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April 10, 2024

SPRING PROGRAMMING AT TIPPLE PARK MUSEUM

Submitted by Tipple Park Museum

Things are warming up, and with the change of season, Tipple Park Museum is excited to offer a variety of spring programming for the coming weeks.

Beginner Knitting Workshop: April 20th from 12:30pm to 1:30 pm. We will be offering a beginner knitting workshop teaching basic skills. The price for the program is \$20 and includes a beginners knitting kit

that can be taken home at the end of the program. Pre-registration is required.

Pysanky Egg Workshop: May 3rd at 12:30pm. Learn the history of pysanky eggs and paint your own. This program is appropriate for all ages but we ask that participants ages 8 and under be accompanied by an adult. The program is \$10/person and preregistration is required because space is limited.

High Tea: May 10th, 1:00pm to 2:30 pm. Just in time for

Mother's Day, we will be hosting a high tea with many kinds of tea and goodies while talking about the history of tea traditions. This event is \$25 per person and preregistration is required. Ages 15+.

To register or for more information about any of these programs, call 780-727-2240 or email tippelparkmuseum@gmail.com. We are located in Evansburg and are open to the public Tuesday to Saturday from 10am to 4pm.

GROWING THE BENEFITS OF DIGITAL TECH IN AGRICULTURE

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Alberta's government will work with the University of Calgary to help the agriculture industry grow and foster innovation by adopting digital technologies.

Alberta is a global leader in agriculture research and tech-

nology. This results in increased productivity, competitiveness, sustainability and food security for both producers and consumers. To help find new ways to put more food on plates across Canada and around the world, Alberta's government is continuing to promote innovation in agriculture by investing in digital policy

research.

Alberta's government is providing a \$1.2-million grant over three years to the University of Calgary's Simpson Centre for the Alberta Digitalization Agriculture Program. The Simpson Centre will conduct research to develop a better

Continued on Page 2

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Growing The Benefits Of Digital Tech In Agriculture

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understanding of the challenges and opportunities associated with the digitalization of agriculture as part of the program.

"We're looking to the Simpson Centre to research and provide recommendations on how Alberta's producers can use technologies like robotics and data analytics to help Alberta successfully navigate their adoption. These technologies will support advancements in the sector so our province can remain a leader in agriculture innovation."

RJ Sigurdson, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation

"Connecting UCalgary's expertise in machine learning, robotics and smart devices to agricultural industries will be mutually beneficial to all stakeholders. We are grateful that the province has acknowledged the potential of digitalization to help make agricultural production more efficient, cost-effective and sus-

tainable."

Dr. Ed McCauley, president, University of Calgary

The Simpson Centre for Agricultural and Food Innovation and Public Education at the School of Public Policy, University of Calgary, is an academic policy institute that supports Canadian agri-food and agriculture. Agriculture and Irrigation has supported the Simpson Centre with research funding since 2021 when it provided \$1.7 million in funding for the Carbon Program, which concluded on October 31, 2023.

The Simpson Centre will research ways to improve understanding and technology use and provide recommendations to producers and government policymakers. As part of this work, the centre will create a platform for experts to exchange ideas and develop recommendations.

"Alberta Beef Producers appreciates the Government of Alber-

ta's investments in technology and digital agriculture. Innovation in ag-tech is crucial to our industry's competitiveness and moving the beef industry forward."

Brodie Haugan, chair, Alberta Beef Producers

"The Simpson Centre's leading researchers play a significant role in finding solutions to the challenges faced by the farmers and ranchers we serve. Never has it been more critical to support ag-tech research and collaboration among producers and policy makers to examine how new technologies can be adopted in the agricultural sector."

Don Smith, chief operating officer, United Farmers of Alberta Co-operative Limited

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JOKE of the week

A lady was walking down the street when she was approached by a lady beggar asking for money. The lady took a \$20 bill out of her purse, and asked "if I give you this money will you spend it on chocolate." "Don't be ridiculous" the beggar replied "does it look like I have nothing better to spend money on?" "How about shopping?" she asked. "No," the beggar said, "don't you understand I need money just to stay alive." "Will you spend it on your hair?" the lady asked. Annoyed the beggar replied, "No, I just need money for food, and shelter." "In that case" the lady said "I don't want to just give you money I would like you to eat out with me and my husband tonight." "Why?" The beggar asked. "Well," the lady said "I think it's important for him to see what a lady looks like after she gives up chocolate, shopping, and hair appointments."

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STAFF SPECIALIZED TRAINING

Submitted by GYPSD

GYPSD is proud to provide valuable professional development training all year to ensure our staff have the important skills and resources needed to support students.

Members of the GYPSD Inclusion Team, led by Amy Corser, Inclusion Team's Teacher Consultant, as well as Educational Assistants, Therapy Aides, and the Division's Occupational Therapist and Speech-Language Pathologist, attended some valuable online workshops sponsored by the Alberta Regional

Professional Development Consortia. These sessions were offered on the latest Division-wide PD day on March 1, 2024. Some of the workshops included strategies for managing classroom behaviours, nurturing well-being through social and emotional learning, and emotional regulation.

On March 6, 2024, the Division's Inclusion Team also

hosted a Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (NVC) training in Hinton.

Sixteen participants across the Division including Educational Assistants, Family School Liaison Counselors, Assistant Principals, Learning Support Teachers, and the Division's Occupational Therapist took part in the full-day of training. Michelle Down-

ing, Assistant Principal/Learning Support Teacher at École Pine Grove Middle School and Parkland Composite High School in Edson, taught the session.

Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Training provides GYPSD staff with proven strategies using safe intervention methods to defuse/de-escalate crisis situations that may involve more challenging behaviours. NVC training is designed to help staff align with current legislative initiatives and share best practices. Staff also had to complete several online learning modules prior to the full day of training.

April 4,
2024

GYPSD Staff Gain Valuable Training and Skills to Support Students

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CHECK OUT OUR 50/50!

Darwell Centennial Hall needs some TLC. Join us in our efforts to make it happen! We, the Darwell District Recreation Association (DDRA), who maintain and manage the Darwell Centennial Hall, continue our efforts to raise funds to upgrade our hall.

