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The Weekly

ANCHOR

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The Weekly Anchor

MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2024

WWW.WEEKLYANCHOR.COM

VOL. 35, NO. 17



NEW COLD BREW
A NEW KIND OF SMOOTH



SCHOOLS

YKCS holds Annual Fundraiser Auction...

see page 3

VOLUNTEERS

Element Zone Annual Spring Fling...

see page 4

COMMENT

Generational debt is not helping...

see page 14

Volunteer Appreciation Awards Celebration

by Niki Luymes

The Town of Edson celebrated some valued members of the community at this year's

Volunteer Appreciation Awards. The ceremony took place on April 19, at the Edson Legion.

Tickets for the event were \$10

for attending volunteers and \$20 for other guests. Approximately 80 tickets were sold for this year's event. The Volunteer Appreciation

Awards mark the end of Volunteer Appreciation Week, which is a national event. Doors opened at 6pm marking the beginning of a

continued page 2



The representatives from the Edson Girl Guides accepted the Mayor's Award of Excellence at the annual Volunteer Appreciation Awards on April 19. Mayor Kevin Zahara chose the winner of this award from the list of nominees based on their contributions to the town of Edson. photo submitted.

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WOK BOX EDSON DELIVERY

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Main Street Edson gelmicijewellers.ca
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Tues.W.F.10 - 5 | Thurs. 10 - 6 | Sat.10 - 3

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The Weekly Anchor
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Volunteer Appreciation Awards Celebration

continued from front

night of community and entertainment.

The night's festivities began with cocktails and live music. Local musician Jesse Bedard performed both covers and original music throughout the first half of the night. Dinner was served at 6:30pm.

This year offered a delightful turkey dinner with all the fixings. At 7:30pm Rapid Fire Theatre took to the stage for some improv theatre. As part of their show, they even included members of the audience. Edson Mayor Kevin Zahara and Councillor

Gean Chouinard were welcomed on stage to be included in the performance.

The official awards ceremony began at 8:45pm. To simplify the nomination process the town chose to forgo multiple categories. Instead, any volunteer could be nominated as a 'Community Builder'. This was defined as those who enrich the lives of others and strengthen relationships to build a safe, connected community and help create a sense of belonging. Community members could nominate an individual,

organization, or local business. The winners were then chosen by a panel of judges. The town handed out five Community Builder awards.

The winners were: Moving Edson (formerly ESTS), Jeff Miko, Yellowhead Agricultural Society, Marsha Jensen, and Ken Biron.

They also handed out the Mayor's Award of Excellence. This awards goes to one nominee selected by Mayor Zahara. It was created to honour those who have made outstanding contributions to the Town of Edson through volunteer

service. This year the award went to the Edson Girl Guides of Canada.

All volunteers who attended received a free gift bag in appreciation of all their hard work. "It was a really good night," said Sarah McDonald, Supervisor for Edson, Family & Community Support Services (FCSS). "It's always great to thank our volunteers for the hard work that they do in our community. It's not always an easy job and it's always a busy job. To be able to recognize them, we feel is very important."



Ken Biron receives a Community Builder award presented by Mayor Kevin Zahara. Biron was one of five nominees given Community Builder awards at the Volunteer Appreciation Awards held at the Edson Legion April 19.

Mayor Kevin Zahara presented Marsha Jensen with a Community Builder award. Jensen was one of the five nominees given awards at the Volunteer Appreciation Awards held at the Edson Legion on April 19.

AGM
May 7th
7:00pm
Heart of Edson Gallery and Studio

come discover what we're building this season.

TRAIL SUPPORT PASS

EDSON CYCLING ASSOCIATION

MILLAR WESTERN BACKWOODS Alexander CANFOR

White Area Open Houses

Goose Lake Community Hall: June 12th
MacKay Community Hall: June 13th

Canfor along with its partners Millar Western, Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation and the Alexander First Nation will be holding two open houses at: One at **Goose Lake Community Hall** in Lone Pine, Alberta on June 12th from 4PM - 8PM and at the **MacKay Community Hall** in MacKay, Alberta on June 13th from 4PM - 8PM.

The general public and stakeholders will have the opportunity to review our planned activities for block and road development, harvesting, reforestation and herbicide treatment for the NoJack, Hattenford and Lone Pine area.

Public and stakeholder input is gathered and utilized to influence operations where site specific concerns are identified such as trails, camping areas, recreational areas etc.

Canfor would like to invite you to visit the Goose Lake and MacKay community halls between 4PM - 8PM on June 12th & 13th for more information.

Alternately, should you wish to visit the on-line forum please visit the Canfor website at:
<https://www.canforforestmanagement.ca/whitecourt>

Annual Fundraiser Auction for YKCS



Yellowhead Koinonia Christian School's Annual Fundraiser Auction on April 20, featured a live and silent auction. The event had a variety of items up for bid including kayaks, homemade blankets, tools, toys and much more. photos submitted

YKCS Annual Fundraiser Auction featured a variety items up for bid. It also featured face painting and glitter tattoos for the kids. The event took place on April 20

by Niki Luymes

April 20 saw the return of Yellowhead Koinonia Christian School's (YKCS) Annual Fundraiser Auction. The event was held in the YKCS gymnasium. Doors open at 10am, with the live auction starting at 11am. The event serves as the school's main fundraiser for the year.

The annual event consisted of the main live auction and a silent auction, both featuring all kinds of items. Over 120 individuals and businesses supported the auction with donated items including bikes, gift baskets, household

tools, kayaks, homemade blankets, and more.

The largest item this year was a John Deer tractor. One of the other items of note was a beautiful wooden handmade corn-hole game created by one of the grade 9 students. The live auction was run by Patterson's Auctioneering, which donates their time annually for the event.

The event also included a bake sale, garage sale, concession, and kids activities. This year the bake sale had almost double on offer from previous years. For the kids, there was face painting and sparkle tattoos. The concession served up hot meals for customers of all ages.

This year had over 300 people in attendance.

"It was probably one of our best attended fundraisers in the past few years," said Lisa Golding, YKCS Principal. "Its a great community event. We're definitely blessed to be supported by so many people in the area." The fundraiser brought in roughly \$24,000 in profit.

The whole event was put together by the school with the help of many volunteers. This year also had more volunteer help than previous years. "Our community always comes out for us. It's neat to see our community growing and to see more and more people care and help us out. It's phenomenal to know how much people do care

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 ALL DAY GRILL PIZZERIA

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Element Zone Annual Spring Fling

by Deanna Mitchener

The annual Spring Fling at Element Zone 13 was a crowd pleaser on April 20.

