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April 6, 2021

EVANSBURG HERITAGE HOUSE RECEIVES GRANT

Submitted by Elizabeth Van Hecke

We are thrilled to share with our community that the Evansburg Heritage House has received a grant for \$25,000 from the Federal New Horizons for Seniors Program.

We plan on using the funding to do some much needed upgrades like, painting, new flooring, & a new dishwasher.

We would like to thank our MP of Yellowhead, Gerald Soroka, for stopping by



and gifting us a Canadian Flag, and congratulating us on receiving the grant.

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YCFD REGIONAL CREW TACKLES COMPLEX RESCUE

Submitted by Yellowhead County

Yellowhead County Fire Department (YCFD) members train tirelessly to be prepared for any emergency in the county. When protecting over 22,000 square kilometers of varied and distant terrain, you never know what to expect—but

you best be prepared for anything when you get the call.

On March 27, 10 YCFD fire fighters put their training to the test when they were called in to respond to two people who had fallen down Pembina River's bank. Initial crews arrived within minutes, and support crews from throughout the county

were immediately en route.

The crews found themselves setting up at midnight in cold, dark, and slippery conditions. Before them was a 30 foot cliff that would have to be carefully navigated. At the bottom of the cliff were the two people who had been stranded for over 24 hours.

Continued on Page 2

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YCFD Regional Crew Tackles Complex Rescue



Continued from Page 1

Responding to structure fires is just one facet of YCFD's work. Rope rescue is a very real part of the

job and a necessary skill to practice for our fire fighters. Luckily, our members throughout the region are thoroughly trained—they quickly assessed the situation and began a setup for a technical rope team rescue.

With the support of their crew, two rescuers rappelled down the sheer cliff and reached the stranded individuals. After a thorough assessment of their condition, rescuers then transferred them to a Stokes Basket—a type of splint stretcher meant to minimize trauma to injured persons.

The team at the top of the cliff began to haul the rescuers with the basketed in-

dividuals in tow. Thanks to the diligence and training of our members, the operation went smoothly, and the two people were soon turned over to EMS.

"Our members dedicate themselves to a profession that requires countless hours of training so that they can be the answer for an occasion such as this," commented YCFD Fire Chief Albert Bahri. "This is a perfect example of how our fire fighters will respond to any situation when the public calls on them."

Find out how you can train with the county's finest and serve your community proudly by visiting www.yhcfirefighters.com.

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JOKE of the week

Mrs Lewis, a Sunday school teacher asked her little children one Easter Sunday, as they were on the way to the church service, 'And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?' Rebecca, a bright little girl piped up, 'Because people are sleeping!'

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A MESSAGE FROM MLA MARK SMITH

Submitted by MLA Mark Smith | Drayton Valley – Devon Constituency

On March 24, 2021, the Canada Venture Capital and Private Equity Association released their annual report. It affirmed what Alberta's government has said for months: that for venture capital in Alberta, 2020 was a record-shattering year. Notably, 2020 saw significant investments in Edmonton and Calgary, in particular.

This is excellent news for the province of Alberta, especially when compared to the rest of the country. Nationwide, Canada's venture capital investment was down 29 per cent in 2020. In comparison, Alberta's venture capital investment doubled, with \$455,000,000 in deals.

This investment is extremely positive for Alberta's economy. Jobber, Symend and Neo Financial, all Alberta-based companies, have announced that they raised record amounts of funds this past year. These significant levels of venture capital investment demonstrate the momentum of growth in our province's tech and innovation sector, helping get Albertans back to work as we continue to respond to the economic challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Alberta Enterprise Corporation played an important role in the majority of the venture capital investments made last year. These investments, coupled with recent announcements from companies such as mCloud and Infosys stating that they are moving their operations to Alberta, means technology companies and innovators are starting to notice that Alberta is a good place to invest and run their operations.

2019 and 2020 were both record years for venture capital in Alberta. With this pattern of growth, the provincial government's recapitalization of Alberta Enterprise Corporation, and new policies that encourage innovation and investment right here in our province, we have built a strong founda-

tion to ensure 2021 is another strong year for our tech and innovation sector. This is truly a turning point for diversification and growth in our provincial economy.

Albertans are resolute, and every single one of us is determined to ensure Alberta's economy rebounds from this pandemic stronger than ever before. Last year's capital venture investment numbers and recent company relocations demonstrate that our plan to grow and diversify our economy is working, and we are

doing everything we can to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic in an excellent position.

