Susan Evans resigns as Sturgeon County councillor

Sturgeon County Division 2 councillor Susan Evans resigned last week.

The former, unopposed, MLA called for a special meeting after June 28 for council to receive the report on the resignation.

Evans was in her second term as a councillor, having first been elected on Oct. 16, 2013. Evans was one of only two incumbents re-elected in October of 2017 following an aggressive campaign by a citizen group known as Sturgeon United Residents for Effective Accountable Leadership (SUREAL) against members of the previous council. With an over 300 vote spread between Evans and the lone challenger in the Division, she achieved the widest margin of victory in all the County balloting, including the Mayoralty race.

Among her committee duties for Sturgeon County at the time of her resignation were: Emergency Services Advisory Committee, Environmental Protection Appeal Committee, Boards and Committees Selection Committee, Community Services Advisory, and the Subdivision & Development Appeal Board.

She also represented Sturgeon County on a variety of regional duties, including: Capital Region Waste Minimization Advisory Commission, Edmonton Salisbury Committee, Northern Lights Library System, Sturgeon County - City of St. Albert Annexation Negotiation Committee, Regional Transit Services Commission Transition Team, River Valley Alliance Advisory Board (alternate), Rproduer Waste Management Services Commission, Sturgeon Regional Emergency Advisory Committee, Pembina Valley Region, Sturgeon County / City of St. Albert Inter-Municipal Affairs Committee, and the Sturgeon County / Morinville Inter-Municipal Affairs Committee.

Division 2 includes Cardston, just south of Morinville as well as the rural area east to Highway 28 and then irregular narrowing to take in as far south as the boundary with St. Albert.

With an early press deadline due to the Canada Day stat, Evans had not responded to a press request for comment and the outcome of the special meeting wasn’t known as press time. However, with over two years left before the next General Municipal Election in October 2021, a by-election will be required to be held in Division 2 for electors to select a new councillor.

Susan Evans resigns as Sturgeon County councillor

Farewell for the summer

School’s out for summer! The staff of École Noire Dame Elementary School in Morinville wave their final goodbye to their students and bus drivers on June 27th around noon hour as the 2018-2019 school year came to an end. The students and families will be welcomed back to the “What’s the scoop” night on August 29th from 3:30-5:30pm for a school staff meet and greet, and students can learn who their teacher for the 2019-2020 school year will be.

Double Gold for Bon Accord bodybuilder

Local Business Owner of “Whylife Fitness Studio” and Ace Certified Personal Trainer, Shane White (centre of photo), participated in the TNT Muscle Showdown at the Hilton Double Tree on the West Side of Edmonton in June. His presence was definitive, shown here after placing 1st in the Heavyweight category (weight restriction between 198 lbs and 225 lbs bodyweight). He also placed 1st in the Masters category (over 40 years old). Being a personal trainer, White, recognized the need for a local training studio and opened up a facility just 2 km north of Bon Accord. He has been Bodybuilding for 34 years, since the young age of 14 years old. His studio has only been open for 9 months and is servicing over 12 clients with an average 3 sessions per week per client. White operates his Studio with the client’s goals in mind; he may be a bodybuilder but not everyone has that goal. Improving client mobility and strength while maintaining health is the primary goal. As for White’s personal goals he hopes to win at the National Level and receive an IFBB Pro card with the target of one-day stepping foot on the Olympic Stage.

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1000 sq ft - 5 bedroom bi-level with fully developed basement. Many upgrades have been completed: shingles with ice/water membrane, flooring, paint, kitchen, deck, fridge, stove and microwave. With just a short commute to the city and Garrison. $259,900.

BON ACCORD!

1000 sq ft - 5 bedroom bi-level with fully developed basement. Many upgrades have been completed: shingles with ice/water membrane, flooring, paint, kitchen, deck, fridge, stove and microwave. With just a short commute to the city and Garrison. $259,900.

RENOVATED IN GIBBONS!

1164 sq ft 3 bedroom bungalow with a spacious yard and a 22x24 ft garage. Numerous upgrades!.. Paint, fixtures and beautiful luxury vinyl plank throughout, bright white kitchen with granite counter tops, and stainless steel appliances. $259,900.

