

Vol. 33 No. 47 Redwater, Thorhild, Smoky Lake, and surrounding areas Wednesday November 22, 2023

A sister publication to **The Free Press**, Morinville, Alberta

Diamond Springs Lodge residents give back



Corey Rourke, Diamond Spring Lodge staff, sits at a table of baked goods donated by the staff for the silent auction.



A leather bridle was crafted and donated by a resident of Diamond Spring Lodge for the silent auction. There was also a BBQ donated by the family of a former resident of Diamond Spring.

By Brandie Majeau

On the morning of November 8, Diamond Spring Lodge extended an invitation to Susan Krochter, the chairperson of the Redwater Food Bank, to receive a generous donation on behalf of its residents. On October 14, 2023, Diamond Spring Lodge hosted a harvest dinner fundraiser with the goal of raising funds to enhance the quality of life for

its residents. The event was a tremendous success, raising \$5,200 for this purpose. As part of their fundraising campaign, the residents of Diamond Spring Lodge decided to donate 25% of their proceeds to the Redwater Food Bank as a way of giving back to the community.

Krochter graciously accepted a contribution of over \$1,600 on

Continued on page 4

What's Abee up to now?

By Brandie Majeau

As Abee continues to make use of its local hall, the community is being encouraged to explore new skills and discover hidden talents. Each new course provides community members with an opportunity to delve into an art they may have experience in or something entirely new. Regardless of the case, it is a chance to refine skills and engage in the most enjoyable part – sharing the company of others.

With the Christmas season rapidly approaching, the team behind "What's Abee Up To Now" organized a paper piecing

potholder course. In simple terms, paper piecing involves using paper shapes/patterns as a guide and stabilizer for hand-sewn or quilting projects. Amidst piles of festive fabrics and sewing machines adorning the tables, the group immersed themselves in this technique to each create a set of cheerful Santa-inspired potholders. The tutorial was truly remarkable, providing not only an educational guide to paper piecing but also assisting all sewers in making use of those leftover fabric scraps. The crafting day came full circle as a

continued on page 11



Photo courtesy of Lori Lahti

Campfire Cooking at Northern Lights RV Resort

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December Meetings and Important Dates

Meeting schedule is subject to change. Members of the public are welcome to observe or listen in. For teleconference details and links to the livestream, click on the meetings notice in the following locations:

- Council Meetings:** SturgeonCounty.ca/CouncilMeetings
- Board and Committee Meetings:** SturgeonCounty.ca/Boards
- Public Hearings:** SturgeonCounty.ca/PublicNotices

Subdivision and Development Appeal Board	Dec. 5	2:00 PM
Economic Development Advisory Board	Dec. 6	12:00 PM
Governance and Council Services Committee	Dec. 7	10:00 AM
Development Services Office Lunch Closure	Dec. 7	11:00 - 1:00 PM
Regular Council followed by Committee of the Whole	Dec. 12	9:00 AM
All County Offices partial closure for staff function	Dec. 13	11:45 - 1:15 PM
Subdivision and Development Appeal Board	Dec. 19	2:00 PM
Holiday Closure	Dec. 25	Closed
Holiday Closure	Dec. 26	Closed
Holiday Closure	Dec. 27	Closed
Holiday Closure	Jan. 1	Closed

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JANUARY 19 - Cardiff Park

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Questions about immunizations?
Call 811, your primary care provider
or your local pharmacy.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

REGISTRY AGENT BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY - TOWN OF SMOKY LAKE

SERVICE ALBERTA AND RED TAPE REDUCTION

An opportunity exists for a business interested in delivering registry services in the town of Smoky Lake.

Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction, Registries is responsible for the administration of the Motor Vehicle Registry, Personal Property Registry, Corporate Registry, Vital Statistics Office, and Land Titles Registry. Registries also oversees the frontline registration services for the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan and the Alberta Organ and Tissue Donation Registry, and licensing for driver examiners, security service workers, locksmiths and investigators. Private Registry Agents were established in response to Albertans' needs for timely and efficient access to in-person government Registry Services, information services, licensing services, road tests and other associated products.