Record Breaking Year for Venture Capital Investment

In 2020, Alberta's venture capital investment doubled with \$455,000,000 in deals.

2020 was a record-shattering year for venture capital in the province, building upon 2019's record year. While the country's venture capital investment was down almost 30 per cent last year, Alberta's doubled with \$455,000,000 in

deals. Alberta Enterprise Corporation (AEC) played a critical role in 53 per cent of the venture capital investments made last year. With two incredible years for Alberta's tech sector, the recapitalization of AEC and new policies that encourage innovation and investment, there are some much-needed signs of hope for Alberta. Our province has built a solid foundation to ensure 2021 will be another historic year for this sector and a turning point for economic growth.

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PARKLAND RCMP INVESTIGATE A SUDDEN DEATH

Submitted by Parkland RCMP

Spruce Grove, Alta. – On March 29, 2021 at 12:30 p.m. a complainant attended the Parkland RCMP Detachment to report there was a

person lying in the ditch of the eastbound lane of Hwy 16A near Rotary Park in Spruce Grove.

Parkland RCMP members attended and located a deceased 23-year-old female. Eastbound traffic on Hwy

16A between Veterans Blvd and Campsite Road was diverted so investigators could conduct an extensive investigation.

Investigation revealed that the death was not suspicious in nature. There are

various factors that, as a whole, may have contributed to this tragedy.

Out of respect for the deceased and her family, no further details will be released.

MP GERALD SOROKA COMMENTS ON BILL C-7

Submitted by Gerald Soroka, MP for Yellowhead

OTTAWA: Gerald Soroka, Member of Parliament for Yellowhead commented on Bill C-7 'An Act to amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying) after the votes were tallied.

"Tonight, MPs voted on Bill C-7 in the House of

Commons. I have received many questions via email as to how I voted from both those in favour of the Bill and those against.

Prior to voting on Bill C-7 Conservatives tried to introduce an amendment to remove the expansion of MAID eligibility to those with mental illness. I supported this amendment in an effort to ensure we are

not putting our most vulnerable at risk. Unfortunately, this amendment was defeated by the Liberals and the Bloc.

On Bill C-7 itself I thoroughly examined the legislation and thought about the different perspectives constituents raised with me on this issue. However, without safeguards to protect those that are mentally

ill I could not in good conscience support this Bill.

I believe in extreme circumstances when someone is in pain and all other options have been exhausted, we must allow people access to MAID. This Bill however is too wide reaching and puts vulnerable populations at risk. I was disappointed to see this legislation passed."

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2020 TAX GUIDE INFORMATION

Submitted by Gerald Soroka, MP for Yellowhead

March 24, 2021

OTTAWA: Gerald Soroka, Member of Parliament

for Yellowhead, is pleased to provide his constituents with a 'Tax Guide' to assist them in preparing their 2020 tax return.

"During tax time it is im-

perative that you receive all the benefits you qualify for," concluded MP Soroka.

Take a look through the Tax Guide to find some of the tax savings you may

claim at:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NOft4jk1-UNdz6D-r3TiKp_dOPUH-0vXFl/view?usp=sharing

MP GERALD SOROKA QUESTIONS THE GOVERNMENT ON ITS BUNGLED QUARANTINE HOTEL SCHEME

Submitted by Gerald Soroka, MP for Yellowhead

OTTAWA: Gerald Soroka, Member of Parliament for Yellowhead, asked the following question today during Question Period.

He said:

"Madam Speaker, the government has completely bungled its quarantine hotel scheme. Conservatives have been calling for a post-arrival testing regime

since the beginning. The Calgary International Airport pilot project showed that this could be done successfully. I recently met with travel agents to discuss the impacts of COVID on the sector and its path to recovery.

When will the government abandon its failed hotel quarantine debacle and instead implement post-arrival testing?"

Reply:

Mr. Darren Fisher (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health, Lib.):

"Madam Speaker, Canada has some of the strictest travel and border measures in the world. New variants of concern have made it very important that we take further steps to protect Canadians from COVID-19. We have been clear from the start of this pandemic that no one should be travelling. We have to get that

message through. Doing so can put people and their loved ones at risk. From the start we have had the safety and health of Canadians in mind, and we will always act to protect that."

