Shipments continue to arrive as products fly off store shelves

The North Corridor Co-op grocery store in Thorhild is serving additional customers and limiting the amount of some items individuals can purchase during this COVID-19 pandemic. Special shopping times are set to assist seniors and residents with compromised immune systems to make their purchases with reduced risk.

The Thorhild Co-op is opening a half hour earlier and has designated the first hour of shopping for seniors from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. That enables them to come into the store when it opens after being thoroughly cleaned overnight and to take their time shopping before the store becomes crowded.

“We’re asking people to respect that,” said grocery manager Lore Dallyn March 18.

She said the store has been busier than usual, with many unfamiliar shoppers coming in for groceries. The most-shopped-for items include baking ingredients, sanitizers, canned goods and paper supplies. Although the shelf items become depleted, the store is fully staffed and the supply trucks arrive on their usual schedules.

“We’re not able to get an extra truck, but the trucks coming are bigger,” said Dallyn. “The only thing we’re having trouble getting in is toilet paper.”

By March 20 some limits per customer were in place.

Dwayne Spicer. Standing behind them are coun. Dave McRae (L-R), town manager Larry Davidson, coun. Rob Olsen, infrastructure manager Nawaz Panhwer, coun. Connie Butcher and Community Services manager Jodi Brown.


Disease outbreaks in past were nothing like this, says senior

The COVID-19 pandemic is causing troubles even our eldest residents haven’t encountered before.

“I don’t recall anything like it,” said 88 year old Redwater resident Andy Budney. “I’m at home all the time now. I go uptown when there’s not too many people around. You’ve got to be careful.”

He understands the nature of this virus is different than the usual diseases people faced and shared a couple of anecdotes from the past that emphasize that.

Budney moved to this area with his family in 1938 to 1946 were never closed, even when faced with outbreaks of measles and chicken pox.

“I remember we took our kids to the neighbours to get the measles, so they would get them and have it over with,” Budney said. “We had the mumps, too. Nothing this serious.”

When he was 14 the neighbors would come over to play cards and talk. He remembers a conversation about the influenza epidemic in the 1930s and how people would eat garlic every day and even wear it around their necks.
Utilities will continue in Redwater without penalties or cutoffs; all municipal buildings closed to the public

As everyone is aware, the COVID-19 situation is evolving very quickly. As of this writing, March 19, there are 119 cases in Alberta. We want to reassure all Redwater residents that utility services will continue to be provided as normal, for gas and electric service.

Please note, utility billings will continue on a monthly basis, as will all other services provided by the City. This includes services such as refuse, water, sewer and recycling, including arra letters. Utility disconnections will not take place at this time. The Province is considering a Utility Payment Deferral Program. Once we are provided further information for this program, we will be making changes to our processes to suit the program requirements. At this time there will be no changes to our utility bill balances until further notice, to ease the financial pressures some may be facing. Should a resident who utilizes provincially provided welfare have their utility services cut, they will continue in the short term as a result of job loss or self-isolation, contact the office to make arrangements. For convenience during this time, we will also accept credit card payments over the phone (587-942-2023).

Utilizing our Sturgeon Regional Emergency Management Partnership (SREMP), Redwater County has been made a regional partners to staff shortage due to self-quarantine or illness like symptoms or exposure to COVID-19. We have been made aware of several staff are self-isolating for flu-like symptoms.

We are taking COVID-19 extremely seriously and are putting in place more rigorous processes to slow the virus and protect public health. Aggres-sive additional public health measures will be implemented province-wide to limit the spread of COVID-19 and protect Albertans, after new cases have been found. Two new cases will be spreading into community settings. Currently all municipal buildings are closed to the public. The Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for March 24 was cancelled. Council will be considering making additional cancellations. The Mayor’s and Councillor Appreciation events have also been cancelled.

Council continues to be updated and providing the necessary lead-ership, with the goal of providing public safety and protective measures for Redwater residents. This includes cancelling events. We cannot stress enough that we are tak-ing the time and precautions to practice proper health preven-tion of surfaces, and social distancing to mini-mize exposure. Self-isolation should be utilized should you exhibit flu-like symp-toms.

