Nutrien celebrating 50 years of fertilizer production at world scale plant near Redwater

Nutrien is celebrating 50 years of production at its fertilizer plant south of Redwater this year. Over the last half century this facility underwent five name changes, nearly doubled its number of employees, increased from making three fertilizer products to seven, quadrupled the amount of fertilizer it makes in a year. 

In honor of this landmark anniversary Nutrien is hosting a family event at Pembina Place in Redwater Sept. 21. It will feature children’s activities, a library and museum-style display and snacks. From there interested people can take bus tours to the fertilizer plant. “It’s open to the public and families,” said Nutrien Special Projects manager Mike Fedunec. “We expect a lot of anniversaries.”

He described Nutrien, and the plant’s previous owners, as good employers that, like many industries, pay well. “It’s a good place to work,” Fedunec said. “We’re safe. We have a few laughs once in a while.”

Nutrien currently employs about 400 staff and 100 contractors. Among them are many multi-family members of different families (including himself and his son and a group of four brothers). Al Rosemthal, Nutrien’s 31-year employee who was at the plant when it started up, shut down the MAP plant in June 2019. He retired at that time after working his last shift on Aug. 31.

Imperial Oil Limited owned the fertilizer plant when it opened in 1969 with 237 employees. It was called Esso Chemicals, then Esso Chemical Alberta Limited. The first year the plant produced 200 kilo tonnes (Kt) of ammonia I, 200 Kt of ammonium nitrate (AN) and 250 Kt of monomammonium phosphate (MAP).

For the next 15 years production increased slowly, with volumes of ammonia I and AN going up to 10 percent and MAP more than doubling. “In 1983 was our biggest expansion,” said Fedunec. “We built the Alberta North Complex, the second ammonium nitrate and the urea plant.” With the new facilities the plant produced 560 Kt of ammonia II and 520 Kt of urea while production of ammonia I remained at 220 Kt, AN at 210 Kt and MAP at 550 Kt. The plant site was also where production of environmentally smart (coated to release slowly) nitrogen fertilizer was piloted.

The 1990s were a decade of name changes. After the merger with Sherritt Gordan in 1994, the plant’s name changed to Sherritt Inc. in 1996. Later that year the name changed to Verdian, and by the end of 1996 it merged with Agridrain which resulted in yet another name change, that name stuck, and the facility name remained Agridrain until 2018 merger with Nutrien. This brought more than a name change because Nutrien had plants making MAP in the United States which were closed to feed stocks and were not working at capacity. In June of this year the Redwater plant shut down the phosphoric acid plant and stopped making MAP. It is in the process of increasing its ammonium sulphate (AS) production from 350 Kt to 800 Kt/year. It continues to make ammonia I and ammonia II, urea, AN and urea ammonium nitrate (UAN).

Since the shut down of MAP the stacks (piles) of gypsum byproduct north of the plant started increasing in size. Over the next several decades they will become covered in gardens, grass and trees. Nutrien has been researching uses of gypsum and how to reclaim or green-up the stacks. Its smaller gypsum mounds near Fort Saskatchewan are largely covered in trees and gar-
Huge pay hike approved for Sturgeon council

Sturgeon County’s new base salaries see the Mayor at $102,874, Deputy Mayor $78,872 and Councillor’s rate $74,339.

With Coun. Karen Shaw as the sole opposing vote Council approved the new Elected Official Remuneration Policy and repealed the previous Elected Officials Allowance bylaw at their regular Council meeting Sept. 10.

The new policy followed the recommendations of the Citizen Task Force on elected officials remuneration. It will see the increased salaries (27.5 to 36% higher), higher per diem rates and the mileage paid tagged to the Canada Revenue Agency rate rather than scaled to local gas pricing. There were no changes to the optional benefits programs that includes accidental death and dismemberment, basic life insurance, dependent life insurance, dental plan, emergency travel plan, extended health care coverage, vision care, registered retirement savings plan, health and wellness spending accounts and voluntary critical illness coverage.

Manager, Acting Director Corporate Services Jesse Sopko advised Council the estimated 2020 budget impact of the increase is an additional $148,000.

Mayor Alanna Hnatiw concluded that it is a matter of “doing what’s right” rather than the political optics. She said all of Council applies themselves diligently to their positions and have a salary that was last reviewed 13 years ago. She noted the current Council will have two years at the new rates recommended by the task force before the next election.

Students Sidney Royce (L-R), Taylor Gray-Zahacy and Tenley Harris enjoy a Welcome Back pancake breakfast at Ochre Park School in Redwater Sept. 6.

Redwater allows Olsen to miss next five council meetings

Redwater council granted coun. Rob Olsen permission to miss the council meetings from Sept. 17 to Nov. 19.

During the Sept. 3 council meeting Olsen advised his work shift for September to late November will be night shift, 13 hours (6:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.) for 12 days, then two days off. He asked council for permission to miss the council meetings during that time but said he will attend whatever council events he can.

Coun. Dave McRae said Olsen attends many extra functions as a councillor. “That’s important, I believe,” said McRae.

Coun. Connie Butcher agreed, complimenting Olsen on his professionalism and saying she believes he will still be actively involved in council activities.

The Municipal Government Act states a councillor may be disqualified if he is absent from all regular council meetings held during any period of eight consecutive weeks unless the absence is authorized by a resolution of council. Interim town manager Diane Pysmeny advised Olsen’s regular council salary will continue. It would be discontinued if he took a leave of absence.