Thanks to our wonderful hard-working group of volunteers, we now have an on-line 50/50 raffle.

Tickets, ranging in price from \$10-\$100, are available on our website:

www.darwellhall.weebly.com

CHECK IT OUT! IT'S A WIN/WIN!

THERE'S A LOT HAPPENING AT THE DARWELL CENTENNIAL HALL

- Darwell Centennial Hall continues to be a hub of community activity:
- Wellness Trade Fair/Expo on April 21 from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM. FREE! Food truck, vendors, presentations, a multitude of door prizes. For information on vendors and speakers, check out our FB page facebook.com/darwellDDRA.
- Pickleball on Monday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings.
- Yoga on Wednesday evenings.
- Bull Bash is on July 20th. (www.darwellag.com)
- Darwell Annual Fair August 16-18. This year, The Ag Society celebrates its 80th annual fair. Wow! You don't want to miss it.



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SLIPPERY TRICKS FOR LEPRECHAUN TRAPS

Submitted by GYPSD

Elementary schools across the Division were busy the week before Saint Patrick's Day trying their skills in building leprechaun traps; a children's craft project used to celebrate Saint Patrick's Day. The "traps" are set up the night before St. Patrick's Day, and children awoken to discover signs that leprechauns have visited the trap.

At Ecole Jasper Elementary, Mme. Beauchamp's kindergarten-

ers worked together in teams on a STEM challenge to plan, build, and present leprechaun traps to keep their classroom safe from mischief.

Throughout the morning, students were actively engaged in this hands-on activity, fostering collaboration and creativity in a fun and

educational way.

Mrs. Walker's class at Fulham School made some fantastic hats last week and Miss Marshall's class created some traps to try to catch a leprechaun, using boxes, lots of tape, and a "gold" coin to lure him in.

The next morning when the students returned to

their class room, they saw that all of their traps had been sprung and the naughty leprechaun left a trail of shamrocks and a joke on each desk!

Ms. Adelman's Grade 1 students at Mary Bergeron Elementary in Edson arrived to find that their classroom had been destroyed over the weekend. They were disappointed to find their leprechaun traps empty, that tricky little leprechaun! Better luck next year, Grade 1!

April 8, 2024

Grande Yellowhead
Public School Division

Slippery Tricks for Leprechaun Traps!



Board Priority 1:
Student Learning



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MORE SPACES AT SAFE PLACES FOR VULNERABLE WOMEN

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Alberta's government is keeping its promise to provide an additional \$10 million over four years to strengthen women's shelters and fund more beds.

Every year, thousands of women experiencing family violence and abuse seek help from women's shelters. These shelters help survivors overcome some of the darkest circumstances of their lives by providing a safe, supportive environment and critical supports, but have faced capacity challenges and increased demand for services.

Alberta's government is proud to support women's shelters and the valuable work they do to keep Al-

bertans safe. Right now, \$5 million is being distributed to women's shelters in 17 communities across the province to create additional spaces for those fleeing violence. If passed, Budget 2024 would see Alberta increase annual funding to women's shelters by \$5 million over the next three years.

Alberta's government is rolling out the full \$10 million over four years, \$5 million in 2023-24, \$1.5 million in 2024-25, an additional \$1.5 million in 2025-26, and \$2 million in 2026-27. This investment is funding an additional 104 beds at shelters across the province, including doubling the number of beds available in Whitecourt and adding new beds at the Banff YWCA and

Eileen's Place.

In addition, funding will support innovative programs to help meet high demand in rural areas. Solutions to enhance supports for rural shelters include \$350,000 for Rowan House Society's new, first-of-its-kind program in High River, which empowers women to have agency over their choices while experiencing domestic violence, as well as \$275,000 for Big Hill Haven in Cochrane, which has no physical shelter and rents units so those fleeing abuse have somewhere local to stay.

"Our members are grateful Alberta's government is delivering on its funding commitment with a significant investment up front, as well as providing more flex-

ibility for women's shelters to better address survivors' needs."

Jan Reimer, CEO, Alberta Council of Women's Shelters

Finally, Alberta's government is also initiating long-requested changes to women's shelter grant agreements in 2024-25. Women's shelter providers have been asking for flexibility in how to allocate funding that works best for each shelter's unique circumstances and helps them better address survivors' needs. The changes to these grant agreements will be effective as of April 1.



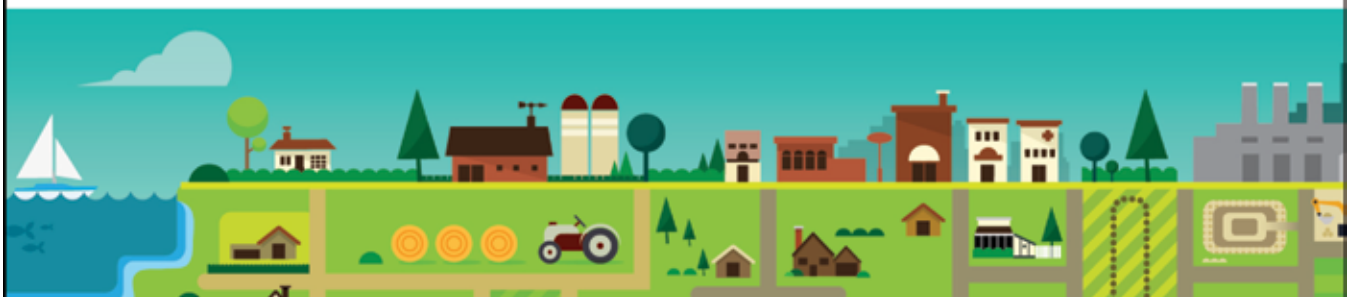
Land Use Bylaw ReDesign

We want to hear from you! As part of a regular and ongoing process, Parkland County is updating the County's Land Use Bylaw (LUB) in an effort to streamline regulations and create clear and transparent decision-making processes for development in the county. Phase 2 engagement activities for the project are coming soon! Join us for the following activities

In-person Drop-in Open House

- Thank you for participating in our April 3, 2024 event at the Parkland County Centre!
- April 10, 2024 from 5PM to 8PM (Entwistle Community Recreation Centre)

For project updates and future engagement opportunities visit yourparkland.ca/lub



STABILIZING ALBERTA'S PRIMARY HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Alberta's government is delivering on a commitment to provide funding to help family doctors with their administrative costs so they can devote more time to seeing patients.

