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October 14, 2026

PARKLAND RCMP REQUESTING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IN IDENTIFYING VICTIMS IN VOYEURISM INVESTIGATION UPDATE

Submitted by Parkland RCMP

In the hopes of identifying other potential victims, Parkland RCMP are releasing a photo of Robert Ben-

nett. Anyone who believes they have been a victim of Bennett, or knows someone who has, is asked to contact the Parkland RCMP at 825-220-7267.




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PARKLAND RCMP ARREST MALE AND RECOVER STOLEN FORD F150

Submitted by Parkland RCMP

On Sept. 22, 2026, at approximately 4:42 a.m., Parkland RCMP members were dispatched to a report of a Ford F150 truck parked in

the first southbound lane of Highway 60 near Township Road 512A in Parkland County, blocking the lane with no lights on.

Police located the vehicle, finding a single male occupant in the drivers' seat,

who appeared to be passed out. Police knocked on the window and arrested the male without incident. Police noted that the licence plate did not correctly match the vehicle.

Continued on Page 2

CANFOR CULTURE & EVENTS CENTRE'S FIRST EVENT PLANNED FOR OCTOBER 15

Submitted by Town of Whitecourt

After years of planning and months of construction, the first event at the Canfor Culture & Events Centre is scheduled for October 15.

The 2026 Economic Forum, hosted by the Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce, will be the first event for the facility and will bring together local businesses, industry leaders and community stakeholders for

learning and networking.

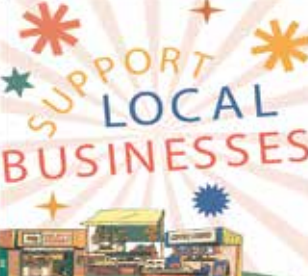
The Canfor Culture & Events Centre is planning a soft opening which will begin next month. The Arts, Culture and Convention Centre (theatre)

Continued on Page 2

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Parkland RCMP Arrest Male And Recover Stolen Ford F150

Continued from Page 1

Upon query of the vehicles VIN, it was confirmed that the vehicle was stolen from Slave Lake, Alta; in August.

Devon Toews, (33), a resident of Edmonton, has been charged with the following offences:

- Possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000;
- Operate a convey-

ance while impaired;

- Failure to comply with release order (x3).

Toews was remanded to attend court at the Alberta Court of Justice in St. Albert on October 5, 2026.

"We would like to thank the members of the public who reported this vehicle to police, allowing our officers to promptly attend and investigate," says Superintendent Kevin McGillivray,

Officer in Charge, Parkland RCMP. "The information we received from the public is invaluable and often plays a key role in helping us protect our communities and hold offenders accountable."

If you have information about this or any other crime, contact the Parkland RCMP non-emergency line at 825-220-7267.

Canfor Culture & Events Centre's First Event Planned For October 15

Continued from Page 1

portion of the building will lead the initial rollout by opening for specific scheduled events, and the municipal and library operations

will gradually transition into their respective new spaces in November.

"The Canfor Culture & Events Centre is more than just a building; it's a gathering space where the community can connect through cultural events and shared experiences, celebrate the arts, and create opportunities for learning," stated Whitecourt Mayor Ray Hilt. "During construction, our team has been working to book a variety of shows and performances, and we have an incredible lineup of events that are scheduled for the community to enjoy."

Tickets & Box Office

Details on upcoming performances and events at the Canfor Culture & Events Centre can be found on Whitecourt's online ticket site whitecourtlive.ca. Don't miss your chance to see Diva's Live and Bury the Hatchet this October – and so much more!

Book Space!

Discover the possibilities at the Canfor Culture & Events Centre. Contact andrewmalmquist@whitecourt.ca to book your upcoming meeting, concert, dance festival, party, wedding, or conference.

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JOKE of the week

The lawyer's son wanted to follow in his father's footsteps, so he went to law school. He graduated with honors, and then went home to join his father's firm. At the end of his first day at work he rushed into his father's office, and said, "Father, father, in one day I broke the accident case that you've been working on for ten years!" His father responded: "You idiot, we could live on the funding of that case for another ten years!"

