Local municipalities are pleased with the Alberta government’s new $1.1 billion grant program to build core infrastructure.

“This is a good news story,” said Thorhild County reeve Kevin Gruenmet. He noted this spring the county received $1.4 million for the Two 500 Bridge and $5 million for the Long Lake lagoon expansion and community pump station and foreman.

The additional allocation of nearly $387,000 in stimulus funding is welcome. While council has not yet considered what further projects to apply for, on his wish list are adding a residential pod to the Thorhild Lodge, building additional seniors housing independent units and putting chip seal on Opal Road.

Redwater mayor Mel Smith said the town has a couple of shovel ready projects to consider applying for MSP funds, the storm sewer system that will cross the Redwater School grounds and the arena ice plant project.

Smoky Lake County reeve Craig Lukinuk said, “We are always pleased when the province is handing money out for shovel ready projects. In the last roll out we received funding for some of our bridges. For this round, we will be re-submitting projects from the first round’s list which are at a stand still for at least two years, unless we receive the provincial funding. These re-submitted projects will likely be road and bridge related.”

“Sturgeon County is extremely pleased with the announcement of the Municipal Stimulus Program,” said Duane Hnatiw. “Even before COVID-19, municipalities have been facing many challenges that threaten our viability—from proposed changes to some regulated assessment models (which will reduce municipal revenues and our ability to fund services), new costs related to policing, unpaid non-residential property taxes, slumping world energy prices, and more—this additional funding will go a long way at a critical time. We sincerely appreciate all federal and provincial governments for making this program available to us.”

She said the county has shovel ready projects and now that the available grant amount of $2.4 million is known, will consider what will fit best under MSP. This could include projects that enhance future economic development such as the Villeneuve Airport, which is an important regional asset, or improve roads and bridges and intersection improvements.

“Ultimately, council will make the decision where to apply these much-needed funds,” Hnatiw said. She added that the county will ensure every grant dollar allocated to it is applied for and will be ready if additional dollars are available.

The MSP allocations are based on the existing Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) formula. The following amounts represent the maximum funding available to municipalities. They must commit their funding allocation to projects by Oct. 1 or risk losing access to their allocation. All funding to accepted projects must be spent by Dec. 31, 2021.

Allocations to local municipalities are: Smoky Lake County $292,540; Thorhild County $386,808; Sturgeon County $2.4 million; Redwater $244,000; Villna $50,000 and Waskatenau $50,000.

Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) agronomy technician Stephanie Bilodeau passes an information package to Smoky Lake County councillor Lorne Halisky. LARA staff reviewed the Smoky Lake County plots July 23 in Smoky Lake. Because the plots were in standing water north of Waskatenau, the summer field tour was not held. Story page A4.

COVID-19 arrives in Thorhild County

After consistently reporting Thorhild County had zero cases of COVID-19, early last week (July 26) Alberta Health Services (AHS) changed those numbers to four reported cases: one active and three recovered. By July 30 AHS reported five cases of COVID-19 in Thorhild County: one active and four recovered.

For the fifth consecutive week a new COVID-19 case was reported in Sturgeon County.

According to the government website, as of July 30 there was one new reported active case of COVID-19 in Sturgeon County west and the urban municipalities within it. Sturgeon County west and its smaller urban centers reported 11 cases of COVID-19. One case is active, and the remaining 10 are recovered.

Sturgeon County east has one reported case, now recovered.

Smoky Lake County has one reported case, now recovered.

The Town of Morinville had three reported cases, all of which are now recovered.

The COVID numbers are according to the Government of Alberta website.
WHERE’S WALDO?

WHO: Thorhild County residents; ages 2 – 18
WHAT: Where’s Waldo? – He’s hiding in 10 of 35 locations
WHEN: July 31- August 16
WHERE: Throughout Thorhild County
HOW: Watch for hints on our Facebook Page Thorhild Community & Recreation Services or visit www.thorhildcounty.com/Residents/FCSS

• For every Waldo found, send the location and corresponding number on the picture hint to Pam for an entry into the draw. You can be entered a total of 10 times, so keep on searching!
• Send your answers to Pam in one of the following ways: email pamela.hammond@thorhildcounty.com or call 780-398-2804
Let me know at that time if you would like to be entered into an additional draw for a Waldo rock.
Please contact Pam at 780-398-2804 with questions or if you are unable to access the hints.

THORHILD COUNTY FAMILY MEDICAL CLINIC

The Nurse Practitioner can now do Driver’s Medicals now. Your regular practitioner should be your first choice for access to a driver’s medical because they are most familiar with your medical background.