With so many adrenaline pumping

events, the grandstand onlookers were cheering on the contestants throughout the day.

Travis Janish, organizer and mastermind behind Element

Zone 13, said, "I think the event was incredible. The weather was perfect for an afternoon of rodeo action."

With many volunteers helping out at the event, Travis was asked

how many it takes to host an event such as this. "It takes around 25 to 30 volunteers to run an event of this size. The Night Riders 4H Club helped with parking, and Shanyce Fawcett was awarded a buckle for all her outstanding volunteering. She's been organizing the volunteers and lining everyone up for their positions."

"I'd just like to personally thank all the sponsors and volunteers that help make these events possible, and also the community for getting behind things. I'll do everything in my power to help make the changes necessary to keep growing things and making everyone's experience better," said Travis.

The line-up of events included Ranch Broncs, Calf Scramble, Sheep Riding, Cow Riding, Bull Poker, Ladies Ranch Broncs, and

Ring of Fire had the crowd sitting on the edge of their seats.

Bull Poker and Ring of Fire events consists of volunteers from the audience who are 18 and older. It seems a bit risky and takes some nerves, but there are always volunteers up

for the challenge in hopes of walking away with some cash.

2024 is shaping up to be a great season out at Element Zone 13. The next event taking place is the Mustachio Bullbashio on May 24 and 25. See you there.



It was an adrenaline rush for volunteer spectators who took to the arena for some wild Bull Poker at the annual Element Zone Spring Fling on April 20. photos by Deanna Mitchener



Bronc riding at the annual Element Zone Spring Fling event on April 20.



A young cowpoke goes for a little spill off the sheep during the Annual Element Zone 13 Spring Fling event on April 20.

LOOKING TO HIRE

Peers Ag Society
is looking to hire a person to manage the rentals of their facilities. This is a part-time position that requires the applicant to work weekends. Applicants must have their own vehicle and be fluent in Word, Excel, and Google programs.

Interested applicants can send their resumes and questions to: peersagsociety@gmail.com

Application deadline is May 3, 2024

~ Obituary ~

BELCOURT, Janet Lee
March 6, 1956 – April 17, 2024

Janet Belcourt passed away peacefully on Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at the age of 68. Janet was born in Grande Prairie, AB and raised on a farm in Heart Valley until the family moved to Grande Prairie in 1966. Upon leaving Grande Prairie, she lived and worked in Edmonton, Calgary and Hinton, eventually settling in Edson where she lived for the past 30 years, surrounded by many, many friends. Janet will truly be missed by those who loved and knew her.

She is survived by her mother Helen Peebles, brother Brian (Yvonne) Peebles, sisters Rita (Joe) Gara and Terry Cadieux, daughters Nicole Lindsay and Michelle (Kyle) Lindsay, numerous nieces and nephews and 6 grandchildren. Janet was predeceased by her son Ryan Lindsay in 2015, her father Alton Peebles in 2016 and her brother Kevin Peebles in 2013.

Friends are invited to join the family for a Celebration of Life being held May 5, 2024 1:00-4:00 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion in Edson (5016-5 Ave). May she rest in peace.



TOWN OF EDSON

Public Information & Notices 2024

**Town of Edson
Office Hours:
Monday to Friday
8am to 4pm
(Closed Stat Holidays)**

INVITATION TO TENDER

2024 Extended Cab ¾ Ton – 4x4
(Cab & Chassis Only (ITT-CP-2024-31-15))
Interested parties should view the bid documents at
www.edson.ca/tenders
Closing Date/Time – May 16, 2024 at 14:00:00 (MST)
Submissions attention to: Gil Belcourt, Fleet Supervisor
Email: gilbertb@edson.ca

2024 Ice Resurfacers
(ITT-CP-2024741-16)
Interested parties should view the bid documents at
www.edson.ca/tenders
Closing Date/Time – May 16, 2024 at 16:00:59 (MST)
Submissions attention to: Gil Belcourt, Fleet Supervisor
Email: gilbertb@edson.ca

EDDIE'S 15+ BIG RUN

KIDS FUN RUN & 3KM & 5KM & 10KM

Run starts at the Edson & District Leisure Centre

SATURDAY JUNE 22 2024

REGISTER NOW!

REGISTER ONLINE AT edson.ca OR runningroom.com OR REGISTER IN PERSON AT **EDSON & DISTRICT LEISURE CENTRE** 1021 49 St, Edson

REGISTER EARLY & SAVE! Register before May 15 get \$5 off plus a guaranteed t-shirt.

KIDS FUN RUN	3KM RUN/WALK	5KM RUN/WALK	10KM RUN/WALK
\$20	\$35	\$45	\$55

Edson

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK.

For more information, visit edson.ca or email NicoleT@edson.ca.

EM Hydrant Flushing

Hydrant flushing is underway.

If residents in area experience unclear water, please run cold water until the water clears.

If the water doesn't clear, please call Public Works at (780) 723-6461, Mon-Fri 7:30 am-4:00 pm.

After hours please call (780)723-6300 and ask to speak to a utility operator.

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Edson

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.**





TOWN OF EDSON

Public Information & Notices 2024

Town of Edson
Office Hours:
Monday to Friday
8am to 4pm
(Closed Stat Holidays)

2024 Budget Summary



2024 Approved Budget

The 2024 budget touches every pillar of Council's Strategic Plan: Creating a Connected Community that is Safe and Inclusive; Fostering a Robust and Adaptable Economy; Responding to a Changing Global Environment; Ensuring Quality Infrastructure; and Providing Effective Leadership and Community Engagement.

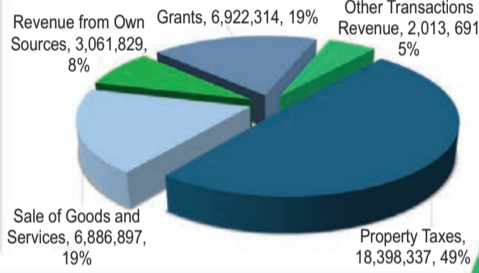
There are no new user fee increases in this budget, as Council and Administration have worked hard to keep affordability top of mind for residents during budget deliberations, working to keep costs down, while maintaining quality levels of service.

The 2024 budget also features a focus on infrastructure and safety. Following the 2023 wildfires and flooding, it's more important than ever to ensure Town infrastructure is improved and that the Town, and its residents, are prepared for emergencies. A number of storm water and other infrastructure improvement projects are set to get underway this spring.