We continue to pro-vide regular updates. Respectfully, Larry Davidson, Town Manager

This bylaw affects limited “Residential” (i.e. R1 – R6) and (i.e. Subdivisions and hamlets) and does not include agricultural zoned land, with the exception of control which shall apply to all of Sturgeon County and its visitors; and

provide guidelines dealing with noise control, unsightly properties, vehicles and more.

To view the proposed bylaw and provide comment, go to: https://www.sturgeoncounty.ca/
Lodges restrict visitors to protect seniors

Visitors may enter local seniors’ lodges if they pass the screening questionnaire. Public recreational events at lodges are cancelled and residents will not be taking bus trips for an undetermined length of time.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, lodges in Thorhild and Smoky Lake counties are following the Alberta Health Services (AHS) guidelines to keep residents safe.

Currently the Newthorad Seniors Foundation is in lockdown or shelter-in-place status, said Thorhild County deputy reeve and Newthorad Seniors Housing Foundation chair Cheryl Pasay. “The residents will not be going on bus trips, having outside entertainers or recreational program entertainers and musicians and volunteers coming to the lodge.”

Smoky Lake Foundation CAO Loni Leslie said, “By order of the Chief Medical Officer, only essential visitors are allowed. These visitors must be screened. As the COVID-19 situation is far from over, there is not a planned end date.”

She explained the process to visit the lodge as follows. Visitors have to ring the doorbell to get in, then go through a series of questions about their health.

Redwater lodge had screening tests in place before March 18; deep cleaning extended

Visitors were still welcome in local seniors’ lodges—if they passed the screening questionnaire. Public recreational events were cancelled and residents will not be leaving their lodge homes on bus trips for at least one month, according to officials on March 18.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, lodges managed by Homeland Housing are following the restrictions to keep residents safe.

“We’re following all the Alberta Health Services (AHS) guidelines,” said Homeland CEO Raymond Cormie. “We serve an older population and would not want any individual to become ill with the virus.”

All public recreational events such as Pub Night during which residents’ families and friends go to lodges to visit and participate in the event were cancelled as of March 17. Bus trips for residents to go out of the lodge are on hold and will be reviewed April 17.

Cormie said administration is balancing residents’ safety with their quality of life.

Visitors, contractors doing maintenance, recreational program entertainers and musicians and volunteers are to complete a questionnaire to determine if they are at risk of COVID-19. Visitors are limited to two per resident at a time. No visiting by children is recommended because they may have different COVID-19 symptoms.

As well, the heightened environmental cleaning put in place to protect seniors in lodges from the COVID-19 virus.

Depending on the answers they may or may not be admitted. Families are encouraged to consider alternate communication methods such as telephone, Facetime, Skype.

“The utmost focus is the care of each and every resident in the lodge as well as the staff taking care of the residents. Lodge administration meets with the lodge residents daily to provide the most up to date information received from Alberta Health.”

These rules do not include the seniors in self-contained apartment units because they live completely independently.

Newthorad Seniors Housing Foundation manages seniors housing in Thorhild County. Smoky Lake Foundation serves lodges in Smoky Lake, Vilna and Waskatenau.

Lodges restrict visitors to protect seniors
Redwater School grade 12 student Zachary Young is working hard to complete his school year outside of the classroom, but he knows he has to accept that some other endeavors will remain unfinished.

“The most difficult part about all of this is the immediate stop to school, hockey and friends,” said Young. “As many of my classmates, teammates and friends feel that things just stopped. We did not get a chance to finish grade 12 in a school environment, to finish off our hockey season, say goodbye to our friends. It was difficult for me on how the hockey season ended. We where heading into the bronze round playoff round. This season it was my last shot at another banner. It feels like unfinished business, and I really wished that this season would have ended differently.”

Young’s teachers provide online courses and can be reached through text and email when students need help with a concept. “The Redwater teachers said they will be there for us through these stressful times,” said Young.

He is glad for that, because for him the hardest part about doing school from home is self-teaching. He did home schooling in grade nine and said it was tough.

