An RCMP officer blocking the road to the site of a suspicious death investigation north of Hwy 28 on Opal Road speaks with a redwater@shaw.ca

BCS - An RCMP officer blocking the road to the site of a suspicious death investigation north of Hwy 28 on Opal Road speaks with a redwater@shaw.ca

Body found on rural property near Opal

RCMP are asking the public to provide information relating to a suspicious death investigation north of Hwy 28 and near Opal Road. On Feb. 11 at approximately 2:30 p.m. RCMP were contacted by a rural property representative who had discovered a body on a lease site off RR224, a half-mile north of Hwy 28.

Redwater RCMP and Major Crimes North are seeking information regarding the remains or about suspicious persons or vehicles in the immediate area.

The ongoing investigation of this occurrence is being assisted by Edmonton Forensic Identification Services and the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Edmonton. No information about the deceased was released.

Redwater mayor Mel Smith said he has “absolutely no idea” if this event could be an indicator of increased rural crime or a spill-over from Edmonton. “Either way, it is to close to home,” said Smith. “With this much snow, anyone wishing to dispose of a body will look for a plowed access point. With all the oil site roads we are a likely area.”

RCMP and Major Crimes North are requesting anyone with information on this occurrence, or on suspicious persons or vehicles in the immediate area leading up to the date in question, to contact the Redwater RCMP at 780-942-3600. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), online at www.TIPS.com or by using the TIPS app.

As replacement of the four bridges in Thorhild County that were closed after 2018 spring flooding is about to begin, staff and council nervously watch this winter’s low temperatures and accumulating snow.

During the Feb. 12 council meeting, Councillor Cheryl Pauny asked how the county bridges were holding up in the very low temperatures this region experienced throughout the first part of February. Infrastructure director Ron Berlinguette replied that because of the extreme cold, the structures are flexing more than usual and may sustain some damage.

CAO Wayne Franklin added that there is a deep snow pack as well. “If we get a quick melt, we’ll lose bridges,” he predicted.

Replacement of the four closed bridges was awarded to Carmacks Enterprises Ltd. for approximately $3.75 million. They will begin the first bridge removal before the end of this month. All four bridges are expected to be in service by mid to late July.

Replacement of the four bridges is in the county’s 2019 budget at a cost of $5.4 million, or about $1.35 million each. That cost included engineering, construction supervision, construction cost and a contingency allotment.

We had originally anticipated replacing all four bridges with prestress concrete arch structures, but tenders received in late December were significantly over budget,” reported Franklin. “The projects were re-tendered as single span concrete/steel bridges (no piles in the river) and tender results were much more affordable.”

Although the amount that may be required for contingencies is not known, he expects the final cost to be significantly less that the original estimate of $5.4 million. Currently, these bridge replacements are all funded out of reserves. The county has applied for grants from Alberta Transportation (Local Road Bridges) and Alberta Municipal Affairs (Disaster Recovery Program) for funding assistance but has received no commitments to date.

The four closed bridges all cross Namepi Creek. Bridge #73227 is on Twp 590 between RR 204 and RR 205. North of Radway bridge #73227 is on Twp 596 between RR 204 and RR 205. Northwest of Radway bridge #73002 is on RR 203 between Twp 584 and 590.

In addition to those four bridges, Thorhild County has 81 bridge structures of which four have a structural condition or sufficiency rating of less than 30 percent. Fourteen other bridge structures are rated at 30 to 40 percent. The county is having a bridge asset management plan prepared.

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Krisy Andersen enjoys her work as Redwater’s interim Recreational Facilities and Parks Operations supervisor. Story page A2.

Bright-eyed teacher

Roots of Empathy Teacher Everett Hayden shows off his new skills to student Jayden Decker during his visit to Holy Family Catholic School Grade 5/6 in Waskatenau recently.

$5 million being spent on bridge replacement but more in jeopardy this spring

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Redwater’s interim Recreational Facilities and Parks Operations supervisor Kristy Andersen brings experience, skills and enthusiasm to her work. She greets patrons of Pembina Place with a smile from her office just inside the main entrance.

“I really enjoy the work, and my co-workers here are awesome,” said Andersen. “I like to be hands-on. I’ve always been in an industry where I was hands-on.”

She worked in the oil industry and with other municipalities before moving to Redwater five years ago. She began working for the Town of Redwater 4.5 years ago as an arena operator, was promoted to Team Lead, and in November 2018 took over as interim facilities supervisor. She recently earned top marks in a training course.

“Congratulations to Kristy Andersen for achieving one of the top academic marks in Alberta for the Building Maintenance Level 2 course offered by the Alberta Association of Recreational Facilities Personnel (AARFP),” said Community Services manager Jodi Brown. “Due to her success, Kristy has been selected to compete for a scholarship to attend the AARFP annual conference in April.”

If the essay Andersen submitted is chosen as the award winner, she will receive a free conference registration, plaque and $250.