Operating Budget

The total 2024 operating budget is \$37.28 million funded as shown in the pie-chart. The overall taxation increase for 2024 is 2.89%. This equates to an approximate increase of \$65.50 for an average residential property. This includes a 0.5% reserve transfer for future years totalling \$65,000. The remaining 2.39% covers inflationary costs and some new budget initiatives, including staffing, upgraded HVAC filters for municipal buildings, an increase in the RCMP budget, staffing, and a grant to the Rotary Club of Edson.

How the 2024 Operating Budget is Funded



"It was important to Council to limit increases considering the immense financial pressure Canadians are dealing with. This is a difficult balance considering costs to municipalities also continue to increase, but we feel we've been presented a fair budget that addresses both affordability and quality levels of service."

-Mayor Kevin Zahara



Household Impact

2.89% tax revenue increase
+Based on a Median Assessment of \$336,400

2023 MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TAX

\$2,266.53



2024 MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TAX

\$2,332.03

Equates to an increase of \$65.50

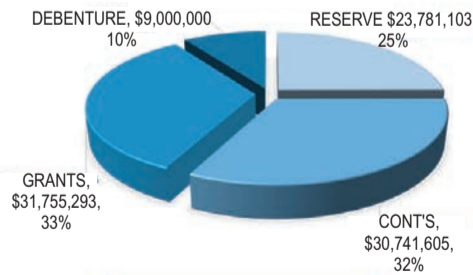
Capital Budget

The total 2024 Capital Budget is \$ 95.3 million for 2024, including \$8.9 million of projects being brought forward for completion from prior years.

This is a substantial capital plan, which includes the flagship YCE Multiplex Project, totalling \$80.24 million over the next four years.

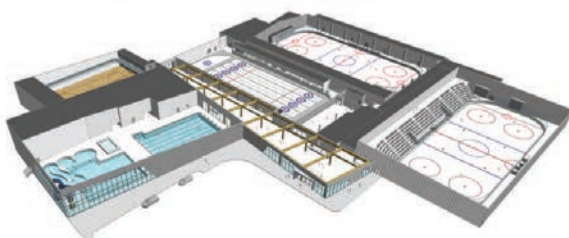
The balance of \$ 15.0 million sees investment in other major infrastructure including roads, sewer upgrades, equipment replacement and facilities.

HOW THE 2024 CAPITAL BUDGET IS FUNDED:



www.edson.ca/budget

YCE Centre Conceptual Drawing



YCE funding for the Town of Edson is by way of grants, reserves, and a previously approved debenture bylaw.

YCE Centre Budget

	(\$)
Town of Edson	30.12M
Yellowhead County	30.12M
Investing in Canadian Infrastructure Program (ICIP) Grant	20.00M
TOTAL	80.24M



Edson Town Council approves 2024 Operating Budget

(Town of Edson) A \$37.28 million operating budget was approved that focuses on affordability for our residents, while continuing to offer high quality services to the community.

The budget was designed to touch every pillar of Council's Strategic Plan: Creating a Connected Community that is Safe and Inclusive; Fostering a Robust and Adaptable Economy; Responding to a Changing Global Environment; Ensuring Quality Infrastructure; and Providing Effective Leadership and Community Engagement.

"Council is pleased to support this final Operating Budget, which sees no new user fee increases, but continues to focus on quality services for our residents. It was important to Council to limit increases considering the immense financial pressure Canadians are

dealing with. This is a difficult balance considering costs to municipalities also continue to increase, but we feel we've been presented a fair budget that addresses both affordability and quality levels of service," stated Edson Mayor Kevin Zahara.

The overall taxation increase for 2024 is 2.89%. The Reserve Policy requires 0.5%, with the remaining 2.39% going towards new budget initiatives. On an average residential assessment of \$336,400, this would equate to an increase of \$65.50 for the year.

A couple of changes have also been approved for the 2024 Capital budget, including an increase of \$60.24 million for YCE Multi-use Facility with the project set to commence this summer, and a decrease of \$1.5 million in the Township Road 532 project.



The Edson & District Public Library would like to express their sincere gratitude to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 51 for their generous donation of \$5000 in support of the library's furniture and shelving fundraising drive. Pictured from left to right: Legion President Wendy Williams, Legion Poppy Committee Chairperson Larry Williams, Library Board Chair Robin Corser and Library Board members Donna Williams and Sheila Buckle.



Volunteers Adele Hamilton, Claudette Romanism, and Marj Kearse at the Pioneer Cabin were serving up some corn chowder soup, bologna, egg salad and ham salad sandwiches. There was ambrosia fruit salad for dessert along with a beverage on April 23. Always a friendly place to stop in for homemade soup and sandwiches every Tuesday. photo Deanna Mitchener

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Saturday, May 25, 2024: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

- Edson Recycling Depot: 5237 1st Ave.

- Evansburg Recycling Center, Pembina Arena: 4712 52 Ave.

Join Us For **FREE** Refreshments, Donuts,
Hot Dogs & Hamburgers, Tours & Draw Prizes!



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8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

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MAY 31 Deadline.

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Training begins Fall 2024.
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Looking for youth ages 15-17!



Join our Team!



APPLY BY
MAY 31
SCAN QR TO APPLY

Students may be eligible for highschool
credits through this program!

Training begins Fall 2024.
www.yhcounty.ca/ycfd



**HANDS-ON
TREE PRUNING WORKSHOP**

An afternoon of visual, hands-on tree pruning with Toso Bozic
from Yard Whispers. Learn to prune a variety of trees including
spruce, fruit, ornamental, and more!



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REGISTER BY
MAY 23

**THURSDAY, MAY 28
12PM-4PM \$15/PERSON**

Location is a residence in the Evansburg area.

Please carpool if possible and don't bring any pets.

Light snacks and refreshments will be provided.

Location and other details will be shared once payment has been received.

Register at www.YHCOUNTY.ca/Registration
or call 1-800-814-3935



**REQUEST FOR TENDER
Bridge File 07400 & 78952 Tender
For Yellowhead County**

Yellowhead County requests a tender submission from parties interested in performing
the work identified below.