Primary care is the foundation of Alberta's health care system, and family physicians are fundamental to Albertans getting the care they need when and where they need it. That's why Alberta's government is pulling out all the stops to stabilize, strengthen and improve Alberta's primary health care system.

The additional one-time funding has been provided to the Alberta Medical Association (AMA) as part of a December 2023 commitment of \$200 million over two years to stabilize primary health care. The AMA will distribute the funding to eligible family physicians and rural generalists.

"We heard what primary care physicians told us about the challenges they are facing, and we've taken action to address those challenges. Alberta's government is pleased to provide this one-time funding to support family physicians and rural generalists until a new physician comprehensive care model is introduced."

Adriana LaGrange,

Minister of Health

Approximately 3,000 family doctors are eligible to receive transition funding of \$24,000 to \$40,000. The amount a family physician and rural generalist will receive depends on the number of patients they have.

The funding is a one-time payment aimed at helping family doctors and rural generalists until a new compensation model is in place. It will be used for administrative and equipment costs related to the number of patients they manage.

"We are grateful that this funding will help

family and rural generalist physicians remain in comprehensive, life-long care as we move to the next phase of collaboration with the minister and her team. For this stabilization investment to reap benefits for Albertans, we must rapidly implement the new payment model that will allow comprehensive care to flourish across the province."

Dr. Paul Parks, president, Alberta Medical Association

This funding is enabled through the new Canada-Alberta Health Funding Agreement with the

federal government. The agreement represents a total of about \$1.1 billion in additional health care funding over three years for shared priorities.


An advertisement with a yellow background. At the top, the text "ALL YOU NEED IS..." is in dark blue, followed by "A CAR", "A HEART", and "AND TIME" in the same color, with a smiley face icon after "TIME". Below this is a large, close-up photo of an older man with grey hair and glasses, smiling broadly. At the bottom, there is a dark blue banner with white and yellow text. The text reads: "We are in critical need of volunteers to drive seniors." followed by "Visit: drivehappiness.ca/volunteering" and "Call: (780) 424-5438". To the right of this text, the words "DRIVE" and "HAPPINESS" are written in large, bold, yellow capital letters.

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WHAT IS A SMART HOME?

Refrigerators that inform their owners when it's time to buy more eggs and thermostats that learn homeowners' heating and cooling preferences may once have seemed like futuristic ideas straight out of a sci-fi movie. However, such products are no longer a dream but a reality.

The term "smart home" refers to a residence that has appliances, HVAC,

lighting, entertainment systems, security, and many more devices that communicate with one another. Such devices can be controlled remotely, according to SmartHomeUSA, an automation product retailer. Proponents of smart home technology say features can help people save money on utilities and conserve natural resources, all the while providing peace of mind

to homeowners.

In 2016, 80 million smart home devices were delivered worldwide. That marks a 64 percent increase from 2015, according to the research data firm IHS Markit. The smart home trend is only expected to grow in coming years.

Although there's interest in smart home technology, the industry remains fragmented. Consumers are trying

to figure out which devices are simply fun and which provide practical benefits. Furthermore, the range of smart devices is expanding rapidly, making potential compatibility issues a concern. Companies that plan to educate consumers further about the advantages of smart home features and are open to standardization may have the best

Continued on Page 10

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What Is A Smart Home?

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chances of survival.

Those interested in dabbling in some smart home technology and testing the waters may want to start with the following household items.

- **Smart bulbs:** Manufacturers offer various types of smart light bulbs. Some are color-changing, others react to doorbells or alarms, and others can simulate typical lighting patterns

when homeowners are away. Integrated apps enable remote access to scheduling so people can arrive home to a well-lit house.

- **Home security:** Wi-Fi enabled doorbells with video capabilities allow residents to see who is at the door without having to open it. Cameras can even be accessed remotely, simulating that someone is at home at all times.

Never wonder if you've locked the door again with smart locks that can be engaged via a smartphone. Make sure that homes are secured or that pets are behaving while out with smart cameras.

- **Flood sensor:** Get peace of mind against damaging floods with Wi-Fi flood sensors.

- **Appliances:** A new breed of smart appliances can make it

possible for users to turn on the washing machine while out of the house, close refrigerator doors from afar or even start their vacuum cleaners remotely.

Smart technology is taking over and is likely to continue changing the way people live and work.

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6 EASY SPRING CLEANING PROJECTS

Warmer days are here and what better way to spend them than cleaning? Although enjoying the great outdoors is probably high on many a to-do list come spring, by the end of winter, homes can probably do with a much-needed overhaul. Owners and renters can rely on temperate days to throw open the windows and engage in some easy spring-cleaning projects. The earlier one begins spring cleaning, the

more quickly he or she will be able to head outside and bask in the warm spring sun. Spring cleaning tasks can be stretched out across several days to make the jobs more manageable. While certain spring cleaning tasks can be time-consuming, many projects can be started and completed in 30 minutes or less.

1. Look up

Start by looking up at ceilings, molding and ceiling fans. Chances are


strong that some cobwebs and dust have formed in these areas. Always begin cleaning by working from the top downward so you don't have to clean any tables, countertops or floors twice. Static-charged dusting cloths work well to catch and contain dust. Use a pillowcase on ceiling fan blades to clear the dust and keep it from cascading to the floor.

2. Blinds and curtains

Heavy window treatments can be removed and

replaced with more gauzy fabrics. This lets in more light and warmth from the sun. Many curtains can be freshened up right in the laundry, but blinds may require a bit more effort. If the blinds can be snapped out of the brackets, place them in a tub full of vinegar, dish soap and water. Allow them to soak and then rinse with the shower nozzle. Stationary blinds can be cleaned with using an old sock over

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6 Easy Spring Cleaning Projects

Continued from Page 11

your hand dipped in a vinegar-and-water solution.

3. Change linens

Remove and launder bed linens. While the linens are in the wash, thoroughly dust all furniture and vacuum the carpets. Move furniture so you can reach areas where dust gathers, such as under the bed or dresser.