“We’re really proud of her achievement,” Brown said. “It’s really great to have someone of her calibre on staff.”

Outside of work Andersen enjoys time with her mischievous dog, Loki, bike riding, ice fishing and visiting family in Calgary.

**Andersen enjoys hands-on work of recreation**

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**Does your child qualify for one of our early learning experiences?**

Thinking your child may benefit from an Enrichment or Headstart program? Call our office at 780.939.4321 ext 1257 to book a screening session. All children must be screened and qualify for these programs under Alberta Education guidelines.

**Enrichment Program**

Designed for children who are assessed as being “cognitively advanced”.

To be eligible for the 2019/2020 school year, children must be a minimum age of:
- 3 years, 8 months, by September 1, 2019.

Screenings are being offered at:
- MCC
  - March 7, 9, 12, 15, 18

**Headstart Program**

Designed for children who require support for speech – language, and/or fine motor skills and/or social skills.

To be eligible for the 2019/2020 school year, children must be a minimum age of:
- 2 years, 8 months, with significant needs, by September 1, 2019, or
- 3 years, 8 months with mild to moderate needs, by September 1, 2019.

Screenings are being offered at:
- Fable Garden Hall
  - March 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 14, 15, 19, 20
- Bon Accord School
  - March 11
- MFRC
  - March 11
- Camilla School
  - March 13
- Landing Trail
  - March 18
- Namao School
  - March 19
- Octre Park School
  - March 20

**TO BOOK A SCREENING, CALL STURGEON PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION AT 780.939.4341 EXT 1257**

MCCC (Morinville Community Cultural Centre), 9502 -100 Ave, Morinville - screenings serving all school locations
Fable Garden Hall, 10010 - 101 Ave, Morinville - screenings serving all school locations
MFRC (Military Family Resource Center), Edmonton Garrison - screenings serving Guthrie and Namao communities
Bon Accord Community School - screenings serving Bon Accord, Gibbons and Legal communities

Remember, your child’s birth certificate will be required at the screening session.
Residents Could Save on Fire Insurance

Sturgeon County Protective Services has been accredited by Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) to provide Superior Tanker Shuttle Service (STSS). The Districts of Bon Accord, Calahoo, Legal, Namao, Redwater and the Fire Service Areas of Gibbons and Morinville have been accredited for the delivery of Superior Tanker Shuttle Services and the appropriate changes have been made to the fire insurance dwelling protection grading index.

What does this mean for you?
Residents within the Fire districts and Fire Service Areas named above who own detached dwellings and are within 8 km of an accredited fire hall and 5 km of a recognized water supply may be eligible to receive an improved Fire Insurance Grade.

We recommend that you contact your insurance agent directly and review your current Property Fire Insurance ratings. If your insurance company does not wish to apply the STSS Accreditation, it is recommended that you explore options by obtaining quotes from other companies.

"Letters of Accreditation are available online at www.sturgeoncounty.ca/STSS"

For more information, please visit www.sturgeoncounty.ca/STSS to review the FAQ or contact Chief Pat Mahoney at 780-939-8600 or by email at pmahoney@sturgeoncounty.ca.

Who's Ready for Spring?

Even with snow on the ground, Agriculture Services wants you to think about spring activities, it just might warm you up!

Planting for the Future Workshop

Wednesday, March 13 from 6-8 p.m. Rendevous Centre

Formerly the Shelterbelt Workshop, we’ve expanded this session to also cover eco-buffers and riparian planting as well as shelterbelt planning and site preparation. Sturgeon County residents who attend will receive a $25 coupon to be used toward the purchase of seedlings from the Sturgeon County Tree Program. The Tree Program is open between March 14 and April 12.

For those who love rural living

Country Living Expo

Saturday, March 23, 2019
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Morinville Community Cultural Centre

Hosted by Sturgeon County

We’ll have some great drop-in information sessions, a conversation area, local vendors, and of course, a concession area. Best of all, it’s free to attend. Mark your calendar and watch for details right here in your Weekly FYI and online at sturgeoncounty.ca

Sturgeon County Council celebrated National Flag of Canada Day on February 15th. From left to right: Councillors Karen Shaw, Dan Dercourt and Neal Comeau; Mayor Alanna Hnatow, Deputy Mayor Patrick D. Tighe and Councillors Wayne Bakenfohr and Susan Evans.

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: March 5, 2019

OHV Safety Session this Weekend

Saturday, Feb. 23
10 a.m.
Redwater Fire Hall
4925 - 47 Street, Redwater

Join Sturgeon County Enforcement Services and Redwater RCMP for this important session to learn more about Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) safety, the Provincial OHV Act & Regulations, and the current rules of Sturgeon County’s OHV Bylaw.

Outstanding Taxes Due Feb. 28

Residents are reminded that any outstanding amounts owing on property taxes for prior years will be subject to a 12% penalty effective March 1, 2019. To avoid this penalty, payment by cash, cheque or debit card only must be received at Sturgeon County Centre before the end of business, 4:30 p.m., February 28, 2019.