“There being someone explaining it to you and giving examples I find is a much easier way to learn,” Young said. “I like the classroom setting better, being able to chat with other classmates and your teacher right then, rather than waiting for an email back from your teacher for unfinished business, and I really wished that this season would have ended differently.”

Even if Young completes this June’s plans to be a starting point. “Parents with questions /guardians and teachers. The site is not exhaustive plans in place using both online and paper systems to meet the needs of all students. Most student assignments will be through Google Classroom that is not ideal, I don’t find it as stressful as some of the students would. The most difficult part for me would be having to stay at home all day.”

“We all just have to stay positive” says Redwater student. On March 22, at approximately 5 a.m., the Smoky Lake RCMP and emergency services responded to a rollover involving a Semi Tractor hauling crude oil Highway 831, the Semi was travelling south bound when it rolled into the ditch between Highway 28 and Township Road 594. The driver had minor injuries and was taken to hospital to be treated. There were no leaks caused by the collision. Redwater School counsellor Niki Ballance will regularly send out App suggestion that students can use for a variety of reasons such as stress and anxiety relief. The first one is the Always There app from Kids Help Phone. Information on managing fee refunds, including Comple- mentary Learning Resource Fees and Transportation Fees, will be addressed by SPS this week.

Sturgeon Public Schools (SPS) staff are putting learning plans in place on both online and paper systems to meet the needs of all students.

In a March 18 letter to SPS families superintendent Mary Lynn Campbell said requests for devices such as Chromebooks will be addressed by SPS this week.

Campbell said devices will be sent out to each student, parents /guardians and teachers. The site is not exhaustive plans in place using both online and paper systems to meet the needs of all students.

“Some students will do their best to help us and get back to us soon. Also having social media helps as well. The grade 12 class can help each other out with questions.”

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Online learning site created for Sturgeon Public students

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“We all just have to stay positive” says Redwater student.
Sturgeon County Responds To COVID 19

As we navigate the dynamic and changing landscape related to the global COVID19 pandemic, Sturgeon County is committed to the delivery of essential services while ensuring the health and safety of our residents and staff. In an effort to do this, the following changes are in effect immediately:

All Sturgeon County public buildings are closed until further notice.

The buildings are closed to public access, but staff is still available for day-to-day business. For those who require emergent service or time sensitive business, please call 780-939-4321 or Toll Free 1-866-939-9303 to book an appointment or be directed to any department.

- **Family & Community Support Services** is available for those who are struggling, need food, medical supplies or transportation to special medical appointments or just someone to talk to, please call 780 939-8332 or 780-722-1479 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. and someone will get back to you as quickly as possible.
- **Development Support Services** will still receive applications (development permits; all safety code permits; subdivisions; amendments, compliance certificate requests, etc.) via Email, Fax, mail at the Sturgeon County Centre drop box. For any other inquiries contact us via email or phone. Email: pandd@sturgeoncounty.ca | P: 780 939-8275 | F: 780 939-2076
- **Assessment Services** is available by email assessmentservices@sturgeoncounty.ca or call 780-939-0601 for any inquiries.
- **Sturgeon services.ca** is your online source for Fire Permits, Dog Licences, Water & Bulk Water, Agriculture Services Rentals and more.

We will be posting local community changes and updates as necessary on our dedicated webpage sturgeoncounty.ca/covid19 and social media.

Public Meetings & Event Cancellations

Please note the following changes to Sturgeon County programs and public events in accordance with Alberta Health Services and the Government of Alberta. Check sturgeoncounty.ca for updates.

**Council and Committee of the Whole Meetings and Public Hearings** are cancelled until March 31st.

**All Sturgeon County Public Events** are cancelled until April 31st.

**FCS - Recreation programs** are cancelled until May 31, 2020. Including: early childhood and preschool, Wellness Workshops, Tax Credits & Benefits, Fraud Protection, Pickleball and Fitness FX.

We would like to reassure those registered in our cancelled recreation programs or those looking to withdraw from a program due to health-related concerns, you will receive a full refund.