4. Grout cleaner

Grade school science lessons can be put to use

as you look to remove stubborn dirt. Combining baking soda and vinegar produces a reaction that causes the formation of gassy bubbles. These bubbles can help to break up dirt that clings to crevices, such as grout between tiles. Some light scrubbing and then subsequent rinsing can rid surfaces of hard-to-remove dirt.

5. Vacuum vent intakes

Many houses are heated by forced-air systems. The air intake vents can

become clogged with dust and other debris. Vacuum these vents so that air flow is not impeded. Let the heat run for a few minutes to catch any small particles that become dislodged, and then change the furnace filter.

6. Clean out the refrigerator

Now is a great time to remove any of those mystery containers growing fuzzy experiments in the back of the refrigerator. Take the food out of the

refrigerator and use a food-safe cleaner to scour the shelves and inside of crisper drawers

Spring cleaning is a necessary task, but it doesn't have to be a headache. Break up the work into manageable chunks of time, and projects won't feel like such a hassle.

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FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN PLANNING A HOME OFFICE

As technology has made working remotely easier, more and more professionals are working from home. Working from home can help working parents save money on childcare costs and help all workers avoid rush hour traffic jams and the costs of commuting to and from the office.

The right working environment is essential for men and women who work from home. An environment that's conducive to work can help people increase their productivity

and make their employers more likely to allow more employees to work from home. Professionals who are new to working from home may find it takes some time before they can create the perfect working environment, but the following are a few factors to consider when planning a home office.

Space

One of the disadvantages to working from home is that remote workers don't have access to the same level of equipment as in the

main office, such as color copiers or scanners. If you want to include even scaled-down versions of such equipment in your office, you will need ample space. In addition, less spacious home offices can feel too tight and enclosed, making workers uncomfortable and less enthusiastic about working every day. Pick a spot in your home that affords room for your equipment and the ability to move around so you don't feel cramped throughout the workday.

Lighting

Lighting is another factor remote workers must consider when they're planning their home offices. Natural light can provide an energetic boost and improve your mood, so choose a room in your home that gets lots of sunlight during the day. Many professionals who work remotely do so from the basements of their homes, which can make it difficult to rely on natural light. If the basement is the only location in your home

Continued on Page 14



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Factors To Consider When Planning A Home Office

Continued from Page 13

that can fit a home office, look for lighting sources that replicate daylight so

you are not working in dark quarters. Speak with your physician about how to arrange lighting to reduce eyestrain caused by staring

at a computer.

Connectivity

Connectivity also must be considered when planning a home office. While

wireless Internet has made Internet dead zones less problematic, certain areas or rooms in your home may still be touch-and-go with regard to Internet connectivity. Such areas should be avoided when choosing a room for your home office, as it can be difficult to remain productive if your connection to your office's external server is routinely compromised. Find an area where the wireless connection is always strong.

Distractions

While your home might be empty for much of the day, you don't want to be distracted when the kids come home from school or when your spouse or roommate arrives home from work. Avoid putting your home office too close to popular hangout areas in your home, such as the kitchen and the living room. Instead, choose a room where you have lots of privacy so you can focus on your work and won't be routinely interrupted.

Working from home can pay numerous dividends, but professionals who telework must put careful thought into the rooms or areas of their homes where they plan to work.

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A CONSERVATIVE CASE FOR THE CPP

Letter to the Editor

Our provincial government is still considering an Alberta Pension Plan, regardless of the majority of Albertans who oppose the idea. In order to fully understand what would be required, I recently reread the LifeWorks report that was used to support the idea of an Alberta Pension Plan. You may also want to do that. Some factors that we as Albertans would have to consider may have an effect on your approval or disapproval.

First, we have been told that an APP would likely receive over half the value of the CPP (pages 47 and 48). Not so. As of the last quarter of 2023, Canada's population was 40.5 million, while Alberta's was 4.75 million, or 11.7% of Canada's population. We have to deduct Quebec because it has its own plan, but the other 26.85 million Canadians are unlikely to agree to that amount. That is just the start.

The argument has been made that Albertans earned more and paid more so deserve more. That is of course unsupported; Yearly Maximum Pensionable Earnings for the CPP will be \$68,500 in 2024, up from \$66,000 in 2023. Albertan maximum is the same as everyone else's, so however much people earned beyond that amount is irrelevant for calculations; even if a worker earned one million dollars a year, his or her YMPE contribution was still \$66,000. Arguments about Albertans

earning and paying more than other Canadians and therefore APP's share of the CPP base should be higher makes little sense.

Contributions by Alberta employees and employers who were and are now residents of other provinces must all be left in the CPP, as the APP would not be paying pensions to residents of other provinces. This includes such people as Maritimers who may have worked for two years in the tar sands. Their in-Alberta donations, and all interest derived from them, would have to remain in the CPP that would pay their pension. Also, payouts that have occurred since 1966, especially regarding non-Alberta residents, should carefully be deducted - along with the anticipated investment revenue that they no longer accrued. In many cases determining an APP value of the CPP base would require a month by month tally and calculation for every situation since 1966 - at least those involving non-Albertans.

What about the cost of establishing and operating an APP? Currently Albertan contributions are subject to covering only about 12% of the management and other costs of the CPP. For an APP they would have to cover 100% of the costs of a plan. For example, all collection, investment, management, disbursement, accounting, advisory and auditing teams would be covered by Albertans only. According to the LifeWorks

report (page 4), the setup could be from about \$100 million to over \$1 billion. The yearly operating costs are yet to be determined.

An APP would, of course, have to construct a new relationship with Canada Revenue regarding contributions, accrual, declaration and disbursement of funds, as the APP would be distinct from the federal programs. Negotiations would be long and expensive due to the complex nature and the uniqueness of an Alberta plan.

Transferability agreements would have to be arranged with CPP, QPP and APP, along with information exchange methods and legalities. An APP would also have to create international social security agreements with other countries (CPP has 59 of those!) to ensure no losses in the plan while working overseas, and to ensure transfer of APP funds regardless of foreign pension structures.

Who would manage the APP? Would it be under direct government control? An independent board? A combination of those? Who would oversee and audit the fund and its operative elements? What would be annual costs?

