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## April 21, 2020

## RCMP LAY CHARGES ON TWO INDIVIDUALS FOR ASSAULTS ON POLICE AND MULTIPLE COUNTS OF MISCHIEF

#### Submitted by Mayerthorpe RCMP

Update

On April 13, 2020, at approximately 11:45 p.m., Mayerthorpe RCMP received a complaint of a suspicious vehicle parked and a suspicious person walking around the parking lot near the Pleasant View Lodge in the area of 42 Avenue in Mayerthorpe.

Mayerthorpe RCMP attended and located Charlotte Mills, who was unlawfully at large contrary to the conditions of her judicial release on April 12, 2020, that specified 24-hour house arrest. Charlotte Mills (35) of Barrhead County, Alta., is charged with failing to comply with conditions of release.

Following a judicial hearing, Mills was remanded into custody and is scheduled to speak to bail in Stony Plain Provincial Court on April 15, 2020.

## TO HELP LIMIT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19, PARKS CANADA SUSPENDS CAMPING, GROUP ACTIVITIES, AND EVENTS UNTIL AT LEAST MAY 31, 2020

#### Submitted by Parks Canada

Parks Canada is committed to protecting the health and safety of Canadians, visitors, and its employees. The Agency is calling on Canadians to stay home and help limit the spread of COVID-19. Camping, group activities and events at all national parks, national historic sites, heritage canals and national marine conservation areas are suspended until at least May 31, 2020. The current suspension of visitor services and vehicle access by visitors, as well as the temporary closure of visitor facilities, will remain in place until further notice. *Continued on Page 3* 







www.bepic.com/elaine1



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## OJSH -EDUCATION IN A COVID 19 WORLD

#### Submitted by Mr Lobo -Principal | Onoway JR SR High School

Friday March 13 2020,



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was an ominous date. The regular superstitions put aside, it was the last day of regular classes at Onoway Jr. Sr. High School (OJSH). On Sunday March 15, Alberta students became part of the fight against COVID 19. To help minimize transmission of the virus Alberta students would not attend school, as of Monday March 16, 2020.

However the learning would continue, as students and staff would venture into a new world of Remote Learning. It took a few days to get up to speed and put supports in place, but by Tuesday March 24, Grade 12 level courses had

DINE (DIE I LIHE

My dentistry patients are called and

reminded the day before their scheduled

appointments. During an office visit, one

man was in an especially good humor

and explained why. "My staff kids me

about the high opinion I have of myself,"

he said. "Yesterday your receptionist left a

message that had them in stitches."

He related the memo his secretary had

handed him: "Your crown is ready."

started to be presented online via Google Hangouts and Google Classroom . By Wednesday March 25 all High School courses and Core Jr. High courses had a schedule to start on our journey.

Teachers now were teaching and interacting with students via Webcam. Parents and students had to make a space available in homes to join in via Desktop, Laptop, Chromebook, Tablet or Phone . As long as people had an internet connection, students could log on.

OJSH tech staff and support staff made over 85 school chromebooks available to students to support connections.For those with no Internet, OJSH Staff made papercopy of work available, and parents made appointments to drop off and pick up. Wednesdays is the drop off/pick up day.

By the last day before our Easter break, we had completed approximately 175 google hangout in the 8 days, March 24-April 2. We have typically been averaging 20-25 google hangouts per day. Some classes have a handful of students, and some have over 25 join. Most classes are scheduled for 30 minutes.

This reworking on Education delivery methodology has been truly a herculean effort by teaching and support staff. OJSH Parents and Students are to be commended for their adaptability in helping the learning continue. It has truly been a group effort by all....and we are slowly making progress.....AS long as the internet connections hold up.

Information is posted on the onowayhigh.ca website. Students need to check their school emails for google hangout invites. We will be posting a consistent schedule for the 4 week period April 20 till May 15. These learning systems will continue to allow students to "STAY on TRACK " in their 2019/2020 school courses.

For any questions please email ohs@ngps.ca or call the school at 780-967-2271



### April 21, 2020 To Help Limit The Spread Of COVID-19, Parks Canada Suspends Camping, Group Activities, and Events Until At Least May 31, 2020

#### Continued from Page 1

This means:

· All visitor services, including reception, information, lockage and mooring are suspended until further notice;

· All visitor facilities, including parking lots, washrooms, day use areas and visitor centres are closed until further notice;

· All camping facilities including backcountry camping, oTENTiks, and other roofed accommodations remain closed until further notice;

· All events, group and interpretive activities are cancelled until at least May 31, 2020;

· Parks Canada will not be taking new reservations until at least June 1, 2020. All existing reservations set to take place prior to May 31, 2020, will be automatically cancelled and refunded in full.