For more information please contact Financial Services by email at taxation@sturgeoncounty.ca or call 780-939-4321.

Sturgeon County Offices will be closed the morning of Wednesday, February 27, 2019 for the Annual General Staff Assembly. We will be open from 1-4:30 p.m. We apologize for any inconvenience.
Usage down at Redwater pool last summer

The Redwater swimming pool had decreased usage in 2018. Swimming lessons and Aquasize had increased participation, but a few programs experienced large reductions in users, and staffing issues resulted in some pool closures.

Total pool use decreased from 7,625 patrons in 2017 to 5,359 in 2018. Community Services manager Jodi Brown advised the numbers were informally kept and might not be entirely accurate.

Mayor Mel Smith said the overall decreased use of the pool was very disappointing. "June wasn't a good month," he said. "We certainly anticipate way better volumes and increased revenue this summer." He said the unsanctioned pool closures were very frustrating.

"It put us in a real tight spot," said Smith. "Bringing in a manager to oversee all that will nip problems in the bud." He said the increased revenue this summer. "He said the unanticipated increase from the Sturgeon County recreation grant. Its $257,600 in expenses includes $184,800 for payroll, insurance, utilities, etc plus $10,000 for building maintenance, $21,500 for goods and supplies (including pool chemicals) and $25,000 for purchase of an Atco trailer for staff office space.

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Relevant documents and materials respecting the appeal will be made available for public access. The agenda deadline may delay or postpone the hearing or the decision-making process.

Submissions will be accepted until the hearing date, however those received after the deadline will be unavailable. Hearing participants may submit a visual and/or written submission to the Clerk of the SDAB for inclusion in the hearing record and/or to be present and be heard at the hearing. Hearing participants may also be available to answer questions about the collection and use of this information, contact the Thorhild County FOIP Administrator.

Please be advised, that TELUS Communications will be upgrading telecom equipment in the Chipman, St. Michael, Smoky Lake, Warspite, Redwater and Waskatenau areas. This will affect residential and business telephones beginning with area code 780 and local exchange, 942, 358, 363, 656, 383. Further details check Public Notices.

Local calling within the area of the isolation will be available.
- Inbound and outbound local calling to and from the area of the isolation will be available.
- Inbound and outbound long distance calling to and from the area of the isolation will be available.
- Dialing “911” (Emergency service) from a landline within the area of the isolation will be available.
- Dialing the local exchange 10 digit # for emergency services from a landline will be available.
- Dialing from a landline to a cellular and dialing from a cellular to landline will be available.
- Dialing “911” from a TELUS Mobility cellular within the area of the isolation will be available.
- Dialing the local exchange 10 digit # for emergency services from a TELUS Mobility cellular will be available.
- TELUS Mobility cellular-to-cellular calling within the area of the isolation will be available.
- TELUS Mobility cellular-to-cellular calling to and from the area of the isolation will be available.

Customers requiring further details on this advisory are asked to please email TELUS National Change Management at 1-800-516-3777.

DO YOU NEED A PERMIT YES !!!

FIRE PERMITS ARE REQUIRED FOR:
- Brush Piles
- Root Piles
- Straw Bales
- Yard Clean up
- Burn barrels

HOW DO I GET A FIRE PERMIT?
- Call the County Office at 780-398-2820.
- An onsite inspection is required before issuing a fire permit.
- A Fire permit expires within 10 days of the issuing date, burn barrels expire 1 year after issue date.

RULES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
- All burning shall be done in compliance with the Forest and Prairie Protection Act and the Alberta Environmental Protection and Enhancement act.
- The permit holder has full responsibility and liability with regards to controlling the fire and any loss or damage resulting from the lighting of the fire. This means that the permit holder must ensure proper fireguards are in place, support equipment is on hand and that necessary precautions are taken.
- Winds must be less than 15kms per hour; Consideration must be given to neighbors as to avoid physical discomfort as a result of burning.
- When the fire permit is issued for a burn barrel—burn barrels shall be constructed of non-combustible material, shall be free of damage, shall be covered with a tight fitting metal mesh screen with opening not more than 1mm in size, shall be located on a non-combustible material base, and shall be located at least 3 meters away from combustibles.

SEASONAL JOB POSTINGS
SPAYER OPERATOR
May 6 - August 30, 2019

SCALE HOUSE OPERATOR
Spring and Fall

Contact: Laurie at laurie.andrushchysyn@thorhildcounty.com 780-398-3741 www.thorhildcounty.com
This process." asked if he supports A VPS's request for a new school building Feb. 11 by giving Glenn Van Dijken and Drayton Valley-Devon MLA Mark Smith a tour of the school.

Both MLAs represent the United Conservative Party (UCP), with Smith serving as the Education critic. During the upcoming provincial election Van Dijken will be the UCP candidate in the Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock constituency, which includes the counties of Smoky Lake and Thorhild.