Waskatenau & District Community Centre

BINGO BONANZA

$1,575.00 IN 57 NUMBERS

LOONIE POT #1  $66 + SALES

LOONIE POT #2  $1,005 + SALES

WASKATENAU COMMUNITY CENTRE

THURSDAY, SEPT. 19

Doors Open 6:00 PM • BINGO Starts 7:00 PM

COME DANCE WITH US!

SEASON 6 REGISTRATION OPEN!

FOUNDER AND PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

- JAZZ - TAP - BALLET - HIP HOP - ACRO - PRE-SCHOOL - ADULT

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CREATIVE AND INNOVATIVE EXPERIENCES

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4918 50 STREET, RADWAY

3rd Annual Early Childhood Education Parent Conference

November 1-2, 2019

Parents looking for better ways to handle disobedience, connect with their children, work on speech and more, are sure to benefit from this free, expert-led conference. A theme focused on CONNECTION, this event will feature Danielle Reed, Keynote Speaker Friday evening. On Saturday, you can either choose from 16 different sessions, or spend the day with Dr. Jody Carington, as she presents The (Re)Connection Revolution - All We Need Is You. Snacks, lunch and childcare are provided. The conference is free and open to all divided-wide parents and community members.

However, priority will be given to families of Sturgeon Public Schools and approved affiliates.

Sturgeon Public Schools

Dare to reimagine learning

sturgeon.ab.ca
This year the Redwater swimming pool had all but one of its 23 special events rained out, but it also had 13 free swim afternoons and zero pool closures caused by lack of staff.

“We always had enough staff,” pool manager Dana DesRoches told Redwater council Sep. 3. She said the only time the pool was closed to people coming to swim was when it was filled to its 170 person capacity. In 2018 the pool was closed a number of times because of staffing problems.

“This year we had a lot of positive feedback from many members of the community and surrounding areas,” DesRoches said. “They were very happy with the professionalism of the staff, the cleanliness of the pool and the building.”

The 2019 staff included DesRoches plus two assistant managers, two full time and one casual Senior guards, three full time and three casual Junior Guards and one guard in training.

DesRoches provided pool usage statistics for this year, but no comparatives to last year because of possible inaccuracies in last year’s data.

Sponsors donated a total of $6,500 for free swims this year, so there were only two Saturdays this summer that did not have a free swim in the afternoon. Free swims had 449 participants and public swimming had a total participation of 4,228.

Public swimming lessons had 227 students while private lessons served 39 students. Five people took the bronze medallion/bronze cross course and seven youths participated in the Jr Lifeguard Club.

New to the facility this year was a pool office trailer donated by Pembina Pipelines and North West Redwater (NWR) Partnership. It is used as a manager’s office and a staff area.

“It allowed us to open up and clean up the first aid room and mechanical room,” DesRoches said.

Revenue from pool programs and rentals totalled $37,800 this year, less than the town’s 2019 budget projection of $42,000. The town budgeted $257,300 for pool expenses with $184,800 of that going to payroll, insurance, utilities and similar expenses and $25,000 designated for a staff trailer (which Pembina and NWR donated).

Redwater pool had 4,228 attend public swimming during summer

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Process underway to change Hwy 18 speed limit to 70 past Thorhild school

The process to change the speed limit to 70 km/hr on Hwy 18 along the hamlet of Thorhild and east past Thorhild Central School is well under way. Thorhild County council did not approve the hamlet boundary change that would allow county Community Peace Officers (CPOs) to enforce the speed limit in the school area.

During the Aug. 27 council meeting inter-meet, CACO Carol Revega reported Alberta Transportation advised its staff are awaiting feedback from the local MLA (Abraham-Hardwicke-Westlock MLA Glenn van Dijken). Once his concerns (if any) are noted and the Ministerial Order is in place, the signs along the highway will be updated to the new speed limit of 70 km/hr.

Because Alberta Transportation prefers to make the speed limit change when school is not in session, it will likely be done the week of Nov. 11, when Aspen View Public Schools students are on a break. Council considered administration’s information on extending the Hamlet of Thorhild boundary to the east side of the school property during its Aug. 27 meeting. Because CPOs can enforce speed limits on provincial highways only when the highways are within the boundaries of a hamlet or urban municipality, that boundary change would be required for CPOs to enforce the speed limit east of the railroad tracks (the current east boundary of the hamlet).

In a tie vote, which results in a lost motion, councillors Joyce Pierce and Wayne Filipchuk voted in favor of the motion, councillors Pasay and council defeated deputy reeve Cheryl Pasay’s motion to have administration bring back the motion to have administration bring back the boundary of the hamlet). Pasay and councillors Joyce Pierce and Wayne Croswell in opposition. Rever George Grunwald was absent.

Pierce asked how 70 km/hr was chosen and noted Hwy 28 past Bon Accord is 60 km/hr. Interim CACO Carol Revega advised the speed was recommended by Alberta Transportation’s consultant, Tetra Tech, when it conducted a speed limit review along Hwy 18 where it runs south of Thorhild. Pierce said the CPOs could enforce the speed limit along the hamlet and the RCMP continue to enforce the speed limit by the school.

Croswell said he believes the presence of CPOs enforcing the speed limit within the hamlet boundary will impact the speed of traffic to the east outside of the hamlet. His motion to take no action regarding a hamlet boundary change was unanimously rejected. When the speed limit change is made the 1.5 miles of Hwy 18 running from the west boundary of the Hamlet of Thorhild to the east boundary of the Thorhild Central School (TCS) property will have one speed limit instead of the three it presently has. The school zone in front of TCS would change to a school area.