"The Government of Canada is asking Canadians to stay home and help limit the spread of COVID-19. Parks Canada is taking these additional measures to help keep people safe. Like all Canadians, I love our national parks and historic sites, but at this time we must all continue to do our part to flatten the curve, look out for one another, and make choices that will help reduce the pressure on our health care system." - The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Environment and Climate Change and Minister responsible for Parks Canada

These measures are necessary to support the national effort to limit the spread of COVID-19 and reduce health and safety risks to all Canadians. While the Agency looks forward to resuming services,

anyone planning a visit should be aware that these measures may extend beyond May 2020 and any resumption of services will take time or be incremental in nature.

Parks Canada will continue to deliver services critical for Canadians, including highway maintenance, fire response, dam operations and water management on historic waterways, avalanche control, among others.

Detailed information on Parks Canada places and the measures the Agency is taking to limit the spread of COVID-19 can be found at pc.gc.ca. Please check regularly for updates.

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## CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATE FOR WHITECOURT

#### Submitted by Town of Whitecourt

#### APRIL 16, 2020

The Town of Whitecourt continues to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic across Alberta, and has been adjusting operations to meet the changing needs of our community.

Provincial Fire Ban

On April 15, 2020, the Government of Alberta implemented a fire ban in the Forest Protection Area, provincial parks and protected areas across the province. Last year 71% of wildfires were human caused, and the Province has stated that introducing a fire ban at this time is expected to reduce the number of human-caused wildfires in Alberta, allowing resources to be focussed where they are most needed. For more information on fire bans throughout the province please visit www.albertafirebans.ca.

The Town of Whitecourt is not included in the provincial fire ban, and residents can continue to use permitted fire pits within corporate limits at this time. The Town of Whitecourt will continue to monitor the fire situation in the region, and will notify the community of any changes.

Residents are reminded that the Town of Whitecourt requires permits for all residential fire pits and for temporary burning, and the Whitecourt Fire Department continues to process permit applications at this time. Application forms can be found on Whitecourt's website, and completed forms with a cheque payment can be dropped off at the Town Office through the drop box during office hours. A staff member will then follow-up on your application via telephone.

**OHV Restrictions** 

A ban on recreational Off Highway Vehicles (ex. snowmobile, quad) also came into effect on Crown land in the Forest Protection Area, which includes Woodlands County. Residents are reminded that the Town's Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Bylaw prohibits OHV use within Town boundaries between April 1 and November 30.

COVID-19 information and updates are publicly available on the Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services websites:

www.alberta.ca/covid19www.ahs.ca/covid.



alberta.ca/covid19

Albertan

## WHITECOURT'S **2020 SPRING CLEAN UP AND "TAKE IT OR LEAVE** IT" POSTPONED

#### Submitted by Town of Whitecourt

Due to the current public health emergency, the annual Spring Clean Up and "Take It or Leave It" initiatives scheduled for May 2020 have been postponed.

"To protect the health and safety of Whitecourt employees and residents, and to prevent further spread of COVID-19, both initiatives have been postponed," stated Kamruz Zaman, Director of Infrastructure Services. "Whitecourt's Infrastructure Services Department is reviewing alternate program options that may be implemented later this vear."

780)

evertonniel13@gmail.com

The Spring Clean Up initiative is an annual event that provides additional residential refuse pickups. "Take It or Leave It" launched in 2019 and encourages the reuse of unwanted household items.

The Town of Whitecourt understands that many residents started their household spring cleaning early this year, and reminds community members that the Whitecourt Transfer Station and Whitecourt Regional Landfill remain open. For details on what materials are accepted at each location, please visit the Whitecourt website at www. whitecourt.ca/Services/ Garbage-Recycling.



FAX: 780-962-9146





## 7 THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN BUYING A SHED

Backyard sheds can be useful assets. Sheds can create storage space in the garage, basement or other areas of the house that have become gathering spots for gear typically used outdoors. Sheds are ideal for housing mowers, tools and even pool-care equipment. But they can be put to other uses as well, such as being key spots to engage in hobbies or even as a child's clubhouse.

Various factors should be considered before building or buying a shed. A storage shed can be a significant investment. Once



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1. Check your local building codes first. Before you accumulate building materials or order a shed, be sure to know the ins and outs of shed codes. The codes may impact the shed's placement, construction, the materials used, size, and numerous other factors. It's much easier to amend plans beforehand than to face the hassle and expense after learning you did things incorrectly.

2. Choose placement wisely. Spend several days assessing the yard and thinking about the uses for the shed. If you plan to store pool floats and chemicals inside of the shed, it should be located close enough to the pool to be convenient. Look at the lay of the land. If there is a soggy patch of land that can turn swampy under the shed's foundation, that is a poor location choice. If you need access to electricity, placing it far away from the house could necessitate running expensive wiring.