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90-YEAR ALBERTA BEACH HORSE FARM CAN HOST OVERNIGHT GUESTS — BUT COUNCIL SAYS IT CAN'T FEED THEM

Submitted by Darren Hokanson

A fourth-generation family fighting to preserve their 90-year-old horse farm in Alberta Beach has been told by Village council that while they may host overnight guests in glamping tents, they cannot serve those guests a meal, host a child's birthday party, or hold a single farm-to-table dinner.

On Tuesday, September 15, council voted against a discretionary use application from Hokanson Family Farms to host seasonal, ticketed farm-to-table dinners, with the option of beer and wine, on their property.

The decision leaves the family's agritourism plan half-built: their glamping tents received restrictive approval, but every food-based element of the experience — dinners, guest meals, birthday parties, is prohibited.

Darren and Alison Hokanson took over the farm last year with their children Lily, Heidi, and Paul, after Darren's mother Sharon could no longer maintain it. Sharon, the farm's heart for decades recently passed away. The family's plan was built around her legacy: keep the land a working horse farm and sanctuary, and fund it the way farms across Alberta increasingly do, through agritourism — glamping, farm-to-table dinners, pond skating and hockey, animal experiences, and equine therapy.

"Mom kept this farm alive through sheer will," said Darren Hokanson. "We promised her it would stay a farm. We're not asking to be a restaurant, we're asking to be able to feed our guests, host family-friendly farm-to-table dinners in our community, and create lasting positive memories of being in Alberta Beach through the experiences we host. Whether that's dinner

at a long table or hanging out with the goats, that's what a visit here should feel like."

The proposal before council was modest by design: pre-booked, ticketed farm-to-table events, a few dozen a year at most. Not a bar. Not a restaurant with daily hours. Food raised on the farm and by neighbouring producers, served at long tables on land the family has farmed for 90 years.

The decision runs counter to a clear provincial trend. Sturgeon County passed a Diversified Agriculture Bylaw in November 2022 explicitly permitting farm-to-table dinners on farmland. Rocky View County allows farm gate sales as a permitted use and restaurants as a discretionary use in its agricultural districts. Leduc County is amending its plans to support agritourism, and Lacombe and Red Deer Counties have partnered on a regional agritourism strategy. Alberta Open Farm Days has grown from 18,000 visitors in

2016 to nearly 53,000 in 2025 — part of a global agritourism sector growing roughly 12 per cent annually.

The family considered rezoning to commercial, but the math doesn't work: year-round commercial property taxes on a working farm, for a few dozen ticketed events a year, is a bill no family farm was designed to carry. Other municipalities have solved this by keeping farmland agricultural and simply permitting the activity.

"Every county around us has figured out how to say yes to this," said Alison Hokanson.

"Guests can stay the night on our farm, wake up to the horses — and we're not allowed to make them breakfast. We believe Alberta Beach can find a better path than that, and we're going to keep working with council to find it."

The family's public appeal on Facebook has drawn over 6500 views and 47 shares in less than 24hrs with previous

posts exceeding 100 comments in 72hrs with residents encouraging the farm to bring the proposal back before council.

The Hokanson's welcome media visits to the property. The horses and goats, glamping tents, cook shack, and a dressed long-table dinner setup are available for filming and photography.

Additional quotes approved: Quotations.

"They are asking me to break up a 90 year old heritage farm and rezone to commercial just to host a few dinners"

"We are last farm standing in Alberta Beach and if it were up to council there would be none."

"Alberta is moving forward with agritourism and helping farmers evolve while Alberta Beach is stuck in the mud"



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PARKLAND RCMP ARREST TWO, RECOVER STOLEN VEHICLES AFTER SHOPLIFTING INVESTIGATION

Submitted by Parkland RCMP

On Sept. 4, 2026, at approximately 7:45 p.m., Parkland RCMP responded to a report of shoplifting at a grocery store in Spruce Grove. Officers located a female suspect attempting to enter the passenger side of a red car. As police approached, the male driver accelerated forward in attempt to leave the area. Officers prevented the female from entering the vehicle and arrested her without incident.