Sealed tender marked: **Bridge File 07400 & 78952 Tender**
**TENDER: 2024-07400, Culvert Removal, Culvert Maintenance,
Sideslope Repairs and Other Work**

Will be received until **1:30 PM, May 15, 2024**

At the office of: **Yellowhead County**
2716 - 1st Avenue
Edson, Alberta
T7E 1N9

For the following work:

Bridge File 07400 (NE 23-56-14-W5M) located 5 km north of Haddock on RR 141B.
Work includes the removal of the existing 2700 mm SPCSP culvert and 1000 mm CSP
culvert and site remediation activities.

Bridge File 78952 (SW 21-55-07-W5M0) located 18 km north of Evansburg on RR 74.
Work includes the extension of the existing 1429 x 1575 mm SPCSP culvert with a
3300 mm CSP x 13.0 m invert length and repairs to the existing side slope.

Work shall be completed in accordance with the schedule contained within the Scope
of Work and the Special Provisions.

The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders and to waive irregularities
and informalities at its discretion.

For further information, please contact
Rex Wallace
Assistant Manager of Infrastructure Services
Yellowhead County



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



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Systems Analyst (on-site)
LOCATION: Edson, AB
COMPETITION NO. 24-025

Reporting to the Manager of Information Technology, the Systems Analyst maintains the County computer, communication/dispatch, network, and telephone systems. The position is also responsible for but not limited to providing technical support for computers, tablets, radios and mobile phones and various applications.

The salary range is currently \$71,688 to \$88,893 per year.

Yellowhead County offers a competitive benefit plan.

To apply please submit resumes and cover letters online at www.yhcounty.ca/jobs

A detailed position description can be found in the job posting online.

The competition will remain open **until filled**.

We thank all interested applicants in advance, however only those applicants to be interviewed will be contacted.

Human Resources
Yellowhead County
Email: jobs@yhcounty.ca

The personal information obtained as a result of this advertisement will be utilized for these employment opportunities only, and is subject to compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.



Approved Development Permits have been issued authorizing the following:

Permit No.	Location	Proposal	Date	Appeal Deadline
D24-046	Plan 9021782 Lot 1 SW-9-53-12-W5 South of Niton Junction	Manufactured Home with Addition- Variance for Age	Apr 10/24	May 1/24
D24-048	SE-4-55-12-W5 North of Niton Junction	Accessory Building (Shop)	Apr 10/24	Permitted Use
D24-049	Plan 9222242 Blk 2, Lot 24A NW-10-55-15-W5 Bear Lake	Bed & Breakfast	Apr 10/24	Permitted Use
D24-050	SE-21-52-18-W5 West of Edson	Single Detached Dwelling with Accessory Building (Shop)	Apr 11/24	Permitted Use
D24-045	NE-9-53-18-W5 North of Edson	Single Detached Dwelling	Apr 17/24	Permitted Use
D24-055	Plan 0625858 Blk 1, Lot 1 NE-21-54-16-W5 North of Edson	Accessory Building (Shop)	Apr 22/24	Permitted Use
D24-054	SW-21-52-18-W5 Rowan Lake Area	Single Detached Dwelling with Accessory Building (Garage)	Apr 22/24	Permitted Use
D24-053	Plan 5251TR Blk 2, Lot 20 SW-13-52-24-W5 Carldale	Short Term Accommodations (Change of Use from Accessory Building to Recreational Cabin - Discretionary)	Apr 23/24	May 14/24

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 \$300.00 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.

Psst...!
Need a job this summer?
We're HIRING!
Seasonal Position 2024

APPLY TODAY!

VISIT:
www.yhcounty.ca/jobs



Summer Youth Worker
Full Time - Based in Wildwood Office
Seasonal Position July-August
Deadline to apply: May 20, 2024



Psst...!
Need a job this summer?
We're HIRING!
Summer Position 2024

APPLY TODAY!

VISIT:
www.yhcounty.ca/jobs



Summer Program Coordinator
Full Time Seasonal - Based in Wildwood Office
Seasonal Position May-August
Competition will remain open until filled.



**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!

WILDWOOD COMPLEX
FRIDAY MAY 17, 2024 (PD DAY)
\$5.00 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM AGES 10-13

REGISTER BY MAY 15!
YHCOUNTY.CA/REGISTRATION



Local Artist hosts very first exhibit at Red Brick

by Dana McArthur

Local Edson Artist Cecilia Tiedemann is hosting her very first art show at the Red Brick Art Centre & Museum during the month of May.

Tiedemann would also like to invite everyone to her gala at the Red Brick on May 5 from 12:00-4:00pm.

The exhibit is titled '22s Heart Journey'. "I acquired 22 as a nickname when I was a child. My art has many different subjects. It's been one day at a time —much like my own journey," said Tiedemann.

Cecilia was in her late twenties when she enrolled in the fine arts program at Malaspina (now known as the Vancouver Island University) in Nanaimo, B.C. "When I think of what inspires me, what first comes to mind is the potential of the human spirit. I

get inspired by nature and animals as well."

When asked what medium she works in, Cecilia said, "Multimedia —it just clicked for me. I started out making pictures for my family and it just developed from there."

One of Cecilia's goals is to become established as an artist here in Edson and meet others from the art community. "I also want to create something that speaks to people and inspires them."

When asked what she hopes viewers take from her first art show, Tiedemann said, "I hope they get inspired and have a sense of connecting with it."


The exhibit will be on display throughout May at the Red Brick Art Centre & Museum located at 4818 7th Ave in Edson.



In celebration of her first art exhibit at the Red Brick, local Artist Cecilia Tiedemann would like to invite everyone to her gala at the Red Brick on May 5 from 12:00-4:00pm.

LIBRARY FURNITURE FUNDRAISER

Online Auction




APRIL 26-MAY 10

OVER 120 ITEMS!

Special thanks to all our donors & Patterson's Auctioneering Services LTD.

100% of proceeds going towards our furniture fundraiser.

Scan the QR code for the auction link.





edsonlibrary.ca

65th Anniversary



The Children of John and Grace Vanderveen would like to Celebrate their 65th Anniversary with a come-and-go tea.

Location is at the Pioneer Cabin

Sunday May 5 from 2-5pm



TRAIL COMMUNITY HALL

GARAGE SALE

FUNDRAISER

3 DAY EVENT!

May 31st
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

June 1st
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

June 2nd
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Tables \$10 each day or \$20 for all Three Days

LOADS OF COMMUNITY TREASURES YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS- SEE YOU THERE. HELP SPREAD THE WORD.