The happy couple will marry on September 17, 2019. Congratulations Stefan and Sharla! Love u lots!

LAMONT DENTURE CLINIC
Mel McLucshy Denturist
Why Pay More For Your Denture Needs?
Upper & Lower Dentures To Fit
Same Day Service

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ONE MEAL CHEF  
**WEDNESDAYS**

This program allows participants to prepare and take-home individual meals to put in the freezer for a later meal. We will meet plan, budget, and make healthy, budget-friendly meals together.

**Location:** Newbrook Library Fee: $10/session

**Time:** 10-11am Dates: October 2, 9, 23, 30 and November 6

**Instructor:** Rebecca Hansen

MOTHER GOOSE IN NEWBROOK  
**WEDNESDAYS**

Parents learn rhymes, fingers plays, songs and simple movement games to enjoy with their infants and toddlers in a supportive peer group. This is an oral language development program that promotes interactive playtime.

**Location:** Newbrook Library Fee: Free

**Time:** 10-11am Dates: October 2, 9, 23, 30 and November 6

**Instructor:** Rebecca Hansen

NON-RESTRICTED FIREARMS SAFETY  
**TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY EVENING**

This program is aimed at individuals wanting to apply for their Firearm Possession and Acquisition License or Possession License for minors. Course content includes the safe storage, handling, and transportation of firearms. You must be at least 14 years of age to take this course.

**Location:** Thorhild County Council Chambers Fee: $115

**Time:** 5–9pm Minimum: 6 participants

**Instructor:** Dwayne Rawson Dates: October 1 & 2

SENIORS INTEREST BOOK CLUB  
**WEDNESDAYS**

This book club is for anyone who wants to improve their reading and would like some support along the way. Join the group as we read together and follow Martha and her friends - the League of Pensioners - who have left behind their dreary care home in Stockholm and are enjoying the bright lights of Las Vegas. “The Little Old Lady Strikes Again” is the second novel in the series, but there is no pre-reading necessary.

**Location:** Newbrook Library Fee: $10

**Time:** 11am-12:30pm Dates: October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and November 6

**Instructor:** Rebecca Hansen

**Contact Us!**

**780-398-2804** for more information or to register for any of the above programs.

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
**DATE:** SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

**Time:** 9:30 a.m.

Thorhild County Council Chambers

**Purpose of the Meeting:**

1. Land Planning and Servicing

NOTICE OF DECISION OF THE MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION

The Municipal Planning Commission for Thorhild County has approved the following Development Application(s):

i)  
- **Legal Description:** Plan 0324120 Block 1 Lot 1
- **Land Use Designation:** AG - Agricultural District
- **Proposal:** Construction of 2nd Residence
- **Division:** 2
- **Permit #:** DP2321

ii)  
- **Legal Description:** Plan 835HW Block 9 Lot 7 (Thorhild)
- **Land Use Designation:** R1A – Low Density Residential District
- **Proposal:** Patio with 7.25' privacy wall
- **Division:** 3
- **Permit #:** DP2322

**Date of Decision(s):** September 11, 2019

**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

Emergency After Hours Utilities 780-398-3939

Located at the North entrance of the Thorhild County Administration Building.

**Call 780-398-4MED (4633)**

**No Passing**

Thorhild County Enforcement Services
1-825-845-2020
The full test run of Sturgeon Refinery’s gasifier begins this month. That testing will coincide with a maintenance shutdown to complete routine inspections and repairs on several units that have been processing crude since 2017. The September shut down involves an additional 700 local contractors at peak.

“This timing coincides with testing and maintenance of the gasifier, so all units will be ready for full start-up at the end of this year,” said North West Redwater (NWR) Partnership External Relations manager Vanessa Goodman. The timeline has remained the same the update issued in July: bitumen processing is expected by the end of 2019, with a ramp up to full operations at capacity in 2020. This assumes any additional unexpected challenges are overcome without causing further delays.”

Repair work on stress cracks in stainless steel piping was successfully and safely completed. The redesigned burners are being installed, intended to extend the life of this component that is part of converting heavy bottoms of bitumen into usable gases. When installation is completed, the full test run of the gasifier will begin.

Since the Sturgeon Refinery began processing crude oil in December 2017 it has produced over 2.9 billion litres (18 million barrels) of ultra low sulphur diesel and achieved one million hours recordable injury free, which Goodman said is among the best safety records in the industry.

Redwater Junior Golf co-ordinator Dave McRae congratulate Junior Golf Wind Up trophy winners Sarah Luger and Cole Zapesocki.

Heartland property purchase program over but county will work on other issues from residents

Sturgeon County Mayor Alanna Hnatiw made it clear during discussion on proposed responses to Heartland Resident Task Force recommendations that the Voluntary Purchase Program for property was long over and based on very different economic conditions (proposed seven projects in the Heartland) compared to the one refinery yet to reach full operations.

Of the task forces recommendations, the response focused on four or five areas, noted Manager, Development Support Services Colin Krywiak.

Mayor Hnatiw said it is a step forward and not the end of dealing with the recommendations. “We are committed to working with residents on quality of life issues,” she said. By no means are we done with recommendations as we are committed to finding solutions and a way forward, she concluded.

Luger, Zapesocki are top junior golfers

The Redwater Golf Club Junior program wound up its season with a late summer tournament on Sept. 8. The overall Junior Girls winner was Sarah Luger, and the Junior Boys winner was Cody Zapesocki.

