to their banking services or anomalies in their accounts will take place and they may continue to engage with their local branches as normal.

"We are really excited about the opportunities to be able to have an even bigger impact in the communities that we serve based on the fact that we will have more resources as a larger organization, while still being able to maintain ... those small town, those credit union values," said Bowering.

Obituary

CORBIELL, Loretta Fay



Loretta Fay Corbiell passed away on Nov. 18/23 at the age of 86 in Airdrie, 2 days after leaving a 2 month stay in hospital. She contracted an illness just before leaving the hospital ward, which was on COVID outbreak status. She is predeceased by her husband of 61 years, Gabe Corbiell. She is survived by son Wade (Shirley) of Edmonton, daughter Fay (Marcel) of Airdrie, grandchildren Rowena & Dustin, great-granddaughter Quinn, her brother Bill McKeever (Jean) of Canmore, nephews Robin (Milaine) & Brian, and great-nephew Xavier.

Loretta & Gabe married in 1957 and moved to Brooks in 1969 where she started working at an answering service despite having a significant vision impairment – she was legally blind. She developed an uncanny ability to remember phone numbers & the names of staff at the companies that used the answering service. She was proud that she was able to buy & grow the business. After selling their businesses, she and Gabe spent the next 15 years travelling to Arizona each winter. In Dec. 2016, he & Loretta moved to Sagewood Seniors Community in Strathmore when Gabe's health deteriorated.

In her early years, Loretta very much enjoyed riding horses then transitioned to playing stand-up base fiddle. She played for many years in dance bands, with Gabe on the drums. They played in community halls and, after the band days, Gabe would drive her to play in jam sessions. Throughout her retirement years, being visually impaired, Loretta spent most of her days listening to talking books & old-time country music CDs. In the final months of her life, she enjoyed traveling by Handi-Bus to watch community jam sessions in Gleichen, Strathmore & N.E. Calgary.

A funeral service will take place on Sat. Dec. 2 at Hope Community Covenant Church, 245 Brent Blvd., Strathmore, AB, at 11:00 am, with luncheon to follow. A private interment at Gleichen Cemetery will follow the luncheon. In consideration of the health needs of family and visitors who could be more susceptible to airborne infections, the family asks that visitors wear masks during the service – masks and hand sanitizer will be available at the door. In memory of Loretta, if friends desire, memorial tributes may be made to the CNIB Foundation at <https://www.cnib.ca>.

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Obituary

DROOG, Johannes (John) Theodorus April 5, 1939 - November 2, 2023



On Thursday, November 2, 2023 Mr. Johannes Droog of Calgary, Alberta, formerly of Strathmore, Alberta passed away at the age of 84 years.

Johannes (John) Theodorus Droog was born April 5, 1939 in de Beemster, Netherlands. He is survived by his sister Nel, and brothers Wil, Luuk, Tom, Cor and Pim. Also cherishing his memory are numerous nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents and his sister Sjaan.

John went to agricultural school in Hoorn, Holland. When he was 18, John trained in the Dutch army for two years. After that, he immigrated to Australia in 1959. John worked at a Nunnery, working on their farm. While in Australia, John started working at Franki Pile Construction. This career brought him all over the world. He moved from Australia to Africa, but was not there long. In 1968 John returned to Holland continuing to work construction with heavy machinery. In 1978 John's brother Tom sponsored him to come to Canada.

John settled in Strathmore, Alberta. As a lifelong bachelor, he loved his farm and took pride in planting trees there and was a very hard worker. In retirement, John lived for enjoying coffee with his friends every morning where they talked about the weather, the price of coffee, current events and the latest gossip. He loved playing crib. John was very active and walked daily. He never cooked a meal a day in his life. John was a world traveler and loved taking cruises. He marched to the beat of his own drum, coming and going like the wind. Make no mistake, John quietly enjoyed his life but was not boastful.

John enjoyed spending time with his only Canadian family at holidays, driving in his red VW Golf bearing a whip cream cake from the Dutch Bakery to share with Tom and his family.

John lived a quiet and unassuming life. He enjoyed his family gatherings in Holland and had friends to visit no matter where he stayed. John spent many weeks with Tom and his niece Christy fundraising and building orphanages in Guatemala and Peru over a number of years. John worked hard no matter the task at hand. He liked to laugh. John was humble, kind, loving, and of course, stubborn too.

The last five years of John's life were spent living at Sagewood in Strathmore and Bethany Riverview in Calgary. John's family would like to express gratitude for all of the caregivers involved in his late years of his life, providing exemplary care and warmth. During visits to his "home" John was happy to see Tom and Christy, even when he failed to remember them, but always asked them to come back soon. It was during this time of uncertainty in his life, John allowed himself vulnerability as he held the hand of whomever was willing to walk with him in the last two years. His days, though quiet, echoed with the fullness of contentment, teaching us that a life need not be loud to be profoundly filled with rich experiences. Rest in peace John.

