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VOL. 35, NO. 31

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At participating McDonald's restaurants in Canada. © 2024 McDonald's

SENIORS

Parkland Lodge's Grandchildren's Carnival...

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EDSON

Tricks and fun and Skate Park Luau...

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JASPER

Edson and area join province-wide support for Jasper...

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Kingz 6th Annual Bikez 4 Kidz event

by Deanna Mitchener

The 6th Annual Bikez 4 Kidz was held in Edson and Hinton on July 20. There were close to 100 people who participated in the

event and 80 brand new bicycles were given away.

The group arrived in Edson at 1:00 p.m. after a short stop along the way from Hinton. After giving away the bikes in Edson

the group made their way to the Pine Grove Hall for an afternoon and evening of friendship, fun, and food.

Bil Teskey, with the organization, said, "At the hall we had

Ramzi there with his food truck, vendors selling travel mugs, t-shirts and more, bike games, music, camping, and lots of fun.

"The turnout was a little smaller

continued page 2



The 6th Annual Bikez 4 Kidz was held in Edson and Hinton on July 20. There were close to 100 people who participated in the event. photo submitted

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Kingz 6th Annual Bikez 4 Kidz event

continued from front

than previous years. The Wild Mountain Music Festival decided to host their event on the same date as our event this year, and this may have impacted our attendance. But, overall, those who attended had a great time and that's what counts—and that kids got new bikes," said Teskey.

When asked why this event is so close to his heart and the other bikers, Teskey said, "For myself and some former members that started this event six years ago, it has grown over the years and has begun to gain recognition from B.C. to Ontario. We hold this event close to our hearts because it is about the kids. Teaching the kids at a young age to help others where and when they can. Nothing is more satisfying for us than to see those kids ride off with their new bicycles, and ear to ear grins!"

"We will continue to host this event every year as long as we continue to get the amazing support we receive. There are even some funds remaining for the back to school backpacks. We will be seeking one sponsor to join up with us and match our funds we are putting forward. We did this last year and it was a huge success," said Teskey.

When asked about the group, Teskey said, "We currently have 12 members and four of them are probationary. If someone is interested in learning more about who we are and what we do, come hang out with us. Get to know us, let us get to know you."

"When this event was started six years ago the idea came to me from childhood memories. After taking some memories and talking them out with my parents, Bikez 4 Kidz was born," explained Teskey. "My father was a big part of my starting this event for the kids. He had always got us new bikes or 'new to us' bikes when we were kids and it's

something we looked forward to each year."

"My dad didn't even realize that it was he who came up with our slogan for the event. We were talking on the phone one day and he said to me 'everyone deserves to ride'," said Teskey.

"My parents were here when we started the very first Bikez 4 Kidz and were supposed to travel from Ontario to be in attendance this year. However, due to my dad's health he was unable to travel. On July 15, my father passed away," said Teskey. "The Kingz know how much this event means to me and

how close I hold it to my heart (even closer now) and they made sure, while I was away in Ontario, that they held an amazing event for everyone—and that they did! I am so proud of our members, what they stand for, how they give to our communities, and how they all love each other like family."

"I want to personally thank all my Kingz for their hard work this year. I would also like to thank all of our sponsors this year; they are the backbone of this event. Most importantly, a huge thank you to all of our volunteers this year," concluded Teskey.



Many happy kids received brand new bikes on July 20, during the 6th annual Bikez 4 Kidz event. photos submitted

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Bikers rolling into Edson from Hinton on July 20, for the 6th Annual Bikez 4 Kidz event where 80 brand new bicycles were given away.



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Kids and seniors enjoy Parkland Lodge Grandchildren's Carnival

by Deanna Mitchener

Parkland Lodge held their Annual Children's Carnival in their backyard green space on July 26. The event ran from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

The carnival has become very popular with young kids as well as the seniors who love watching all the excitement. Many of the residents have their grandchildren or great grandchildren attend. These children see their grandparents as the coolest around with their huge backyard, bouncy castles, and lawn games to play with.

The cooler weather and rain the day before may have impacted the turn out a bit. Some residents were mentioning they had fewer children this year than past years. But the area certainly needed the rain due to wildfires in neighbouring communities.

"Even though the weather wasn't the best we still had lots of fun at our Grandchildren's carnival today.

We ate hotdogs, drank lots of pop, and bounced our hearts out. Thanks to all who came out and braved the weather!" said the Lodge's activity coordinators.

Some seniors sat out on benches, others under the gazebo, while some sat on the patio to enjoy the afternoon of fun and giggles. The little ones seem to bring infectious energy when they come to visit and play. This helps brighten the spirits of the seniors, even if they had no grandchildren of their own. It's always fun watching and listening to all the excitement.

After some active playtime, families were encouraged to join residents for a barbecue.

Many thanks went to the activity coordinators for bringing such a vast array of activities to seniors. They are very fortunate to have so many activities as there is sure to be something for everyone.

This Children's Carnival worked well across the generations, fostering meaningful connections and enjoyable experiences.



Connect 4 was one of the popular lawn games that had all ages playing during Parkland Lodge's Annual Grandchildren's Carnival on July 26. photo Deanna Mitchener



Bouncy Castles were a highlight attraction on July 26 at Parkland Lodge's Annual Grandchildren's Carnival. photo Deanna Mitchener



Seniors begin to line up for a BBQ lunch served at Parkland Lodge on July 26. It was their Annual Grandchildren's Carnival and families were also able to join in for the free barbecue. photo Deanna Mitchener



Important Public Notice

Edson Forest Products, a division of West Fraser Mills Ltd. has received approval from Alberta Forestry & Parks to apply Vision Max® (glyphosate) herbicide by ground and by helicopter between August 10, 2024 and September 15, 2024 on approximately 267 hectares of regenerated stands.

This application is part of an Integrated Vegetation Management approach to the use of herbicides on the Edson Forest Management Area.

Herbicide application will occur on portions of previously harvested areas within the following townships:

Township	Range	Meridian
45	16 & 17	W5
46	15 & 16	W5
47	15	W5
52	18	W5

Access to all areas will be posted with signs and all applications will be conducted in accordance with Alberta Forestry & Parks' requirements. For more information, please contact Edson Forest Products at 1-800-293-6955 or send an email to hwpwoodlands@westfraser.com



Hinton Wood Products
A division of West Fraser Mills Ltd.

Important Public Notice

Hinton Wood Products, a division of West Fraser Mills Ltd. has received approval from Alberta Forestry and Parks to apply Vision Max® (glyphosate) herbicide by ground and by helicopter between August 10, 2024 and September 15, 2024 on approximately 4,000 hectares of regenerated stands.

This application is part of an Integrated Vegetation Management approach to the use of herbicides on the Hinton Forest Management Area.