They were briefed on the condition of the existing school building by A VPS superintendent Neil O'Shea, secretary-treasurer Amber Oko and trustee Tom Mykytiuk.

"We believe in advocating for strong rural communities and this includes having excellent educational facilities," said O'Shea. "The project in Smoky Lake is not simply about getting a new school building, it is about ensuring that there are excellent facilities in Smoky Lake for years to come. We have worked closely with our community partners, parents and school administration to ensure that the messaging about the need for a new school has been reaching the right people."

"I would support the process," he said. "I make them more sustainable. The obvious benefits of a new school. This fall the community partners, parents and school administration to ensure that the messaging about the need for a new school has been reaching the right people." He feels they are accomplishing their goal of ensuring that people at all levels have accurate information about the need for a new school.

"Part of my responsibility is to understand how education is delivered across the province, and that includes infrastructure," he said. "That's why the dual credit program is so helpful for the school, and having students become knowledgeable about the dual credit program which allows students to learn at high school and college at the same time. Mykytiuk said it helps teach kids what is out there in the trades and where trades can take them in the future. It helps the school, and having students become familiar with the smaller, rural colleges helps make them more sustainable."

"That's why the dual credit program is so important," said O'Shea.

A list of infrastructure issues at HAK show a facility with a structure and mechanical systems that are at the end of their lives: leaking roof, aging boilers, lack of a sprinkler system and new plumbing needed to meet minimum water efficiency standards.

None of the issues pose immediate safety concerns, and the air quality of the building is within Alberta Infrastructure guidelines. However, when it rains and during a quick snow melt staff need to set out buckets to collect the drips leaking into the building. A VPS allocates $1.2 million in its maintenance budget to repair the roof.

HAK consists of several different buildings put together to form the wings of the school. Modernization of HAK has been the top priority on A VPS's capital project submission to the province since the 2015-16 school year. Its assessment by Alberta Infrastructure in February 2018 confirmed deficiencies and failings including concerns around the stormwater system, fire protection and both mechanical and electrical systems.

In July 2018, the HAK modernization request was changed to replacement. In January 2017 the renovation or replacement of HAK was put on the Alberta government's Sunshine List, meaning it was selected as a provincial project but had no funding allocated to it.

A VPS received provincial funding in 2018 to construct a new high school in Athabasca which opened in the fall of 2018. During the past several years both Thorhild Central and Virden schools were renovated.

Drayton Valley-Devon MLA Mark Smith (L-R), Community Day Care organizer Lauren Meinryk with her son, Cohen, Aspen View Public Schools superintendent Neil O'Shea and Barrhead-Morinville-Westlock MLA Glenn Van Dijken chat during a tour of H.A. Kostash School in Smoky Lake Feb. 11.
**REDUCED!**

FARM LAND NE OF WESTBROOK

158 acres

Great location and value! This is a great place for a hobby farm. 10+ acres of a grain field is ready for spring planting, 35+ acres of a pasture, 15+ acres of forest and 20+ acres of hay land. It has a large hay shed and over 1 mile of fence. The farm is just 2.5 miles from Hwy 16 and 4 miles from the S.W. Road. Property is at the intersection of that intersection. REDUCED! Asking $629,000. Call Heather to view.

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**NEW!**

REDUCED!

FARM LAND NE OF TOWHILL

48 acres

This 48 acre farm is located approximately 2.4 miles west of Hwy 16. It has a 52'x32' barn with 40'x28' lean to and 4'x60' covered and gated pipe fencing. There are two wells (one for each floor) & second FR which has cabinets & sink so could make an additional bedroom if needed. Along with the double att'd garage is fully insulated, drywalled & painted & is heated. The huge back yard is fully fenced & has a storage shed, covered back deck, lots of room for future garage & plenty of room for a RV. This home is move in ready, $194,900. Call Heather to view.

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**NEW!**

REDUCED!

FARM LAND NE OF TOWHILL

50 acres

This 50 acre farm is located 2.4 miles west of Hwy 16. It has a 60'x50' high bay shop, with office, 18'x24' workshop and 40'x30' hay shed. It has a 56'x12' deck with gorgeous views of the lake and mountains. The 3+1 bedroom bungalow features 2 wood burning stoves, sunken LR, huge FR (large enough for a burning stove) & back entry, pantry & solar tube in the kitchen which makes an additional bedroom if needed. Asking $209,900. Call Heather to view.

---

**NEW!**

REDUCED!

FARM LAND NE OF WESTBROOK

45 acres

Located 4.5 miles west of Hwy 16. This 45 acre farm is a gem! It has a 80'x60' shop, 14'x14' office & 100'x100' covered area. It is a legal for the house, shop and garage and can be a great shop and storage site for large equipment. There is a bonus for the property is that it has city water. So much potential here. Run your own business, indoor storage facility or great for a car enthusiast. A must sell! $1,295,000. Call Heather for more information.

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REDUCED!