**Property Inspections** set to begin in April have been suspended. Residents will be notified when the reinspection program resumes.

**Dust Suppression** order forms are available online; for the best rate, order by April 15.

**Tree Program and Rain Barrels & Composters** Ordering and payment along with program details and pricing is available at sturgeoncounty.ca.

Help in Tough Times

We understand not everyone has access to reliable internet. Alberta Health Services has resources and services available to help you or someone you know. Remember, if you are struggling you are not alone.

Here are some quick links:

- Addiction Helpline – 1-866-332-2322
- Family Violence – Find Supports – 310-1818
- Income Supports – 1-866-644-5135
- Kids Help Phone – 1-800-668-6686
- Mental Health Helpline – 1-877-330-2642
- Toll Free Crisis Line/Distress
  - If you need local assistance, please call Sturgeon County Family & Community Support Services at 780 939-8332 or 780-722-1479 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Social Distancing

The health and safety of our residents and staff remain a priority. County staff have been asked to work from home where possible and to avoid in-person meetings. We strongly encourage our residents to follow suit where appropriate.

Social distancing is proven to be one of the most effective ways to reduce the spread of illness during an outbreak. We can slow the spread of COVID-19 by making changes in our everyday routines to minimize close contact with others, including:

- Stay home as much as possible avoiding crowded places and non-essential gatherings, or if you must, do so at off-peak hours.
- Greet with a wave instead of a handshake, a kiss or a hug.
- Limit contact with people at higher risk.
- Keep a distance of at least 2 arms lengths (approximately 2 metres) from others.
- Stay connected to friends and family with technology.
- Wash your hands often for at least 20 seconds and avoid touching your face.

All Albertans are encouraged to rely on AlbertaHealthServices.ca for the latest information, guidance and resources.
Kudlik, Scobey would prefer to be in classroom but accept need for home study

Some grade 12 students preparing to study from home for the next few months would prefer to be in school.

Thorhild Central School grade 12 student McCoy Kudlik would rather be in the classroom, but is prepared to study at home for the remainder of this school year.

“The county continues to have public and staff hand sanitization and public area sanitization protocols in place,” said CAO Cory Ollikka. “Social distancing protocols are also in effect for all meetings, including council, staff and our public guests. The health and safety of our workers, as well as residents, is of utmost concern to Thorhild County.”

He continues to monitor the closures and responses of other municipalities and to discuss the safety of the county’s public service with council, as well as review the daily updates on COVID-19 from the province. Hanlan said that unless otherwise directed by either the federal or provincial governments the county’s administrative and Public Works offices would remain open at least until the end of day on March 24. A regular council meeting was scheduled for March 24.

The county cancelled the Rural Women’s Conference and the Parent Link programs for children on March 12. All three county libraries (Thorhild, Radway, Newbrook) are closed.

Thorhild Central School archer, Kendra Seminuk, was awarded the Top Archer in her age group. Denver Lyons won a bow case with the random draw as well as Mason Jamieson at the annual Aspen View Regional Tournament held in Athabasca on February 10. Aspen View students are now learning from home, with the province ordering all schools and daycares closed.

School closures because of the COVID-19 pandemic do not mean an early start to summer holidays for students.

Following the provincial government’s March 15 cancellation of all Kindergarten to grade 12 classes and closure of schools to students, Aspen View Public Schools (AVPS) announced Plans for Program Continuity for students to continue learning outside of the school environment.

“These are unprecedented times, and we appreciate your patience as we move from a traditional classroom to a different learning delivery model,” AVPS superintendent Neil O'Shea said. “I have heard from teachers and staff across the division how much they value the connection we currently have with students, and we look forward to reconnecting with school families and supporting children’s learning.”

AVPS will contact all families to learn what method of delivering learning materials best meets their needs, establish preferred methods of communication and arrange for the collection of students’ personal items from schools.

“Going to high school is a big part of developing a portfolio of learning that will help students in the future,” said Scobey. “I have not received any course material from my teacher, or school, so I am learning through self-study.