Although the weather was not great, 13 junior golfers aged four to 14 challenged the Redwater Golf Course in the Junior Windup. Despite the cold and windy day, Junior Golf co-ordinator Dave McRae said the golf, barbeque and support made it clear during discussion on proposed responses to Heartland Resident Task Force recommendations that the Voluntary Purchase Program for property was long over and based on very different economic conditions (proposed seven projects in the Heartland) compared to the one refinery yet to reach full operations.

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Council had directed administration to bring forward proposed responses to the Task Force’s 14 recommendations in June.

At the Sept. 10 regular Council meeting they approved actions directing administration to coordinate sources of Alberta Industrial Heartland (AIH) information including air emissions, emergency response planning, roads and other information into a one window source for Heartland residents; research and assess the potential for a dark sky policy for the County’s portion of AIH; look into potential communications systems to communicate and notify residents; prepare a report on options available to improve air quality in the Heartland area; and hold an event to update residents on air quality monitoring.

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On Sept. 9, a grey Craftsman ride-on lawn mower, Serial 1H051H 10209, was found dumped in a farmer’s field in Sturgeon County. If you are the owner of this lawn mower, or are able to provide information on whom the owner is, contact the Redwater RCMP.
The 2019 / 2020 School Year debuts a new brand for Sturgeon Public Schools. Just over a year ago, Sturgeon Public Schools hired INCITE to gather the insights and wisdom of students, parents, staff and the community. The rich information shared with INCITE resulted in a new brand that is bold, entrepreneurial and focused on excellence, states the division.

“Our new brand is more than a new logo and colour scheme, it reflects the vibrant, creative, connected and welcoming culture of our Division,” explains Terry Jewell, Board Chair. “We are growing with the communities we serve and creating rich learning experiences for all of our students.”

According to Mary Lynne Campbell, Superintendent (CEO), “The new branding will start to appear on our correspondence, advertising, website and social channels. Going forward, the new ‘SPS’ logo will also be on exterior school signage and on all of our promotional material.”

Along with a new logo, Sturgeon Public Schools added a compelling tagline to reinforce its message; Dare to reimagine learning. The tagline captures the progressive manner in which Sturgeon Public Schools delivers Public Education.

“We do not rely on traditional methods, we do things differently, so that students have many opportunities to experience success each and every day,” says Jewell.

The new logo can be seen on Sturgeon School Division ads in this edition.

Prior to 1971, if someone suddenly fell to the ground with a heart attack, he often died right there even with many people near him. This was before cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) was introduced in Canada in 1972. Today, there is always someone nearby with CPR training and lives are saved. Have you taken the CPR course? If not, seek one out. The life you save may be a loved one very close to you.

Pharmacists place great importance on your taking your medications as prescribed by your doctor and not missing doses. This is called good adherence. In this context, people often think of only oral medication. However, persons with glaucoma who use eye drops daily to keep the pressure in the eye down should also not miss doses. Non-adherence in this case could lead to blindness.

The acronym GERD is a familiar one. It stands for gastrointestinal reflux disease. It simply means that the contents of the stomach sometimes flow backwards up the esophagus causing intense heartburn. This can be alleviated by losing some weight and eating smaller meals more often throughout the day. Raising the head of your bed will also help if you are bothered with symptoms at night.

At Thorhild Drug Store we fit pressured stockings and carry incontinence products, walkers, bathbub aids, etc.

The Thorhild Central School Athens 2020 Travel Club take a short break during their successful barbecue & bake sale at the Thorhild Coop on Friday September 13. Friday turned out to be a lucky day for this group as they served over 350 burgers & 3 dozen hotdogs to Thorhild businesses & community members. The community was extremely generous and filled a 10'x 5'x 5' trailer to the roof with clothes & books for an ongoing clothing drive. Clothing donations will be accepted until Sept. 19 at the Thorhild Central School.

Sturgeon County

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 right here in the Morinville Free Press and Redwater Review.

Next print edition: September 24, 2019

Did you know there are a variety of ways for other residents to receive information? Sign up for email subscriptions, follow us on social media, watch the road signs and of course, the website!

Connect with us!

@sturgeoncounty
@sturgeonfoyi
@sturgeonproud100

ASPSULE Comments

Darrl Coma, Pharmacist
Thorhild

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The Redwater Art Society (RAS) is setting up two new displays in its gallery. A new RAS feature artist is setting up (this display changes every three months) and a Past Members display is being created. Charter member Doreen Stachniak is the new feature artist and is putting up a display of her paintings. Called Retrospective, it includes work from when she was in high school in 1955 and through the years to some of her most recent paintings. The Past Members gallery features works by RAS members who have died or moved away.

In her lifetime of painting, Stachniak has created hundreds of works—on canvas and different types of paper as well as on articles such as Campbell's soup cans and end EARL Hallett: a true character

The Bellis firehall is now a municipal historic resource. Smoky Lake County council passed second and third readings of the bylaw designating the fire hall as a municipal historic resource during its Aug. 29 meeting.

“IT’s a nice building,” said reeve Craig Lukanik.

Planning and Development manager Jordan Reugg acknowledged the assistance given by the members of the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board in preparing the designation. The fire hall is owned by the county; however, Reugg said Alberta Municipal Affairs advised the county should still go through the process of giving notice of intent to designate the fire hall an historic resource in order to ensure the county remained eligible for historic resource grants for it. The Planning department sent formal written notice of the proposed designation as a historic resource to CAO Cory Ollikka, who formally replied by letter.

“Bureaucracy is so much fun,” said Ollikka.

