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December 15, 2020

COMMUNITY FOOD BANKS ARE OPEN, SAFE & ESSENTIAL

Submitted by Food Banks Alberta

With stricter COVID-19 restrictions now in effect, Food Banks across Alberta remain an essential ser-

vice, continuing to support Albertans in need. Food Banks Alberta members have seen an increase in the number of clients accessing member food banks across the province, and anticipate

that the upcoming restrictions will result in further demand, in combination with the imminent holiday season.

Continued on Page 4

SUSPECT ARRESTED FOR ARMED ROBBERY

Submitted by Parkland RCMP

On Dec. 9, 2020 at 6:23 a.m. Parkland RCMP responded to a report of an

armed robbery in the area of Township 533 and Range Road 15. An armed male knocked at the door of a residence and demanded the victim give him the keys

to a vehicle. The victim complied and the suspect left the residence with the stolen vehicle. There were no injuries.

Continued on Page 4

YELLOWHEAD COUNTY DECEMBER CLOSURE

Submitted by Yellowhead County

Following the Alberta Government's latest COVID-19 guidelines, Yellowhead County's offices will remain closed to the public and will be staffed by only essential employees.

Please note that core ser-

vices such as road maintenance or protective and emergency services will not be affected.

Our phone lines will remain open during this time. If you have questions or concerns during regular office hours, please call 780-723-4800.

For after-hours and que-

ries to utilities, bylaw enforcement, and transportation, please call 780-723-3221. For all emergencies, call 911.

The county will be fully closed for holidays on December 24, 25, 28 and January 1st.

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EXPIRED: ALBERTA REMOVES LICENCE PLATE STICKERS

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Alberta's government first required registration expiry dates to be visible on Alberta licence plates in 1974. Due to advances in technology, stickers marking the month and year of registration, as well as stickers for fleet vehicles and permanent trailers, will no longer be issued in 2021.

In fall 2021, Alberta will transition to high-definition reflective licence plates. The reflective plates are more easily scanned by automated licence plate readers, which will assist law enforcement agencies using that technology to validate licence plate registration at roadside.

Reflective plates will be issued on a go-forward basis after the current stock of painted licence plates runs

out in the fall.

"Registry agents support this next step to modernizing the delivery of registry services. We applaud Minister Glubish for taking the initiative to make changes that will benefit Albertans and cut red tape." - Rikki McBride, chief executive officer, Association of Alberta Registry Agents

Alberta drivers and vehicle owners will still be responsible for renewing their registration on time, and will still require a valid certificate of vehicle registration. Albertans can sign up to receive an electronic renewal notice through a registry agent, the Alberta Motor Association, or MyAlberta eServices.

Quick facts

- There are more than 5.5 million vehicles registered in Alberta.
- The government current-

ly spends about \$1.2 million per year to print, ship and store expiry stickers for licence plates.

- Stickers will still be required for farm vehicles and prorated commercial vehicles participating in the International Registration Plan.

- Vehicle registrations expire at midnight on the last day of an assigned month, based on surname or company name.

- One-year online vehicle registration renewals are available for passenger vehicles and motorcycles.

- Canadian jurisdictions that have eliminated the use of expiry stickers on licence plates are:

- Quebec (1992)
- Saskatchewan (2012)
- Northwest Territories (2014)
- Manitoba (2016)

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West Central Alberta Meals on Wheels
would like to give a Huge THANK YOU to **Seba Beach Seniors Golden Age Club** for their Generous Donation!

THANK YOU!

JOKE of the week

A guy bought his wife a beautiful diamond ring for Christmas. After hearing about this extravagant gift, a friend of his said, "I thought she wanted one of those sporty four-wheel-drive vehicles."
"She did," he replied. "But where was I going to find a fake Jeep?"

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YELLOWHEAD COUNTY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Submitted by Yellowhead County

December 8, 2020

2021 Interim Budget – Council adopted the 2021 Interim Budget to be effective January 1, 2021. The total budget is \$113,399,624 and includes no increase in the municipal portion of the property tax rate. No new county programs were added to the 2021 budget and capital costs were significantly reduced compared to previous years. This interim budget consists of operations \$43,724,355; capital projects \$12,100,061; requisitions \$28,577,969; contribution to reserves \$8,064,115; contribution to local governments \$4,663,741; amortization \$16,269,383.

FCSS Year in Review – Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) continued to provide pre-

ventative social services to county residents during the pandemic, including regular social services, referrals, and information services. The results and success of their programs and services had many successful impacts on the community. Their in-person and online methods helped residents of all ages continue to be part of the community and ensure residents were aware of the available resources and services offered through FCSS.