RENOVATED IN GIBBONS!

1656 sq ft - 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom, 2 storey with oversized 24’ x 24’ insulated garage. Open concept design and main floor laundry. Located close to the new school being built. $399,000.

BRAND NEW MLS # E4142231

1856 sq ft - 3 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom, 2 storey with oversized 24’ x 24’ insulated garage. Open concept design and main floor laundry. Located close to the new school being built. $399,000.

FORT SASKATCHEWAN!

Newer air conditioned 2 storey 3 bedroom half duplex with double attached garage. Exterior has rear deck and the front and back landscaping are complete. There is granite throughout this home. Laminate flooring throughout upper and main level. Call Mark Pelletier 780.973.1665. MLS # 64155786

MINUTES FROM ST ALBERT

This 75.30 acreage boasts of a 1150 sq ft 2+2 bedroom bungalow and a 2nd renovated 1088 sq ft 2 bedroom residence with a separate gas meter. Huge 40’ x 44’ quonset with 220v, 8 pocket barn, 22’ x 28’ double garage and numerous other out buildings. $799,900.

FREE HOME EVALUATIONS

NEW PRICE!

Upgraded A/C CONDITIONED 1046 sq ft 3 bedroom bungalow with heated oversized 22’x 26’ garage situated in a fabulous location backing onto the park in the town of Legal. Numerous upgrades include: shingles, windows, flooring, paint, bathrooms... the list goes on. $269,900.

NEW PRICE!

Air conditioned open concept 1788 sq ft 3 bedroom 2 storey with double attached garage. Upstairs you will find a huge master bedroom with a 4 pcs ensuite and walk-in closet, 2 more airy bedrooms, 4 pcs bathroom, plush broadloom and a wonderful bonus room with large windows. Basement has 9ft ceilings. $384,990.

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**Assessment Complaints**

The Assessment Review Board Complaint form can be found on the Sturgeon County website and is available at Sturgeon County Centre.

Please talk to your assessor before filing a complaint, as most concerns are resolved before complaints get to the Assessment Review Board.

A complaint must be made by July 30, 2019.

Contact the Clerk of the Assessment Board at legislativeservices@sturgeoncounty.ca if you have questions about the complaint process.

**Weekly FYI is digital at sturgeoncounty.ca**

Check out your Weekly FYI online every Tuesday at sturgeoncounty.ca. Starting this year, the "printed edition" will only be available bi-weekly in the Morinville Free Press and Redwater Review.

Next print edition: **July 16, 2019**

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The 2019 **Culinary Cookout** takes place Friday, August 9, from 4-9 p.m. at Cardiff Park. Join us for live local entertainment, delicious food from top food vendors featuring local produce and proteins, a kids zone and a Kids Cooking Workshop.

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**Black Knot Treatment and Prevention**

You may have noticed black clumpy growths on the trees in your yard and around Sturgeon County.

It looks like masses of burnt rope wrapped around the branches and it affects a wide range of trees, including plum, cherry, chokecherry, and mayday trees. This is called Black Knot Disease.

Black Knot is a very common fungal disease and spread when spores are released following periods of warm, wet weather and can be spread by heavy rainfalls, wind, birds and insects. As the infection spreads throughout the tree, it can cause disfigurement and reduce the growth of the branches.

If it becomes heavily infected, the tree can become stunted and may eventually die from the disease.

**How to control Black Knot**

Prune out all knot-bearing branches during late fall, winter or very early spring when plants are dormant, and when the knots are easy to see. Diseased branches can release spores for up to four months after being cut off the tree, so it's important to destroy the diseased wood immediately (burn or bury it). Also ensure you clean your pruners with bleach or hydrogen peroxide to prevent further spread of the fungus.

**Prevention**

- When planting new trees, consider selecting varieties with known resistance to the disease.
- Avoid planting new trees near areas with known problems.
- Consider hiring a trained professional for pruning activities.

For more information, please contact Agriculture Services at 780-939-8349

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Sturgeon County’s **“Jump Into Summer” programs** are now open for registration! Watch your mailbox for your copy of the guide, or download at sturgeoncounty.ca.