Although a date of the fire hall’s construction is not known, it appears to have been built about 1930. Its utilization construction indicates the careful use of money during that time. It is all wood construction: plain, simple and utilitarian with no embellishments or accoutrements. The roof is a simple gable with exposed purlins; the windows are single hung with plain sills. Both floor and ceiling are tongue and groove slats.

The fire hall’s heritage value includes institutional and symbolic values in its use as both a fire hall and village office during post-pro- neer development.

In Loving Memory of
Randy Robinson
May 16, 1957 - Sept. 16, 2012
Our loved ones never leave us
For in our hearts they stay,
A part of us forever.
That never goes away,
To have to hold and then to part
Is the greatest sorrow of our heart.

Loved and remembered
Cynthia, Jacqueline & Lee, Jocelyn & Steve &
Granddaughter Hailey.

CLIFFORD HARRISON WAGAR
May 21, 1948 – August 28, 2019

Cliff passed away in his sleep, at the age of 70, after a lengthy stay in hospital and a losing fight with pneumonia. Cliff was born in Grande Prairie and spent his early years in Wembley and then in Edmonton. After his marriage to Earla in 1972 they moved from Edmonton to Stony Plain to Vauxhall to Redwater.

Cliff leaves to cherish his memory, his wife, Earla (nee Carefoot); son and daughter-in-law, Affy and Kelly; his precious granddaughter, Taylen; as well as his sister, Alice; sister-in-law, Heather; a huge array of extended family and friends. He was predeceased by his father, Earl; his mother and step-father, Mary and Niki Lauther; and his two brothers, Gordon and Bernie.

It can’t be said that Cliff had an easy life but he did enjoy it. A trucking accident when he was 40 changed the direction of his life, but it didn’t stop him from appreciating his favorite hobby of fishing and sharing fishing stories with his friends.

A grave side service to honor Cliff will be held at the Waskatenau United Church Cemetery (1 mile south of Hwy 28, RR 159) at 1:30pm on Saturday, September 21, 2019. Following the inurnment a Celebration of Cliff’s Life will be held at The Redwater Pioneer Club, 4915-50 Street, Redwater. Alberta service will be officiated by Earle Sharam, D. Phil. Please join us to share in the service and celebration of Cliff’s life.

Cliffs family would like to express a very special thank you to all the staff at the Redwater Health Centre who made his stay there so comfortable.

If you wish donations can be made to Earla’s charity of choice, the Waskatenau United Church Cemetery Memorial Fund, Box 392, Waskatenau, AB T0A 3P0, or a charity of your choice.

Arrangements entrusted to STURGEON MEMORIAL FUNERAL CHAPEL (780) 921-3900

LORN ALBERT HALLETT
December 12th, 1935 – August 30th, 2019

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Lorn Albert Hallett; a true character in his own right.

He is survived by his children Stephanie (Fred Trotter), Mary-Ann (Brian Kostiuk) and Douglas (Nicole); five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister, Doris Cole and her family, in addition to numerous other relatives and friends.

Lorn was predeceased in death by his wife, Amy Katherine Hallett, his parents, Robert and Mary Hallett, and his siblings: Elmer Hallett, Norman Hallett, Bernice Hallett and Dale Hallett.

Lorn loved nothing more than to debate, regardless of the subject, sure that he would win in the end. His love of country music and bad television will be memories that his family will hold dear.

In honour of his wishes an informal gathering will be held on Sunday, October 20, 2019 from 1pm to 4pm in the Heritage Room at the St. Albert Inn & Suites, #156 St. Albert Trail, St. Albert, Alberta. In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made to the charity of your choice. Another means of acknowledging and honouring his life would be to register as an organ donor: a cause so very dear to him.
Sturgeon Infrastructure Master Plan
foresees over $200 million capital investment needed in next 25 years

It was with some frustration that Sturgeon County Coun-

cil endorsed the County’s Infrastructure Master Plan (IMP) at the regular meeting Sept. 10. The council had been waiting for a key Infra-

structure planning document for the community. Coun. Patrick Tchiczewski said the final report from ISI Engineering is an extensive document it is kind of fin-

ishing the project. “It’s going to be an exciting project for me to look at,” he said. “It’s going to be data for tomorrow’s problems.”

He concluded that the tech-

nology is already being used to track truck movement (logistics) and there should be a way to track road and stormwater from external sources “quickly, accurate and cost-effective.”

Coun. Karen Shaw noted that for transportation in the report from the 2005 Edmonton area travel survey was used. “I question if it is credible”, she said, adding the 14 year old survey was prior to Alberta’s Industrial Heartland expansion. She con-

cluded there is clearly a need for current data and hoped it included in the budget process.

The IMP is a planning study which integrates land use planning and infrastructure planning for transportation, water and wastewater.

The final report to Council stated “Its primary pur-

pose is to identify conceptual long term infrastruc-

ture requirements and priorities for the County to undertake further analysis, rather than offer

detailed solutions.”

The plan also estimates a high level the cap-

ital costs associated with these various projects.

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ital costs associated with these various projects.
Outstanding Thorhild Central students receive awards, scholarships

Thorhild Central School recognized student achievements during its Sept. 12 Awards Celebration.

“Our school has many talented, artistic and creative students,” said principal Kim Carson. “She was pleased so many students achieved academic, citizenship, artistic and athletic awards. Nearly 120 awards were handed out that evening.”

Elhan Vetsch received the prestigious Governor General’s Academic Medal for the student graduating with the highest average from all grade 11 and 12 courses. Vetsch also received an Aspen View Scholarship, a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) award sponsored by Sifford Scotford, the Radway Lions Legacy Scholarship, Maise Watkinson Memorial scholarship, the grade 12 Citizenship Award sponsored by Together Enriching Academic Minds (TEAM), a Waste Management Thorhild County Student Scholarship and grade 12 Honors.