Herbicide application will occur on portions of previously harvested areas within the following townships:

Township	Range	Meridian
46	21	W5
47	18, 19, 20 & 22	W5
48	18, 19, 20, 21 & 22	W5
49	18, 19, & 20	W5
50	19 & 22	W5
51	22, 23, 24, 26, & 27	W5
52	21, 22 & 27	W5
54	19, 20, 22 & 23	W5
55	20, 23, 24 & 25	W5
56	17, 18, 23, 24 & 25	W5
57	17, 18, 19, 23 & 24	W5
58	23	W5

Access to all areas will be posted with signs and all applications will be conducted in accordance with Alberta Forestry & Parks' requirements. For more information, please contact Hinton Wood Products at 1-800-293-6955 or send an email to hwpwoodlands@westfraser.com

Knights and princesses gather for Annual Renaissance Faire

by Niki Luymes

Crowds flocked to the Yellowhead Agricultural Grounds on July 27 and 28 to take part in Edson's annual Renaissance Faire.

The event began at 10 am, with activities going on until 6pm on Saturday and 3pm on Sunday. Tickets for entry could be pre-purchased or acquired at the gate.

After admittance, there was no shortage of activities to enjoy. The Renaissance Faire celebrated the timeframe that include the Viking age all the way to the titular Renaissance. This included mythical creatures and folklore popular at the time. All the booths and performances at the Renaissance (Ren Faire) were themed around this timeframe.

The first thing notable upon entering the grounds was the 35 vendor booths spread across the area. "A lot of the vendors were local and we tried to offer space to as many local vendors as possible. But, we also had vendors from all over," said Diana Inscho, Arts and Culture Coordinator for the Town of Edson. These booths were selling everything from leather armor to candles, soap, jewelry, and full outfits.

This year also saw the return of Trinket Trading where attendees could bring, buy, or make little trinkets to trade with each other and participating booths. "Trinket trading is quite unique and other Ren Faires that we know of don't do it, so that is always fun," added Inscho.

In order to encourage engagement, event volunteers organized a quest that would lead participants throughout the faire. By following the clues they would talk with volunteer re-enactors, do small activities at different booths, and upon completion receive a prize. Other activities included crafts, face painting, bouncy castles, maypole dance, and outdoor games.

On the northern side of the grounds was a mock Viking village set up by the Vikings Vinland re-enactors, The Ravens, and Heimdall's Spears divisions. Around their tents were re-enactors demonstrating traditional Viking cooking, music, crafting, and more. Then, twice per day, the warriors would come out and perform a mock battle for the spectators. After the professionals did a round with traditional weapons, they welcomed kids ages 13 and under into the arena for a foam sword battle. An engagement that the sorely outnumbered Vikings lost.

The Heavy Armour Combat Association of Alberta (HACAA), also had a fighting arena set up in the middle of the grounds. There they performed heavy armor mock battles entirely dressed in medieval era accurate armor. Not far from them was the Rose Theatre stage which hosted a variety of performers including Lothar the Magician, and Angus & Dolina (Celtic dancing and singing). The Edson Dance Academy Highland Dancers also came out and performed on stage.

Roving around the grounds throughout the day were a number of actors and performers. Scott Campbell, an award winning storyteller and TTRPG Gamemaster, was on the grounds Saturday regaling listeners with tales of yore. Angus & Dolina also organized some medieval/celtic dance lessons for those who wanted to participate. Other local volunteers filled roles like Town Crier, Village Fool, and the notorious Black Knight.

On the east side of the grounds was the Feasting Square. There were three food trucks, and two vendors selling meals and snacks. The Edson Rotary Club was also set up running the Dragon's Head pub. They served both alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, while also providing a place to escape the sun. The Dragon's Head Pub was also the place to be Saturday night for the concert and dance. The band, Celtic Routes, came out and performed to a sold-out crowd.

As always, the star of the Renaissance Faire was the countless delightful costumes that filled the area. This year over 1,000 people came out to the faire, over 45% of which weren't from the Edson area. Visitors are encouraged, but not required, to create and wear costumes that matched the theme. The grounds were full of knights, princesses,

wenches, archers, and much more. On Saturday their hard work was celebrated with a costume parade and contest. Prizes were awarded to the best kids, youth, and adult costumes.

This is the second year that the event has taken place and was quite successful. There were over 1,000 attendees and over 40 volunteers who came

out to make the event possible. "We have a great dedicated group of core volunteers who help plan it and keep the wheels on," said Inscho, "I would say that it went over really well and we look forward to next year's event and growing even more."



The Town Crier led the costume parade around the Yellowhead Agricultural Grounds during the Edson Renaissance Faire on July 27 and 28. photo Niki Luymes



Medieval Magician Lothar the Great demonstrated his skills for onlookers at this year's Renaissance Faire. The event was held on July 27 and 28, at the Yellowhead Agricultural Grounds. photo Niki Luymes



One of the many activities Edson Renaissance Faire attendees could enjoy was live Celtic dance lessons by performing couple Angus & Dolina. Photo Niki Luymes



TOWN OF EDSON

Public Information & Notices 2024

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(Closed Stat Holidays)**



Become an ISDAB Member!

Interested in a paid public service opportunity, working in a decision-making capacity? Want to learn more about municipal subdivision and development processes and legislation?

The Town of Edson is currently seeking passionate individuals for the Intermunicipal Subdivision & Development Appeal Board. Members must be 18 years of age or older and be current residents of the Town of Edson.

The ISDAB listens to appeals on decisions made by the Town's Subdivision Authority and Development Authority in both the Town of Edson and the Town of Hinton. Board members are responsible for issuing decisions based on evidence presented by the parties at a hearing, while also adhering to any applicable and current legislation.

To learn more, and submit an application, please visit the Town of Edson Website, www.edson.ca/boards



Town of Edson Public Hearing

August 20, 2024



Notice – Public Hearing

A Public Hearing will be held in accordance with the Municipal Government Act on Tuesday, August 20, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Edson Town Council Chambers for the purpose of the following matter:

- Public Hearing - Draft Intermunicipal Development Plan Bylaw 2306
- Public Hearing - Draft Municipal Development Plan Bylaw 2307
- Public Hearing - Draft Bench Creek Area Structure Plan Bylaw 2309

A copy of these bylaws and supporting information can be found on the Town of Edson Website.

If you wish to register to speak or submit a written statement, please email Amanda Vierboom, Legislative and Corporate Initiatives Coordinator, at legislativeservices@edson.ca, or call 780-728-5233.

Written submissions must be provided to Legislative Services no later than 12:00pm on Monday, August 19, 2024. Written submissions received by 4:00pm on Thursday, August 15, 2024, will be included in the agenda package.

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NOTICE OF DEVELOPMENT

Recent Development Permits approved by the Development Authority, under the Town of Edson Land Use Bylaw 2070 as amended, can be found at <https://www.edson.ca/business/planning/development-permit-applications>. Additional information can be requested from the Planning Department at 780-723-4402 or planning@edson.ca.

Any person who is deemed to be affected by the issuance of any one of these permits may appeal to the Subdivision and Development Authority **by 4:00 p.m., on the 21st day after the date of issue as published on the Town's website.** On Permitted Uses, grounds for appeal must relate only to interpretation, variance, or relaxation of Land Use Bylaw 2070. On Discretionary Uses, all aspects of the proposed development may be challenged upon appeal. Written notice of appeal, accompanied by the appeal fee as established by Town Council, must be filed through the Office of the Secretary of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board at Box 6300, Edson, AB T7E 1T7. **Direct Control District Approvals cannot be appealed.**



Guest Editorial/Column

Trudeau must prove he won't tax our homes

Is a home equity tax right just around the corner so Trudeau can paper over his deficits?