For More Information Call: 780-728-5641

Trail Community Hall, 53532 RG. RD 180, Yellowhead County





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Whitecourt, Alberta, T7S 1X3

Phone: 780-779-9990
Toll Free: 1-800-727-5259
Monday - Friday 8:00 – 4:30

No applications accepted after September 1, 2024



Let's Get Ready to Learn!

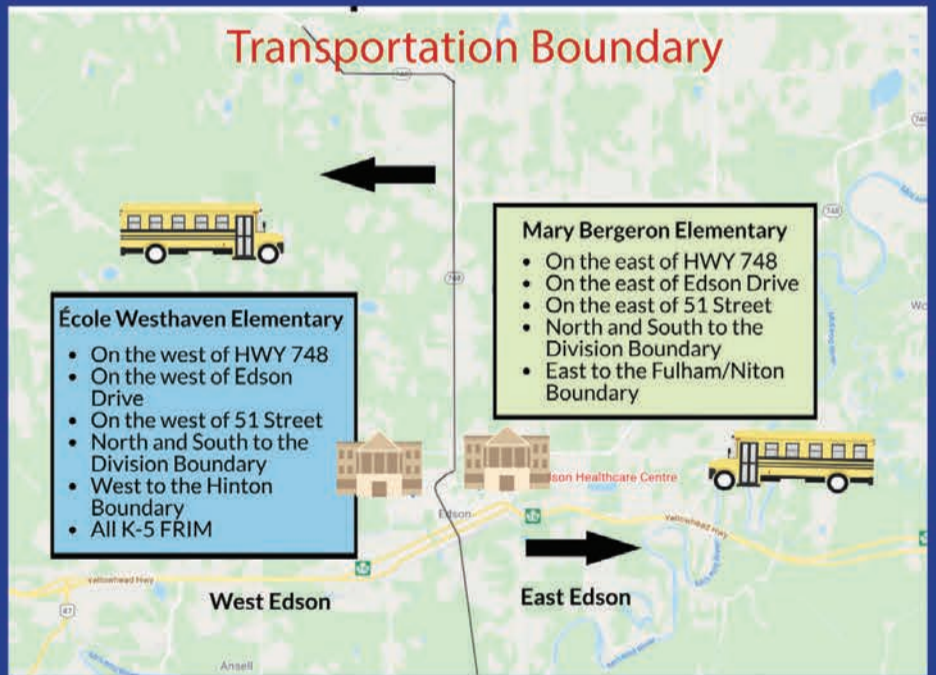
It's Time to Register for Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten!



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- Early literacy
- Early intervention supports and resources
- Creative and cultural expression

**Register
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a chance to win a
Chromebook for
your family!**



Online Registration opens February 1 -
spaces for JK and Kinder programs are limited
so don't wait to register!

<p>Fulham School English Programs Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6 fulhamschool.gypsd.ca 780-693-2186</p> <p>OPEN HOUSE - MARCH 6 9-11 AM</p>	<p>École Westhaven School English Junior Kindergarten Program English, French Immersion, and Montessori Programs Kindergarten to Grade 5 westhavenschool.gypsd.ca 780-723-3397</p> <p>OPEN HOUSE FOR BOTH JK & KINDERS MARCH 13 8:45-10 AM and 5-7 PM</p>	<p>Mary Bergeron Elementary English Programs Kindergarten to Grade 5 mbelementary.gypsd.ca 780-723-5300</p> <p>OPEN HOUSE - FEB. 12 & MARCH 15 9:30-11:30 AM and 1-2 PM</p>
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NEW for September - Five Day,
Full Day Kindergarten Program
available at Fulham!



VISIT SCHOOL WEBSITES FOR MORE OPEN HOUSE DATES & VIRTUAL TOURS
Find out more at www.gypsd.ca

April 16 is National Librarian Day, a day to be thankful for all the knowledge that librarians offer the community. At Mary Bergeron School, Mrs. Arndt is always organizing, cataloguing, circulating, and purchasing new material. But her favourite thing to do is to share one of her cherished stories with the students.



photo submitted by Deanna Mitchener

Spring brings risk of wildfires

Spring is upon us, but it appears that it may not be time to get the sandals and shorts out just yet. While the transition to spring brings hopes of warmer weather and blossoming nature, it's also important to remain mindful of the potential challenges that come with it, such as the increased risk of forest fires. Every drop of precipitation, whether it's snow or rain, plays a crucial role in replenishing moisture levels and reducing the risk of wildfires.

The West Yellowhead region, like many other areas prone to wildfires, showcases resilience in the face of such challenges. However, it's essential to acknowledge that everyone has their limits, and prolonged exposure to the threat of wildfires can take a toll on both individuals and communities.

My colleague, Minister Loewen, and myself were able to meet with concerned residents in Shining Bank and Wildwood areas to discuss 2023 fire response, and moving forward, the 2024 fire season. The Minister of Forestry and Parks was able to share important changes and enhancements coming up for wildfire operations.

For example, Budget 2024 plans to invest \$151 million over the next three years into wildfire preparedness, prevention, response, and mitigation, which will enable us to make use of leading-edge technologies in our wildfire response efforts including drones, artificial intelligence, and night-vision technology.

By leveraging these advanced technologies, wildfire response teams can improve their situational awareness, response times, and overall effectiveness in managing wildfires. This proactive approach not only enhances the safety and well-being of communities but also helps to safeguard natural resources and ecosystems.



West Yellowhead MLA
Martin Long

It is encouraging to see such forward-thinking initiatives being prioritized in Budget 2024, and I'm sure these investments will have a positive impact on wildfire preparedness and response

efforts across Alberta.

Working within my role as Parliamentary Secretary of Rural Health, I have been meeting with Health Advisory Councils all across Alberta, hearing their concerns, gathering information to support future initiatives to enhance best practices in healthcare. Rural healthcare often faces unique challenges, including issues related to access, resources, and specialized services. By actively listening to the needs and perspectives of those on the front lines of rural healthcare delivery, we can help ensure that policies and programs are tailored to address these specific challenges effectively.

Minister of Health, Adrianna LaGrange and myself, have been also participating in the largest public consultation process in Alberta history. We have heard loud and clear that health care workers and Albertans want to be involved in every step of refocusing and we want to ensure that we hear from as many people as possible. We have added an additional 22 in-person engagement sessions, for a total of 66 public engagement sessions.

At the end of February, we were able to announce that if passed, Budget 2024 will allocate \$20 million over three years to advance plans for a stand-alone Stollery Children's Hospital in Edmonton. We are steadfast in our commitment to ensure children in Edmonton and Northern Alberta continue to receive the world-class care they need, closer to home.