William Lee earned a Shell Scotford STEM scholarship, the grade 10-12 Fine Arts award sponsored by Shell Scotford, an Aspen View Scholarship, a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) award sponsored by Sifford Scotford, the Radway Lions Legacy Scholarship, Maise Watkinson Memorial scholarship, the grade 12 Citizenship Award sponsored by Together Enriching Academic Minds (TEAM), a Waste Management Thorhild County Student Scholarship and grade 12 Honors.

William Rosenberger received a Shell Scotford STEM scholarship, an Aspen View Scholarship and grade 12 Honors.

Jaden Polak was the final Aspen View Student graduating with the highest average from all grade 11 and 12 courses. “Over the years they have become the most prestigious award that students in Canadian schools can receive,” said Carson.

"I would like to thank Mayor Gale Katchur for her leadership over the past two years and I welcome Mayor Hnatiw to the Chairpersonship. I look forward to working with her and the entire Board to advance our mandate. We believe the Industrial Heartland is well-positioned to capture more than $30 billion in new investment in value-added energy processing by 2030, and we are encouraged by the market interest demonstrated by foreign investors and regional players,” says Mark Plamondon, Executive Director of Alberta’s Industrial Heartland Association.

Alberta’s Industrial Heartland Association is dedicated to coordinating, advocating, and promoting sustainable industrial development in the region. The Industrial Heartland region is considered a world-class location for petrochemical, manufacturing, oil and gas investment and is also Canada’s largest hydrocarbon processing region. It is a powerful economic driver for Alberta and Canada and offers attractive competitive advantages in energy diversification and industrial development.

The Industrial Heartland Association is a cooperative effort of Lamont County, Strathcona County, Sturgeon County, and the Cities of Edmonton and Fort Saskatchewan.

Sturgeon Mayor is the new chair of Industrial Heartland

At its Annual General Meeting on Sept. 13, Alberta’s Industrial Heartland Association (AIHA) chose the transfer of Chairpersonship from the City of Fort Saskatchewan to Sturgeon County.

The Mayor of Sturgeon County, Alanna Hnatiw, will serve as Chairperson of AIHA for two years replacing outgoing Chairperson, Mayor Gale Katchur of Fort Saskatchewan. “For more than 20 years the AIHA Board has advanced investment and diversification in Alberta’s Industrial Heartland, as Chair, I look forward to continuing that effort and to working closely with the Board and its Directors to ensure our region is sustainable, beneficial, innovative, and responsible.”

The AIHA Board meets four times yearly to address the strategic needs of AIHA. Sturgeon County will hold Chairpersonship until 2021 wherein it will pass to Strathcona County.

“...
Eight Thorhild Central students receive inaugural Waste Management scholarships

The inaugural round of Waste Management Thorhild County Scholarship from Waste Management of Canada Corporation (WMCC) Communications Specialist Solomiya Lyaskovska (L-R), Communications manager Rina Blacklaws and Together Enriching Academic Minds (TEAM) chair Kristy Krause were among eight recipients of Waste Management Thorhild County Scholarships from Waste Management of Canada Corporation (WMCC) Communications Specialist Solomiya Lyaskovska (L-R), Communications manager Rina Blacklaws and Together Enriching Academic Minds (TEAM) chair Kristy Krause during the Sept. 12 TCS awards celebration.

Waste Management is proud to present these eight young individuals with a scholarship of $714.29 for the 2019 Waste Management Thorhild County Scholarship, said Lyaskovska. “This is our first year launching the scholarship in partnership with TEAM. Over the years, we hope to see this program grow and foster continuing education for the students of Thorhild County.”

The idea for this scholarship was initiated by a member of the WMCC Community Advisory Committee in late 2017. It is set up so WMCC donates the funds to TEAM, which holds the money in trust until WMCC reviews the applications and determines the scholarship recipients.

“We are very grateful for the contributions of Waste Management to our school,” said Krause. “We can grow the program. If the demand was greater, it certainly would make it a case for us to increase the budget. It’s important to give here to the kids.”

Application forms for the 2020 scholarships are available through Thorhild Central School. Students entering their first or second year of post-secondary education are eligible to apply. Applicants must write a 500 word essay on an environmental topic of interest to the student with a perspective on how that issue can be addressed.

On Sept. 6, 2019 at approximately 5:15 a.m., Smoky Lake RCMP responded to a break and enter with theft at the Villa Pharmacy. Four suspects entered the pharmacy after smashing a front window and stole various items inside. The suspects were wearing dark hoodies, dark pants and running shoes while in disguise. The suspects then fled the area in a dark older pick up truck. Smoky Lake RCMP are asking the public’s assistance for any information in relation to this incident and identifying those responsible. Contact Smoky Lake RCMP at 780-656-3550 or your local police. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), online at www.P3tips.com or by using the “P3 Tips” app.

Egregious author, speaker, Bob "Idea Man" Hoee was inducted into the Toastmasters International Hall of Fame for the 4th time in 25 years. He was inducted this time for his history of service and excellence in leadership in Region 4. He had previously been inducted "for professionalism and outstanding achievements in public speaking" as the 48th speaker to earn Toastmasters coveted professional level Accredited Speaker in 1998. Excellence in Marketing in 1996, and Excellence in Education and Training in 1997. He has been an active Toastmaster leader since 1991 and served as Region advisor for 2018-2019.