By Franco Terrazzano

Actions speak louder than words. That's especially true when those words come from a politician with a track record of breaking promises and hiking taxes.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says he won't send the taxman after Canadians' homes. But if Trudeau wants Canadians to believe he won't impose a home equity tax, there's one thing he must do: end the CRA's home reporting requirement.

In 2016, the Trudeau government made it mandatory for Canadians to report the sale of their primary residence even though it's tax-exempt. If you sell your home, the CRA wants to know how much money you received from that sale. But if the taxman isn't taxing it, why is the taxman asking that question? Is the CRA just curious?

Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre confirmed to the Canadian Taxpayers Federation (CTF) that he would remove this reporting requirement if he forms the government.

Trudeau must do the same. Otherwise, Canadians should worry a home equity tax is right around the corner. As Toronto Sun Columnist Brian Lilley recently wrote, "For Justin Trudeau and his Liberal Party, taxing your primary residence is a bad idea they just can't quit."

On June 25, Trudeau attended "a private town hall about generational fairness" hosted by Generation Squeeze, a group advocating for home taxes.

What do you notice about the theme of that town hall? The government recently used the cloak of generational fairness to impose its capital gains tax hike.

The Trudeau government also spent hundreds of thousands of dollars funding and promoting a report from Generation Squeeze that complained of the "housing wealth windfalls gained by many homeowners while they sleep and watch TV."

The report recommended charging a tax on homes valued above \$1 million. The tax would cost Canadians up to \$5.8 billion every year, and it would hit many normal Canadians. The typical home price in British Columbia and Toronto is above \$1 million.

Trying to improve affordability

with tax hikes is like trying to boil water in your freezer. Higher taxes won't make homes affordable.

Consider this insight 50 pages into the report:

"Owners of homes valued over \$1 million that include informal rental suites may try to recover the surtax by passing some of its cost on to renters."

It turns out higher taxes can make things cost more.

The head of Generation Squeeze, Paul Kershaw, was invited to a cabinet ministers' retreat in Charlottetown last summer.

Documents uncovered by the CTF show staff in the prime minister's office met twice with Kershaw, which included "a briefing about the tax policy recommendation."

Trudeau has an appetite for taxing people's homes. His recent capital gains tax hike will impact Canadians who sell secondary residences and cottages. He imposed a so-called anti-flipping home tax. Trudeau also taxes homes that the government deems "underused."

With Trudeau scrounging through the couch cushions looking for more money to paper over his deficits, Canadians should worry a home equity tax is next.

A home equity tax would come with a big bill for a young couple looking to upgrade to a family home or for grandparents who rely on the equity in their home to fund their golden years.

For example, Canadians who bought their Toronto home for \$250,000 in 1980 and sold it for \$1.2 million today would pay between \$50,000 and \$190,000, depending on the type of home equity tax.

The Trudeau government has repeatedly flirted with home equity taxes. The only way for Trudeau to put Canadians' minds at ease is to act and remove the requirement for taxpayers to report the sale of their homes to the CRA.

Franco Terrazzano is the Federal Director of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation.

Note: The views, opinions, and positions expressed in the column are the author's alone. They do not inherently or expressly reflect the views, opinions and/or positions of The Weekly Anchor, its staff, or Troy Media.



Fly tastings

Edson RCMP Occurrences

For the week of: July 15 to July 21, 2024

Traffic Violations calls topped the list of Edson RCMP occurrences at 19 calls. Other investigations included: Assistance Calls 07; Abandoned Vehicles 01; Alarms/False Alarms 07; Animal Calls 06; Assault 02; Cause Disturbance 06; Fail to Comply with Conditions 02; False/Abandoned 911 Call 07; Family Orders and Agreements 01; Fraud 01, Harassment/Criminal Harassment 0; Lost or found property 04, Impaired Operation of Motor Vehicle 0; Information File 01; Mental Health Act 1; Mischief or Damage 08; Municipal Bylaws 0; Obstruct/Resist Peace Officer 0; Possess Stolen Property 3; Recovered Stolen Property 0; Sudden Death 0; Suspicious persons 17; Theft Complaints 08; Traffic Complaints Trespassing 04; Unlawfully in Dwelling 0; and Wellbeing Checks 05.

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KID'S CORNER



Meet Fordahm from the Edson Early Learning and Childcare Center Out of School Program.

Question: What do you want to be when you grow up?

Answer: An Excavator Driver



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Tricks, food, and fun at Annual Skate Park Luau

by Niki Luymes

The Edson Community Engagement Action Team (CEAT) hosted the Annual Skate Park Luau on July 24. The event began at 7pm and was staging at the Edson Community Skate Park, near Griffiths Park.

The Skate Park Luau has been a staple of the summer in Edson for seven years now. The event welcomes youth age 12-17 to come out, socialize, and get some free food and swag. The whole event was sound-tracked by a live DJ.

Attendees could do tricks in the skate park, participate in contests and challenges, and more. "It's something that draws a different crowd than our other town events so that's really exciting. It's one of the most fun events we have all year," said Lexi Abbot, Community Development Coordinator, Recreation for the Town of Edson.

Lots of different groups come together to make this event as fun for the youth as possible. Edson FCSS and CEAT handed out hats, stickers, sunglasses, and other swag. Secure Energy supplied and ran the free hamburger BBQ.

Alberta Action Sports, a not-for-profit that focuses on bringing kids into action sports and House of Wheels, an indoor skate house and store in Edmonton, came out to interact with the kids. Alongside selling some gear at a booth, they also did other kinds of demonstrations and giveaways throughout the night. "It's really exciting for the youth. They can learn new tricks and scooter side by side with the pros," added Abbot.

The fun and games were planned to go until 11pm, however, the event was cut short by rain. Before the weather shifted, there were over 100 youth in attendance. Quite a few did stay for a while after the rain started. "It's always really well attended," said Tanya Byers, Senior Manager of Community Services. "I'm always impressed with the youth and their willingness to clean up. They are grateful and they are just fun to be around."

"Its a really great opportunity for us to recognize the youth in our community and to provide a fun activity to let them spend some time together. And, to be spoiled a little bit with the swag and the BBQ, just so they know how important they are to our community," concluded Byers.



One of the activities at the Skate Park Luau on July 24, was the bowl toss. Youth gathered in the bowl for a chance to catch and keep some event swag. photo Niki Luymes.