Ag Services Year in Review – Although Agricultural Services had several setbacks brought on by the pandemic, including not hiring temporary summer staff, the department continued to provide core services required under provincial legislation. Some ag extension programs were cancelled, but several transitioned to virtual events that were very

successful and had a high participation rate.

Gravel Supply Contracts – The gravel supply for two 3-year (2021-2023) county contracts were awarded to A. Gering Ranching Ltd. These were the Williamson Gravel Supply Contract for the total amount of \$893,000 and the Rosevear Gravel Supply Contract for \$1,598,000.

Broadband Funding Application – Council approved an application partnership with Nova/Rock, 3CIS, and Morad Communications to apply Application Bid for the Rapid Response Stream, Universal Broadband Fund to support extended coverage in Yellowhead County.

Tax Write-Offs – Council approved the write-off of 5 accounts-receivables for a total of \$7,934.87 and uncollectable taxes in the amount of \$71.21.

Grazing Lease Approved

– Council approved a five-year lease for Pt of Block W, Plan 1035AR.

Wildwood & District Agricultural Society Lease – Yellowhead County approved a five-year lease to the Wildwood & District Agricultural Society for the portion of closed road, locally known as Fifth Avenue, which lies within Plan 902-1054.

Project Management Contract – Council, acting in partnership with the Town of Edson, awarded the Yellowhead County/ Edson Recreation Facility Project Management contract to Turnbull Construction Project Managers with a maximum cost of \$750,000.

The next scheduled regular Council meetings are January 12 & 26, 2021 at 9:30 AM. The next scheduled Governance & Priorities meeting is January 19, 2021.

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MP SOROKA QUESTIONS THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT ON THE LIBERAL FUEL STANDARD

Submitted by Gerald Soroka, MP for Yellowhead

OTTAWA: Gerald Soroka, Member of Parliament for Yellowhead stood in the House today and asked the Minister of Environment the following:

“Mr. Speaker, the Liberal fuel standard will increase the cost of fuel by 4 cents per litre. This increase in cost will have dis-

proportionate effect on Canadians living in rural areas, like so many of my constituents. Rural Canadians don't have the same transportation options as those in urban centres.

Mr. Speaker, will this government make concessions for rural residents to even the playing field or will they continue gouging rural Canadians?”

The Minister's response:

“Mr. Speaker using cleaner fuels in our buildings, vehicles and industries is one of the biggest steps we can take to reduce emissions in this country. The clean fuel standard will cut pollution by up to 30 million tonnes in 2030, which is equivalent to taking seven million cars off the roads. It is going to create enormous opportunities for farmers and compa-

nies producing renewable fuels, hydrogen, and biofuels. It will encourage investments in energy efficiency that will help Canadians save money. It will assist with the faster deployment of electric vehicles. It is something that will drive innovation in this country, business opportunity and environmental sustainability.”

Community Food Banks are Open, Safe & Essential

Continued from Page 1

Food Banks Alberta continues its Alberta-wide aware-

ness campaign to let Albertans know they can safely support or access their community food banks during these uncertain times. Food Banks Alberta also strongly encourages Albertans to ask for help if they are in need of food, family essentials, pet food and more.

About Food Banks Alberta: Food Banks Alberta is the provincial association of food

banks in Alberta, with a mission to strengthen the impact of the provincial food bank network by creating new opportunities, increasing knowledge, providing resources, and delivering innovative programs. We seed connections for positive social change. We are composed of a strong network of more than 100 member food banks across Alberta.



Suspect Arrested for Armed Robbery

Continued from Page 1

Through the use of RCMP intelligence, police were able to track the vehicle. RCMP Police Dog Services and RCMP Air Services were utilized during the search. The RCMP Capital West Integrated Traffic Unit assisted. The suspect was located at 8:09 a.m. and arrested without incident.

The 41-yr- old male suspect was charged with Robbery, Theft Over \$5000 and Mischief. He will be appearing in Stony Plain Provincial Court of Feb. 17, 2021.

Official documents are in the process of being sworn. The suspect's name will not be released at this time.

“The success of this investigation is a result of the collaborative nature of the various units within the RCMP. Together they were able to locate and arrest the suspect as well as respond to the other numerous calls to service that were dispatched during the duration of this investigation”, advised Sergeant Major McGillivray, “We are all working together to keep our community safe.”

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JUVENILE BATTEN SISTERS CAMPAIGN: ONLINE AUCTION

Submitted by **Nicki Chalifoux**

Two little girls in Evansburg have been diagnosed with Juvenile Batten's Disease.