A Celebration of Life will be held for John at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #10, 230 - 2 Avenue, Strathmore, Alberta on Friday, April 5, 2024 (time still to be determined). Cremation has taken place at the Foothills Crematorium.

Messages of condolence may be forwarded to the family at www.piersons.ca



TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

Obituary



**THERRIEN,
Elaine Margaret
(nee Humphries)**

Elaine Margaret Therrien (nee Humphries) passed away peacefully at the age of 79 on November 20, 2023 with her husband Albert of 63 years by her side. She is survived by her loving husband Albert, as well as her children Donald, Curtis and Richard (Diane) and daughter Michelle (Dave); grand-children Erica, Tyler, Julian, Sara, Jake, Zach, Nicole, Alex and Samantha; great-grandchildren Owen and Olive as well as her sisters Peggy (Bill), Barb (Wayne), Lillian (Gary), Susan, Brother Sid (Gail) and many nieces and nephews. She will be missed by all including her special fur baby Homer which she adored. Elaine was predeceased by her parents Ted Humphries and Margaret Bigelow (Ed), brother Gordon Humphries, sister-in-law Beverly McAlpine, mother- and father-in-law Ruby and Don Therrien. Elaine was born in Brandon, Manitoba on August 10, 1944, relocating west a few years after marrying Albert on June 25, 1960. She had many careers in her lifetime but spent most of her years working (Retired) for the Golden Hills School Division at Brentwood Elementary School in Strathmore, Alberta where they have resided for the last 33 years. Elaine was happiest when her family was around and spent many days and nights watching her grandchildren. She loved the time she spent with them and her children. The Family would like to extend their gratitude to the Strathmore Hospital Palliative Care Team and the Strathmore Homecare office. There will be a celebration of life in the spring of 2024.

THANK YOU

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MEMORIAM

Peter Armstrong

Sunrise Sunset
Nov 24/1943 Dec 5/2012

To Dad (pops)...remembering you is easy,
we do it everyday.

Missing you is the heartache that never goes away.

Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure.

You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.

We know you and Mike are now enjoying a pint together.

Love always Glenn, Cherie, Trinity, your great grandson

Darhyn, Tyra, Jordyn & Lida.

LEGAL NOTICE

**Notice to Creditors
and Claimants**

Estate of MILES ELLIOTT STEPHENS who died on the March 7, 2023.

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by December 29, 2023.

with STRATHMORE LAW
Attention: DAMAN K. GILL
at #101 318 3rd Avenue,
Strathmore, AB
T1P 1V9

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

Creditors: you must include a full description and value of the debt you allege the deceased owes you and a full description and value of any of the deceased's property that you hold as security for the debt.

Claimants: you must include a full description of your claim and why you have a right to make such a claim.

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Tender deadline is **December 18, 2023**

Contact info@franciscolaw.ca for information package

Contact Murray @ 306-304-1862 for viewing appointment

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8	3	7	1	2	4	6	5	9
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3	9	2	4	5	6	1	7	8
5	4	6	8	1	7	2	9	3
4	8	1	3	9	2	7	6	5
6	7	3	5	4	8	9	2	1
2	5	9	7	6	1	3	8	4



Upcoming Council Meetings

December 6, 2023 | 6 P.M. Regular Meeting of Council
December 13, 2023 | 6 P.M. Committee of the Whole
December 20, 2023 | 6 P.M. 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.



Wheatland County and the Town of Strathmore are working on two new initiatives to make the region a better place to live

Calgary, AB – The Town of Strathmore and Wheatland County are embarking on a collaborative process to develop a new Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) and Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP) to help to strengthen the partnership between the municipalities and support prosperity and growth within the region.

An ICF and IDP are required through the Municipal Government Act (MGA) between municipalities that share a common boundary. Currently, the Town and County do not have an ICF or IDP in place. As a first step in the ICF and IDP development processes, a steering committee made up of Town and County Council Members has been created to guide the project. An IDP protects both municipalities' unique development vision and goals and provides a framework for ensuring that development that occurs in areas between the two municipalities progresses in a fair, organized and efficient way.