The video of the exchange can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/GeraldSorokamp/videos/904095350443950/>

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PHASE 2B VACCINE APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE THROUGH AHS

Submitted by Government of Alberta

As part of Phase 2B of Alberta's vaccine rollout, anyone born in 1963 or earlier with eligible health conditions can now book appointments with Alberta Health Services (AHS) online or by calling 811.

Anyone with eligible health conditions born in 1963 or earlier can also continue booking at participating pharmacies in Calgary, Edmonton and Red Deer. In the coming weeks, as more vaccine supply is available, pharmacies across Alberta will begin to offer bookings.

As Phase 2B rolls out, additional birth years for Albertans with underlying health conditions will be added in the coming days, based on vaccine supply.

By April 23, all Albertans born in 2005 or earlier with eligible high-risk underlying health conditions will be able to book

an appointment through pharmacies and AHS.

"Launching Phase 2B provides more Albertans, their families, and our communities across the province the hope of brighter days ahead. Our staff are working diligently, every day, to ensure we are providing vaccine to eligible Albertans as quickly and efficiently as possible and appreciate everyone's patience as we work to include more eligible Albertans in the weeks ahead."

- Dr. Verna Yiu, president and CEO, Alberta Health Services

Eligible health conditions

Phase 2B of Alberta's vaccine rollout focuses on those who have at least one of the following underlying health conditions:

- A missing spleen or a spleen that is no longer working
- Cancer
- Chronic heart disease and vascular disease
- Chronic kidney diseases re-

quiring regular medical monitoring or treatment

- Chronic liver disease due to any cause
- Chronic neurological disease
- Chronic respiratory (lung) diseases
- Diabetes requiring insulin or other anti-diabetic medication to control
- A weakened immune response due to disease or treatment
- Anyone who is currently pregnant
- Severe mental illness or substance use disorder requiring a hospital stay during the past year
- Severe obesity
- Severe or profound learning disabilities or severe developmental delay
- Solid organ, bone marrow or stem cell transplant recipients

Additional information on eligible health conditions, in-

cluding examples, is available at [Alberta.ca/vaccine](https://alberta.ca/vaccine).

Individuals are not required to provide proof of health condition, such as a doctor's note. However, you may want to talk to your doctor or pharmacist to help you understand if your condition is on this list.

Alberta's government is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic by protecting lives and livelihoods with precise measures to bend the curve, sustain small businesses and protect Alberta's health-care system.

Quick facts

- Anyone eligible in Phase 1 and 2A of Alberta's vaccine rollout who hasn't yet received the vaccine can continue to book their appointment through a participating pharmacy or AHS.

- As of April 4, more than 690,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine had been administered to Albertans.