The Edson community team and Community Engagement Action Team were here to have fun, rain or shine, and this year's Skate Park Luau on July 24. photo Niki Luymes

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The
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Public Notice

Canfor's Whitecourt and Fox Creek 2024 Vegetation Management Program has been approved by Alberta Forestry and Parks. The application of glyphosate will take place on cutblocks located within our Forest Management Area and timber licenses in the Whitecourt, Fox Creek, Fort Assiniboine, Swan Hills and Edson areas. A maximum of 4500 hectares will be treated throughout the following locations:

Township	Range	Meridian
50	10,11,12	W 5M
51	11,12	W 5M
53	11	W 5M
58	13,14,16,17,21	W 5M
59	13,14,15,16,17,18,22,23	W 5M
60	11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18	W 5M
61	12,13,14,15,16,18,19,21	W 5M
62	14,15,16,18,19,21,22	W 5M
63	6,7,8,9	W 5M
64	6,7,8,9	W 5M
65	6,7,15,16	W 5M
66	6,7,8,12,13,15,16	W 5M
67	12,13	W 5M
68	10,11	W 5M
69	10,11	W 5M

This treatment, part of our forest renewal program, will temporarily control herbaceous, shrub and deciduous competition, to improve the growth and survival of tree seedlings and saplings. Herbicide will be applied through either aerial or ground-based application.

Application of herbicides is scheduled to begin on or around August 10, 2024, and completed prior to September 15, 2024.

For more information, please contact our Silviculture Supervisor at (780) 778-2221 Ext 2164, or WCTSilviculture@Canfor.com



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Alberta Open Farm Days Yellowhead County August 17 & 18, 2024

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AUGUST 17 & 18, 2024

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July 31 in Marlboro 12 - 2 PM
August 21 in Cadomin 12 - 2 PM

BRING YOUR CHILDREN TO PLAY AT THE PARK, AND JOIN IN ALL SORTS OF FAMILY FUN.

VISIT www.YHCOUNTY.CA/REGISTRATION FOR MORE INFORMATION.

LIGHT SNACKS & A COLD TREAT PROVIDED!
FREE DROP-IN PROGRAM, WEATHER PERMITTING.

PADDLE BOARD Yoga

TUESDAYS
7 PM - 8 PM
AUGUST 6, 13 & 20

Classes are weather dependent. The instructor will contact you 1.5hrs before the start of class if cancelled.

MILLERS LAKE (West End Day Use Area)

\$10 PER CLASS

BEGINNER FRIENDLY
NO PADDLEBOARD OR YOGA EXPERIENCE NEEDED.
COME OUT AND EXPLORE A NEW ACTIVITY WHILE HAVING FUN!

Register at yhcounty.ca/registration or at 780-723-4800



Phone: 780-723-4800 Toll Free 1-800-665-6030 Fax: 780-723-5066
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

New Broadband Opportunities Coming to County Residents!
Marlboro & Evansburg Speed Tests Needed!

Yellowhead County needs household internet upload and download data to determine areas lacking access to reliable internet connectivity.

- Households in Marlboro and Evansburg are asked to run speed tests on their home internet.
- Run several upload and download speed tests and take a screenshots to capture the result.
- Please email screenshots of the speed tests to: yofdadmin@yhcounty.ca
- It's recommended to use a reputable third-party online speed test. A search online will show several options. It's recommended to use several speed tests other than a speed test from an internet service provider.

For more information, contact Yellowhead County at 1-800-665-6030 or 780-723-4800.

COMMUNITY RIDDLE WALK

GRAB YOUR FAMILY OR FRIENDS TO FORM A TEAM AND EMBARK ON A JOURNEY, WHERE YOU'LL FIND TWISTS & TURNS OF A RIDDLE-FILLED PATH IN YOUR COMMUNITY

EVANSBURG, PEERS & ROBB
PRIZES TO BE WON IN EACH COMMUNITY!
DEADLINE TO ENTER IS AUGUST 26
EMAIL EGULLACKSON@YHCOUNTY.CA TO REGISTER OR FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO GET STARTED!

At Home Alone Safety Course

This course is designed to teach children to make safe choices when they are at home alone. Includes a safe food prep activity!

MARLBORO COMMUNITY HALL
Friday, August 23, 2024
From 10 AM - 1 PM
\$5.00 Ages 9-13

To register visit yhcounty.ca/registration.
Registration deadline is August 22nd
Pre-registration is required.

safeTALK Suicide Alertness for Everyone

A half-day workshop to learn the signs and how to get help for someone at risk of suicide.

Learning objectives:

- Move beyond common tendencies to miss, dismiss, or avoid suicide
- Identify people who have thoughts of suicide
- Apply the TALK steps (Tell, Ask, Listen, and KeepSafe) to connect a person with thoughts of suicide to suicide first aid intervention caregivers

Yellowhead County Wildwood Office
53404 Rge Rd. 92A
Cost: \$25
Contact: Wendy Robinson
780-325-3782

September 5, 2024
1pm-5pm

Register online at www.yhcounty.ca/registration

Yellowhead County

Approved Development Permits have been issued authorizing the following:

Permit No.	Location	Proposal	Date	Appeal Deadline
D24-100	Plan 1222415 Blk 4, Lot 3 SE-32-51-24-W5 East River Road	Sign - Variance for Size & Front yard Setback	Jul 17/24	Aug 7/24
D24-096	Plan 76222415 Blk 2, Lot 22 NE-36-53-9-W5 Lobstick Resort	Fence- Variance for Height	Jul 17/24	Aug 7/24
D24-098	SE-2-54-10-W5 Chip Lake Area	Accessory Building (Shop) -Variance to Side Yard Setback	Jul 17/24	Aug7/24
D24-101	Plan 8220331 Blk 1, Lot 4 SW-30-50-25-W5 Seabolt	Accessory Building (Workshop)	Jul 18/24	Permitted Use
D24-095	SW-15-52-8-W5 South of Evansburg	Single Detached Dwelling	Jul 29/24	Permitted Use

Yellowhead County Development Permits are also posted online at www.yhcounty.ca. The public is considered officially notified of approved development permits once posted online, in accordance with the Public Notification Bylaw. The Yellowhead County Land Use Bylaw NO 09.21 provides that any person claiming to be affected by a decision of the Development Authority may appeal to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board or Alberta's Land and Property Rights Tribunal dependent on jurisdiction of the appeal authority. Appeals under the jurisdiction of Yellowhead County's Subdivision and Development Appeal Board require a written notice of appeal and a payment of \$500.00 payable to Yellowhead County within 21 day of the publishing of the Notice of Decision.

Requirements for appealing the development to the Alberta's Land and Property Rights Tribunal can be found here: <https://www.alberta.ca/subdivision-appeals.aspx> or by calling 780-427-2444.

Time to Vote!

Pick your favourite YC garden.

Yellowhead County's 2024 GARDEN PRIDE CONTEST

Voting ends Monday, August 5!

Winners will be announced August 12 with a garden showcase slideshow on Facebook!
Vote for your favourite yard to help pick the winners for our 21st Annual County Pride contest!

Visit www.YHCounty.ca to vote!

5th Anniversary celebration of Core Child Society

by Deanna Mitchener

On July 27, Core Child Care Society held a five year anniversary celebration. Community members were invited to come see what they have to offer families.