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50 acres

This 50 acre farm is located 2.4 miles west of Hwy 16. It has a 60'x50' high bay shop, with office, 18'x24' workshop and 40'x30' hay shed. It has a 56'x12' deck with gorgeous views of the lake and mountains. The 3+1 bedroom bungalow features 2 wood burning stoves, sunken LR, huge FR (large enough for a burning stove) & back entry, pantry & solar tube in the kitchen which makes an additional bedroom if needed. Asking $209,900. Call Heather to view.

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Cattle auction volumes and beef production update

The latest cattle auction volumes and beef production numbers are in. Jason Wood, provincial livestock market analyst with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, breaks them down.

Wood says that Alberta cattle auction volumes for January to December 2018 were 1.573 million head, down just over half a per cent from 2017, and 2018 auction numbers were less than two per cent above the five-year average.

“Looking at auction volumes from the start of the fall run in September to mid-January we see that volumes are down 3.4 per cent compared to a year ago and on par with the five-year average,” says Wood.

“Last fall we saw cattle marketed ahead of the traditional fall run period as producers managed pasture conditions,” he notes.

“But, we also saw volumes decline in November and December, leaving the overall total similar to the previous year.”

Wood adds that for the first few weeks of 2019, volumes are about six per cent higher than they were a year ago.

Slaughter and beef production were up in 2018. “In Western Canada, 2018 beef production was more than 897,000 tonnes, or seven per cent higher than in 2017,” say Wood. “In total, Canada’s beef production was 1,158 million tonnes, an increase of more than six per cent compared to 2017.”

On the cattle supply side, Wood says that the total federally inspected slaughtered cattle in Canada was more than three million head, with more than 78 per cent being processed in western Canada.

“We also saw an increase in beef exports with data for the January to November 2018 period showing exports up four per cent year over year.”

Canada’s top five beef export markets continue to be the U.S., Japan, Hong Kong, Mexico and China.

--Agri-News, Alberta
The recent cold snap across the province has been a concern for humans and livestock. Barry Yaremcio, beef and forage specialist at the Alberta Ag-Info Centre, looks at ways to lessen the stress on cattle created by cold temperatures.

Yaremcio says to start by adjusting rations to meet requirements, as there is a limit to the amount of heat cattle can produce by digesting feed.

“You can’t just let them pick extra hay or pick straw off the bedding pack to make up the intake differential. Straw is a low protein, high fibre, low energy feed that takes a long time for the animals to digest. If they eat extra straw, the total protein content in the ration goes down, and bacteria can’t digest the fibre. In reality, their feed intake in reality may drop two, three or four pounds a day, and you’re just going backwards by letting them have the extra straw.”

“I am referring specifically to cattle, but these principles apply to other animals staying outside right now,” he says. “Cattle can stay warm down to -20 C without wind chill, and the heat from digestion when they consume their feed will keep them warm.”

It is a natural response for animals to eat more feed when it gets cold. Provide extra hay or silage but extra grain is needed as well. Feed intake changes when the temperature drops below -20 C.

“At -30 C, increase grain intake by an extra two lb. of grain per head per day over and above what was previously being fed at -20 C. If temperatures drop to -40 C, four lb. of extra grain per head per day needs to be added,” says Yaremcio.

Thin animals get colder faster than those that are in good shape, as they do not have the fat layer that provides insulation.

“That four lb. of additional grain during the cold weather might have to be stepped up to six or seven lb. to maintain their body weight or hopefully get them to gain a little bit,” explains Yaremcio. “It is difficult to do in cold weather but it is a possibility. Judge accordingly, and watch the manure. If the manure looks normal, you can see that your ration is providing an adequate amount of protein.”

He adds that providing shelter behind a wind fence and providing a lot of bedding helps reduce the amount of energy needed for an animal to keep warm. If possible, move the thinnest animals into a barn to protect them from the weather.

“A cow laying on snow could potentially lose 25 per cent of her body heat, especially if that snow is wet or dirty.”

The implications of not lessening the stress from cold temperatures could compromise the animals, says Yaremcio. “During cold weather, cows can lose anywhere between one to three pounds a day. If the cow is losing weight in the last trimester of pregnancy, it is possible there will be more calving difficulties because the cow’s muscles are not as strong as they should be. Nutrient requirements for a lactating cow increase by 25 per cent compared to one in late pregnancy. That is when the large weight losses can occur.”

“Colostrum quantity – and possibly quality – will be compromised if the cow is losing weight prior to calving. The calf may not be as healthy, and get up rapidly after birth if the cow has lost weight in the cold weather. You could have a little more problems with disease. A cow with very little fat reserve will not be able to produce as much milk as one that is in good condition. The growth rate of the calf is probably going to be reduced as well. Long term, if that cow stays skinny all the way through lactation, it can reduce reproductive efficiency by 20 to 30 per cent.”

For more information, contact the Alberta Ag-Info Centre at 310-FARM (3276).
Thorhild students among those in Heavy Equipment Tech program

Thorhild Central School (TCS) students Carson Penchuk and Korbyn Page are among nine high school students taking a Pre-Employment Heavy Equipment Technician (IET) dual credit program through Portage College at Lac La Biche.