Closed: August 7 – August 11, 2020 & August 21, 2020

Contact Us!
Administration 801-1 Street Box 10, Thorhild, AB, T0A 3J0 780-398-3741
Public Works & Agriculture Services 21414 Twp Road 600 A 780-398-3977
Education After Hours Utilities 780-598-3939

AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

White Cockle

White Cockle is an introduced shortlived perennial often confused with Bladder Campion or Night-flowering Catchfly (see photos below).

This species is commonly seen in hayfields or meadows but it is fairly easily controlled.

Herbicide is not recommended in forage stands of established alfalfa because it will kill the alfalfa. The best option is to cut the hay early before seed head production.

A few options to aid in planning of control are:

Grazing - not a method of control.
Cultivation - breaking apart plants, causes pieces that can re-sprout new plants. Not considered a control option.
Mechanical - Frequent mowing will reduce seed production. This may take several years.
Chemical - Mecaprop (alone or in a tank mix) and Tribenuron are registered for control of white cockle.

Common Tansy

Common Tansy is a perennial forb that is widespread within Thorhild County. This plant reproduces by seed and short rhizomes.

This plant is of large concern due to the large amount of seeds generated from one flower cluster. The foliage has a distinct pungent odor.

Common Tansy can produce very dense stands once established and is toxic in high amounts to both humans and livestock.

A few options to aid in planning of control are:

Grazing - Can be grazed by sheep and goats. Unpalatable to horses and cattle.
Cultivation - Not an option due to rhizomatous root system. Cultivation will only make new plants.
Mechanical - Repeated mowing will reduce seed production and eliminate rootstock re-growth.
Chemical - Aminopyralid, Chlorosurfron, Metasulfon-methyl (alone or in tank-mixes with the first 3 products) and Tribenuron are registered for use on Tansy (Ally)
The best control combines mowing or cutting and herbicide application.

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I

Seasonal (1 position available)
Term: Immediately - September 25, 2020
Thorhild County is seeking a suitable individual to carry out the following duties:
• Operate a 125-horsepower tractor with a 15-foot rotary cutter and sidearm unit to mow grass with focus on hamlet maintenance.
• Operate a skid steer.
• Operate a 3-ton single axle truck with standard transmission.
• Maintain all job-related equipment and assist with servicing and repairs.
• Keep detailed records of work and equipment maintenance.
• Operate light equipment (primary focus is hamlet maintenance).
• Maintain equipment as per Thorhild County’s Transportation and Safety Manual.
• Other duties deemed necessary.

This position is included within the scope of the County’s unionized setting (IUOE Local 955) and is based on an eight (8) hour work-day. Wage $25.55-$28.00

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR II - Temporary

(1 position available)
Term: Immediately-November 6, 2020
Thorhild County is seeking a suitable individual to carry out the following duties:
• Experienced heavy and light equipment operator.
• Perform various duties while maintaining work standards.
• Maintain all job-related equipment and assist with servicing and repairs.
• Keep detailed records of work and equipment maintenance.
• Maintain equipment as per Thorhild County’s Transportation and Safety Manual.
• Other duties deemed necessary.

This position is included within the scope of the County’s unionized setting (IUOE Local 955) and is based on an eight (8) hour work-day. Current employees of Thorhild County fulfilling the requirements essential to this position shall be considered for this position.

Complete details on these positions are at www.thorhildcounty.com
These positions will remain open until a suitable candidate is hired.
For more information, or to apply, please contact: Laurie Andrushchyshyn Payroll & Personnel Manager Thorhild County (780) 398-3741 email: laurie.andrushchyshyn@thorhildcounty.com

Phone: 780-398-3741 www.thorhildcounty.com 801 - 1st Street, Box 10, Thorhild AB T0A 3J0
Dark yellow urine can be a sign of dehydration and simply drinking more water will help. Sometimes the breakdown products of certain drugs will discolor the urine. Certain antipsychotic drugs, antibiotics or laxatives might add a brown tinge to the urine. Taking mega-doses of B vitamins can impart a bright yellow tinge. If your urine is not a normal colour, check with your doctor and pharmacist.

If you are taking a baby aspirin (ASA) daily for preventing a second heart attack, the best time to take it is at bedtime because it is more likely to cause a drop in blood pressure. This benefit is not as prevalent when taken in the morning.

Another diet that is getting much coverage lately is the DASH diet. The acronym stands for Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension. This diet is high in fruit, vegetables and whole grains and low in saturated fats, full-fat dairy, fatty, red meats, salt, sugar drinks, sweet and tropical oils such as palm and coconut. It differs from the Mediterranean diet by excluding alcohol altogether.