“Even though we have multiple ways to be in contact with them I worry about the delays in communication that will occur,” Scobey said teachers are always available via email or Google Classroom, but with all students relying on that source of communication more she worries the teacher may become overwhelmed and response times will become longer.

Because the provincial diploma exams were cancelled, Scobey’s plan to go on to post-secondary education in the fall (she has not yet selected a program) has not changed. She hopes she is ready when the time comes.

“Being unable to attend in-person courses may leave many grade 12 students, including myself, feeling unprepared for the diploma exams,” said Scobey. “I hope the government properly accounts for our lack of resources when developing the diplomas.

A different stressor is social.

“I feel the greatest difficulty will be being separated from friends and classmates when we already have such little time before potentially heading to post-secondary education in the fall,” she said. Her class plans to hold a graduation celebration, it just may come at a later date than expected.

The provincial government closed all schools March 15 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
UPDATE ON THORHILD COUNTY SERVICES
Thorstond County is taking COVID-19 Pandemic very seriously. We will continue to follow all recommendation made by Alberta Health Services, in order to mitigate the impact of this virus on our community. Thorhild County Administration, Public Works, Utilities, and Emergency Services remain open to the public and fully operational. The County is taking the appropriate precautions to protect residents and respect social distancing.

Please do not visit our offices if you have a cough or fever or have travelled outside of Canada with the last 14 days.
The situation is changing rapidly, and even what we have printed in this edition may have changed already.
Check [www.thorhildcounty.com](http://www.thorhildcounty.com) if you do not have access to the Internet, there are resources available by phone.

County payments can be made by; Internet banking, telephone banking, mail in payments and a drop box (at Thorhild County administrative office) is available. Thorhild County staff are available by phone or email.

Contact Us!
Administration
780-398-3741
Box 10, Thorhild, AB T0A 3J0

Contact Us!
Utilities
780-398-3741

Public Works & Agriculture Services
780-398-3741

Emergency After Hours
Utilities 780-398-3939

THORHILD COUNTY FAMILY MEDICAL CLINIC
REMAINS OPEN TO SEE PATIENTS BY APPOINTMENT
If you have symptoms such as fever, cough and difficulty breathing and have travelled outside of Canada or have been exposed to someone who has COVID-19, stay home and call Health Link 811.

Call 911 if you are seriously ill and need immediate medical attention and inform them that you may have COVID-19.

If you have any of these symptoms, please do not come into the clinic.

Call the Nurse Practitioner for an appointment:
Hours: Monday/Thursday/Friday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Tuesday 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Wednesday 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Closed for lunch 12 PM to 1:00 PM

Call 780-398-4MED (4633)

THORHILD COUNTY LIBRARIES
THORHILD, NEWBOOK AND RADWAY LIBRARIES ARE CLOSED.
Please refer to your library managers for further details.

Thorstond Library 780-398-3502
Newbook Library 780-576-3772
Radway Library 780-736-3548

PREVENT THE SPREAD
All Albertans are encouraged to take personal steps to help prevent the spread.
To protect yourself and others:
- stay home and away from others if sick or in isolation
- wash hands often, using soap and water for at least twenty seconds
- cover coughs and sneezes
- avoid touching face with unwashed hands
- self-isolate for 14 days if returning from travel outside Canada or were exposed to COVID-19

SELF ISOLATION
If you need to self-isolate, follow these guidelines:
- stay home - do not attend work, social events or any other public gatherings
- avoid close contact with other people - especially seniors and people with chronic conditions or compromised immune systems
- watch for symptoms in yourself or a family member

INQUIRIES FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS
For all those interested in ordering Strychnine, Ramik Green Bait for Richardson Ground squirrel control, Galt Fries, or in need of 1080 tablets for coyote control- please call to set up appointments prior to coming to the office. This is to ensure staff will be around to assist in this service.
- Wait lists begun for Strychnine.
- Ramik Green Bait and 1080s are available.
- Galt Fries orders are due by April 3, 2020.
- We will not be accepting beaver tails and mole tails at this time.