“We are celebrating the tremendous growth this centre has had in such a short time,” said Lena Greening, Program Director with Core Child Care Society. “From 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. we have a 50/50 draw, we are offering tours of the centre, and throughout the centre we have photos showcasing the growth from our renovations up to now.”

“We also have face painting happening, bouncy castles, some table top activities for the children, popcorn, music, as well as hot dogs, hamburgers, cupcakes and refreshments we are offering to the community. Weyerhaeuser graciously supplied the BBQ to cook on, along with the meat and buns for everyone,” added Greening.

When asked about how many programs the centre offers, Greening replied, “We have seven classrooms. We offer care for children aged 0-12 years old. That includes out of school care. We are open 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Currently over the summer, we also have a sister program (On Core) which is running offsite. It's a summer program running right up until the long weekend in

September,” said Greening.

“We did have plans for our firefighters to be here as well today showing off the trucks and giving kids tours. Unfortunately, we all know what's happening and they are very much needed elsewhere. So we are asking everybody to visit our picnic table and to sign their initials along with a little note of support that we will be presenting to our heroes at a later date,” Greening said.

“We couldn't be here without the families trusting their babies and their most precious little ones to our care. We are so thankful for everybody here who makes all of this possible. Right now we have 37 wonderful staff on board,” said Greening.

The centre is looking at purchasing some new equipment and doing some fundraising. Wish list items include a badminton set, volleyball set, Jumbo Jenga, ladder ball, lawn games and a kiddie pool. Also toddler and preschool backyard structures.

“These are big ticket items that we would love to have available for the children to enjoy. If you or your company can contribute to any of these, please talk to myself or Jenn by calling the main office at 587-466-9292.”

The anniversary celebration was well attended and children and families enjoyed all the fun activities.



The amazing staff with Core Child Care Society gathered together before things got busy on July 27 for their five year anniversary celebration. photo Deanna Mitchener



Bouncy castles, face painting, games, popcorn, burgers, hot dogs, and refreshments were offered to the community on July 27, during the Core Child Care Society five year anniversary celebration. photo Deanna Mitchener.



MP Gerald Soroka presented a plaque to commemorate Core Child Care Society's five year anniversary.



Trinity Stach has been working with Core Child Care Society for three years. During their five year anniversary celebration, Trinity was supervising a group of youngsters upstairs. photo Deanna Mitchener



PUBLIC NOTICE

ANC Timber Ltd.

2024 HERBICIDE APPLICATION PROJECT

Please be advised that ANC Timber Ltd. has received an approval for their herbicide application program for 2024. ANC Timber Ltd. will be conducting both aerial and ground herbicide application programs between August 6th and September 20th, 2024. The application will treat approximately 400 hectares of existing cutover area. The applications will be in portions of:

Township	Ranges	Meridian
49	12, 13, 15	W5M
58	21	W5M
59	17, 23, 24	W5M
60	22, 23, 24	W5M

Both the aerial and ground herbicide applications will be done using VisionMax® silviculture herbicide. The purpose of the applications is to control grass and shrub species that are limiting the survival chances of our planted seedlings on recently harvested areas. Access to all areas will be posted with signs upon completion and all applications will be done in accordance with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry regulations and the Environmental Code of Practice for Pesticides. For more information, please contact an ANC Timber Ltd. representative at (780) 778-7017 or visit ANC's 2024 Virtual Open House at <http://www.albertanewsprint.com/woodlands/> or email ANCTimber@albertanewsprint.com.

Letter to the Editor

Did Poor Forest Management Contribute to Jasper's Fires?

Dear Editor:

Did the Federal Government and local authorities in Jasper fail to apply established forest management techniques diligently in the past to keep the town's inhabitants and their property safe? Past pronouncements from Government officials seem complacent, i.e., "We're quite comfortable with where we are with our own emergency planning" says Parks Canada" (April 10, 2018 CBC). But they shouldn't be.

In 2017 and 2018, I expressed concerns on this topic included in two letters to local papers. And one thing that worried me was that in 2017 I attended a mountain pine beetle seminar in Jasper and met scientists and forest health practitioners from across the country, especially Western Canada. But I was stunned that nobody attended who had anything to do with Jasper National Park.

Later that year, I attended Jasper's 150 anniversary canoe event and there were many Park employees, and I wondered how it was possible for them to participate in a canoe event yet not have a single person attend the pine beetle meeting. If they had attended, they would have learned much, as I did, about the lack of measures in Jasper to deal with the pine beetle issue, especially the way an infestation leaves all kinds of dead dry wood just waiting to catch fire and burn out of control. And how other national parks in cooperation with the federal government and local communities were able to conduct aggressive control treatments along the leading edge of the infestation.

I also learned from the many experts to whom I spoke that prescribed burning is not considered

an effective control technique, especially in the midst of an infestation. (In fact it seems that prescribed burning over time can alter the species composition without controlling MPB infestations.) Yet it is the exact approach that is generally and primarily being undertaken in Jasper National Park.

In 2018, I was even told that control work at Jasper was initially limited due to sensitive soils and steeper slopes in some areas, such as the Pyramid Bench. It seemed incredible that the administration had decided the remote possibility of damage of ground soils was a higher priority than the town of Jasper's safety.

As I said, I wrote two public letters expressing concern about the potential danger and the way it was being handled. In response in an on-line comment, I was told by a retired National Parks superintendent that there was no mountain pine beetle problem in Jasper (or the Alberta Foothills) – there is a natural process of change unfolding and nothing anybody can do will stop it.

It wasn't just him. The message we received at the time was that our federal government, via Jasper Parks management, believed public safety must play take a back seat to certain narrow, even exotic environmental issues.

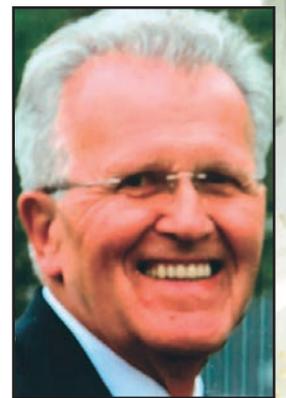
Now they're blaming the fire on climate change. But as Jamie Sarkonak recently wrote in the National Post, it's bad management forest management that's behind it. And yes, some of us did try to raise the alarm years ago.

*Stuart Taylor
RPF (ret'd), B.Sc. (Forestry), M.Sc. (Forest Entomology), Hinton*



Kayla and Kowalsky were out in their boat at Fickle Lake recently. It was a beautiful weekend to be enjoying the water. photo Deanna Mitchener

**~ Obituary ~
Blaine Hugh Dickson**



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Blaine Hugh Dickson of Edson, Alberta on June 30, 2024 at the age of 80, at the St. Albert hospital, St. Albert, AB.

Blaine was born on December 15, 1943 to Roy and Nettie Dickson. He had two sisters, Glenda and Heather.

He is survived by his partner Margaret, son Scott (Elsie) stepson Thad Hartman of Wainwright AB, stepdaughter Marcia (Glen) Blatz of Bawlf AB, two grand children Blaine Blatz and David (Samantha) Blatz, new born great grandson Locke Blatz all of Cainrose AB, sister Glenda Landsiedel of Calgary AB and many nieces, nephews and friends.