At Thorhild Drug Store we fit pressurized stockings and carry incontinence products, walkers, bathtub aids, etc.
Field tour cancelled by flooded plots

The Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) summer field tour of its research plots in Smoky Lake County cancelled because of standing water. Instead, LARA staff reviewed the plot data at a July 23 meeting in Smoky Lake.

“Our plots are flooded at the moment,” interim manager and cropping program co-ordinator Amanda Mathiot said.

The plots are in a field north of Waskatenau and include a winter and spring cereal silage trial, a range of ESN (coated fertilizer that releases nitrogen in response to soil temperatures) wheat and barley plots, and the LARA regional variety trials of crops chosen by area producers.

“If you have anything you want to see grown, this is the trial we’ll throw it in,” said Mathiot.

“Ever done a test on slow release urea?” asked Lorne Halisky. “It would be nice to have a trial in this area.”

Ron Bobocel asked if there had been any testing of slow release urea. “Ever done a test on slow release urea?” asked Mathiot. “It would be nice to have a trial in this area.”

LARA purchased for harvesting small plots, Bobocel said, “You should have gotten pontoons with it.”

Charlie Leskiw (Left) and Don Christensen share a laugh before switching to the more serious "We've Noticed" campaign. --photo by Liesel Spicer

Town of Redwater councillor Joanne Williams judges properties July 30 for the “We’ve Noticed” campaign. --photo by Liesel Spicer

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Same Day Service
**Seeking Residents’ Feedback**

**Community Standards Bylaw: Deadline August 14**
Protective Services is seeking feedback from residents by August 14th on the updated proposed bylaw prior to presenting to Council for Third Reading on August 25th. Residents are invited to comment on the updated proposed bylaw intended to:

- regulate the activities of people in public places, and on privately owned property;
- promote safe, enjoyable and reasonable use of property for the benefit of all residents of Sturgeon County and its visitors; and
- provide guidelines dealing with noise control, unsightly properties, vehicles and more.

This Bylaw affects lands districted “Residential” (i.e. R1 – R6, multi-lot subdivisions and hamlets) and does not include Agricultural zoned land, with the exception of noise control, which shall apply to all of Sturgeon County in accordance with Sturgeon County’s Land Use Bylaw.

This Bylaw affects lands districted “Residential” (i.e. R1 – R6) and does not include Agricultural zoned land, with the exception of noise control, which shall apply to all of Sturgeon County in accordance with Sturgeon County’s Land Use Bylaw.

Please visit [sturgeoncounty.ca/CommunityStandardsBylaw](http://sturgeoncounty.ca/CommunityStandardsBylaw)

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**Crop Inspections Begin**

Agriculture Services is gearing up for seasonal crop inspections in the months of August and September. You may see our crews out in marked Sturgeon County vehicles working in agricultural areas to collect data.

Survey types in 2020 will include:

- clubroot and blackleg in canola,
- Fusarium Head Blight in wheat, and
- sweep netting along roadside ditches and field edges for grasshoppers

This data contributes to Provincial forecasting and monitoring efforts. Staff are trained in survey protocols and ensure that biosecurity measures are taken. This is achieved through sanitation of sampling equipment with bleach between fields, and utilization of single-use boot covers, gloves, and coveralls.

If you have any questions about annual crop inspections, please call Agriculture Services at (780) 939-8349.

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**Ready to Hit the Trails?**

Thanks to the River Valley Alliance, online information is available to help you explore neighbouring river valley trails.

With this year looking more like a staycation, here’s your opportunity to start exploring.

Adventure awaits you at [rivervalley.ab.ca/trekkthetrails](http://rivervalley.ab.ca/trekkthetrails)
ELECTIONS TO BE HELD FOR 3 POSITIONS ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. MEETING TO BE HELD AT GOOSE HUMMOCK GOLF COURSE ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 27TH, 2020 STARTING AT 7:00 P.M. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME! Members wishing to run for a Director Position must pick their nomination papers up at our office and submit them two weeks prior to the date set for the AGM as per Section 8.4 of the Bylaws.
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Smoky Lake Foundation operates Seniors & Community Housing of Smoky Lake County (Smoky Lake, Vlina and Waskatenau).

Currently, we have temporary Covid-19 employment opportunities to serve in all positions including:

Resident Companion at V-Nook in Smoky Lake.