Thank you for continued cooperation.
Please contact Sarah Rice at 780-398-3977 or sarah.rice@thorhildcounty.com.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Though programs and activities have been cancelled, staff are available by phone to provide assistance.
Manager of Community Services, Carolyn Sedlowsky 780-398-2804 or 780-307-4437
- families, seniors, individuals and community volunteer income tax program

Family School Liaison Worker, Corinne Arsenault 780-398-2813 or 780-206-0018
- families and school aged children

Program Coordinator, Rebecca Hansen 780-398-2804 or 780-307-4437
- seniors and adults

Redwater Foodbank 780-942-2061

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
Planning and Development wishes to remind residents of the alternatives available to applying in-person for development and safety codes permits.

Most permits can be applied for through email or on-line, and most inquiries can be made by telephone. You may contact Jeannette at 780-398-2823 for more information.

THORHILD COUNTY SERVICES
The County is making the appropriate measures to ensure the safety of rate payers, visitors and staff.

Effective March 16, 2020, visitors to Thorhild Lodge are restricted to one to two people at a time, and only immediate family of designated support people will be able to visit. This is a necessary step to look after our seniors and ensure Covid-19 is not transmitted to our home.

We recognize that is may be difficult to families and loved ones but we must do all we can to minimize the risk of infection to our residents and staff.

We encourage families to consider alternate methods for communication such as telephone, facetime or Skype to connect with loved ones.

Families are encouraged to all our home at 780-398-3556 for updates during business hours Monday - Friday 9:00 - 5:00.

EMERGENCY AND ENFORCEMENT SERVICES
Considering ongoing developments and evolving information surrounding the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19), Thorhild County Emergency and Enforcement Services may defer or arrange to provide alternatives for certain services normally delivered in our County.

These measures are being taken to ensure the safety of rate payers, visitors and officers. There are no changes to the Emergency and Enforcement Services response to critical and emergency matters. The public is reminded to continue to call 1-825-845-2020 for all enforcement issues and 911 in emergency situations.

Reports, complaints and providing statements, can be done by phone call or email.

Before proceeding to County Administration Office, it is important that resident’s phone to request fire permits.

As always, if you are feeling unwell or are experiencing any of the symptoms consistent with COVID-19, please stay at home. Public safety is our top priority.

Self Isolation
- Avoid going to work, school, and other social functions
- Avoid close contact with others
- Wash your hands often
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze
- Clean and disinfect your home
- Clean up diseased animals
- Stay home if you are ill
- Keep a distance of 2 meters (6 feet) from others
- Avoid public gatherings
- Avoid travel
- Avoid large crowds
- Avoid animal contact
- Avoid touching your face

COVID-19:
- It is spread by person to person
- It is caused by a new virus that is related to the SARS virus
- It can cause mild to severe symptoms
- Some people can develop a severe form of pneumonia
- It can be spread from person to person

We encourage all residents to remain calm and to wash their hands regularly.

The Town of Thorhild is making the appropriate measures to ensure the safety of rate payers, visitors and staff.

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We recognize that is may be difficult to families and loved ones but we must do all we can to minimize the risk of infection to our residents and staff.

We encourage families to consider alternate methods for communication such as telephone, facetime or Skype to connect with loved ones.

Families are encouraged to all our home at 780-398-3556 for updates during business hours Monday - Friday 9:00 - 5:00.
Agriculture and Forestry’s Field Crop Development Centre has 6 new barley and triticale varieties available to be licensed this spring. The 6 new varieties include:

- reducedawn winter triticale - WT0006
- 2-row barley - TR16167 and TR17605
- nitrogen efficient feed and forage 6-row barley - SR18524
- 2-row feed and forage barley - TR18647
- general purpose barley - TR18645

A “nitrogen (N) efficient variety takes up more N from the soil or utilizes N more efficiently to maximize yield,” says Yadeta Kabela, research scientist at the Field Crop Development Centre (FCDC). “This can mean lower input costs, more stable yield and less N lost to the environment. Our new variety SR18524 has 6 to 10% more N use efficiency than check varieties.”