3. Consider the design. Just because a shed is for storage doesn't mean aesthetics should be overlooked. Choose a shed style that complements your home. You may also want to match certain architectural features, like arched doorways or dor-

Community**VOICE** Page 7



### 7 Things To Consider When Buying A Shed

mers. Design also may relate to practicality. For instance, storing a riding mower inside may necessitate dual doors that open widely.

4. Invest in quality materials. Spending a little more and using quality materials can ensure it lasts long enough to be cost-effective. The right materials will be resistant to splitting, cracking, decay, and insect damage.

5. Prepare the site well. A proper foundation for the shed is almost as important as the shed itself. You cannot just drop the shed on the lawn and leave it, as the shed can sink or structural issues may arise if it is placed on a weak base.

6. Blend into the environment. Surround the shed with shrubs or plants so that it blends into the yard and complements the space.

7. Deck out the interior. Use every storage tool at your disposal to maximize floor, wall and even rafter space for storage. Plan where items will be kept and customize the storage options around those locations.

Sheds can be an asset and improve storage capability in the backyard.



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## EXPECT SOME DELAYS FOR BEAVER DAM REMOVAL

#### Submitted by Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS)

Lac Ste Anne County is fortunate to have an abundance of freshwater resources. Fisheries and Oceans Canada recently made changes to the Fisheries Act to restore the protection of fish and fish habitat. Habitat degradation and modification are the biggest threat to the health of fish populations and this can manifest itself in many ways. Draining, dredging, infilling, and water diversions can negatively impact habitat, spawning behavior, and even cause fish death. To protect the infrastructure (roads, bridges, culverts and buildings) Lac Ste. Anne County uses a range of water management tools, one of which is the removal or modification of beaver dams. Lac Ste. Anne removed 124 beaver dams in 2019, to preserve infrastructure and allow for the safe passage of the public on roadways. Due to the recent changes of the Fisheries Act, a submission of a Request for Review Form is now required. Lac

Ste. Anne County is expecting significant delays in getting the paperwork processed as we continue to obey all federal and provincial laws surrounding freshwater resources. We ask for the patience of our residents while this new process unfolds. Watch our website for upcoming information or contact the county office 1-785-3411.



#### April 21, 2020 Community**VOICE** MESSAGE TO MY CONSTITUENTS

#### Submitted by Gerald Soroka, MP for Yellowhead

I would like to thank you for continuing to do your part in the fight against COVID-19. I realize that as this goes on, some people will be tempted to ignore social distancing, but it is very important that we don't let up until the time is right.

I understand that there is confusion around some of the programs being implemented to support Canadians. With new measures and changes being announced frequently, it can be difficult to keep up with. My team and I are here to help. We have been getting a lot of questions on the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB), so I have some info on that.

This week, the government announced new changes to the CERB. Workers earning less than \$1,000 a month, or who have seasonal employment and can't find a job due to COVID-19, as well as those who are running out of employment insurance, are now eligible to apply for the CERB.

If you applied for the CERB last week, just a reminder that you must reapply for subsequent periods if you continue to qualify.

That said, if you were transferred from Employment Insurance to the CERB, you will still need to do bi-weekly reports for EI as you did in the past to remain on the CERB but will not need to reapply monthly like those who apply directly for the CERB must do. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to my constituency office in Edson. As always, keep well stay safe and healthy.

Do you need assistance with getting groceries? Did you know some stores are offering pick-up or delivery services? Please check to see if your local grocery

Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)

#### stores are offering these services. You can order your groceries from home and

pick them up when you get to the store or have them delivered to your residence.

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Cherhill Legion, Mary 780-785-3578.	
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Cherhill Community Kevin 780-785-8153 Darwell Centennial Hall, 780-892-

3099 Darwell Seniors, Phone Debra 780-785-2907

Goose Lake Hall, Contact Deanna (780) 584-3738

Gunn Hall (G.A.R.S.) 780-951-9452

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80-785-3578.	Noreen at 786-2946
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1-11 700 000	com

Magnolia Hall, 727-2015

Manley Goodwill Community Hall, 963-9165 or 916-0146

Diamond Centre, Mayerthorpe Charlotte at 786-4659

Mayerthorpe Legion, 786-2470.

Onoway Community Hall, 967-4749.

Onoway Heritage Center - Gym/ Classrooms, 967-1015

Onoway Legion, 967-4980

Park Court Community Hall, 727-4476

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Ravine Community Hall, 325-2240

Rich Valley Community Hall, 967-5710 or 967-3696

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April 21, 2020

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