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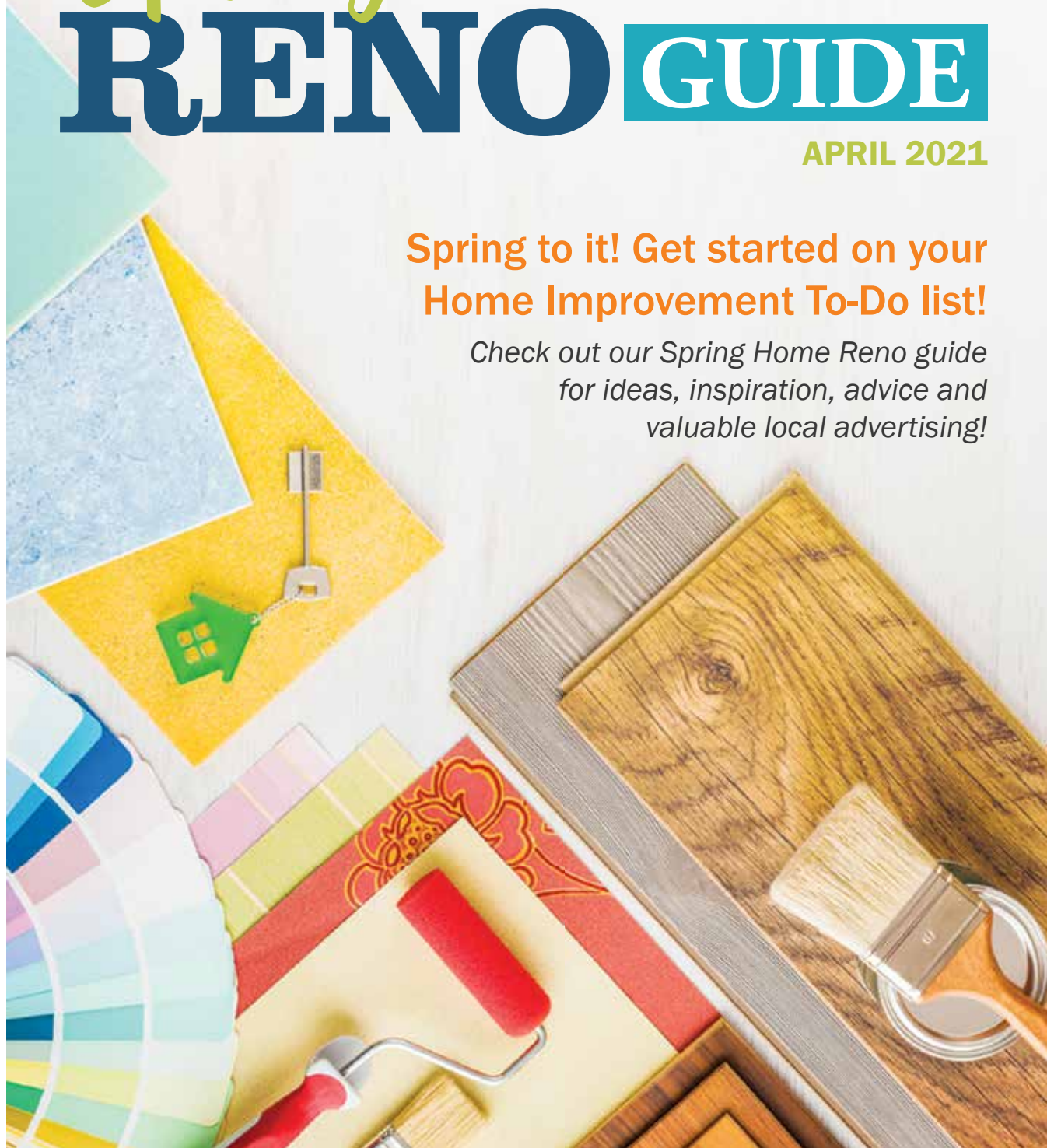
Spring HOME RENO GUIDE



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Spring HOME RENO GUIDE

VARIABLES TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING A MEDIA ROOM

The term "home theater" once made homeowners who love movies and sports dream of the day when they could dedicate a large area in their home to watching the big game or their favorite films. Such rooms are now widely referred to as "media rooms." Though the terminology may have changed, media rooms are not all that different from home theaters.

Before choosing an area of their home as their designated media room, homeowners must consider a host of variables to ensure they get as much out of the room as possible.

· **Location and shape:** Of course the location of the room is of the utmost importance. Media rooms tend to be more social settings than traditional home theaters, which were often designed to be isolated from the

rest of the home so noise and natural light did not adversely affect the film-watching experience. Homeowners may not want their media rooms to be in high traffic areas of their homes, but they needn't be completely secluded, either. The renovation experts at the DIY Network note that the shape of a room should be considered before designating it as the media room. In general, square rooms are not ideal, as such rooms can produce harmonic distortions. A rectangular room likely won't produce such distortions, especially when homeowners place their screens and primary speakers on short walls. It's important that homeowners do not downplay the importance of sound, as media rooms, unlike traditional home theaters, may be used for listening to music just as much

as they are for watching films or sports. Viewers may not recognize distortions when watching something, but homeowners may notice these abnormalities when listening to music.

· **Windows:** Media rooms are multi-purpose rooms, so homeowners don't need to remove rooms with windows from consideration. But the experts at the DIY Network note that windows are hard surfaces that can reflect sound and distort audio, and the light that gets in through windows can produce reflections on the viewing surface. Each of those factors can adversely affect your listening and viewing experience. A room with windows can still make for a good media room, but you may want to invest in some blackout curtains to mitigate some of the disadvantages of

having windows in the room.

· **Wall colors:** The colors of the walls in the room is another variable homeowners will have to consider. Homeowners won't want to host guests for the big game in rooms with darkened walls, as that can create a dreary atmosphere and potentially make people tired. But especially bright colors will reflect light and adversely affect the viewing experience. Neutral colors should not affect the colors on the screen, making them the ideal color choice for media room walls.