Small plans expect to have less purchasing power and control over investments than large ones. Despite an APP being a smaller plan, we are told that Albertans could (yes, only COULD) pay less and receive more. Perhaps, if APP were actually to re-

ceive a startup of 53% of the Canada plan (and the rest of the country continue with only 47%), retirees could receive more for a brief term, but in the medium and long terms Albertans, like Quebecois, would (yes, WOULD) expect to pay more and receive less.

Finally, according to the recently passed Bill 2, a proposed referendum on this matter would not be binding on the Alberta government; it could still be ignored.

These are some considerations, and there are others. Be sure that you are sure. If you think an Alberta Pension Plan is the right choice for you, start calculating whether you can trust the figures you have been given and the people who may run such a plan. If in doubt, trust the Canada Pension Plan that continues to operate successfully on behalf of us all.





AGE GROUPS: 4-5 YRS | 6-7 YRS | 8-9 YRS | 10-12 YRS

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Entries must be recieved by May 9, 2024.

Mail to: Community Voice
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ALBERTA BOOSTS FUNDING FOR INDIGENOUS BUSINESSES

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Budget 2024 increases the Aboriginal Business Investment Fund to \$30 million to support Indigenous community-owned businesses over the next three years.

Indigenous communities face significant barriers when trying to access funding from traditional financial institutions. Supporting the development of Indigenous businesses is a key part of Alberta's commitment to economic reconciliation. Alberta's government is collaborating with Indigenous businesses as partners in prosperity to ensure the success and sustainability of Indigenous communities across the province.

Alberta's government is increasing the Aboriginal Business Investment Fund (ABIF)

by \$2.5 million for the second year in a row, doubling it from \$5 million in Budget 2022 to \$10 million in the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Since it was launched 10 years ago, the ABIF program has provided capital grants to more than 85 Indigenous businesses and helped create more than 800 permanent jobs for Indigenous people in Alberta.

The ABIF provides capital grants of up to \$750,000 to help Indigenous-owned businesses develop and grow. It gives them the means to build, enhance or purchase the infrastructure and equipment they need to increase revenue, create jobs and contribute even more to their communities.

The ABIF program has supported businesses in construction, agriculture, oil and gas, retail, tourism and many other industries. These busi-

nesses have had a profound impact on local communities while also supporting broader economic growth.

Montana First Nation, one of four First Nations in Maskwacis, is one success story that has led to government increasing the total program funding. In 2021-22, Montana First Nation received a \$500,000 ABIF grant to support the development of Akamihk Fresh greenhouse, which is now providing fresh vegetables and freeze-dried herbs to markets and restaurants in central Alberta and the Edmonton area.

The greenhouse also supplies many schools in Maskwacis with fresh food for their students. Montana First Nation is working to expand the greenhouse this summer, and when complete, it will provide up to 16 permanent jobs for Indigenous people, as well as

helping address food security for the community.

In many cases, ABIF grants have allowed Indigenous businesses to take the next step in their development, growing beyond their borders to bid on regional projects and employ people outside their community, in some cases becoming international leaders in their sectors. For example, the Blood Tribe's Kainai Forge operation received multiple rounds of ABIF funding and now exports premium hay across the world.

In 2023-24, Alberta's government provided ABIF grants to 10 First Nations businesses and three Metis Settlement businesses. This program is an important part of a suite of Alberta government initiatives focused on economic reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.



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For more information, please contact Greenview Agricultural Services at 780.524.7621.



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MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN & LAND USE BYLAW DRAFTS

We invite your input for an update to the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) and the Land Use Bylaw (LUB).

The **Municipal Development Plan** communicates the long-term desired land use for the County and serves as a framework of how it is expected to change over time and shape its future.

The **Land Use Bylaw** regulates the use and development of land and buildings within Yellowhead County to achieve an orderly and efficient pattern of development.

Public Information Sessions

Open Houses start April 15 across Yellowhead County. Join us at these "drop-in" events for landowners, business owners, and residents to discuss the proposed changes to the MDP and LUB. The sessions aim to answer questions and provide background on the proposed changes.

Marlboro

April 15, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Marlboro Community Hall, 1005 21 Ave.

Wildwood

April 16, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Wildwood Community Hall, 4904 51 Ave.

Edson

April 17, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
County Administration Building, 2716 1 Ave.

Evansburg

April 19, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Tippie Park Museum, 4805 48 Street

Brule

April 23, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Brule Community Hall, 5010 Mountain Road

Peers

April 24, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Peers Multiplex, 5113 51 Street

Cadomin

April 25, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Cadomin Firehall, 5215 50 Street

Hinton

April 26, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Hinton Municipal Library, 803 Switzer Drive

Robb

April 29, 2024, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Robb Community Hall, 5101 52 Ave.

Online Open House

April 30, 2024, 11:00 am and 6:00 pm
www.yhcounty.ca/join

Public Hearing to be held on:

June 25, 2024, 9:30 am

Council Chambers, County Administration Building, 2716 1 Ave, Edson



www.yhcounty.ca

Surveys are available online or at the Yellowhead County offices in Wildwood and Edson.

For the draft document and the online survey, visit:
yhcounty.ca/MDPLUB2024

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Classified Policy

CLASSIFIED RATES INCLUDE GST. 1st 20 Words: First Insertion = \$7.00; Subsequent insertion = \$3.50 each. (Eg: 2 insertions = \$10.50; 3 insertions = \$14.00; etc) Each additional word is .20 cents per word, per insertion. BOLD/CAPITAL text available for an additional \$1/line. Ads must be paid in advance. No Refunds Allowed on Classified Ads. DEADLINE: is Thurs. 4:00 pm. Classified ads may be called in to the COMMUNITY VOICE office at (780) 962-9228, emailed to: comvoice@telusplanet.net Ads may also be placed on the web at www.com-voice.com/classified.htm

Hall Rentals

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Cherhill Community Assoc.