He was predeceased by his mother and father, sister Heather, and special friend brother-in-law Norman Landsiedel.

Blaine took his schooling in Bengough, Saskatchewan where he kept many life-long friends. He started his career with the Bank of Commerce then moved on to become bank manager at many Credit Unions. After retiring from banking he became very involved in race horses, and was quite successful with them. He also ran parimutuel race horse racing for a few years. He volunteered at many things - reading to kids at school, taking people to appointments, visiting at the lodge and long term care, and was quite involved at the Pioneer Cabin where he met Margaret. They enjoyed dancing, motor-homing, golfing, playing cards, watching and going to Blue Jays games, and of course going to and watching Oilers games.

Through Margaret, Blaine acquired three daughters - Dorothy, Cindy, Sandy, son Donnie, and many grandchildren and great grandchildren. He will be very missed. As per Blaine's wishes there will be no service.



**PUBLIC NOTICE
BLUE RIDGE LUMBER INC.
Vegetation Management Program**

Blue Ridge Lumber Inc., on approval from Alberta Forestry and Parks, will be conducting our vegetation management program on or after August 10, 2024, until September 10, 2024. Approximately 1200 hectares of harvested area will be treated with Vision Max via aerial or ground operations. The purpose of the chemical treatments is to manage competing vegetation.

All treatment locations are listed in the following townships:

Legal Locations of planned Herbicide Treatments

Township	Range	Meridian
69	9,10	5
67	9	5
66	8,9,10	5
65	10,11	5
64	8,10,16,17	5
63	9,10,11,16,24	5
62	9,15,16,17	5
61	10,11	5
60	11	5
59	19,20,21	5
58	19	5
57	18,19	5
56	17,18	5
51	12	5

Access to all areas will be posted with signs and all applications will be conducted in accordance with Alberta Forestry and Parks regulations. For more information regarding our Vegetation Management Program, please contact us by email at brl-woodlands-tending@westfraser.com or call 780-648-6266.

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weeklyanchor.com**



Parkland Lodge residents got to enjoy some nice weather out at Bear Lake recently. It was a lovely place for a picnic on such a beautiful day. submitted by Deanna Mitchener



Parkland Lodge residents enjoyed a delicious picnic at Bear Lake recently. submitted by Deanna Mitchener



A group from Parkland Lodge took a bus trip into Edmonton on July 25, where they embarked on the Edmonton Riverboat cruise. Other lodges joined as well (except Jasper). Even though it was overcast, everyone was happy to see cooler temperatures and some rain for the wildfires. photo by Deanna Mitchener.

Edson and area join province-wide support for Jasper



Sgt. d'état-major Christian DELISLE with the Edson RCMP Detachment with Marion Huggins, Diane Girard, Justine Murdoch, Sam Parnall, and Jasmin Francisco on July 31, during the province-wide Alberta Day of Caring for Jasper. Everyone could drop their bottles off at the Edson RCMP detachment or local bottle depot. photo Deanna Mitchener

by Deanna Mitchener

It is such an overwhelming feeling, seeing and hearing firsthand about the support Jasper is receiving, not only from Edson and area, but province-wide.

Jasper is not only a special place for those that call it home, but also for visitors and tourists from around the world. The stunning scenic surroundings of Jasper and area are a travel destination for so many.

On July 31, the Edson RCMP detachment had one of their trucks in front of their building for the bottle drive. It was part of a province-wide event called 'The Alberta Day of Caring for Jasper' to collect bottles to help Jasper residents that are confronting the reality of loss from the tragic wildfires.

Bottles could be dropped off between 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. or at any local bottle depot on July 31, and say they are being donated for Jasper. If you didn't make it down to drop off your bottles you can still make a monetary donation to the cause by going to

www.albertadayofcaring.com

Proceeds from the one day event will be going to the Red Cross and those impacted by the wildfires.

Just outside the Edson RCMP detachment on July 31, Sgt. d'état-major Christian Delisle said, "At the end of the day we will be bringing all the bottles to the Edson Bottle Depot."

"I have a friend that works for XM Radio in Rocky Mountain House and they don't have anybody here at this radio station. She needed a location where people could come and drop off bottles other than the bottle depot. She knew me and called to ask if we could help. Of course we wanted to help in any way we could.

Within a couple of hours the trailer was filled up. Diane Girard from McMan Youth and Family Services brought all their bottles over.

Marion Huggins was also dropping off bottles, "I think if everyone in the province steps up and does a little bit it turns out to be a lot. It's a great opportunity and I would like to thank everyone participating in this fundraiser for Jasper. It makes us proud to be Albertans."



The staff at the Edson Bottle Depot had a large line up of vehicles waiting to drop off bottles on July 30. Many were bringing bottles in to help those affected by the Jasper Wildfire through a province-wide bottle drive. photo Deanna Mitchener.



Bottles overflowed the RCMP truck and trailer to help those affected by the Jasper Wildfire through a province-wide bottle drive. photo Deanna Mitchener.

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Weekly Anchor Newspaper



A few of the Parkland Lodge residents took a bus trip into West Edmonton Mall on July 18. They ventured to the Wild Wild West Gun Range to shoot some aliens and werewolves. David with the Gun Range gave a safety demonstration before he set them free to shoot up the place. It was a fun day trip and they all did great hitting their targets! submitted Deanna Mitchener



Jozee Eberle (2.5) with her grandma Colleen Eberle at the Edson Spray Park. The day was very hot, so it was a great way to stay cool. photo Deanna Mitchener



Sadie Whitford and Drayden Severson enjoying some time at Fickle Lake. The hot summer weather made for a great weekend at the lake. photo Deanna Mitchener

Staying safe from insect and animal bites this summer

Residents are encouraged to take precautions this summer when coming across wildlife and insects to prevent bites and infections.

Insects can carry viruses and diseases in Alberta. West Nile virus is an infection spread by mosquitoes that can affect your brain and give you flu-like symptoms. Ticks can carry Lyme disease, an infection that can cause problems with your skin, joints, nervous system and heart.

Prevent mosquito and tick bites:

- Cover as much of your body as possible when outdoors, especially in grassy or wooded areas. Wear a light-coloured, long-sleeve shirt, long pants and a hat.
- Consider using a Health Canada-approved insect repellent (for example, products

containing DEET or Icaridin) and follow the product label instructions. Always check for ticks when you come in from the outdoors.

- For more information on insect repellents and other products, visit Insect Repellents – MyHealthAlberta or Personal Insect repellents - Canada.ca
- If you’ve been bitten by a tick, call Health Link at 811. You can also submit a photo of the tick to the Submit-a-Tick program to help monitor ticks in Alberta.

Rabies is an infection caused by a virus that affects your nervous system, including the brain, spinal cord and nerves. Bats have been known to carry rabies in Alberta in recent years. If household pets and indoor animals are not up to date on routine rabies

immunizations, they can also carry rabies and infect people.