Now that spring has officially arrived, take a moment to appreciate the beauty around us, there's much to cherish and enjoy during this time.



Weyerhaeuser Company Limited

Pembina Timberlands

Public Input Opportunity for Weyerhaeuser's Proposal to Use Herbicides 2024

What: Pre and Post harvest application of Triclopyr herbicide (for up to 200 ha), and Post harvest application of Imazapyr (for up to 90 ha) within conifer plantations to control grass and other competing vegetation.

Where: Various locations within the following Townships:

Pembina Forest Management Area

Twp. 43 Ranges 12, 13, & 14	W5M
Twp. 44 Ranges 13, 14	W5M
Twp. 46 Range 13	W5M
Twp. 46 Range 13	W5M
Twp. 47 Range 11	W5M
Twp. 49 Range 16	W5M
Twp. 50 Range 16	W5M
Twp. 51 Range 10	W5M
Twp. 51 Range 19	W5M

When: July and August, 2024

How: Application of triclopyr will be using aerial and ground application Application of Imazapyr will be by ground application.

Open Houses will be held on:

- April 29th, 2024 from 5-8 pm at the Canalta Hotel, Rocky Mountain House.
 - April 30th, 2024 from 5-8 pm at the Best Western, Drayton Valley.
 - May 1st, 2024 from 5-8 pm at the Repsol Place Recreation Center, Edson.
- Should you have any questions or wish to provide input to the above mentioned project, please attend the information session or contact:*

Edson Office
2509 Aspen Drive
Edson, Alberta
T7E 1S8
Kandis Dickhaut
Phone: 780-712-6879
E-mail: kandis.dickhaut@weyerhaeuser.com

Drayton Valley Office
Hwy 22 & 34th street
Drayton Valley, Alberta
T7A 1S8
Dave Swindlehurst
Phone: 780-542-8074
Email: dave.swindlehurst@weyerhaeuser.com

Fran Lehto
Phone: 780-621-5591
Email: fran.lehto@weyerhaeuser.com

Visit us at
weeklyanchor.com

NOTICE

Skyline Storage

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We hereby give notice to:

Desiree D Dube pursuant to the Warehouseman's Liens Act that your goods will be sold by public sale on May 17th, 2024. The sale of this merchandise can be avoided by settling of all accounts pursuant to this action before May 17th, 2024.

Open House

Engage with Forest Industry staff, to review our 2024/25 Annual Operating Plans.

Staff will be present to discuss:

- **Harvesting Plans;** Road development, operations, log haul.
- **Silviculture Plans;** Stand tending, Herbicide vs. Sheep.
- **General Planning,** current and long term.

Wed. May 1, 2024 5pm – 8pm

Repsol Place, Main Lobby, 1021 – 49st., Edson

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Weyerhaeuser



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West Fraser

For information call 780-542-8014

Parkland Lodge Auxiliary Bake Sale Importance of visiting seniors



Community members attended the Parkland Lodge Auxiliary Bake Sale on April 20. Over 70 different kinds of items were donated towards the sale. The Auxiliary started in 1972 and registered as a nonprofit on Feb 23, 1987. photos Deanna Mitchener



Kathy Gardener, Bobbie, and Shamen Walker activity coordinator with Parkland Lodge, holding some door prizes donated to the annual bake sale for the Lodge by MP Gerald Soroka, Town of Edson, and MLA Martin Long MLA.

THANK YOU!

Parkland Lodge Auxiliary

The Parkland Lodge Auxiliary would like to thank everyone who joined us for our Spring Tea event, for the baking donations, the silent auction articles, the beautiful cake from the kitchen, the MP, MLA, and Town office for the door prizes, and the radio station for the air time.

A big thank you to Amanda, her staff, and the Lodge kitchen for all they did for our event.

It was a great success with the 50/50 raffle of \$210 won by Mary W, a Lodge resident. We raised a total of \$1496.



Views & News

by Deanna Mitchener

It's important to remember our aging seniors. We get busy with our own day to day activities and it can be hard to see them as much as we'd like. But, it's very important to make some time for them as well.

Visits from family members and friends can prevent seniors from being bored and isolated, and even benefit their overall health.

Helping seniors stay emotionally engaged by giving them some company can stimulate the release of feel-good endorphins. These positive hormones can lower stress levels and even help with depression caused by loneliness.

Regular visits will give you the opportunity to see how they are truly doing mentally, physically, and emotionally. Some seniors may be afraid to be moved from their home into a lodge or care facility. Staying involved in their life can give you the opportunity to talk about health concerns which may include eating habits, mobility issues, and reactions to current medications. You can see things for yourself.

Seniors are proud and don't want to feel like a burden on family members and friends. Showing them your care, love, appreciation, and gratitude can boost their mental and physical health.

Seniors are often the target of scams or abuse. Keeping communication open and visiting helps keep those conversations going so you can help identify any scams or elder abuse.

It's okay to take part in activities being offered for seniors. Share in their experience living at a lodge. The lodge offers many fun activities, so feel free to take part in some while visiting. Encourage your loved one to take part in activities, it's a great way to stay active as well as meeting others. You never know, you just may enjoy taking part in these wonderful activities yourself and find yourself looking forward to attending the next event.

We all grow older each and every day, so start now and help teach our younger generation about the importance of visiting with our seniors.



PUBLIC NOTICE

ANC Timber Ltd.

2024 HERBICIDE APPLICATION PROJECT

Please be advised that ANC Timber Ltd. is looking for input on their upcoming 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 recent 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 website at <https://www.albertanewsprint.com/woodlands/>.

Generational debt is not helping

Below is an Op/Ed from Gerald Soroka, Member of Parliament for Yellowhead. His



From the Publisher's Desk

Dana McArthur
Member Canadian Association of Journalists

deficit in the current fiscal year. Instead, the Liberals claim to be helping youth

editorial speaks to the massive debt of well over a trillion dollars racked up by the Liberal/NDP government.

This is a debt our children's, children's, children will likely be paying.

For decades the Federal government has neglected the looming baby boomer crisis. While forward planning saved the CPP (more or less —mostly less if you ask seniors), successive federal governments neglected such planning for old age security and seniors healthcare. More than half of Canadians still in the workforce past the age of 60 are there by necessity, not choice.

We are now faced with a smaller, younger workforce supporting a larger-than-ever senior population.