Hall, Kevin 780-785-8153

Darwell Centennial Hall, 780-892-2468

Darwell Seniors, Phone Debra 780-785-2907

Duffield Hall, 892-2425

Entwistle Community League Hall Rentals, Call Barry Osbourne (780) 621-2541

Entwistle Senior's Drop In Centre, Barb 727-2108 or Glennis 727-4367 Mon-Fri

Evansburg Senior's Heritage House, Dennis 727-4186

Evansburg Legion, upper hall 250 people, 727-3879

Fallis Community Hall, Kim/Rick 587-415-8177

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

Keephills Hall keephillsrentals@gmail.com (780) 919-6590 keephillshall.com Contact Hayley Butz

Lake Isle Community Hall, PH: 780-892-3121 or Email: lakeislehall@mail.com

Lake Romeo PeaVine Hall, 785-2700

Magnolia Hall, 727-2015

Mackay Community Hall, Darlene 780-795-2350

Manley Goodwill Community Hall, 780-920-3217

Mayerthorpe Diamond Centre, 786-4044

Moon Lake Community Hall, 780-727-2370

Park Court Hall, call or text Karyn 780-712-3918

Parkland Village Community Centre, 780-298-9155 @ PVCCentre

Pioneer Centre, Spruce Grove 780-962-5020 or email

Ravine Community Hall, Dawna @ 325-2460

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

Rosenthal Community Hall, 963-7984

Seba Beach Pavilion, 780-797-3863

Smithfield Community Hall, 780-717-3714

Tomahawk & District Sports Agra, Bookings: Kathy 780-339-3773.

Wabamun Jubilee Hall, 780-727-3947.

Wildwood Community Hall,

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Wildwood Rec Complex 325-2077 or 514-8944

Wildwood Senior's Hall, 325-3787

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SUDOKU of the week

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

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

ANSWER:

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

	7		9	1			8	
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			2					9
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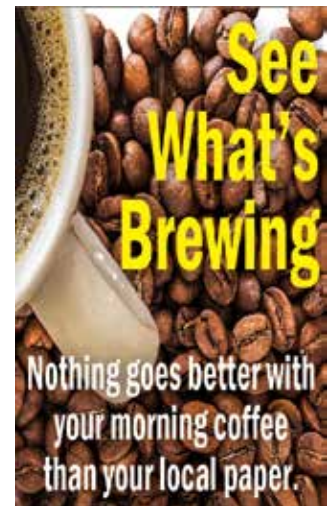
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St. Elizabeth Parish, Evansburg
Saturday 7:00p.m.

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Tuesday Mass 7:00p.m.
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www.staugustinesparkland.org

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Saturday 10am
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Stony Plain United Church

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5012-51 Ave. Stony Plain

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

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Rosenthal

Sunday Worship Service 9:30a.m.
Sunday School
780-963-4048

Emmaus Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship Service 11:00a.m.

Rev. Robert Marshall
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Ph: 780-542-5101
emmauslutheranchurch@signews.com

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Please contact for activities
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Drayton Valley
Ph: 780-542-5091

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Pastoral Team: Kenton Penner

Sunday Worship 10:30a.m.
Youth & Ministries Info - calvbapt@telus.net
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780-542-4774
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(780) 542-5048
www.allsaaintsdraytonvalley.ca

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Sunday 12:00p.m.

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Parish Office: 542-5254

COMMUNITY EVENTS

If you are a LICENSED, NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION, you are welcome to submit your announcement FREE of charge, space permitting. You are required to submit your non-profit number. Call (780) 962-9228. Please note that all submitted event listings must be limited to 25 characters or less (including spaces). DEADLINE: 12 noon Friday prior to publication (Thursdays on long weekends).

FARMERS MARKETS

DRAYTON VALLEY: Farmers' Market, Wednesdays starting May 3rd-October 4 from 3:00pm-6:00pm at 5015 Industrial Rd. dvagsocietyinfo@gmail.com for information.

EVANSBURG FARMERS MARKET: Every Saturday 10am - 2pm located right beside Evansburg Tipple Museum 780-515-0905

May-Sept
URG: Sat, 10AM-2PM, Tipple Park Museum. Call 727-2240 for tables. ***May-Sept.**

SPRUCE GROVE: at the Elevator, Sat 10:00-1:00PM, Info (780)288-6174 ***April - Dec.**

STONY PLAIN: Saturdays, 9AM-1PM, Community Centre Downtown, Stony Plain. Nancy 780-962-3993. ***April - Dec.**
Wabamun Farmers Market: 12:00 noon on Sunday, July 3. Old Fire Hall (53rd Ave), Wabamun

BINGO

ENTWISTLE COMM. LEAGUE BINGO: Every Wednesday, Doors Open 6PM.

STONY PLAIN SENIOR'S DROP-IN CENTRE: public bingo every Tues, 7PM. All ages welcome. Phone (780) 963-6685
WILDWOOD: 4th Mon night, 6:30PM, bingo starts 7:30PM, Early Birds & Lucky 7.

WILDWOOD LADIES AID: every 3rd Friday of month, 6:30PM, bingo starts 7:30PM.

MEAT DRAWS

C.A.N. COMMUNITIES OF ALBERTA NETWORKING FOR SENIORS, Spruce Grove at Pioneer Center. first market March 25 1 - 5:30pm

Evansburg: Evansburg Legion, Friday 8-10PM & Saturday 3-5PM

STONY PLAIN ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BR# 256: Saturdays @ 3:00PM.- 5:00 PM Meat Draw & 50/50.

Wildwood: Wildwood Legion, Saturday 3-5PM

JAMBOREES

CARVEL: 2nd Sunday of month. \$6 lunch served. Info 780-991-3001

DUFFIELD: Oct 22 \$20, Entertainers \$10. Dinner @ 6pm, late lunch and 50/50.

***Sept - May. except dec.**

ENTWISTLE: 3rd Saturday of month, Doors at 1:30PM at Entwistle Community Hall. Contact Verna at 780-716-2304.

***October - May**

RAVINE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION: 1st Sat of each month. Info 780-325-2391

***Sept - May.**

Edmonton Northwest Senior's Center: 12963 - 120st NW, Every Wed From 1-3:30pm Aug & Sept Admin: \$5 non members \$2 members Yearly membership \$30

SPRUCE GROVE: at Sandhills Community Hall, 3rd Sunday, 1-5PM. Info Florence 780-962-3104 Margaret 780-962-3051 ***Sept - June.**

STONY PLAIN: Stony Plain Seniors Drop In Center, 5018 - 51 Ave. Every 1st & 3rd Thurs of month, 6:30PM, \$2.