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Redwater principal Harnish works to build community

Paul Harnish is Redwater School’s new principal. He came to Redwater with 12 years administrative experience and an appreciation of the variety and scope of a school principal’s duties.

“Every day is different,” he said. “I get to work with and have an impact on the entire school as a whole and community.”

Originally from Halifax, Nova Scotia, Harnish began his life path of working with children when he was young: as a coach, tutor and teacher. He coached baseball and upholstery before expanding to coaching volleyball and football.

He began his teaching career in Cold Lake 17 years ago, then moved to Plamondon where he became an administrator. He joined the Sturgeon Public School Division eight years ago, serving three years at Landis and five years as principal at Namao School. He was pleased at the opportunity to come to Redwater School.

“[My favorite grade configuration is Kindergarten to grade 12, and five to 12 is close],” Harnish said. “It’s like a real family. You have the opportunity for older kids to work with younger kids, and they learn from each other.”

He is now working on learning all the names that go with the faces making up his school community.

“It’s been exciting and new and fresh,” he said. “Everyone is very welcome.” He looks forward to providing programming that meets the needs of all students.

“I’m very interested to ensure all students are programmed for, and we can house all Redwater students at our Redwater School,” he said.

Outside of work Harnish enjoys hanging out with his three year old son, Emiel, and going on adventures with him. He also likes to watch football, read, attend live events such as sports and theatre and playing ball.

He plays on Alberta ball hockey teams and this summer competed in the Canadian Ball Hockey Association (CBHA) ball hockey nationals in Montreal and Newfoundland.

Paul Harnish is the new Redwater School principal.

More information was deemed necessary before considering third reading of a proposed Maternity and Parental Leave for Elected Officials bylaw during the Sept. 10 regular Sturgeon County Council meeting.

There was opposition from Coun. Karen Shaw to the proposed bylaw as she pointed out “I agree with the intent” but felt it was premature. She agreed with Coun. Patrick Tight that a lot can happen on Council in 26 weeks (the proposed leave option in the bylaw). “If you miss six months you are woefully behind,” Shaw said adding from a resident’s point of view no representative for six months was of concern.

Mayor Alanna Hstatt argued the bylaw states the Councillors has to have a process to ensure the member of Council’s constituents are represented during the maternity leave or parental leave, which may include another member providing coverage or any other process deemed appropriate.

Noel Alanna Hstatt opposed the bylaw stating serving on Council “is a part-time job doing full time hours. It is simply too demanding if you’re pregnant.”

Council opted to have administration report back in six months on the terms and how such leaves are being handled in other municipalities, not only in Alberta but across Canada.

Sturgeon delays bylaw to provide maternity and parental leave for elected officials

Stacey Harnish works to build community

Three men face 17 charges when caught during Redwater rural break-in, theft

Three men face a total of 17 charges after Redwater RCMP arrested them following a break and enter incident reported at a property near Redwater.

RCMP Cst. Alyssa Greco advised that on Sept. 7 at approximately 7:30 a.m. officers responded to a break and enter at a recreational rural property outside of Redwater. The break in was in progress when police arrived.

Three men were arrested after the vehicle they attempted to flee in was stopped by the RCMP a short distance from the property.

A 28 year old man from Fairview, an 18 year old man who both from Edmonton, Alberta, were charged with the following Criminal Code offences: break and enter, possession of break-in instruments and two charges of mischief over $5,000.

A 24 year old man from Fairview was charged in relation to the break and enter in instruments, possession of break-in instruments, two charges of mischief over $5,000, possession of property obtained by crime, failure to comply with probation order, possession of a forged document, identity theft and possession of a controlled substance.

Two of the men were remanded into custody. All three accused will appear in Fort Saskatchewan Provincial Court on Sept. 12.
Big changes shown in ag land use locally over two decades

In the past 20 years the number of farms with crop-land decreased by 30 to 40 percent while how farmers use the land also significantly changed as the number of acres under summerfallow decreased by more than 80 percent. Comparing numbers from Statistics Canada’s 1996 Census of Agriculture with that from the 2016 Census shows how adjustments to meet the economic requirements of farming combined with changes in agricultural practices impacted the way farmers operate.

Sturgeon and Smoky Lake counties had an increase from 1996 to 2016 in the amount of cropland under production, but the cropland acres in Thorhild County decreased. In 1996 Thorhild County had 610 farms with 210,496 acres in crops. In 2016 it had 345 farms (43 percent fewer) with 184,950 acres (12 percent less) in crops.

In 1996 Sturgeon County had 986 farms with 359,379 acres of crops. In 2016 it had 608 farms (38 percent fewer) report 377,722 acres (five percent more) in crops.

In 1996 Smoky Lake County had 564 farms with 209,961 acres in crop. It had 371 farms (34 percent fewer) report 209,995 acres (marginal increase) in crop in 2016.

“I believe it all has to do with economics,” said Thorhild County reeve Kevin Grumetza. “It is big business; I don’t believe too many producers can afford to have land summerfallowed with no return. They crop every year and just add more fertilizer and chemicals.”

Across the region there was a huge decrease in the number of farmers using summerfallow (from 588 in 1996 to 125 in 2016) and the number of acres under summerfallow (from 50,280 in 1996 to 8,400 in 2016). Over the 20 years the amount of fallow land across the three counties decreased by almost 2,100 acres per year.

In 1996 Thorhild County had 195 farms with 14,883 acres of summerfallow. It had 43 farms (78 percent fewer) maintaining 2,629 acres (82 percent less) of summerfallow in 2016.