There is no plan for a balanced budget in the Liberals' horizon up to 2029, with plans for a \$39.8 billion

by extending new build mortgage amortizations to 30 years from the traditional 25, and adding tweaks to the Home Buyers' Plan. These changes may help the few lucky enough to save for a down payment and qualify for a mortgage. But it could just as easily drive home values higher by growing the pool of buyers vying for the current small inventory of homes for sale.

It's Alberta that appears to be leading the way, building more homes, faster than any other province with 3,122 new housing starts recorded in March 2024, 31 per cent of which were rental homes.

Make no mistake, there is a great deal of hypocrisy in the Liberal's claim that their new budget will help balance the scales for young Canadians. With yet another call for higher taxes and increased debt —their claims simply don't hold true.

More of the Same:

How the Latest Liberal Budget Fails Young and Working Canadians

The latest federal budget, presented by Prime Minister Trudeau's

Gerald Soroka
MP Yellowhead



growth, this budget adds nearly \$40 billion in new spending that will keep prices

beneficial for young Canadians, actually sets them up for financial hardship. It continues the same old policies that have deepened our national debt crisis, shifting the burden of today's extravagant spending onto Canadian taxpayers, and ultimately, the next generation of taxpayers as well.

The government claims this budget will help youth, yet it fails to mention that these young Canadians will be the ones saddled with the enormous debt we are building. Our national debt now stands at \$1.255 trillion, a massive challenge that threatens our economic future. This budget ensures that young people will face the consequences of higher inflation and skyrocketing costs for essentials like housing and food.

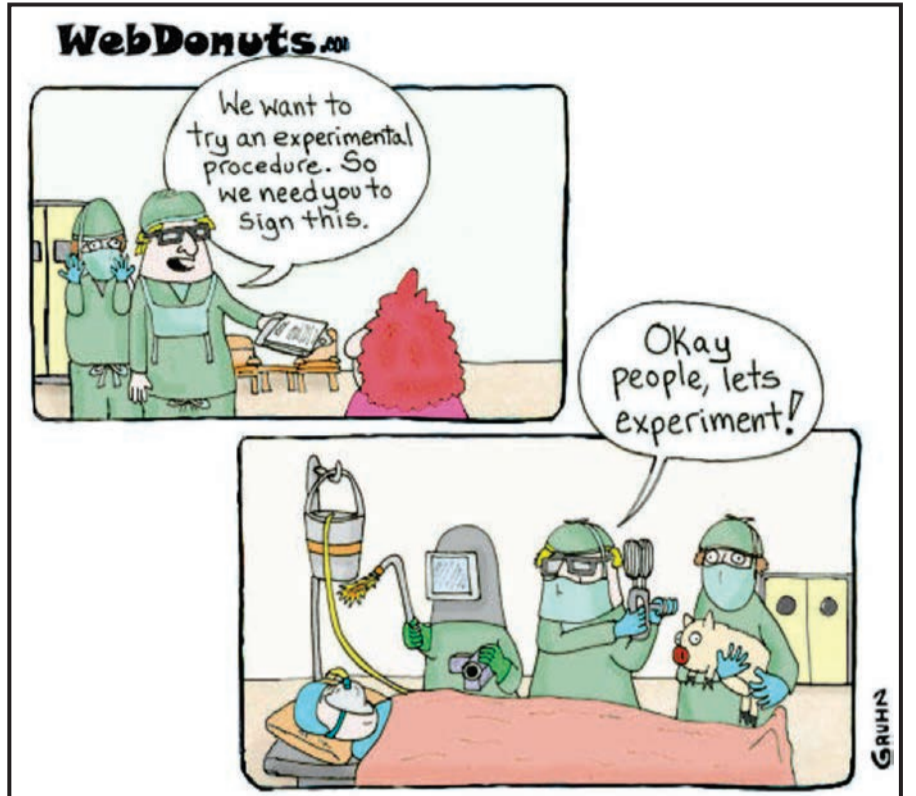
The 2024 federal budget will impact Canadians with real needs—needs that are intensified by the current cost of living crisis, a situation made worse by ongoing Liberal policies. Promises of building a better future are overshadowed by an increase in bureaucracy, which does little to relieve the immediate financial pressures facing working Canadians. Instead of cutting unnecessary regulations and fostering economic

high.

We are witnessing yet another broken promise, as this Prime Minister repeats the mistaken belief that "the budget will balance itself." Far from finding balance, the budget is sliding deeper into deficit, driven by spending-focused policies that ignore the need for sustainability. Supported by the NDP, the Liberals are set to continue on this risky fiscal path, raising taxes and increasing the cost of living, contradicting their promises of relief and support.

As Conservatives, we are prepared to redirect the country towards fiscal responsibility. Our plan is straightforward—stop the reckless spending, reduce the excess bureaucracy, and truly tackle the inflation that affects our everyday lives. We cannot support this Liberal budget that threatens our economic health and burdens Canadians with more debt and higher taxes.

This budget rehashes old promises and unchecked spending, adding to the severe debt problem. Do you believe that repeating the same failed strategies for the ninth time will resolve these issues or only make them worse?



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Publisher/Editor Dana McArthur
Published by: 422247 Alberta Ltd.
5010 3rd Ave., Edson Alberta - Box 6870, T7E 1V2

Edson RCMP Occurrences

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

Traffic violation calls topped the list of Edson RCMP occurrences at 16 calls. Other investigations included: Assistance 8; Abandoned Vehicles 2; Alarms/False Alarms 1; Animal Calls 1; Assault 2; Cause Disturbance 7; Drive while unauthorized 1; Drugs 1; Fail to Comply with Conditions 3; False/Abandoned 911 Call 4; Fire Prevention Act 5; Fraud 1, Harassment/Criminal Harassment 4; Lost or found property 6, Impaired Operation of Motor Vehicle 1; Information File 20; Mental Health Act 4; Mischief or Damage 6; Missing Person/ Request to Locate 1; Possess Stolen Property 1; Suspicious person or Vehicles 14; Traffic Complaints 2; Traffic Collisions 10; Traffic Violations 16; Theft Complaints 14, Trespassing 9; Unwanted Person 1; and Wellbeing Checks 2.

KID'S CORNER

Meet 8 year old Collins who is in grade 2 at Mary Bergeron Elementary School.

What is your favorite subject and Why?
Math, because we get to play math games and I won.