Prevent bat bites:

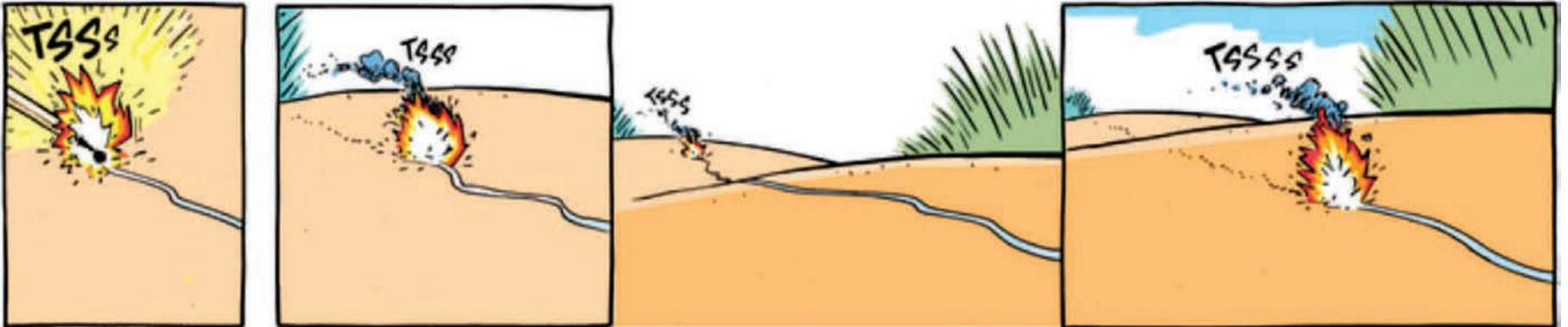
- Never handle a live or dead bat with bare hands. Bats are likely to bite in self-defence.
- Children are curious and more likely to approach animals. They might not tell someone if they get a bite or scratch. Talk to children about not touching bats or wild animals.
- If you or your child are bitten or scratched by a bat:
 - Wash the animal bite, scratch or open sore with soap and water.
 - Call Health Link at 811. If rabies vaccine is recommended, you will be told where to go to get the vaccine. - AHS

The Weekly ANCHOR Comics & Fun

A Family Literacy Opportunity
provided by The Weekly Anchor

SWAMP

by Gary Clark



www.swamp.com.au



WOMBANIA™

by PETER MARINACCI



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www.wombania.com



"Hang on. I'm laying on a floor in Paris."

Q: What do you call a tiger that drinks lemonade?
A: A sour puss!

J	C	C	U	F	D	H	T	T	G	F	O	V	A	A
F	O	F	T	Z	T	H	E	O	R	Y	E	B	W	L
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EMAIL:ANCHORWK@TELUSPLANET.NET

SEED/FEED GRAINS

Seed Oats 98 % germination, Fusarium tested, No wild oats, Can deliver, On farm scale jamesbeniuk@gmail.com Woodland Lumber, Evansburg 780-621-2229

FOR SALE

14ft aluminum boat with 9.9HP Johnson motor and shore lander trailer. Excellent shape hardly used \$4200.00 obo phone Mark or Sharon after 5PM 780-723-5765

FOR RENT

Beautiful Basement for rent in tranquil area close to highway. 2 bedroom windows all around for all -day sunshine. Everything is closed off so you have absolute privacy with fenced backyard for your pets. Personal

entrance a lot of parking space. \$1300.00 a month text Orest at 780-875-4853

For rent front duplex (Front half of house) in a quiet neighbourhood everything private. 2 bedroom 2 bathroom double garage, carport, washer /dryer utilities included. Pets allowed text Orest at 778-875-4853 \$1500.00/month

Perfect location near highway one bedroom plus den duplex back half of house. Fully fenced backyard with huge deck and private entrance. Perfect for pets in unit laundry Rv parking, storgae space in shed. utilities included \$1400 a month text Orest 778 875 4853

Commercial Property for Lease- 3000 sq.ft., offices, mezzanine, in-floor heating, Sumo, 12' x 12' insulated overhead door, fenced backyard. Contact Marion 780-712-1497

Office space for rent, various sized central location, ample parking call 780-712-9890

FOR RENT: 2 bdrm, suitable for 1 person only. No children, pets or smoking. Call 780-728-5917 leave message

Pine Manor Apt: 4102-6Ave, Edson 2 bdrm \$1075/ mth rent, \$1075 damage deposit. 1 bdrm \$950/ mth, \$950 damage deposit. Includes heat and water. 780-723-2177 or 780-728-3932

For Rent: Basement Suite, Country living 5 min away from town. 2BR 1 1/2 bath. Private entrance and parking. No pets Non smoking. Perfect for seniors, workers and small family. Available june 1. Phone 780-517-9227 evenings or leave a message

House for Rent: 2 Bedroom 1 bath up, 2 Bedroom 1 bath down. Off street parking. Large yard, Storage shed. \$1575.00/ includes Town of Edson utilities. No Smoking & pets upon approval. Available August 1. 780-728-8864

Mobile House for Rent: Edson Glenwood area, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, Fully furnished \$2000.00 rent plus damage deposit, utilities included, turn key with month to month rental. Unfurnished - \$1750.00 rent plus damage deposit, plus utilities, plus minimum of one yr.lease. Call Thoreen at 780-723-6090 or text 780-723-0320

NOTICE

Gerry Robinson Oilfield Trucking LTD is shutting down.

HELP WANTED

EYAEYO Cleaning Services Ltd: Looking for 2 Cleaning Supervisor with NOC62024. Wages \$24.10 hourly. Resumes: eyaeyo.cs@yahoo.com

Wildwood Legion Bottle Depot is hiring bottle sorters. Forklift experience would be an asset. Please drop resume off at the bottle depot on Tues- Sat from 11:00 am - 5:00 pm or email to rclbr149@gmail.com

CHURCH DIRECTORY

EDSON

BETHEL PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
6350 - 13th Ave., Edson. Phone 723-3007

Pastors John & Roberta Greiner: Heather & Daniel Greiner
Sunday service: 10:30 am
Morning worship
EDSON ALLIANCE CHURCH
5525-2nd Ave., Edson
Ph: 723-5776 Pastor Bryan Walter
9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship Service
Wednesday: 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting.

EDSON BAPTIST CHURCH
4719 - 9th Ave., Ph: 723-3982
Pastor Mesh Hit
Sunday Services: 10:00 a.m.

EDSON MENNONITE CHURCH
6212 - 13 Ave, Edson
Office hrs: Tues 9am-1pm
Office phone: 780-723-4992

Pastor Tyson Moerike (Call or text 403-966-4705)
Sunday worship - 9:45
EDSON-PEERS CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
4633-7th Ave., Edson
Ph: 723-5242

Pastor: Ryan Hoogerbrugge
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Edson - Nursery provided Sunday School
EDSON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
1133-55 St. Edson - Ph: 723-5490.