In 1996 Sturgeon County had 230 farms maintaining 16,312 acres of summerfallow. In 2016 it had 44 farms (81 percent fewer) with 2,848 acres (83 percent less) of summerfallow.

In 1996 Smoky Lake County had 163 farms with 19,082 acres of summerfallow. By 2016 it had 38 farms (77 percent fewer) with 2,925 acres (85 percent less) of summerfallow.

While the number of farms reporting tame or seeded pasture decreased 35-51 percent, the amount of acres decreased by a much smaller margin: eight to 21 percent.

Sturgeon mayor Alanna Hnatiw said, “This trend would be mostly linked to cattle production specifically, as cattle are the most common pasture-raised livestock in Sturgeon County. My understanding is it is common in areas beginning to see the influences of urbanized development. The pressures of increased population are bringing about a decrease in livestock production. Strengthening of commodity markets for oilseeds and grains over the last 10 plus years has provided additional incentive for producers to convert pasture land into crop land.”

She added that the BSE crisis in 2003 caused the loss of many cattle export markets, so many beef producers downsized their herds or left the cattle industry altogether.

Thorhild County had 1,304 farms with 50,544 acres of seeded pasture in 1996. Two decades later it had 148 farms (51 percent fewer) report having 40,170 acres (21 percent less) of seeded pasture.

In 1996 Sturgeon County had 509 farms with 47,866 acres of natural pasture. It had 209,995 acres (mar- ginal increase) in crop in 2016.

In 1996 Smoky Lake County had 369 farms with 47,866 acres of natural pasture in 1996 and 265 farms (48 percent fewer) with 36,471 acres (24 percent less) in 2016. Smoky Lake County had 419 farms with 176,563 acres of natural pasture in 1996 and 245 farms (42 percent fewer) with 159,478 acres (10 percent less) in 2016.

Figures were taken from Statistics Canada’s 1996 and 2016 Census of Agriculture. A Census of Agriculture is conducted every five years.
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**PROPERTY MANAGEMENT**

- **Required**: Experience and understanding of senior’s housing and supportive living.

- **A thorough understanding of the financial and budgeting process.

- **A passion, connection and understanding of senior’s housing and supportive living.

- **Five years of experience in a senior administrative role working cooperating with Directors to its responsibilities and the various levels of government.**

- **An understanding of seniors’ supportive living and housing legislation, standards and policies.**

**Role**

As Chief Administrative Officer you will manage daily administrative operations reports to the Board of Directors and be accountable to the Board of Directors. You will work with the management team and the Board of Directors to create, manage, and lead our team to meet the Values and Mission statement of our Foundation. Major responsibilities would include: ensuring budgets are set and adhered to, ensuring effective use of staffing and resources, improving the overall operation, and support teams to achieve organizational goals; build strategic relationships with other agencies; an understanding of seniors’ supportive living and providing services to our residents now and in the future. He or she will be the continual look to the needs of our organization and residents to change and improve technologies as they become available.

**Application**

- **Five years of experience in a senior administrative role working cooperating with a Board of Directors.**

- **A passion, connection and understanding of senior’s housing and supportive living.**

- **An understanding of Alberta legislation, industry standards, and best practices; considered an asset.**

- **A thorough understanding of the financial and budgeting process.**

- **Possess a BEd and LR skills with the ability to work collaboratively with employees.**

- **Proven experience in strategic planning, organizational management, and achieving results in building team relations.**

- **Experience in implementing development plans, capital works, and infrastructure improvement programs.**

**Education**

Post-secondary education such as a Bachelor’s or master’s Degree in a related field. A combination of relevant experience and education will also be considered.

**Compensation**

- **Salary**: Based on experience and education.

- **Benefits**: Please send all resumes to foundation@smokylakefoundation.ca or mail to: Smoky Lake Foundation P.O.Box 179, Smoky Lake AB, T0A 3C0. Deadline for all resumes is September 30th, 2019

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- **NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY**

- **Our daily activities would include PERSONAL CARE, HOUSEKEEPING and MEAL PREPARATION.**

- **Occasionally, there will be adventures out shopping, attending appointments and special events.**

Please contact Sharlene at 780-358-2731 or email sgurba@mcsnet.ca.
LEGAL / NOTICES

NOTICE OF DECISION OF DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OFFICER

DEVELOPMENT PERMIT ISSUED - September 11, 2019

Appeal by: October 9, 2019

Take notice that the following permits for proposed development as described below have been issued in accordance with the Town of Redwater Land Use Bylaw 811:

Permit Number: DPR2019-026
Legal Description: Lot 5, Block 4, Plan 7822312
Civic Address: 5410 Eastview Crescent
Land Use: Manufactured Home Subdivision Residential (R-MHS)
District
Proposal: To construct a 16x76’ manufactured home
Variances: 36.7% rear yard and 10.2% front yard variances
Additional Information: For additional information regarding these permits, please contact the Development Authority at (780) 942-3516

Appeal: The Land Use Bylaw provides that the person applying for the permit or affected by the order, or any other person afflicted by an order, decision or development permit of a Development Authority may appeal, in writing, to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board within twenty (21) days after the date of notice. Appeal Fees: $300.00

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

If you submit comments, either orally or in writing, the information you provide may be recorded, or otherwise made public, subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Redwater Recollection

Above: A view of Railway Avenue in Redwater in 1949. The Ukrainian National Hall and Ufford School can be seen in the background.
Below: Redwater’s 49 Avenue east of 49 Street; 70 years later some of the same buildings are still standing and (bottom) 49 Avenue west of 49 Street.

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