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UNRESERVED TIMED ONLINE FARM AUCTION: CADOGAN, Alberta for OVE AASEN ESTATE. Opens Noon April 27 Closes Noon May 4. NO BUYER'S PREMIUM! Scribner Auction www.scribner.com

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND CLAIMANTS

Estate of:
Lyle Emil Langer
who died on December 28, 2023.
If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by:
May 29, 2024,
with:
Shari L. Boisvert;
Boisvert Law Group
at:
324-50th Street, P.O. Box 6568
Edson, AB T7E 1T9

If you do not file by the date above, the estate property can lawfully be distributed without regard to any claim you may have.

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What's happening, when and where in the community

Community Events

April 10-May 29: Family Time. Join us on Wednesdays for some indoor fun! Program runs from 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM Marlboro Community Hall (May 8,22). Peers Multiplex (April 17 & May 1,15&29). Registration is required. www.yhcounty.ca/registration
April 20: Women's Wellness Workshop. Time: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm Location: Best Western High Road Inn
April 20 May 18 June 15: Grief Support Group 9:30am-11:30am at Griffiths park centre questions contact Sarah at 780-712-3500 or email sarahm@edson.ca
April 29-May 26: Step it up Challenge. Teams of 3 to register in person at the Leisure Centre by April 22.
May 1: Forest Operations, Free Open House - 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm Repsol Place Recreation Center. FREE TREE SEEDLING! Engage with Forest Industry Staff to review 2024/25 Annual Operating Plan.
May 2: Renaissance Faire Casting Call 7pm Griffiths Park Centre 5414 - 6th Ave. Visit Edson.ca/RenFaire for more information.
May 10-12: 43rd Medicine Lodge Rodeo Location 40 km west of Edson 1km south of hwy 16 on Anderson road (rge rd 213).
May 11: Go Girl Conference 9am to 4pm. Girls grade 5 to 9 cost \$20. Lunch and snack provided. Edson and District Leisure Centre. Registration closes at 4:00pm on Tuesday, April 30. visit: https://www.edson.ca/services/community-development/familyfun
May 11: Mother's Day Concert, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, Hatlen Theatre - Red Brick Arts Centre and Museum. Treat Mom to a night out! \$15/person.
May 17: At Home Alone safety course. Wildwood complex 9:30am-12:00 pm ages 10-13 register by May 15

yhcounty.ca/registration

May 24: Family Sock Hop 1950's Dance. 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm, Edson Legion Branch 51. Ticketed event.

June 22: Eddies Big Run. Register Now at edson.ca or running room.com or in person at Edson District Leisure centre. 1021 49 st Edson.

June 22: Shandy's Dream for a Cure, 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm, RCMP Centennial Park. This is a BBQ fundraiser created in memory of Shandy who passed away from a brain tumour.

Every Thursday: Seniors Chair Yoga Free. 10-11am Leisure Centre Hospitality Room.

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.

We are proud to support community events

Phone: 723-6661

Johnson E Herbert

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EDSON, AB.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

EDSON

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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 780-723-4366
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

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

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

GREEN GROVE UNITED CHURCH
Niton Junction - Ph: 795-2568
Sunday Services

Increase on-farm sales with Open Farm Days

by Niki Luymes

April is the final month for local farmers to register to be a part of Alberta Open Farms Days.

In 2023, more than 130 host farms opened their gates and became a part of Alberta Farm Days. However of those 130, less than 4 farms were within Yellowhead County.

The Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies, the event organizer, is encouraging farmers to take part. By joining, farmers not only get a boost in sales, it also helps raise agricultural awareness.

Alberta Open Farms Days is an annual two-day celebration of agriculture. It gives Albertans from across the province an opportunity to see where their food comes from and to meet the people who make it through unique on-farm experiences.

"In past years, host farms have included corn and sunflower mazes, wineries, stables, petting zoos, craft breweries along with honey, fruit, vegetable, grain, and u-pick farms. More traditional farms are also well represented with livestock (cattle, poultry, bison, alpaca, sheep, llama, goat) farms and ranches, and organic operations," said Holly Roy, Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies Representative.

It is not just private farms that can participate in the event. Agricultural societies are also

welcome to register. Last year 10 agricultural societies from across Alberta participated. This included societies from larger centres like; Spruce Grove, Grande Prairie, Lac La Biche, and Rocky Mountain House. However, smaller communities like Crossfield, Coaldale, and Smoky Lake also were involved. "Agricultural societies are important contributors to their communities beyond Open Farm Days. Successfully participating in Open Farm Days ideally gives the societies the confidence they need to do more programs in the future that support local food and producers," explained Roy.

Farms Day helps local communities by giving a small increase in revenue through agricultural-tourism. Since 2013, Open Farm Days has seen over 150,000 in-person visits, injecting over \$1.1 million into the rural economy through on-farm sales. Since its launch, the public has enjoyed over 900 Alberta farms. According to gathered statistics, on-farm sales during Alberta Open Farm Days 2023 weekend increased from \$224,000 in 2022 to almost \$299,000. Since its inception, Open Farm Days has generated over \$1.4 million in on-farm sales.

The amount of foot traffic differs depending on the individual farm. However, every participant gets access to tools to help make the most of the opportunity.

"This year we also expanded training, offering 10 training sessions from November to May," added Roy. "These sessions provided the farms with some beneficial early planning, which in turn, eliminated some of the last-minute struggles for

permits, allowing the newer farms to be helped during the crunch time."

2024 has been dubbed the Year of the Alpaca. "This year Open Farm Days is shining a spotlight on one of agriculture's fluffiest animals and an important part of Alberta's fibre industry – the alpaca. Alpacas are a relatively new species to Alberta farms, the first arrived here in the 1980's. Since then, the Alpaca population has grown to 28,500 in Canada, with 40% of those animals right here in Alberta on 432 farms.

Alpacas have become an important part of Alberta's thriving fibre industry which includes products such as goat wool, sheep wool, and hemp," said Roy.

If you are interested in joining the program, you can go to AlbertaOpenFarmDays.ca, to register or to find more information. "We are looking forward to another great event showcasing agriculture and food in Alberta. Mark August 17 and 18 on your calendar for the 12th annual Alberta Open Farm Days!" Roy concluded.

28TH ANNUAL YELLOWHEAD GARAGE SALE!!

Saturday, May 11, 2024.
9am - 5 pm

Watch for the signs; or go to our Facebook "Annual Niton & Area Travelling Garage Sale". Map of sale locations and items will be published in the Weekly Anchor, Community Voice and store communication boards.



SEE THE MAY 6 WEEKLY ANCHOR FOR GARAGE SALE MAP

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