TOMAHAWK: Tomahawk Agriplex, 3rd Friday of month. 1PM to 5PM. Doors open at noon PH: 780-339-3755. ***Oct - May**

WILDWOOD: Wildwood Community Hall, 3rd Wed Each Month, noon 325-2180 325-2270 ***Oct - June.**

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)

ENTWISTLE: Wed 5 pm weigh-in, meeting to follow. WEE Foodbank building, main street Entwistle, south entrance. Call Jean at 780-270-4648 for more info.

STONY PLAIN: Thurs evening at 5:30PM, Stony Plain Library Susan (780) 968-0869

SPRUCE GROVE: Mon at 4:30pm at Anglican Church, 131 Church Road. Betty (780)962-3857

SPRUCE GROVE: Tues at 6:15PM at Anglican Church, 131 Church Rd. Sharron (780) 962-2722

SPRUCE GROVE: Wed at 8:45am at Anglican Church, 131 Church Road. Christiane (sp) (780)960-1109

WILDWOOD: Thurs at 10am at Wildwood Hall, Bea (780)727-2129

SANGUDO: Tues 5pm at Sangudo United Church. Toni (780)786-4612

YOUR COMMUNITY

ALBERTA PARENTING FOR THE FUTURE ASSOC: Call 963-0549 or visit www.apfa.ca to register. All programs are confidential & free.

Derrick Toastmasters: Serving Drayton Valley and area since 1990 Build Communication, Leadership & Public Speaking Skills Meets 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 7-9pm, Zoom Contact derricktm6538.secretary@gmail.com for information.

FREE HOME MEAL DELIVERY PROGRAM, for Wabamun Seniors & Wabamun Lions. Arrange for meal preparation through a local restaurant. Call Darlene, 892-2551.

PROBLEMS WITH DRUG OR ALCOHOL ADDICTION in a loved one? Contact Drug Rehab Resource for a free confidential consultation. 1-866-649-1594 or www.drugrehabresource.net.

LIBRARY EVENTS

AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB at Keephills Library. 2nd Tues of every month, 1:30-3:00PM. Visit www.pclibraries.ca for info.

FAMILY GAMES NIGHT: 3rd Wed of every month, 6-8PM. Located at Entwistle Library, Duffield Library and Tomahawk Library. In partnership with Parkland School Division. Visit www.pclibraries.ca for more info.

HATCHET CITY READERS at Tomahawk Library. 3rd Tues of every month, 10-11AM. For what we're reading next, visit our website, www.pclibraries.ca.

INVENTORS CLUB: 2nd Thurs of every month, 3:30-5:00PM at Entwistle Library.

4th Thurs of every month, 3:30-5:00PM at Tomahawk Library. Ages 8-13. To register: Call the library at 780-339-3935.

SEBA BEACH LIBRARY Seba Beach Book Club is back to being indoors. We meet at 10 AM every 3rd Tuesday of the month. Call us at 780-797-3940 or email sebsbeachlibrary@yrl.ab.ca or follow us on FB.

EVANSBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOK CLUB: 4th Thurs, 7:00PM Grand Trunk High 727-2030.

SOCIAL EVENTS

AEROBICS: Low impact, Mon/Wed, 11AM-12PM, Wildwood Senior's Center, \$1/session.

BREAKFAST SOCIAL: 9:30AM-NOON, Parkland Village Community Centre - 3rd Sunday. PH: 780.298.9155 Social Media: PVC Centre.

COME PLAY CRIB: Fridays, 7:00PM at Darwell Seniors Hall; lite lunch is served. All ages!

COUNTRY QUILTERS in Stony Plain house a "Sew in Tuesday", 2nd Tuesday of every month, from 10-3PM. Drop in \$5/member, \$6/non-members. Contact Cindy 780-963-7170.

Darwell Public Skating 7-days wheel 8am - 8pm. more details on Darwellag.com or Facebook

DROP-IN ADULT PICKLEBALL: Thursdays, 6-8:30 p.m. Sept.12th-May @ G.T. School, Evansburg. Beginners Welcome. Paddles sponsored by the Evansburg Public Library

EVANSBURG ART CLUB: meet & paint Thurs 1-4PM Rec Plex. 727-4340 or 727-

4098

EVANSBURG SENIOR'S HERITAGE HOUSE: Floor Curling Mon & Thurs, 1pm. Court Whist Thurs, 7PM.

EVANSBURG TIPPLE PARK HISTORICAL BUILDING TOURS: Wed - Sat, 10:00-5:00PM.

HEALTHY AGING NURSE & FOOT CARE PERSON, Wabamun Seniors Centre, 2nd Thurs of month, 9AM.

OPEN HOUSE for socializing, Crib & card playing at Entwistle Senior Center, Thursdays at 6:45PM, Dan 780-982-0353

PARENT & TOT PLAYTIME: PERC Building Stony Plain Wed 10-11AM; Holborn Community Hall Thurs 9:30-11AM; Parkland Village Tues 9:30-11:30AM.

POT LUCK every Tues 12:00PM, Wabamun Seniors Centre. Come on down!

SEBA BEACH SENIORS CENTER: Yoga, mon, 9:30AM, \$10/session. Bridge thurs, 1pm. Jams every Wed night, 7PM. Thrift Shop every Wed & Sat at 10-3PM. Charity # 890175375 RR0001

SEBA BEACH QUILTERS & FIBER ARTS: Wednesdays 9:30AM, Seniors Center.

SENIORS WEDNESDAY* AFTERNOON 1-4PM at Parkland Village Community Centre. Games, Crafts & more! Call Sheryl 780.695.7032 ***exceptions incl.**

Weather.

SPIRITUAL LIVING STONY PLAIN INSPIRATIONAL CINEMA & DISCUSSIONS at PERC Building (5413-51 St). 2nd Friday of month at 7PM. Popcorn provided, donations appreciated. Contact 780-940-3032

SPRUCE GROVE ELEVATOR TOURS: Tues-Sat, 9-3PM. 960-4600.