The male driver fled the scene at a high rate of

speed on Callahoo Road. Police recognized the suspect and attended his residence, where they located the stolen red Ford Taurus associated to the investigation. The male suspect was observed running from the vehicle and was arrested without incident. Police also recovered a stolen motorcycle on the scene.

Colten Battaglini (28), a resident of Stony Plain, Alta., has been charged with the following:

- Operate vehicle while prohibited,
- Dangerous operation,
- Fail to stop for

Peace Officer,

- Possession of stolen property over \$5,000,
- Possession of stolen property under \$5,000 (x3),
- Fail to comply with probation order,
- & drive uninsured contrary to the Traffic Safety Act.

Jayden Stebbings (20), a resident of Spruce Grove, has been charged with the following:

- Theft under \$5,000,
- Obstruct a Peace Officer (x2),
- Possession of stolen property over

\$5,000 (x2).

Colten Battaglini was remanded into custody to appear in Alberta Court of Justice in St. Albert on Oct. 14, 2026.

Jayden Stebbings was remanded into custody to appear in Alberta Court of Justice in St. Albert on Sept. 23, 2026.

If you have any information about this or any other crime, please contact the Parkland RCMP at 825-220-7267(RCMP).

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SPOOKY SEASON AT THE OPPERTSHAUSER HOUSE

Submitted by Red Brick Common

Red Brick Common brings ghost tours and a witch broom workshop to Stony Plain this October

Something spooky is stirring at the historic Oppertshauser House this October.

Red Brick Common is inviting the community to step inside one of Stony Plain's most fascinating historic homes for two hauntingly fun experiences filled with ghost stories, creativity and a touch of the unexpected.

Throughout October, guests can take part in an evening Ghost Tour featuring eerie stories, metaphysical experiences and reported paranormal encounters connected to the historic house. Tours will be held at 7 p.m. on October 17, 22, 24 and 30.

The Ghost Tours are open to all ages and cost \$20 plus GST per person. Advance registration is required, as space is limited.

Those looking to create a little Halloween magic of their own can also join Red Brick Common for the Make Your Own

Witch's Broom workshop on Thursday, October 29 at 6 p.m.

During this guided workshop, participants will use dried florals, crystals, feathers and ribbon to design a one-of-a-kind decorative witch's broom. The evening will also include spooky ghost stories and a tour of the haunted Oppertshauser House. Witch-inspired outfits are welcome but entirely optional.

The workshop costs \$95 plus GST, and space is limited.

Both events will take place at the Oppert-

shauser House, located at 5411-51 Street in Stony Plain. To register or learn more, call Red Brick Common at 780-963-2777 or email info@redbrickcommon.ca. For the Witch's Broom workshop, callers can use extension 1.

Whether you are curious about the paranormal, fascinated by local history or simply looking for a unique way to celebrate Halloween, Red Brick Common has a frightfully fun evening waiting for you.

PEMBINA GAS INFRASTRUCTURE WELCOMED AS A SPONSOR AT THE CANFOR CULTURE & EVENTS CENTRE

Submitted by Town of Whitecourt

The Canfor Culture & Events Centre is proud to announce that Pembina Gas Infrastructure has signed on as a sponsor. Pembina Gas Infrastructure will receive naming rights for the Pembina Gas Infrastructure Gallery. The gallery will exhibit the talent and work of local artists, as well as other travelling exhibitions, and will encourage conversations and appreciation for the visual arts.

"Our investment decisions are based on our understanding of the

unique needs and characteristics of each community, and we focus our investments and partnerships on initiatives that improve access to education, protect or preserve the environment, promote safety, create community space, and encourage recreation and a healthy lifestyle. We are proud to support the Town of Whitecourt!" said Cianna Hunter, Supervisor, Field Administration Pembina Pipeline Corporation.