“When students have a chance to expand their knowledge, begin a potential career path, or explore post-secondary opportunities, we are excited to support these endeavors,” said TCS principal Kim Carson. “The partnership with Portage allows our students to be a step closer to career planning. The academic requirements of this program are not easy; therefore, students need to execute self-discipline and time management, both of which are excellent life skills. We wish Carson and Korbyn all the best on their course work.”

The IET program introduces students to heavy equipment electronics, hydraulics, brake systems, air brakes, safety and more. The students will attend class virtually throughout the term to cover the theory components of the program and will attend a practical component at Portage College in the summer.

Upon successful completion, the students receive 16 high school credits, a post-secondary Pre-Employment Heavy Equipment Technician Certificate, and will be eligible to write the first-year apprenticeship exam for the trade.

For the 2018-2022 school years, Alberta Education allocated $2 million per year for school authorities to develop new dual credit opportunities. Each grant provides a one-time funding opportunity.

“Each school authority is able to apply for one grant of up to $55,000 per school year,” said Aspen View Public Schools (AVPS) director of Curriculum and Technology Donna Wesley. “School authorities are able to submit applications in partnership with other school divisions. Partnering allows all partner school divisions to offer more dual credit opportunities, offer programs that in the past could not be run due to low enrollment and participate in a cost-sharing model.”

Because the grants are one-time funds, Wesley said the partnering school divisions will need to look at other ways to fund these programs in future years. “Our divisions are hopeful that our partnerships and our ability to cost share will allow us to continue to offer these programs in upcoming years,” she said.

AVPS received a Dual Credit Start-Up Funding grant from Alberta Education to support two programs, Culinary Arts and Heavy Equipment Technician IET. It is being used to cover the costs of tuition, practical expenses at the college, and most of the supplies.

AVPS partnered with Portage College, Lake- land Catholic Schools, Northern Lights Public Schools, Northern Lights School Division, East Central Alberta Catholic School Division, St. Paul Education Regional Division, and Elk Island Public Schools to offer these programs. This partnership successfully filled cohorts for both programs. Culinary Arts runs from September 2018 to June 2019; HET runs from January 2019 to July 2019.
Restoration of the Newbrook Observatory to begin this year

The exterior repairs and restoration of the Newbrook Observatory buildings will be done this summer after which the Super-Schmidt camera and other equipment donated to the Newbrook Historical Society can be accepted and placed in a secure site.

During its Jan. 29 meeting council approved the $193,000 restoration project to be funded in part by a Historic Resource Conservation Grant that will cover 25 to 50 percent of the project cost. The remainder of the funding will be $24,600 from the 2019 county budget and up to $125,000 from the Legacy Fund. The greater amount of grant funding is received, less will be used from the Legacy Fund.

“The county has no choice but to do this work,” said CAO Wayne Franklin when council considered what to do to add to the budgeted funds. “We’re bound to do it. Council’s choice is when and how quickly to do it.”

Community Services manager Carolyn Sedlowski reported that because the observatory is owned by the county, and it has been declared an historical resource, the county is responsible to maintain it. A portion of the work ($24,600) had been planned for this year with the remainder scheduled for completion over the next five years. Because the society has located and been offered a camera and equipment, council was asked to consider doing all of the exterior restoration this year.

Sedlowski said work on the inside will not begin until after the exterior is repaired and sealed. She acknowledged that the society asked for the work to be done by May, at which time members planned to have the camera and equipment brought here from another location.

“To have the facility ready for May 2019 will not be achievable based on contractor time lines and interior work not being done,” said. “To complete any work on an historic resource the Historic Resource Conservation program needs to approve all work through quotes received, and to date no quotes have been obtained for the interior of the building.”

Budgeted for this year was $4,000 for a property survey, $17,500 for trimming and removal of trees and $3,100 for the front door, foundation inspection and furnace cleaning.

Costs to be covered by the Historic Resources grant and Legacy Fund total $31,500 plus a 10 percent contingency of $3,150.

Exterior restoration of the residence includes $44,750 for siding, trim, windows, doors and parging; $21,300 for the roof, soffits and eaves; $1,760 for the chimney and $2,600 for the back porch.

The observatory building requires $21,300 for siding, trim, windows and doors, $4,750 for roof, soffits and eaves, and $7,500 to clean and test the roof opening mechanism.

Other major costs include $12,700 for fencing, $4,000 for interior inspection of the furnace, hot water tank and electrical, and $10,000 for project management.

When coun. Joyce Pierce questioned the project management item, Sedlowski explained that someone would have to organize and oversee the project.

Franklin said no one on county staff has historical restoration qualifications nor would any be available to work on this for a couple of months.

Coun. Wayne Cresswell, who was first elected in 2007, said restoring the observatory site has been talked about as long as he has served on council, and with Society members passionate about doing this, the project should go ahead.