Please inquire before August 15th, 2020

All positions will provide services, activity and companionship to residents. Call Betty at 780-656-4217 for more information.

CAREERS

ALBERTA TRAPPING LICENCE;

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS AND KNOWLEDGE:

Working alone and well with others;

Trapping beavers in locations deemed a problem by the successful candidate must be willing to work flexible hours and

Smoky Lake County is seeking self-motivated individual for a

Community Housing In Smoky Lake County (Smoky Lake, Vlina and Waskatenau). This is a dynamic opportunity for someone with more than 5 years of experience in a leadership role with Territory Management knowledge.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Secondary Trapper

Smoky Lake County is seeking self-motivated individual for a Secondary Trapper contract opportunity for a 2-month period. The successful candidate must be willing to work flexible hours and compensation will be given to individuals with prior experience.

DUTIES INCLUDE:

• Trapping beavers in locations deemed a problem by the Supervisor
• Manually labour relating to removing beaver dams and debris in culverts;
• Working alone and well with others;
• General record keeping of beavers removed and locations.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS AND KNOWLEDGE:

Valid Alberta driver’s license;

Alberta Trapping Licence;

• Any applicable experience and training.

Salary range is $20.00 - $25.00 per hour.

Interested candidates are invited to submit their resumes in strict confidence by noon August 10th, 2020 to:

Agricultural Fieldman
Box 310 Smoky Lake, Alberta, T0A 3C0
Fax: (780) 656-3768
Email: cmcmullin@smokylakecounty.ca

We thank all applicants in advance, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Smoky Lake County is seeking self-motivated individual for a Secondary Trapper contract opportunity for a 2-month period. The successful candidate must be willing to work flexible hours and compensation will be given to individuals with prior experience.

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Fax: (780) 656-3768
Email: cmcmullin@smokylakecounty.ca

We thank all applicants in advance, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

An opportunity is available for a Marketing and Administration Department Supervisor.

This is an exciting opportunity reporting directly to Management and will oversee the direct office and sales staff of approximately 7 employees.

In this role you will:

• Manage relationships with • Major Clients
• Distributors
• End Users

Oversee the following for the corporation:

• Sales & Territory Management
• Safety Program
• Payroll,

Benefit & Pension Program Administration

WCB Administration

Control Quality administration

Working with fellow personnel:

• Sales & Marketing

• Accounting – Financial, Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable,

• Shipping

• Customer Service

This is a dynamic opportunity for someone with more than 5 years of experience in a leadership role with Territory Management knowledge.

Legal Alfalfa Products Ltd.
email leo@alfalacta.ca

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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We thank all applicants in advance, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.
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Great Selection Available from Large Bin Loading Xtend Augers to Utility Augers

Sale Runs At Thorhild Home Centre Monday to Friday Aug 4th to Aug 28th on Inventory ONLY Items

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**MARKETX 1384 XTEND**

Call in or visit for Details

SRP $35,772.00

Aug Sale $28,386.00

**MARKETX 1384 XTEND 2**

Call in or visit for Details

SRP $45,458.00

Aug Sale $35,855.00

**MARKETX 1394 XTEND**

Call in or visit for Details

SRP $50,557.00

Aug Sale $41,429.00

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**Batco Field Loader Conveyor (BCX2 1549FL FMD)**

Fully Loaded, Top Mount 32.5 hp Kohler

SRP $29,999.00

Aug Sale $28,665.00

**Westfield UTX**

U-Trough 44 Foot Auger Fully Loaded, 38 hp EFI Kohler

SRP $28,999.00

Aug Sale at $26,899.00

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**Meridian Augers**

**MARKETX 1073**

Call in or visit for Details

SRP $20,798.00

Aug Sale $17,497.00

**MARKETX 1374**

Call in or visit for Details

SRP $31,790.00

Aug Sale $24,878.00

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**Batco Field Loader Conveyor**

Batco Field Loader Conveyor (BCX2 1549FL FMD)

Call in or visit for Details

SRP $35,772.00

Aug Sale $28,386.00

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**Westfield WRX EMD New for 2020**

Are you setting up or reconfiguring your Grain drying set up. We’re your answer to that electric auger you’ll need for the dryer or to the cooling bin!

**WRX 8-IN X 36-FT EMD**

Aug Sale $4799.00

**WRX 8-IN X 41-FT EMD**

Aug Sale $5132.00

**WRX 8-IN X 51-FT EMD**

Aug Sale $6999.00

**WRX 8-IN X 61-FT EMD**

Aug Sale $8086.00

Plus we carry Utility Augers In Various Sizes and Lengths

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