Media rooms are high on many homeowners' renovation lists. Considering a host of variables prior to designating an area for a media room can ensure the finished product is as enjoyable as possible.



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SAFETY FIRST WHEN POWER WASHING YOUR HOME THIS SPRING

Harsh winters can take a toll on home exteriors. Dirt and grime can build up on exterior home surfaces over the course of the winter, affecting the appearance of the siding of a home as well as outdoor entertaining areas.

Power washing is a great way to give a home a fresh, clean look in spring. But there's more to power than simply renting the right equipment and getting to work. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention notes that there are many risks associated with using power washers. For instance, the CDC says strong spray from power washers can cause serious wounds that initially seem minor. However, such wounds can lead to infection or disability if left untreated. In addition, if manufacturer safety instructions are not followed, electric shock can occur due to improper

er use.

Homeowners who are intending to power wash their own homes this spring should first determine if they're physically capable of doing so. Power washers can be difficult for some people to control, so it's imperative that homeowners honestly assess their physical abilities before renting a unit. The CDC urges homeowners who determine they can safely handle power washers to take these additional safety steps to make sure the process of cleaning their home exteriors goes smoothly.

- Never point a pressure washer at yourself or others.
- Do not attempt to push or move objects with spray from the washer. If anything is in your way, turn the power washer off and then move the obstruction.
- Never use a gasoline powered washer in an enclosed

space, which can increase the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.

- Always test the ground fault circuit interrupter (circuit breaker or outlet) before using a pressure washer.
- Always plug a properly grounded pressure washer into a properly grounded receptacle.
- If an extension cord must be used, keep the pressure washer's power cord connection out of and away from any standing water, and use a heavy duty extension cord with components rated for use in wet locations. Keep both the power cord and extension cord connections as far away as possible from the item being washed and away from any water runoff. While power washing, periodically take note of the location of the extension cord connections to ensure they are not in a puddle.
- Wear rubber-soled shoes that

provide some insulation when using the pressure washer.

- Never cut or splice the pressure washer's power cord or extension cords.
 - Never remove the grounding prong from the pressure washer's power cord plug or the extension cord.
 - Pause the project if a circuit breaker is tripped. Always have a qualified electrician check the pressure washer for electrical problems after it has tripped a circuit breaker.
 - Never allow children to operate a pressure washer. Keep children at a safe distance when an adult is using a pressure washer.
- Power washing can give a home a whole new look after a winter's worth of dirt and grime builds up on the home's exterior. Safety must remain the utmost priority when operating a power washer on your own.

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HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT LIGHTING INSIDE YOUR HOME

When choosing lighting for their homes, homeowners must walk a fine line between appearance and functionality. A fixture in the foyer that instantly impresses visitors likely won't prove as awe-inspiring if it's installed in the living room. When choosing lighting for a home, some general rules about what works in each room can help homeowners make the most informed decision.

Kitchen: Kitchens are often the busiest room in a home, so lighting here can be especially important. A kitchen often benefits, both practically and aesthetically, from different types of lighting. For example, pendant lighting above kitchen islands can make meal preparation easier and safer, but such lighting likely won't work in breakfast nooks and informal dining areas in the kitchen. Recessed lighting works best in such areas.

In kitchens with no island, under-cabinet lighting can be used to illuminate countertops and simplify meal preparation.

Formal dining room: Many people enjoy the look of chandeliers in formal dining rooms, and such fixtures can be installed directly above the dinner table. The interior design experts at Better Homes & Gardens advise hanging chandeliers roughly 33 inches above the table in dining rooms with eight-foot ceilings, adding three inches for each additional foot above eight feet. Darkened dining areas may be ideal in restaurants, but homeowners may want to split the difference at home and choose dimmable chandeliers for their dining rooms. This allows homeowners to dim the lights for romantic dinners but turn them up for family gatherings with lots of people around the table.

Living room: Adaptability also

is important in the living room, where homeowners may host anything from movie nights to book clubs to parties for the big game. It can be a tall order to accommodate such a wide range of activities, and many homeowners come down to deciding between recessed lighting and track lighting. If the living room currently has neither style, homeowners should recognize that it will cost considerably less to install track lighting than recessed lighting. Better Homes & Gardens notes that flexible track lighting provides ambient, task or accent lighting, and track lights can even be moved to change lighting schemes at any time, making them a budget-friendly option for homeowners whose living rooms are multi-purpose spaces. Recessed lighting also works well in living rooms, especially ones with low ceilings. That's because recessed

lighting is installed into the ceiling, meaning it does not take up any visual space in the room. That can help living rooms feel bigger.