Located in the heart of downtown Whitecourt, the Canfor Culture & Events Centre will serve our region and off

er spaces to host conferences, trade shows, events, concerts, festivals and ceremonies. Scheduled to open this fall, the Centre includes an arts, culture and convention centre (theatre), library and Town administration office.

Bookings are being accepted, and the first event at the Centre is scheduled for next week.

"The Pembina Gas Infrastructure Gallery will offer a space like no other in Whitecourt to share and celebrate the visual arts," added Whitecourt Mayor Ray Hilts. "Having a place that can share local talents and reflect dif-

ferent perspectives and cultures has always been a goal for this facility, and Pembina Gas Infrastructure's partnership in this space is really special for our community."

For more information on the Canfor Culture & Events Centre, including sponsorship opportunities, visit www.whitecourt.ca or follow the Centre on Facebook and Instagram. Details on upcoming performances and events at the Canfor Culture & Events Centre can be found on Whitecourt's online ticket site whitecourtlive.ca.



TIPS ON SHOPPING FOR NEW APPLIANCES

Now may be the right time to make large appliance purchases. Know the product before visiting the store.

As the weather turns cooler, outdoor improve-

ments become less practical. Homeowners' thoughts may turn to projects they can tackle inside of the home. Now may be the time to consider the purchase of new appliances

that can be the finishing touches to renovated spaces.

Fall is prime time to purchase new large appliances. Manufacturers typically unveil their latest models

during September and October. At this point, prices on older models will be reduced to make room for new ones. By the end of the year, any older models that have not yet been cleared out will be discounted further. Even though the end-of-the year deals will be better, the selection may be limited the longer you wait.

It is best never to wait until an appliance is on its last leg for repair or replacement. Then consumers do not have the luxury to price shop nor find items that include the features they desire most. Here are some other buying tips.

Research

Shoppers should begin their research at home before they even enter a store. Make a list of features you want in the appliance, which helps narrow down the playing field and better focus your purchasing decisions.

Once you have a list handy, speak with friends or family members about their experiences with brands and/or retailers. Ask about which features they like the most and how often they have had to call for repairs. If they could do things differently, what would those things be?

Know your space

Perhaps you are familiar with the adage to measure twice and cut once. The same can be said for measuring prior to purchasing an appliance. Be sure you know the exact measurements of the space that will house the new appliance. Take into consideration

Continued on Page 7

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fall HOME RENO GUIDE



Tips On Shopping For New Appliances

Continued from Page 6

the clearance needed to open doors, such as with a refrigerator or front-loading washing machine. It can be a waste of time and money to have an appliance delivered only to find it doesn't fit at the time of installation.

Energy savings

Consider appliances that reduce energy usage. Energy Star® appliances are produced in adherence to international standards for energy efficiency. The program was started more than 20 years ago by the EPA and the Department of Energy. Since then, oth-

er countries have adopted the program. Appliances that feature the Energy Star® logo use 20 to 30 percent less energy than required by typical federal standards. Homeowners who purchase qualifying appliances may be eligible for tax breaks and other incentives.

Consider your lifestyle

It is easy to be overwhelmed and awestruck by the number of appliances available. You may desire the biggest and best there is, but if you are not a superstar in the kitchen, you may not need the commercial stove. A bachelor may not

require an oversized washing machine.

Do your research and comparison shop so you

won't have any regrets later on.

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minutes to evacuate their home in the event of a fire?

In reality, smoke and fire spread rapidly and can overcome occupants in less than three minutes.

When a fire occurs, there's no question that time is critical. The good news is there are several important steps you can take to maximize your escape time. With the following measures in place, you'll create critical protection for what matters most; your home and family.

You should have one in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home, including the basement. For the best protection, make sure all smoke alarms are interconnected. When one sounds, they all sound.

2. Inspect and clean smoke alarms monthly. Replace batteries in spring and fall. To clean the alarm, open the cover and gently vacuum the interior.