CLN3 Juvenile Batten's Disease is an extremely rare (5000 people in the world) neurological disorder that starts with vision loss. It progresses to seizures, dementia and eventually they lose their ability to walk, talk, eat on their own and all motor skills completely. It is life limiting and the typical life expectancy of a Juvenile Batten's patient is late teens to early 20's.

There are only two experimental treatments - both in

the US, and both extremely expensive (almost 2 million per child!).

That's why - on Sunday, December 20 - from 10am to 10pm - We are having an online auction to help their family. We currently have 20 good items but we expect to double that this week! The community is really rallying! You can see the items we have online now by visiting <https://www.32auctions.com/JuvenileBattenSisters>

The family of six thanks each and every one of you for your generous help.

Nicki Chalifoux is organizing this fundraiser on behalf of Katie Lamprecht.

This Holiday Season SHOP Local

Businesses have faced an extremely difficult year as a result of COVID. This holiday season let's help them out by shopping local.

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2.82 ACRES @ FERN MEADOWS (Gunn)

1248 Sq. Ft. 3 Bdrm home + 3 season guest cabin. Shared, wheelchair accessible deck. Wood burning fireplaces in both dwellings with about 20 cords of wood & 2 propane tanks.

MLS# E4214371 \$188,200



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
Our Office will be closed 3:30pm Dec. 18 and will reopen 9am on Jan 4. David will be available on his cell @ 780-699-3814 during our break.



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Renovated bungalow on large corner lot. 2 Bdrm, 1 Bath in main house, 1 Bdrm, 1 Bath in self-contained bachelor suite. Enclosed sun porch. Double attached garage with partly fenced yard.

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2550 Sq. Ft. wheelchair accessible home. Primary bdrm has 6 pc ensuite. 2nd primary bdrm has 4 pc ensuite. 3rd is a regular bdrm. Full unfinished basement. Triple attached garage.

MLS# E4172115 \$474,900

YELLOWHEAD COUNTY 2021 INTERIM BUDGET

Submitted by Yellowhead County

On December 8, 2020, Council approved the 2021 interim budget for Yellowhead County. The interim budget was developed with a very conservative approach to keep operational and capital costs as low as possible. These measures are to ensure there is no increase to the municipal portion of the property tax

rate while still providing services to county residents.

Capital projects, which typically form a large part of the county budget, have been kept to a minimum and reduced significantly when compared to previous years.

“We plan on operating on a reduced operational and capital budget for 2021 to reflect the current economy in our municipality and province. With the foresight of current and past councils, we have already done considerable planning and building of vital infrastructure that will keep our county moving forward into 2021 and beyond,” says Yellowhead County Mayor Jim Eglinski. “We’re confident in the current situation of our municipal infrastructure and of our county at this time.”

In addition to these cost saving measures, other strategies have been included in the 2021 interim budget. These include no new increases to municipal fees and no cost-of-living increase for staff in 2021.

2021 Interim Budget \$113,399,624

This consists of:

- Operations \$43,724,355
- Capital projects \$12,100,061
- Contribution to reserves \$8,064,115
- Contributions to local government \$4,663,741
- Requisitions (School and Seniors) \$28,577,969
- Amortization \$16,269,383

Highlights of the budget include:

- Communication Tower in Robb \$1,600,000

- Fire Training Facility \$150,000
- Sand/Salt Storage Facilities \$1,200,000
- Reno Road Overlay \$1,700,000
- Yellowhead Edson Multiplex \$4,385,061

Out of the \$12,100,061 funding for capital projects, over half (\$6,780,912) will come from grants to help fund various projects for Protective Services, Infrastructure Services, and Community Services.

Because this budget will have a reduction of new capital projects, it better reflects the current economic situation affecting local industry, businesses, farms and Yellowhead County households.

For more details on the 2021 Budget please visit www.yhcounty.ca/budget



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STORY TO TELL?

Know of a good event going on in the community? Ever wanted to write up a local event for the Community Voice?

If you have any good ideas for articles or would like to submit a story for the paper Email it to news@com-voice.com or just fax it in at (780) 962-1021.

Please call us at (780) 962-9228 for more information.

Stories may be edited for length due to possible space restrictions.

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VOLUNTEERS CELEBRATED WITH STARS OF ALBERTA AWARDS

Submitted by Government of Alberta

The awards coincide with International Volunteer Day, a global initiative established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1985.