Bedroom: The home improvement experts at BobVila.com note that bedroom lighting should provide enough light when getting dressed, but also be able to be toned down as residents prepare for their bedtime routines. Both portable and installed lighting can be used in bedrooms to serve these various functions. Recessed fixtures that dim can ensure there's ample light to get dressed in the morning, but they also can be dimmed at night as residents try to get ready to sleep. Portable nightstand lights can make it easier for couples sharing a bedroom, allowing one person to stay up and read while the other goes to sleep.

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EXPLORING DIFFERENT BACKYARD STRUCTURES

Designing an ideal backyard space requires forethought and an eye for style. Knowing which features to include in a yard often boils down to what homeowners want to achieve in the space. Will it be a relaxing oasis or a central entertaining focal point?

People often look to various structures to add height and visual interest to outdoor spaces. Homeowners will likely come across structures like arbors, gazebos, pergolas, and even trellises as they wade through the variety of features they can incorporate into

backyard plans. Each of these structures can add appeal, but they also can offer shelter from the sun and privacy when enjoying the yard. There are significant differences between each structure, so here's an in-depth look at what sets them apart.

· **Arbor:** An arbor is one of the more simple garden structures. It is usually a frame that is arched or square-cornered. Most homeowners use it as an entryway to a garden or even the front of the home. Those with green thumbs may cover the arbor with climbing and trailing plants. The Spruce says arbors date back to early Egyptian and Roman gardens and were used throughout Europe by the late 16th century.

· **Pergola:** The words arbor and pergola are often used interchangeably, but to suggest the two structures are the same would not be accurate. Pergola comes from the Italian word "pergola," which means "projection." Pergolas were once projected from exterior walls and supported on one side by pillars or columns. Today, arbors are usually freestanding units with two or four posts. Pergolas may be connected on one side to a home or another structure. Some are freestanding units supported by four posts. Pergolas tend to be larger and offer more privacy and shade than arbors.

· **Gazebo:** Gazebos are more defined garden buildings, states the contractor referral site Network. Gazebos are freestanding units that can be built in various shapes. Some are octagonal, others are square. Like a pergola, a gazebo is supported by columns and may have low railings or built-in benches. Gazebos also may have a more solid roof than arbors or pergolas, providing sun and other weather protection. The roof may have added architectural appeal, like a cupola.

· **Trellis:** A trellis is a simple, geometrically-shaped structure that provides a surface for climbing plants. A trellis also may support fruit-bearing trees. Trellis work may be used in conjunction with an arbor or pergola, or be installed on fencing.

Incorporating structures into backyard designs can provide functionality and appeal.

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THE BENEFITS OF WORKING WITH AN INTERIOR DESIGNER

Home is where the heart is, and it's also where homeowners express their style. Though interior design may come naturally to some homeowners, many more can benefit from a little help defining their style and translating that style into a beautiful home. In such instances, interior designers can be the most valuable investments homeowners make in their homes.

Homeowners may hear "interior designer" and immediately hear the sound of cash registers ringing in their heads. However, many interior designers offer various services, including hourly consultations, that can make them cost-effective, especially for homeowners who are still trying to define their style and decide just how they want their homes to look. That's just one of

the many benefits of working with interior design professionals.

Interior designers can save homeowners money. Much like it's best for homeowners with no DIY experience to hire professional contractors when renovating their homes, paying an interior designer when you have little experience with design can help you avoid potentially costly mistakes. Interior designers are skilled at transforming homeowners' visions into finished products, and that's a valuable skill homeowners don't necessarily have. Trial and error when designing a home's interior can be costly, even if you're not knocking down any walls or swinging any hammers. For example, after renovating on their own, homeowners may find they need to replace a new

couch or dining table that they realize contradicts their design scheme. Interior designers can help homeowners avoid such costly mistakes and get it right the first time.