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**UPCOMING AUCTION**

**BLACK PAWS PET RESORT**

26106 TWP 552
STURGEON COUNTY

**Viewing**
- Friday July 12th • 1 - 7 pm
- Saturday July 13th • 8 - 10 am

**Auction Starts 10AM**

**SATURDAY JULY 13TH**

Meier Auction Sales
View: www.meierauction.com

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**STURGEON PUBLIC TRUSTEES APPROVE DEFICIT BUDGET**

On June 26, the Sturgeon School Division Board of Trustees approved a motion to accept the proposed 2019-2020 budget that results in a projected deficit of $327,000.

“School Boards across Alberta are facing a challenging year ahead of them, and we are not alone in presenting a deficit budget to Alberta Education,” states board chair Terry Jewell.

“Believing that Public Education is the foundation for a strong future, the Board approved operating budget will continue to support Sturgeon Public Schools’ mission: ... to create safe, respectful and collaborative learning environments where students are prepared to meet, and excel at, the challenges presented by the global community,” states the Division.

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**RETIREMENT FARM AUCTION FOR Fred and Pat Procsinsky**

Sunday, July 14, 2019 - 10:30 am • St. Michael, AB.

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**VIEWING**
- Friday, July 12th, from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm
- Saturday, July 13th, from 8:00 am – 10:00 am

**Selling:** Tractors, Combine, Hay Equipment, Trailers, Shop Tools, House, Yards & Garden Equipment & Supplies, Antiques

**See our website for terms, detailed listings & photos starting Tuesday, July 2nd, 2019 @ www.auctions.ca
SALE CONDUCTED BY Gary Hanna Auctioneers LTD. (780-440-1075)
Local adventurers to drive in Mongol Rally

by Grant Cree

“We’re off on a proper adventure that hurls us deep into the abyss of the unknown,” says a brochure about an international fundraiser involving local resident Lee Speer. He’s participating in the Mongol Rally, an event that involves driving through 23 countries in 55 days.

Each two-member rally team is required to drive their own modest vehicle. According to the rally rules, the vehicle “… must be small, unsuitable and basically crap. Cars must have an engine size of 1.2 litres or less.” Other rules state participants are on their own for all travel logistics. “There is no hand-holding,” said Speer. “If we get ourselves in a pickle, it’s up to us to get unpickled.”

Every rally team must raise a minimum of £1,000 (about $1,600 Canadian) with £500 distributed to the rally’s official charity Cool Earth, and the remaining money donated by Speer and Cender to the Elves Special Needs Society. The two adventurers bought a 2003 Suzuki with an English right hand drive.

They’ll link up with fellow Canadians David and Corinne Lamoureux in England and begin the awesome road trek. “Our goal is 23 countries in 55 days, ending in Mongolia,” said Speer. “Homeward bound, our steed and ourselves will traverse Russia on the Trans-Siberian Railroad.”

All expenses must be paid by rally participants, who understand that a condition of their involvement is to support the two charities previously mentioned. Speer is looking forward to the experience, and asks local residents to donate to www.elves-society.org and follow his road trip on Facebook at thecanadiankidsrun.

Local adventurers Lee Speer (left) and Marty Cender (right) will soon drive this 2003 Suzuki in the Mongol Rally, a fundraising event that involves driving through 23 countries in 55 days. --photo submitted by Lee Speer.
AFFORDABLE HOME ON ALMOST HALF ACRE IN THORHILD

Beautiful home well priced! Situated in the Hamlet of Thorhild with a 1976 3-bedroom mobile home on a very affordable price. The property is comprised of 26 acres of farm land, 10.5 acres of which is developable in a beautiful pond, a large barn, house, shop with a staircase to attic storage. Yard has a dugout with water & electricity. Only $79,900. Call Heather for more information.

HEAVENLY HOME.