“The Stars of Alberta Volunteer Awards honour our brightest and best community leaders and advocates. We celebrate passionate volunteers who give their time and talents to a wide range of projects, causes and organizations to make life better for Albertans.

Congratulations to this year’s award recipients who lead with their hearts and embody Alberta’s strong spirit of volunteerism. We are truly grateful for their life-changing work in our communities.” - Leela Sharon Aheer, Minister of Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women

Two awards are presented in the youth, adult and senior categories, and three awards are presented in the new breaking barriers category. This year’s recipients include:

- Amanda Hardman (youth), Stony Plain

- Brennan O’Yeung (youth), Calgary
- Joyce McCoy (adult), Didsbury
- Jayanta (Jay) Chowdhury (adult), Calgary
- Frieda Maynard (senior), Edson
- Kathleen (Kathy) King (senior), Edmonton
- Salima Versi (breaking barriers – anti-racism), Edmonton
- Anjum Mullick (breaking barriers – fighting gender discrimination), Edmonton
- Kelly Ernst (breaking

barriers – LGBTQ2S+ advocacy), Calgary

The Stars of Alberta Volunteer Awards program started in 2000 and since then, 136 Alberta volunteers have received the honour.

Stars of Alberta is part of the government’s efforts to recognize the invaluable contributions Albertans are making to their communities. Volunteer recognition programs encourage a sustained commitment to civic participation and inspire others to make volunteering a central part of their lives.

ALBERTA’S GOVERNMENT HAS ANNOUNCED ITS COVID-19 VACCINE IMMUNIZATION PLAN AND TIMELINE

Submitted by MLA Mark Smith | Drayton Valley – Devon Constituency

Premier Jason Kenney has appointed Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and former Commander of the Canadian Army, General (ret’d) Paul Wynnyk, to lead Alberta’s COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force, which will direct the distribution of Covid 19 vaccines across the province. For those constituents that grew up in the Breton area they may remember Paul as he spent many of his formative years in Breton.

From his time serving in the Canadian Forces, General Wynnyk brings a wealth of experience that will be invaluable in addressing the challenges of this project.

After graduating from the Royal Military College of Canada, General Wynnyk was com-

missioned into the Canadian Military Engineers. There, he became commanding officer of the 1 Combat Engineer Regiment in Edmonton and later commander of the 1 Area Support Group.

When Canada was at war, Wynnyk served as Assistant Commanding General at the Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan. It was in this daunting role that Wynnyk oversaw the development of both the Afghan Ministry of Defense and the Afghan Army itself.

In his current role with Municipal Affairs, Wynnyk successfully spearheaded the Provincial Operations Centre’s effort to procure and distribute masks, gowns, gloves and face shields amid a global rush for Personal Protective Equipment.

Smooth and rapid vaccine distribution will not only be essential to our economic recov-

ery, but it will also be a matter of life or death for many Albertans. Under the leadership of General Wynnyk, Albertans can be confident that the government is up to the challenge.

Alberta anticipates receiving enough doses of vaccine to immunize up to 435,000 of the most at-risk Albertans between January and March 2021.

Alberta’s government will not make any vaccines mandatory. While some may believe this is controversial, we do not live in a country where government can inject anybody against their free will. However, it is important that as many Albertans as possible get vaccinated, and vaccinations will be provided free of charge.

Immunization will be phased process. Albertans vaccinated in Phase 1 will include long-term care and designated supported living residents and staff in those facilities, on-reserve First Nations individu-

als over age 65, seniors aged 75 and older, and health-care workers who are needed to ensure health care capacity and who are most likely to transmit COVID-19.

Phase 2 is expected to begin by April 2021 and will again be targeted to prioritized populations. Phase 3 will involve rolling out vaccinations to the general Alberta population, anticipated to start by fall 2021.

COVID-19 has changed all our lives, but this vaccine is evidence that there is light at the end of the tunnel. Alberta is ready and we will accomplish this critical task.

I can be reached at the main constituency office in Drayton Valley at 1-800-542-7307 toll-free Monday to Friday, the Devon constituency office at 780-987-3666 Wednesdays and Thursdays or emailed at draytonvalley.devon@assembly.ab.ca anytime.

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GYPSD GOOD NEWS STORY: THE GIFT OF GIVING – TOEVEEMBER

Submitted by Grande Yellowhead School Division Public School Division

Charitable giving is a common practice in the holiday season, and GYPSD schools annually step up to

the challenge with various fundraisers and ways to give back to their community.

For the month of November, many of our schools' goal was to keep as many feet warm as possible, one toe at a time. TOEveember

is a sock drive campaign that collects socks to give to shelters and families in need. Socks are one of the most requested items at shelters and the least donated.