The process for developing the ICF and IDP will take up to 12 months and will feature facilitated sessions and discussions with Steering Committee members. Mayor Pat Fule from the Town of Strathmore, who is part of the project's Steering Committee, supports the intention behind the process stating, "The Town looks forward to strengthening our intermunicipal relationship with Wheatland County and positioning

ourselves for continued success through the creation of an IDP and an ICF". Reeve Amber Link from Wheatland County, echoed Mayor Pat Fule's sentiments when asked about the importance of developing the new ICF and IDP, she said, "We know how important collaboration is to the growth and prosperity of our communities and the region, and we are committed to developing sound and sensible plans through the ICF and IDP development process that will support these goals".

To share more about the ICF and IDP development process, the Town and County will be hosting a joint information session on **December 13 from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Strathmore Civic Centre**. This will be an opportunity for the community to learn about the projects, ask questions to the project team, and offer feedback, which will be instrumental in shaping the draft plans. Once prepared, the draft ICF and IDP draft will be shared with the community to gather more feedback, and to help refine and finalize the documents. Finally, a public hearing will be held by both municipal councils to consider adopting the final ICF and IDP.

To learn more about the ICF and IDP development processes, visit:

- wheatlandcounty.ca/strathmore-wheatland-icf-idp/
- strathmore.ca/IDP-ICF



SAFE AT HOME
A Home Alone Course

The Home Alone Program is designed to provide children 10 years of age and older with the necessary skills and knowledge to be safe and responsible when home alone for short periods of time.

This course is available for Max 15 youth.
*No registration fee

December 16th, 2023
11:00am

Course will be held at 419 B 2 St, Strathmore, AB T1P 1B9

Low-Income Senior's Property Tax Rebate Program

Applications due November 30th

To learn more, call FCSS at 403.934.9090 or visit their office at the Strathmore Municipal Building.

trees will also be donated in support of the Strathmore & Wheatland County Christmas Hamper Society.

"We are excited to announce our second annual Toys for Tickets campaign. Toy donations in lieu of parking tickets is a great way the Town can be innovative and make a difference in our community. Last year, participants donated over \$700 worth of toys to the Strathmore and Wheatland Christmas Hamper Society," said Mark Pretzlaff, Community & Protective Services

based on the needs of the community and evaluation criteria.

Eligibility:

Applicants must be eligible under the Family and Community Support Services Act and Regulation as well as the United Way Funding Agreement. Preference will be given to not-for-profit organizations registered under the Societies Act that:

- Sustain people as active participants in the community
- Help people to develop independence, strengthen coping skills and become more resistant to crisis
- Help people to develop an awareness of social needs
- Help people to develop interpersonal and group skills which enhance constructive relationships among people
- Help people and communities to assume responsibility for decisions and actions which affect them and or others
- Provide supports that help sustain people as active participants in the community

Submit your letter of intent application today at Strathmore.ca/FCSSGrant or call FCSS at 403.934.9090 to learn more about the FCSS/United Way Funding Grant.

FCSS/United Way Grant Funding Call for Applications

Strathmore Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) works closely with the United Way to provide funding to non-profit organizations that enhance the social well-being of individuals and families.

Premised on strengthening individuals, families, and the community, FCSS/United Way funded programs build knowledge, skills and healthy behaviours, improving quality of life and building capacity to prevent and deal with crisis situations should they arise. These activities are carried out under the authority of a joint municipal/provincial program regulated by the Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Act of Alberta. The Town of Strathmore allocates this funding

Get on the nice list.
Pay your non-moving violation ticket with a toy.
Nov. 13 to Dec. 11, 2023

Municipal Enforcement's Toys for Tickets is back for 2023

The Town of Strathmore is revving up its second annual Toys for Tickets program.

In the spirit of the holiday season, the Town of Strathmore will be launching the second annual Toys for Tickets campaign. Toys for Tickets gives every person who is issued a Municipal Enforcement non-moving violation the opportunity to pay the fine amount by donating a new, unwrapped toy of equal or greater value to the penalty of their parking ticket. All toys collected as part of the Toys for Tickets program will be donated by the Town of Strathmore in support of the Strathmore & Wheatland County Christmas Hamper Society.

"Toys for Tickets is a wonderful opportunity to help children in our community have a joyous and memorable Christmas. Many in our community are facing challenges this holiday season, and this program allows people to turn their ticket into a means of helping our neighbours and community have a Merry Christmas," said Mayor Pat Fule.

To donate, every person who receives a Municipal Enforcement non-moving violation ticket from November 13 to December 11, 2023 can bring their ticket with an unwrapped toy in its original packaging and proof of purchase to the Strathmore Municipal Building (1 Parklane Drive). Donations of more than one toy are accepted if the value of the toy equals or exceeds the amount owing on the fine.

Didn't get a ticket but would still like to help? Anyone is welcome to bring new, unwrapped toys to the Strathmore Municipal Building as part of this campaign. All toys left under the lobby Christmas