Saturday Morning Service at 11:00 a.m. Sabbath School at 10:00 a.m.
EDSON UNITED CHURCH
Edson United Church
1214 Edson Drive Edson AB
Phone: 723-3418

FAMILY OF FAITH CHURCH
463 72 St., Edson (formerly Glenwood Hall), Telephone: 780-517-7558

Sunday: 10:00 am - Coffee and Donuts; 10:30 am - Morning Service
Pastors: Pastors John and Ingrid Huizing vfm@shaw.ca

HOLY TRINITY
(An Anglican/Lutheran Faith Community)
Rev. Johnny Pooten 780-723-3157
Worship Service 10am Sundays.

All Services will be held at 623-50 St., Edson. (St. Catherine's). Please phone for other information.

THE NEW JOSHUA GENERATION FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL
4911 B 3rd Avenue, Edson, AB
Sunday Worship at 2:00 p.m.; Fellowship after service.

Rev. Noemi Sogocio, Senior Pastor, 780-600-0050; noemi_sogocio2006@yahoo.ca

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
4803 - 6th Avenue, Edson
Telephone: 723-3661.

Pastor Father Thomas Basani (SAC)
Mass: Saturday: 5:00 p.m. Sunday: 10:00 a.m.

Call office for weekday Mass times.
HARVEST OUTREACH MINISTRY EDSON
(HomeChurch) in Dunamis Centre
5202 -2nd Ave (East Entrance)
Service: Sunday 10am
Ph. 780-725-2222

CARROT CREEK, NITON JUNCTION & PEERS

CARROT CREEK CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
Pastor George Stone
Ph: 795-2132 Church in Peers, Ab
Adult Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:30 a.m. Non-denominational - Everybody Welcome!

COMMUNITY COWBOY CHURCH
Niton Junction Hall Tuesdays, 7 p.m. 780-712-3502

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Coming Events

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What's happening, when and where in the community

Community Events

Aug 2-5: Peers Gold Dust Daze Events all weekend long for all ages. Please see ad for details

Aug 5,12,19: Life Skills Boot Camp Marlboro Community Hall 11:00am-2:30pm for ages 14-18 register by calling 780-325-3782 or email showe@yhcounty.ca

July 31 Aug 7,14: Life Skills Boot Camp Peers Multiplex 11:00am-2-:30pm for ages 14-18 register by calling 780-325-3782 or email showe@yhcounty.ca

July 31: YIA Wild Wednesday: River Slides & Mini Golf @ Whitecourt Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. Location: Meet at Griffith's Park Centre. County pickup/dropoff available at Fulham School. Registration: nicolet@edson.ca

July 30: Red Brick Arts Centre & Museum. Bakers Dozen 9:30am

July 31: Bring your Children to play at the park 12-2pm Light Snacks and a cold treat in Marlboro Visit yhcounty.ca/registration for more information.

August 1: Teddy Bear Picnic, Time: 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm. Location: RCMP Centennial Park. This is a FREE

event, bring the family!

August 3: Community Paint Party. All ages welcome Peers Mcleod Valley Grounds (Gold Dust Daze)

August 21: Bring your Children to play at the park 12-2pm Light Snacks and a cold treat in Cadomin Visit yhcounty.ca/registration for more information.

First Wednesday of Every Month: Senior's Recycling Day. Between 10 am and 1 pm, senior citizens are welcome to visit the depot for snacks and refreshments while their staff unloads your sorted recyclables free of charge.

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Niton Junction Hall Tuesdays, 7 p.m. 780-712-3502

The Weekly **ANCHOR**

Farm & Field

News and Views

Hay - is it time for another look at this strategic crop?

"The past few years have been challenging for hay crops with droughts in 2021 and 2023, which resulted in a production drop and an increase in hay prices to levels not seen before in the province," says Chris Panter, competitiveness and market analysis director with Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation.

Hay prices reached over \$270/ton in the spring of 2024 and remain well above 5-year and 10-year averages of \$195/ton and \$155/ton, respectively. The sustained uptrend in hay values over the past 10 years is striking, as Figure 1 shows. This may be an indication that the province needs to produce more hay.

"From sheep to horses and cattle, many animals can eat hay. Cattle markets are performing well with feeder prices rising to record levels in 2024. Focus naturally turns to the supply of hay when considering expansion possibilities in the cow-calf sector. Changing feeding practices such as increased use of annual crops for winter forage and grazing have likely reduced some of the need for hay, especially for the larger cattle operations. Hay will always be an important source of feed in the cattle industry."

Fewer tame hay acres may reduce the sector's ability to be resilient in dry years when hay supplies are down and demand is up. Figure 2 shows data from Statistics Canada and a clear trend of declining tame hay acres and production since the mid-2000s, a trend closely mirrored by a drop in cow numbers on cow-calf operations. In terms of production, Alberta produces considerably less hay than it did 20 years ago. A sustained expansion of the cow herd expansion will likely require an increase in tame hay acres.

"With grain and oilseed prices down from recent highs, it might be the right time to consider growing hay as a cash crop," says Panter. "Smaller farms may find it easier to get into perennial forage production compared to other crops. Forage production comes with a number of advantages and disadvantages."

For producers who do not raise livestock, growing forages can come with challenges around: equipment cost; storage limitations; time constraints and perhaps labour availability.

Potential opportunities include: a new revenue source; crop rotation advantages; lower input costs;

nitrogen fixation (with alfalfa or other legume); spreading workload over summer.

"Hay prices can be volatile and options to manage price and other market risks are limited," says Panter. "Wet weather can negatively impact product quality at harvest, as it does in grain production. The price of hay tends to increase in dry years. However, improved growing conditions and the prospects for better yields can lead to sharp price drops. A situation like this happened in 2002-03, 2010-11, 2015-16 and 2022. Perennial crop insurance is available through AFSC to reduce production risk."

Producers must be prepared to take an active role in terms of marketing their crop. There is no centralized buying and distribution network for forages. Websites such as Kijiji, Farming the Web,

and AgBuySell are examples of ways farmers can market their crop. The forage market is large and diverse. Customers who raise horses, sheep, goats or dairy cows might be looking for a different type of hay than a producer with beef cows.

Factors like cut (first or second), colour (visual appearance), palatability and nutrient quality, as well as bale type and size can influence price. Product evaluation is less subjective with a forage test, for both the buyer and seller.

"Tame hay will remain a strategically important crop in Alberta for the foreseeable future, but each producer should make their own determination on the merits of forage production for their farm," says Panter. - *AgriNews*

Donation-Matching Program for wildfire relief in Jasper and Alberta

OTTAWA, ON – Gerald Soroka, Member of Parliament for Yellowhead wishes to advise that the federal and provincial Alberta government has launched a donation-matching initiative with the Canadian Red Cross to support wildfire disaster relief and recovery efforts in the province, including in the historic town of Jasper which was severely impacted by wildfires in recent days.

Both the federal and provincial governments will match all donations to the Canadian Red



Cross 2024 Alberta Wildfires Appeal, which means every \$1 donated will become \$3 to support the families and individuals most

impacted by wildfires in Jasper and across the province. The donation matching will be for 30 days, retroactive to when it first opened on July 25, 2024.

Canadians wishing to make a financial donation to help those impacted by wildfires in Alberta can do so online at www.redcross.ca or by calling 1-800-418-1111.

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