Interior designers can help you coordinate your style. Each and every component of a home's interior says something about its owner. Whether it's their choice of lighting fixtures, furniture or even appliances, homeowners make a statement any time they choose a design component for their homes. Interior designers can help homeowners coordinate their styles so each room seamlessly transitions to the next one. An ultra-modern living room may stick out like a sore thumb in a home that's predominantly rustic, and interior designers can help homeowners avoid such

mistakes.

Interior designers recognize what's trending. Interior designers tend to be up-to-date on the latest trends. That can be incredibly valuable, especially for homeowners who are anticipating putting their homes on the market in the near future. In such instances, designers can help homeowners invest in updates or renovations that will appeal to today's buyers, increasing the likelihood that their homes will sell more quickly, and potentially for more money.

Interior designers are well-connected. Interior designers often collaborate with contractors. Those professional relationships can help homeowners avoid the headaches of finding the right professionals to work with when renovating their homes.

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CONTEST Winners

The Easter Bunny is proud to announce the winners of the Easter Colouring Contest!

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COLORING CONTEST



Jade J. Age 4



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Letty P. Age 8 *TIE*



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auto

SPRING 2021

TUNE-UP

Map out the best way to navigate spring driving with our guide that is fully loaded with helpful features for today's drivers. It's your one-stop resource for information, advice and valuable local advertising geared toward all things automotive!



AUTOMOTIVE PARTS AND FEATURES THAT ARE NOW OBSOLETE

Each model year vehicles evolve a little further. What once was popular or essential gets updated with something new and a little more innovative. While certain car parts may always be necessary, others may age out or evolve over the years.

One of the challenges automotive repair professionals often face is the constant need to stay abreast of the changes in automotive design. As features change, so does the knowledge required to keep vehicles on the road. The following are some of the components you likely won't find rolling off of the assembly line these days.

- **Carburetor:** Vehicles previously used a carburetor, which was a bulky device that sat on top of the engine. Classic cars have carburetors, but modern ones do not. Most car manufactur-

ers stopped using carburetors in the 1980s because fuel injector systems proved to be more efficient and improved fuel economy. Carburetors created an air-fuel mixture needed for engine combustion. Very often carburetors were the culprits in poor engine performance because they weren't creating the right air and fuel mixture. Also, jets on the carburetor could easily become clogged.

- **Generator:** Modern automobiles no longer use a generator, which is a device used to produce electricity through the rotation of fine wires in a magnetic field. Cars today use alternators. Instead of an armature rotating inside a stationary magnetic field as with a generator, an alternator has a magnetic field that rotates around a stationary armature, according to the on-

line resource Electrical Technology. Alternators are more efficient because they can produce more power, even charging a car battery, at low engine speeds and idling.

- **Audible turn signals:** Turn signals, also called blinkers, typically have a clicking sound to alert the driver that the signal is still engaged and needs to be switched off after a turn. However, many modern cars are phasing out audible turn signals.

- **Car keys:** Newer vehicles do not have stamped metal keys, which have been replaced by electronic fobs. When the fob is near to the vehicle, doors automatically unlock. The fob is used in combination with a push-button ignition, making a key start obsolete.

- **Full size spare tires:** Not too long ago, if a flat tire required a

roadside change, drivers could rely on a full-sized spare in the trunk or under the vehicle. According to AAA, spare tires have been replaced by tire inflator kits on millions of vehicles in the last 10 model years. Finding a full-sized spare is a rare occurrence.

- **Control knobs:** Radios, heating and cooling systems and other car features are increasingly being activated by buttons or digital displays. Gone are knobs and actual levers. This may be one feature that may have decreased safety and efficiency. Buttons rather than easily manipulated knobs require drivers to take their eyes off the road to find them and engage.

People in the market for new vehicles should familiarize themselves with features that already are extinct or are slowly becoming obsolete.



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WHAT TO LOOK FOR WHEN TEST DRIVING PREOWNED VEHICLES

Preowned vehicles have become hot commodities in recent years, reflecting a change in what drivers are looking for when it's time to get a new ride.

According to the market and consumer data experts at Statista, preowned vehicle sales increased every year between 2014 and 2019 and more than doubled the number of new cars sold each year during that period. For example, in 2019 United States car buyers purchased 40.8 million preowned vehicles and right around 17 million new vehicles.

There are many reasons why more car buyers are increasingly looking to the preowned vehicle market when replacing their existing vehicles. Certified preowned vehicles have increased consumer confidence in used cars and trucks and ex-

tended warranties have helped ease concerns buyers may have about such vehicles.