3. Prepare and practice a fire escape plan.

1. Install smoke alarms.

Continued on Page 9



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fall HOME RENO GUIDE



Employ Simple Fire Prevention Measures To Maximize Safety

Continued from Page 8

Draw a floor plan of your home, marking two ways out of every room - especially sleeping areas. Discuss the escape routes with every member of your household, and agree on a meeting place outside your home in case of emergency. Practice your escape plan at least twice a year.

4. Select building materials that provide passive fire protection. Passive fire protection is part of the core of the building and helps control fire by limiting its spread. One

very effective form of passive fire protection is the installation of insulation. When adding or upgrading insulation, look for products made from naturally fire-resistant, inorganic materials. A favorite among builders, contractors and homeowners is a stone wool insulation called Roxul Safe 'n' Sound, which offers fire resistance up to 2,150°F. Its melting point is higher than the temperature of a typical house fire, which means it will stay in place longer to provide passive fire protection when ev-

ery second counts, allowing more time for safe evacuation and for first responders to arrive.



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2026 RIMBEY FALL MACHINERY CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

Main Location: 3940 - 50th Ave - Rimbey, Alberta ~ Sale Starts on October 23rd, 2026

Tractor, Cattle & Miscellaneous Ring #1 Closes - October 26th, 2026 - Machinery & Miscellaneous Ring #2 Closes - October 27th, 2026 - Car, Trucks & RV's Ring Closes - October 28th, 2026



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JD 567 Rd Baler
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Main Location: 3940 - 50th Ave - Rimbey, Alberta ~ Sale Starts on October 23rd, 2026

Timber, Cattle & Miscellaneous Ring #1 Closes - October 26th, 2026 ~ Machinery & Miscellaneous Ring #2 Closes - October 27th, 2026 ~ Car, Trucks & RV's Ring Closes - October 28th, 2026



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2008 Load Trail 18' T/A BP Utility
Trailer
2014 Forks 17' T/A BP Office
Trailer
2014 Custom Cargo 12.5' T/A BP
Enclosed Steamer Trailer
2012 Cam Superline 14' T/A
Dump Trailer
2011 Double A 12' S/A Tilt Deck
Utility Trailer
2005 Triton 10' Alum. S/A Quad
Trailer
1998 Volvo T/A Hi-Way Truck
2012 Ford F350 Lariat 4x4
Service Body Truck
2004 Ford F550 Super Duty 4x4
Flat Deck Truck
1988 Ford F350 Super Duty Flat
Deck Truck
2019 Chev 4500 Ambulance
2009 Ford Shuttle Van
Assorted N/U 5th Wheel Wrecker
Attachments

OTHER EQUIPMENT

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N/U Stanforge PSM27 Portable
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N/U Stanforge WC42 3 pth Wood
Chipper

N/U Industrias America 7' Smooth
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IHC 595 T/A Manure Spreader
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2019 GMC 1500 4x4 CC SB
Truck
2019 Dodge Classic 1500 4x4 CC
SB Truck
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AGE GROUPS: 65+ YRS

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

PHONE: _____ TOWN: _____

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of the week

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**ANSWER:
Last Weeks**

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!

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

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

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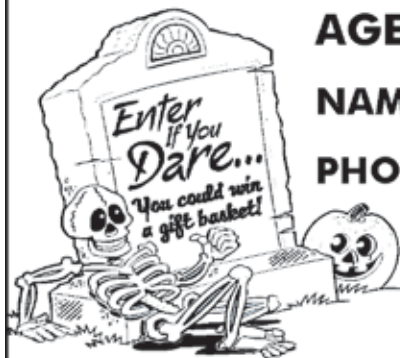


AGE GROUPS: 4-5 YRS | 6-7 YRS | 8-9 YRS | 10+ YRS

NAME: _____ **AGE:** _____

PHONE: _____ **TOWN:** _____

Entries must be recieved by October 30, 2026.



**Mail to: Community Voice
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