Agronomically, this line is a smooth awned semi-dwarf type, with 3% higher grain and forage yields than the available semi-dwarf 6-row varieties Amisk and Vivar.

The two 2-row feed and forage varieties to be released this spring, TR18645 and TR18647, were the 2 highest yielding lines in the 2019 pre-registration Cooperative tests in the 2018 drought year. TR18647 had about 4% and 6% higher grain yield than CDC Austenston.

Also available is the only non-genetically modified (non-GN) barley variety in Canada. “GN is a precursor to ethyl carbamate, a carcinogen, which can concentrate during distillation to undesirable levels,” explains Pat Juskiw, plant breeder at the FCDC. “This isn’t an issue for non-GN barley, like TR14617.”

FCDC is accepting applications for marketing rights until March 27, 2020. Visit apply for marketing rights to apply for a license.

—Agri-News, Alberta

New barley and triticale varieties

Looking to expand our seed production land base with a focus on producing and maintaining clean & productive fields. Open to short term or long term leases on rental or for sale. Check us out at trueseeds.ca or call us at 780-777-5885 and we can get together.
Thorhild County council hopes internet providers get grant

Thorhild County council hopes some of the federal funds designated for increased high speed internet services will be granted to local projects. The proposed projects would provide fibre-optics and upgraded wireless networks.

During its March 10 meeting council approved sending letters to the community’s internet service provider for the Morinville and Smoky Lake office. It also approved a letter for the Smoky Lake and XploreNet grants applications to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC).

McClure noted that both expressed interest in deployment of new fibre-optics and made offers on wireless broadband service delivery,” said Marketing and Economic Development Director John Anderson. “Both are interested in applying and I’m working with them. At this point it’s letters to support access to some of this big pot of money from the feds. One or both could be approved.”

The CRTC allocated $759 million over the next five years to support digital infrastructure to improve access to high speed internet. The objective is to have all of Canada, particularly rural areas, meet the new minimum service standards of 50 Mbps down and 10 Mbps upload.

Anderson explained the CRTC divided the country into 25 square km boxes to determine where service does not meet the required standards. “Every single box in the country qualifies,” said Anderson. “Thorhild County does not meet this standard of service delivery and is eligible for funding from the CRTC Broadband Fund.”

He said residents in almost any city in Canada get “better, faster and cheaper” internet service. He feels the projects proposed by McClure and XploreNet would provide increased service by funding by a $6 million provincial grant. The offer was nearly twice as large as the rooms in the older part of the lodge and are designed to accommodate large walkers or wheelchairs.

Diamond Spring Lodge opened in 1982 and was renovated in 1999. Homedale Housing manages seniors’ housing in Sturgeon County, Westlock County and the City of St. Albert.

Residents at Diamond Spring Lodge in Redwater are moving into the new wing containing 14 rooms. With the renovation of Diamond Spring began in October 2018 chose to remain in their new sites. The Diamond Spring expansion wing was

People looking for wrong type of tissue

Letter to the editor:
I find it incredible that people would panic in such ridiculous ways when it comes to the COVID-19 situation. The buying of hand sanitizer and antibacterial soap, people are hoarding toilet paper and paper towels. The reason that it is disheartening is that this virus effects the lungs, not the digestive system.

Though people have been told to wash their hands and keep them from touching their face, some folks insist on panic buying things they will take months to use. The best thing we can do is not to panic but calmly plan our days. Racing to stores to buy dozens of rolls of toilet paper leaves others out of luck.

When this virus does break itself, most of us will go back to our regular lives. But a few fools will be trying to sell or give away their stash of toilet paper. They would have been better served buying face masks.

— Bruce Jackson

Business as abnormal as we produce your edition each week

It’s business as usual for the Review and Free Press. We are closed to walk-in traffic and have our annual meetings, printing and distribution schedules remain the same as normal.

With long-term staff in place we have been through several serious wildlife crisis situations, flood seasons, Canada Post work stoppages and plan to continue to operate and if larger internet service provider companies, such as Bell and Rogers, might work with the county to meet its needs.