As reliable as preowned vehicles can be, prospective buyers must remain diligent when considering a used car and truck. Potential mechanical issues can be discussed with a mechanic of buyers' choosing, but it's up to drivers to gauge other factors that can affect how enjoyable it may or may not be to drive a given vehicle. Test drives remain a great way to get a feel for preowned vehicles and prospective buyers can consider various factors to determine if a given car or truck is for them.

· **Comfort:** Comfort is a big consideration when purchasing new vehicles, and there's no reason to downplay the importance of comfort when shop-

ping for preowned vehicles. Consider the available headroom and legroom when test driving a vehicle, but also take note of comfort-based accessories that the vehicle may or may not have. For example, if you've grown accustomed to heated seats on your existing vehicle, then a preowned vehicle without such seats, or one without functioning heated seats, will likely bother you in the years to come.

· **Visibility:** Sight lines vary from vehicle to vehicle, so make sure your test drive is long enough to give you an accurate idea of a vehicle's visibility. Blind spots may not differ much in new versus older models or even in vehicles made by the same manufacturer, but they can differ considerably between manufacturers (i.e.,

Toyota versus Nissan). Get a feel for blind spots during the test drive to determine if the you'll be comfortable driving a given vehicle.

· **Connectivity:** Modern vehicles are designed to connect with our devices, and drivers have quickly grown to prioritize connectivity. Compatibility with devices can make it easier to use GPS and stream music while driving, so don't hesitate to connect your phone when test driving a vehicle. If the car and phone are incompatible, that can affect how much you enjoy driving the car.

Preowned vehicles are incredibly popular. Buyers considering used cars or trucks can look for certain things during a test drive to determine if a given vehicle is the right fit for them.

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HOW TO MAINTAIN A CAR THAT'S RARELY DRIVEN

Driving habits changed significantly in 2020. The outbreak of the novel coronavirus COVID-19 forced many professionals to work from home full-time. In addition, stay-at-home measures greatly limited how much people could or would travel in their free time. The result was a lot of cars spending a lot of time sitting idly in driveways.

Just because a car is not being driven very much does not mean its owner can forgo vehicle maintenance. Drivers can take these steps to ensure their vehicles stay in shape even as they're primarily staying in the driveway.

- Adhere to recommended maintenance schedules. Auto manufacturers typically recommend maintenance schedules based on the number of miles a car is driven or the length of time since its most recent maintenance appointment. "Whichever comes first" may be recommended for fluid changes and routine tuneups, and this rule of thumb should still be followed. Even if a car has barely hit the road in recent months, its fluids, such as oil, are still aging and still need to be replaced.

- Turn the car on every so often. Turning the car on, even if you only intend to

let it sit idle in the driveway, keeps the vehicle components lubricated by allowing fluids to cycle their way through the engine. Turning the car on also ensures the battery stays fresh and doesn't die, a lesson many drivers have learned the hard way during the COVID-19 outbreak.

- Disconnect the battery if necessary. Drivers who own two vehicles or families who have only been using the family car in recent months can disconnect the batteries from their unused vehicles to prevent corrosion. Corrosion decreases battery life and performance. If drivers notice a

white, green or blue covering around the battery terminals, posts or cables, corrosion is likely the culprit and the battery will need to be replaced.

- Take the car for a spin. Of course, driving a vehicle every so often is a great way to keep it running strong. Multi-car families that tend to use the same car to shop for groceries or pick up takeout orders can periodically use their other car to run such errands.

Cars are sitting idly in driveways more than ever before. Vehicle maintenance must remain a priority even for cars that rarely hit the open road.

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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:

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

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

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Mewassin
United Church
Sunday Service 9:00a.m.

Rev. Heather Koots
Hwy 627 - Rg Rd 30
Ph: 780-963-4745

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Rosenthal

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

780-963-4048

Emmaus Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship
Service 11:30a.m.

Rev. Robert Marshall
4604-56th Ave, Drayton Valley
Ph: 780-542-5101
emmauslutheran@telusnet.com

Church of God

Worship Service
Sun. 11:00a.m.

Please contact for activities
3004-49 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
4401-50th Ave. Drayton Valley
780-542-4774
www.calvarybaptistdu.ca

Drayton Valley Alliance Church

Pastor John Haazen

Join us for Sunday
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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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