His motion to approve the funding passed unanimously and was followed by Pierce giving a cheer.

The county Legacy Fund was established with royalties paid by the Waste Management of Canada Corporation for operation of its regional landfill north of Abee. About $1.4 million was in the Legacy Fund at the end of 2018. An estimated $1.2 million will be received in royalties during 2019.

During Cresswell’s stint as reeve under the previous council hundreds of thousands of dollars were spent on legal fees involving that council’s activities at this site. Over the last year that has happened.

As a result we are now in the final process of forming the Newbrook Historical Society, whose focus is on restoring and promoting the Observatory. This group has already done a lot of work in accessing information and pictures of the observatory from the past. This will help to ensure the site and buildings are restored to its original condition.”
Two weeks of extreme cold puts lodge project slightly behind schedule

Cold and snow put construction of the new wing of Diamond Spring Lodge in Redwater slightly behind schedule.

“The last couple of weeks have been pretty rough,” said Krawford Construction superintendent Brad Howes Feb. 14. “We lost a week of framing. We couldn’t even run the air compressors.” He believes they will be able to make up for that lost time when the weather warms up.

During the first week of February they shut down for two days because of the cold. They have also worked a number of short days. His crew takes lots of breaks to warm up, and the guys make sure they change their socks and gloves during the day.

The frequent snowfalls mean the crew has to continually shovel out the foundation. “We do it every single day,” Howes said. “We all just jump in and do it. This is a good crew of guys.”

On the bright side, shovelling does warm a person up. Keeping the equipment warm is even more challenging.

“When you have to heat a heater to keep it running, it’s pretty bad,” said Howes. He expects to get the floors on this week, and maybe start on the walls. Once begun, they will go up quickly.

Krawford Construction workers Tyler Kupsch (L-R), Mike Swenson, Miguel Padron and Shane Duker have a coffee and fill out some paperwork while they take a warm-up break from the -31 temperature on Feb.14. Krawford is building the new wing of Diamond Spring Lodge in Redwater.
Local rope skippers shine in Masters Competition

Heartland High Energy (HHE) rope skipping club members began their 2019 competition season, that will include events across the province, by hosting the Alberta Masters in Thorhild Feb. 2.

Six HHE members were among the more than 100 young skippers who competed in the Rope Skipping Alberta Masters Competition, and they placed in the top 10 in all but two of the 23 events they entered.

Masters are the individual event competitions. The club will compete in a team competition before provincials are held to determine who will be on Team Alberta and compete nationally.

Izzy Pawlik, Avery Graham, Everett Graham, Ashlynn Morrow, Taylor Eleniak and Alynn Lega competed in the Alberta Masters.

Coaches Kyla Graham and Jackie Lega guided them through the events which included speed, power, endurance and freestyle competitions.

“As one of the coaches of HHE I cannot express how proud I am of all of our team members,” said Kyla Graham. “At our masters competition we had many of our athletes get personal bests, and some provincial records were broken. We practice twice a week and at every practice our jumpers are working hard to increase their speed, endurance and power numbers as well as learning and trying new tricks.”

After the competition HHE held a workshop in which skippers from all over Alberta got together to share and teach each other new skills.

“It’s great to see all the athletes work together to promote the sport of jump rope,” Graham said.

In the age 11-12 Female category Avery placed third and Izzy eighth. Ashlyn did not compete in the freestyle event so was not given an overall ranking.

Taylor earned second in the age 13-14 Males competition. Alynn placed fifth in the age 15-17 Females and Everett first in the 15-17 Males category.

The individual event placings in the different categories of each event follow:

- 30 second speed (greatest number of jumps performed in 30 seconds): Avery seventh, Izzy eighty, Ashlyn 10th, Taylor first, Alayne sixth, Everett first.
- Double Unders (number of consecutive jumps with the rope passing beneath the skipper twice each jump): Avery fifth, Izzy seventh, Ashlyn 16th, Taylor third.
- Freestyle (athletic and artistic skipping routine): Avery second, Izzy seventh, Taylor first, Alynn second, Everett first.
- Freestyle (athletic and artistic skipping routine): Avery second, Izzy seventh, Taylor first, Alynn seventh, Everett first.
- The individual event placings in the different categories of each event follow.
- 3 minute endurance (number of jumps performed in three minutes or before an error): Avery seventh, Izzy eighty, Ashlyn 10th, Taylor first, Alayne sixth, Everett first.
- 3 minute endurance (number of consecutive jumps with the rope passing beneath the skipper three times each jump): Alynn fourth, Everett first.
- Freestyle (athletic and artistic skipping routine): Avery seventh, Izzy eighth, Taylor second, Alynn first 13th, Taylor second, Everett first.
- Freestyle (athletic and artistic skipping routine): Avery third, Izzy ninth, Alayne eighth, Everett first.
- Triple unders (number of consecutive jumps with the rope passing beneath the skipper three times each jump): Alynn fourth, Everett first.
- Freestyle (athletic and artistic skipping routine): Avery second, Izzy seventh, Taylor first, Alynn seventh, Everett first.
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Looking for a great summer job?
We’re hiring for the following seasonal positions:

⇒ Assistant Pool Manager
⇒ Senior Pool Guard/Instructor - 3.5 positions
⇒ Junior Pool Guard/Instructor - 3 positions
⇒ Summer Program Coordinator
⇒ Assistant Summer Program Coordinator
⇒ Floral/Parks & Facilities Labourer - 2 positions
⇒ Parks & Facilities Labourer 1- position
⇒ Parks & Facilities Labourer 2- position
⇒ Public Works Summer Labourer - 2 positions

details www.redwater.ca

AUCTIONS

Auctions - Catch all the auction action in the three county market. Sales booked with any of the reputable auctioneers advertising in the Review and Free Press will get you in the eye of our readers. Reach the Counties of Thorhild, Smoky Lake, and Sturgeon. Auctioneers get the best reach for your clients, be sure their sale is included in the Free Press and Review; Phone 780-942-2023, email: redwater@shaw.ca

BALANCED HAY - loose, bales, large loose bales. One way up to 1500# each.

FRUIT - blueberries.

FULLY FENCED & GRASSED 13.74 acres.

HAY LOADING & TRANSPORT:

⇒ Lime, gravel, crushed.
⇒ Rocks, dirt, sand, gravel.
⇒ Redwater/Thorhild/Radway & hay fields for rent or lease.
⇒ Looking for Crop / Labour.
⇒ Don’t Miss the Beef Country Deadline.

CAREERS

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⇒ Assistant Pool Manager
⇒ Senior Pool Guard/Instructor - 3.5 positions
⇒ Junior Pool Guard/Instructor - 3 positions
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⇒ Parks & Facilities Labourer 1- position
⇒ Parks & Facilities Labourer 2- position
⇒ Public Works Summer Labourer - 2 positions

details www.redwater.ca
Pursuant to Sections 230, 606, 631 and 692 of the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, the Council of Smoky Lake County hereby gives notice of their Intention to adopt:

Smoky Lake County Bylaw No. 1335-19:
Smoky Lake County & the County of Two Hills Intermunicipal Development Plan

The purpose of this Bylaw is to adopt an Intermunicipal Development Plan between the Smoky Lake County and the County of Two Hills.

The affected area for Smoky Lake County Bylaw No. 1335-19 is shown on the map below.

THEREFORE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Sections 606 and 692 of the Municipal Government Act a public hearing to consider the proposed Bylaw will be held:

Date: February 21, 2019
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Place: Smoky Lake County Council Chambers
4612 McDougall Drive, Smoky Lake, AB

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that anyone wishing to make a verbal or written representation may do so at the hearing, or by providing the representation to the County’s Chief Administrative Officer before 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 20, 2019. It would be beneficial for individuals to provide advance notice to Smoky Lake County at (780) 656-3730 of their intention to make a presentation at the hearing.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that a copy of the proposed Bylaw may be inspected at the Smoky Lake County during normal business hours.

To obtain more information regarding the proposed Bylaw, please contact:

Jordan Ruegg, Planning and Development Manager, Smoky Lake County
at (780) 656-3730 or jruegg@smokylakecounty.ab.ca
Co-op Gold Crispy Bucket Chicken
Sale starts this Thursday!

Ocean Spray Juices 1.89L
10 for $10

Co-op Gold Pie Assorted flavors, 620 g
2 for $10

Notice of Nomination for Directors

North Corridor Co-op is seeking nominations for election of Directors at the annual general meeting to be held April 10th, 2019.

• IF YOU have a genuine interest in becoming part of a nine member board that sets direction and policy for the Co-operative
• IF YOU have been a member prior to our fiscal yearend (Oct 31st)
• IF YOU have purchased at least $1000 in our last fiscal year and your account is not in arrears.
• IF YOU are not an employee or related to an employee of North Corridor Co-op.

THEN YOU QUALIFY TO BE A DIRECTOR

The nomination forms and qualifications requirements are available at our admin offices. 4 directors positions to fill 3 for 3 year terms & 1 for 1 year term.

For more information about the role of the director please contact Chris Weiss, General Manager at 780-689-3751 or a nomination committee director:
Charles Newell 780-991-1894
Irene Luchka 780-689-2442

As per our bylaws, all nominations are to be submitted to:
The Nominations Committee | North Corridor Co-operative | Box 8, Boyle Alberta, T0A 0M0
Nomination Deadline is 2 pm on March 27, 2019

NORTH CORRIDOR CO-OP BULK PETROLEUM DEPARTMENT
TO ORDER BULK FUEL CALL TOLL FREE 1-888-398-2106 • 24 HOUR CARDLOCKS
LOCATED IN REDWATER, THORHILD, ATHABASCA, BOYLE AND GRASSLAND.