STONY PLAIN'S 5TH MERIDIAN GOOD SAMS RV CHAPTER: Ecole Meridian Heights School. 3rd Tues of Month, 7PM. Call Pat at 780-963-6976 or Ruth at 780-288-9829.

THE ALBERTA WILDLIFE CARVING ASSOCIATION Images of Nature Show, Featuring wildlife carvings, Whitecroft Hall, 314 52313 RR232, Sherwood Park, Saturday Apr.30 2:00 - 5:00 pm, Sunday May 1, 10:00 am - 2:30pm, See beautiful hand carved wildlife sculptures

MEETINGS

2ND TIMERS: A support & confidential group for Grandparents Parenting. 1st Thurs of month, 6:30PM. Grand Trunk High School (meet in Lobstick Literacy & Learning room). Child care provided at the Evansburg Public Library.

299 ROYAL CANADIAN SEA CADETS CORPS MACKENZIE: Stony Plain Comm Center, Wed 6:30PM. Youths 12-18, 963-0843

755 PARKLAND AIR CADETS Thurs, 6:30-9:30PM Muir Lake School, ages 12-18. Info call 405-6585 or www.aircadet.com/755.

AA: Friday at 8PM, Evansburg. Call 325-2204, 727-2466 or 727-6652.

AA MEETING: Every Monday night at 8PM, Duffield Mewassin Free Methodist Church, (13km South of Duffield Turnoff at Shell Gas Station on Hwy 16).

AL-ANON: Wed 8PM. Spruce Grove United Church, 1A Fieldstone Drive. 962-5205

Hope and Help for Family and Friends, New Al-Anon meeting in Spruce Grove Wed @ 11am. 1A Fieldstone Dr Church Library

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (Evans/Ent): 7:30PM 3rd Thurs, Heritage House.

C.H.I.L.D. (Citizens Helping in Life's Defence) Please join our Pro-Life meetings once a month in Stony Plain. For info call Chris 963-6997.

CITIZENS ON PATROL: The Pembina Community Watch Patrol Meets 2nd Thurs of each month at 7:30PM, at the Tipple Park Museum (4924-48 St.), Evansburg. Contact 780-898-1465 or 780-727-2686.

DARWELL & DISTRICT AG SOCIETY:

7PM, 1st Mon, Community Hall.

DDRA MEETING, 7:00PM, 2nd Mon, Darwell Centennial Hall 780-892-3099. ***except Jul/Aug/Dec**

DRAYTON VALLEY BRANCH OF ALBERTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY: meets 7PM at Municipal Library (5120-52 St.) every 3rd Wed of month. Call (780) 542-2787

ENTWISTLE COMMUNITY LEAGUE GENERAL MEETINGS: 2nd Thursday monthly 7:30PM. ***Except June, July, August**

ENTWISTLE LIONS CLUB: 2nd & 4th Tues, 8PM, Entwistle curling rink. Jim 727-3573

ENTWISTLE SENIORS 55+ CLUB: Tue & Fri, 1:30-4:00PM at Entwistle Hall

EVANSBURG SENIOR'S 55+ HERITAGE HOUSE: 2nd Wed of Month, 7:00PM. Dennis, 727-4186.

FALLS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION: 3rd Tuesday, 7:00PM.

LAC STE. ANNE & LAKE ISLE WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT SOCIETY: 3rd Fri, 7PM, Alberta Beach Council Chambers.

LAKE ISLE HALL COMMUNITY HALL BOARD MEETINGS: 3rd Wed of each month @ 7:30PM at the Lake Isle Hall (Hwy 633 and RR55) Ph # 780-892-3121

LAKE ISLE MULTI 4-H GENERAL MEETINGS: 1st Thurs of each month @ 6:30PM @ Lake Isle Hall. Contact 780-242-2486.

LOBSTICK 4-H BEEF & MULTI CLUB: 1st Mon, Evansburg Arena, 7PM, Shannon 727-2358

LOBSTICK GARDEN CLUB: 1st Tues, 6:30PM at Tipple Park Museum, Clara (780) 399-2205

MACKAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION: 7pm on Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at MacKay Community Hall

MAGNOLIA BOARD MEETINGS: 1st Tuesday of month, 7PM at Magnolia Community Hall.

MEN FOR SOBRIETY: Wednesdays at 7:30PM, FCCSS Building (#105, 505 Queen Street, Spruce Grove). Mike (780) 965-9991.

MS SOCIETY DRAYTON VALLEY COMMUNITY GROUP meets 1st Tues of month, 6-8PM at Norquest College. Terra Leslie, 1-403-346-0290. ***Sept-June**

MS SOCIETY PARKLAND COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP: Are you diagnosed with MS and have questions? Last Tues of month, 7-9PM, Westview Health Centre. Contact Cassy 780-471-3034

NA MEETING: Tuesdays, 7:00PM. 514-6011

PEMBINA PORCUPINES - JUNIOR FOREST WARDENS: Entwistle Porcupine gathering: 7PM, 1st Tue. Len & Tineke at 727-2020. Porcupines@yellowheadjfw.ca

STONY PLAIN FISH & GAME ASSOCIATION & WABAMUN GUN CLUB: 2nd Mon, Stony Plain Comm Center, 7:30PM.

SUNDOWNERS TOASTMASTER CLUB: Mon (excl. Holidays) 7:30-9:30PM. St. Matthew's Church, Spruce Grove. Judy 960-5258

TOMAHAWK SENIORS (50+) meets every Thursday from 1-4pm at the Tomahawk Agra.

W.E.E COMMUNITY FOOD BANK: Call (780) 727-4043 for emergency food needs. Monthly Meeting: LAST Monday of month at 7:00PM at the Food Bank (Old fire hall in Entwistle). ***Except December**

WILDWOOD & DIST AG SOCIETY: 2nd Wed of each month 7:00PM at the Wildwood Complex. Wilma 325-2424

WILDWOOD & DIST ROD & GUN CLUB: 2nd Thurs, 7:30PM at the range clubhouse, wildwoodrodandgun@gmail.com

WILDWOOD SENIORS: 4th Wednesday at 2:00PM. Contact Vivian 780 325 2296

***No meeting July/Aug/Dec.**

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