Lots of toes will be comfy cozy this year. For exam-

ple, both Ecole Westhaven and Ecole Mountain View School collected about 100 pairs each, and Crescent Valley will be donating 200 pairs, 20 pairs of mittens, and 5 toques!

RCMP INVESTIGATE SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE AND MAKE AN ARREST

Submitted by Parkland RCMP

Spruce Grove, Alta. – On Dec. 5, 2020 at 3:08 a.m. Parkland RCMP responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the area of Westridge. The complainant advised that the vehicle had been cruising the neighbor-

hood for approximately 45 minutes.

Between Dec. 1 and Dec. 4, 2020, residents of Westridge worked collaboratively to provide Parkland RCMP with a detailed description of the vehicle and suspect. As a result, the police officer that attended was able to quickly identify

the suspect vehicle. A male suspect was located in the vehicle with a controlled substance in plain view. Break in tools were located inside the vehicle as well as a concealed weapon near the driver's seat.

Gunther Schwarten (34) of Sturgeon County, Alta. was charged with:

- Possession of break-in instruments
 - Possession of GHB
 - Possession of weapon for dangerous purpose
- Gunther Schwarten is scheduled to appear in Stony Plain Provincial Court on Jan. 6, 2021.



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SUDOKU

of the week

Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

ANSWER:

2	3	5	4	8	6	7	1	9
8	6	9	7	2	1	4	5	3
4	7	1	9	5	3	6	2	8
6	8	3	1	9	5	2	7	4
5	2	4	3	7	8	9	6	1
9	1	7	2	6	4	3	8	5
7	4	8	6	1	9	5	3	2
1	9	2	5	3	7	8	4	6
3	5	6	8	4	2	1	9	7

2								
	6	9	7	2		4		
4		1	9		3	6		
		3		9	5		7	
		4		7				
	1					3	8	
	4	8				5		2
	9					8	4	
				4	2		9	7

Church Directory

Seba Beach Christian Fellowship

Sunday School 10:00a.m.
Worship Service 11:00a.m.

Weekdays Bible Study & Prayer

(780) 305-3594

Advent Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship & Sunday School 11:00a.m.

Evansburg
O: 747-3594

Roman Catholic Church

St. Agnes' Parish, Mayerthorpe
Sunday 9:00a.m.
St. Elizabeth Parish, Evansburg
Saturday 7:00p.m.

(780) 786-2032

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

Sunday Mass 11:30a.m.
Tuesday Mass 7:00p.m.

Wabamun, AB

St. Augustine's - Parkland Anglican Church

131 Church Rd. Spruce Grove

Sunday Service 10:00a.m.
Eucharist with Sunday School & Nursery
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Office 780-962-5131
www.staugustinesparkland.org

Parkland Baptist Church

Sunday Worship Service 10:30a.m.
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St. Anthony's Ukrainian Orthodox Church

6103 172 St. NW, Edmonton

Saturday:
Vespers 5:00PM
Sunday: Divine Liturgy 10:00AM

780.487.2167
santhony@teluglanet.net
www.st-anthonys.ca

Stony Plain United Church

Sunday Service 10:30a.m.
3012-51 Ave. Stony Plain

Mewassin United Church

Sunday Service 9:00a.m.
Rev. Heather Koots
Hwy 627 - Rg Rd 30
Ph: 780-963-4745

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Rosethal

Sunday Worship Service 9:30a.m.
Sunday School

780-963-4048

Emmaus Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship Service 11:30a.m.

Rev. Robert Marshall
4604-50th Ave, Drayton Valley
Ph: 780-542-5101
emmauslutheranchurch.wordpress.com

Church of God

Worship Service Sun. 11:00a.m.

Please contact for activities
5004-49 Street,
Drayton Valley
Ph: 780-542-5091

Calvary Baptist Church

Pastoral Team: Kenton Penner

Sunday Worship 10:30a.m.
Youth & Ministries Info - calvbapt@telus.net

4403-50th Ave. Drayton Valley
780-542-4774
www.calvarybaptist.ca

Drayton Valley Alliance Church

Pastor John Haazen

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All Saints' Anglican Church

Sunday Morning Worship 9 BCP
10:30 BAS with Sunday School & Nursery

5212-47 Ave. Drayton Valley
(780) 542-5048

St. Anthony Catholic Church

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE:
Saturday 5:00p.m.
Sunday 12:00p.m.

4708-50 Ave. Drayton Valley
Parish Office: 542-5254

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