This 6.74 ACRE HOMEY RM of TWP 514 52A buffalo building feature a huge porch/utility area but could have a wall put in past 9 years or so include all new paint & flooring, HWT, central AC, 3 bedrooms, 3 pce ensuite, rectangular shaped walk in pantry, mudroom off garage, fireplace, large LR, sunroom overlooking LR is small library. Nice ceramic tile & laminate flooring, nice sized bdrms, large walk in closets. Main floor laundry & den

UPGRADED 55 PLUS CONDO IN NORTH EDMONTON

Beautifully kept & upgraded one bedroom condo in the heart of West Edmonton Mall. This lovely unit features a well designed floor plan with open concept kitchen/living space. The kitchen features all stainless steel appliances, a breakfast bar, & floor to ceiling windows. The living room enjoys an abundance of natural light, hardwood floors, & a Gas fireplace. The spacious master bedroom features a walk in closet & 4 pce ensuite. With in-unit laundry & a covered parking stall, this unit is an absolute dream for the 55+ crowd!

80 ACRE HORSE FARM NEAR REDWATER

As a horse lover’s delight with River, 2100 sq ft raised bungalow features gorgeous hardwood floors, spacious, w/fresh window brights. Renovated in 2018. Inclusion includes shingles, soffits, fascias, windows, flooring, complete new insulation, furnace, HWT, HWH, & kitchen cabinets & appliances. Ample yard & garage. Bemis features a huge bdrm with gorgeous 3 pce ensuite that has a large shower stall & 2 pce ensuite. There is a very large workshop & storage room. 26’x24’ detached garage is finished & heated & has newer overhead door. This lovely brick home is the absolute perfect hobby farm for those interested in beef cattle. 40’x20 barn with concrete floor & stalls, storage buildings & shelters. The house is on a cement but there is an older bore for the animals. Gorgeous landscaping with lots of mature trees & garden area. Must be seen. $469,400. Call Glenn to view.

RENOVATED 1 RED CONDO IN NB LAR

Nestled on a quiet unit on second floor with one of the largest covered balconies in the complex. Features include large back balcony with bar doors, large dining area, wood fireplace, updated bath, washer & dryer. Unit has a 12×10 covered balcony, huge windows & lots of light. The location is close to all amenities & easy access to the River Valley. Must be seen.

5 ACRES WITH HOUSE AND CHOPS BY REDWATER

Price is firm on this lovely acreage. This is a great 5 acre located in the Rural Municipal District of Leduc County. The property is 1½ story home features 1 bdrm on main floor with a large washroom. There is a large unheated garage & barn on pavement, just off Hwy 28, a few minutes north of Redwater. Upstairs has a 2nd bdrm & bath with wrap around deck for relaxing & enjoying the view. A 2017 3 bdrm house has an open concept,3 bdrms, 2 baths, 2nd floor laundry, central AC & great deck. Nice 40’x60’ shop with a staircase to attic storage. Yard has a dugout with water & electricity. Only $134,900. Call Glenn to view.

RENOVATED 1 BEDROOM CONDO IN COWLEY

This condo, right in NE Edmonton. This great complex has a lounge area on main floor, a fitness room, laundry facilities, & a covered balcony. Large bdrm has a good sized closet & there is in suite laundry. This great complex has a lounge area on main floor, a fitness room, laundry facilities, & a covered balcony. Large bdrm has a good sized closet & there is in suite laundry. This great complex has a lounge area on main floor, a fitness room, laundry facilities, & a covered balcony. Large bdrm has a good sized closet & there is in suite laundry. This great complex has a lounge area on main floor, a fitness room, laundry facilities, & a covered balcony. Large bdrm has a good sized closet & there is in suite laundry. This great complex has a lounge area on main floor, a fitness room, laundry facilities, & a covered balcony. Large bdrm has a good sized closet & there is in suite laundry. This great complex has a lounge area on main floor, a fitness room, laundry facilities, & a covered balcony. Large bdrm has a good sized closet & there is in suite laundry. This great complex has a lounge area on main floor, a fitness room, laundry facilities, & a covered balcony. Large bdrm has a good sized closet & there is in suite laundry.
Member of Parliament Gérard Deltell speaks at Pinnacle Ridge Estates on June 27, when MP Dane Lloyd hosted a tour of Sturgeon County. MP Deltell represents the Quebec riding of Louis-Saint-Laurent, and is the Conservative critic for the Treasury Board.