Anderson replied that businesses might not need the speed of fibre-optics, but they do need “the absolute reliability and the security” of it. He said there are no other companies for the county to work with because the big companies are focused on serving large urban areas.

Business as abnormal as we produce your edition each week in


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**SMOKEY LAKE** - Spec house on contract shed rental $10.00/$90/month last month free, $100 DD, available immediately. 780-656-2710

**RENTALS**

**SEED**

CERTIFIED SEED - Wheat - Go Early, Pintail, AAC Penhold Oats - AC Morgan, AAC Mustang, Deluxe Super Upland - Busy, Cineva, CDC Audison, CDC Maciver, Surtis, Very Early Yellow Pea, Early Polish Canola. Spring Triflicate, mastinsseeds.com, 411-556-2606


**TENDERS**

HAY & CROPPING FOR SALE - 1 YEAR TENDERS WANTED; JD 6500, 30' Fwan. FFWD, available immediately. 780-656-2708

**RENTALS**

SMOKEY LAKE - Spec house on contract shed rental $10.00/$90/month last month free, $100 DD, available immediately. 780-656-2710

**RENTALS**

**FLYERS**

**FLYER DISTRIBUTION** Economic, reliable - no shrinkage from carrier non-delivery; no duplication or holes in your coverage. Large chains have their experts evaluate our system and select us; local small merchants know their clients and their market also choose us. Compare prices - great savings. Cover the full territory, or a single community. 780-942-2023 or small.advertising@shaw.ca

**LEGAL / NOTICES**

**PUBLIC NOTICE TRANSCANADA ENERGY LTD.**

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT ACT

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION**

In accordance with the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act, TransCanada Energy Ltd. applied to Alberta Environment and Parks for a renewal of an existing approval to continue operating the Redwater cogeneration power plant. The plant comprises a 40 MW (nominal capacity) gas turbine generator with Heat Recovery Unit (HRU) and will provide power and process heating to the Redwater fractionation and storage (RFS) Plant. The plant uses natural gas as main fuel and gas from the RFS plant as supplemental fuel. The operation is located at L5D 16 in Section 1, Township G6, Range 21, Division 4, Town of Radway, County of Lethbridge, Alberta. A directly affected person may provide input into certain regulatory decisions, as allowed by the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (section 73). Specifically, any person who is directly affected by this application may submit a written statement of concern within 30 days of the date of this notice to: Environment and Parks Regulatory Approvals Center 9th Floor, South Petroleum Plaza 9915 - 108 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2G8 Fax: (780) 422-0154

The written statement of concern should include the following:

- the application number 003-139591;
- describes concerns that are relevant to matters regulated by the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act;
- explain how the filer of the concern will be directly affected by the activities proposed in the application;
- provide the legal land location of the land owned or used by the filer where the concerns described are believed to be applicable;
- the distance between the land owned or used by the filer and the site in the application;
- contact information including the full name and mailing address of the filer. Please provide a telephone number and/or email address for ease of contact.

Environment and Parks will review each written statement of concern, seek more information if needed and notify each filer by letter of their decision to accept or reject their written submission as a valid statement of concern. The Public Notice of this application will also be posted on the Department’s website at www.gov.ab.ca/public.Notices/ViewNotice.cfm

 Statements of concern submitted regarding this application are public records which are accessible by the public and the applicant. Failure to file a statement of concern may affect the right to file a Notice of Appeal with the Environmental Appeals Board. Copies of the application and additional information can be obtained from: TransCanada Energy Ltd. Attn: Marie Blanchette 770 - 5th Floor, South Petroleum Plaza Becancour QC G9H 4X6 Telephone: (819) 294-4715 Email: marie.blanchette@tcenergy.com

**LEGAL / NOTICES**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND CLAIMANTS of Estate of Harold Richard PEARSON** who died on December 12, 2019. If you have a claim against this estate you must file your claim by May 1st, 2020 with Gordon D. Putnam, Q.C. at PUTNAM & LAWSON Barristers & Solicitors 9702-100 Street Morinville, Alberta T8R 1G3 and provide details of your claim.

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