"I'm from Quebec City and I'm a strong supporter of the oil and gas industry in Canada," said MP Deltell. "But for that project, we believe in the oil and gas industry from coast to coast," said Member of Parliament Gérard Deltell. "Yes there are people in Quebec that don't like it. But there's the rest of us. And the people. In Quebec when we talk about pipelines, yes I'm from Quebec City and I'm a strong supporter of the oil and gas industry in Canada," MP Deltell noted the province of Quebec has a national corridor of energy. That would be a win-win situation for everybody.

"I think it's important to send a message that as Canadians we have to be proud of our energy sector," said Member of Parliament Gérard Deltell on June 27 when he toured Sturgeon County during a visit hosted by MP Dane Lloyd. MP Deltell represents the Quebec riding of Louis-Saint-Laurent, and is the Conservative critic for the Treasury Board.

"This is why we have to send this message to Canadians we have to be proud of our energy sector," said Member of Parliament Gérard Deltell on June 27 when he toured Sturgeon County during a visit hosted by MP Dane Lloyd. MP Deltell represents the Quebec riding of Louis-Saint-Laurent, and is the Conservative critic for the Treasury Board.

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The mission statement for G. H. Primeau School in Morinville reads as: “G. H. Primeau School is a Christian community with a commitment to challenge individuals to reach their fullest potential and nurture a desire for life long learning and personal growth. By the way we treat each other, we shall demonstrate mutual respect, loyalty, tolerance, and active support for all school endeavours. We will listen to each other and work to enhance a sense of self-worth, confidence, and pride in accomplishment.” The Father Primeau Legacy award is presented to grade 8 student(s) who best exemplifies these qualities. It was the final award presented during the school’s Awards Night on June 20th and this year had two recipients. Kennedy Beauregard, pictured here, received the award from Mrs. Rivet and Mr. Menduk - Kennedy also received awards for Honours and Leadership in Action. The second recipient was Ryder Arcand whom also received awards for Honours with distinction, Leadership in Action and Honoring Indigenous Spirit. 

--photo by Amy Hibbard-Hiscock
The town of Morinville increased the municipal commercial tax mill rate by 15.5% with an increase in assessment on average of 15% to result in a hike of $494,896.

The combined cost of the top management positions — the CAO and the second layer of management — the Designated Officers was $995,577 in 2018, over a quarter million dollars more than the second highest year’s total of $661,224 in 2015.

According to the audited annual financial statements the cost for the Chief Administrative Officers salary increased in 2018 by $231,675 — up from $165,365 at the start of the seven year period (2012). However, 2018 was not the highest cost for the CAO in the seven years, with $261,396 being spent in 2016. Both 2016 and 2018 had a changeover in the CAO positions partially through the year. The third highest cost for a CAO was $681,234 in 2013.

The cost for Designated Officers of the town skyrocketed in 2018, coming in at $703,902 — up from $182,664 in 2017. The third highest cost for a Designated Officer (CAO) and Designated Officers has been escalating over the last seven years — with a combined total of over $900,000 in 2018 being the highest cost by far that Morinville taxpayers have paid for the top layers of management.

The growth in the cost of the top management comes at a time of slow residential growth in the town and a sluggish economy in the province.

In 2018 the town had denied that a large increase in the commercial property taxes was expected. Another double digit increase in commercial taxes in Morinville is expected in 2020.
The 7th Annual Jessica Martel Memorial Foundation Run was held on June 23rd in conjunction with Morinville’s Festival Days. The Run was held at the Fish and Game Pond this year rather than previous years where it had taken place by the Rendez-Vous Centre. Participants ranged from young children to seniors to canine companions with some running, some walking and others on bikes. The run was divided, with 10K runners starting at 9:30am (shown here) and the 5K runners started their jaunt approximately 15 minutes later. --photo by Amy Hibbard-Hiscock

The Hancock Family of Morinville participated in their first Jessica Martel Memorial Foundation Run on June 23rd at the Morinville Fish and Game Pond. Shauntel and Jason were pleased to introduce their young daughters, Holland (2) and Hunter (5) to the sport that supports a local charity and hope it’ll become an annual event for their family. --photo by Amy Hibbard-Hiscock