If you have the financial and business capacity to deliver these services, we invite you to submit a response to the Request for Proposal (RFP) by November 30, 2023.

The Request for Proposal may be obtained on the Alberta Purchasing Connection website: www.purchasingconnection.ca

Electronic submissions are only accepted and must be emailed to SA.ContractsRFP@gov.ab.ca.

Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction
Motor Vehicles & Registries Administration,
Contracts Administration
Mezzanine Floor, John E. Brownlee Building
10365 – 97 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 3W7
Contact: Agnes Connors
Phone: (780) 427-6238

40th

Anniversary



F. M. Jeannie Hare *



F.M. Doreen Stachniak. *



F.M. Joanne Weeks. *



F. M. Glenda Lewisch *

ART SALE

24 & 25 of November 2023

Nov 24, 5 pm - 8 pm

Meet & Greet the Artists
and have some free cake.
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someone special, that might even be you!

Nov 25, 11 am - 5 pm

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Thorhild & District
Agricultural Society

Annual General
Meeting

Monday, December 4th 2023

7:00P.M.
at
Waste Management
of Canada Agriplex
(upstairs meeting room)

Everyone Welcome!

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Kindergarten
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We will remember them

By Brandie Majeau

The speaker clears his throat before addressing the crowd. There is an acknowledgment of the 75th anniversary of the first United Nations peacekeeping mission. Wreaths surround a war monument, and poppies stand brightly against lapels and breast pockets. Tiny voices inquire about what things are and what is happening. Faces marked by time watch silently and reflectively. The Last Post begins, and the flags are slowly lowered. It is coincidental that the train is rolling through town at this moment, its whistle piercing the cool morning air. The train moves on, and the whistle fades just as the clock strikes 11:11 am. Silence. Except, not quite silent. Someone swallows hard, and several snuffles of emotion are muffled by gloved hands. There is a soft sob unable to be contained.

This ceremony was one of many communities across Canada hosting and honouring National Remembrance Day. Each ceremony would be slightly different, with some communities having only a handful of attendees while others would gather by the tens of thousands. However, they all would have looked essentially the same. At the heart of National Remembrance Day, participants gather to reflect and honour those who have given their lives to service. Every ceremony holds a memory of childhoods affected by war, young men being called upon to defend their country, and families anxiously awaiting any news at home. Every ceremony grieves the loss of a parent, child, or loved one who never made it home. Every ceremony brings with it a young family, those teaching a new generation, reminding them of who these people were and what



Thorhild Legion held its Remembrance Day ceremony at the Sunflower Memorial Park.

this country was built upon. Every ceremony is a reminder of all currently enlisted soldiers.

The Legion Remembrance Day

ceremony in Thorhild was held alongside the cenotaph and war memorial in the Sunflower Memorial Park. It did not have a flyover by

the Canadian Armed Forces, and there were not tens of thousands of people in attendance. However, it held the heart of every Remembrance

Day ceremony. It held the tears, memories, loss, and hope of a nation. And a well-timed train whistle was a poignant reminder of it all.



Minister Dale Nally addresses the Harvest Dinner Fundraiser guests.

Continued from **page 1**
behalf of the Redwater Food Bank. During the presentation, Krochter addressed those gathered, explaining that the Redwater Food Bank now provides support to 250 families

annually, helping to feed 1,900 people. With food banks facing increasing challenges and a significant rise in demand, Susan Krochter discussed the growing needs of these organizations. The Redwater Food Bank serves a diverse

range of individuals in the Redwater, Thorhild, Newbrook, Radway, and Sturgeon County areas, with their clients spanning from three months old to ninety-seven years old. Today's donation will be used to purchase produce,

meat, eggs, and milk, which will help approximately fifty families. As the residents applauded the acceptance of the donation, Krochter was heard repeatedly expressing her gratitude, saying, "Thank you so much!" The amazing

opportunities and ability to give back to the community would not be possible without the phenomenal Diamond Spring Lodge staff and volunteers, as well as the Pioneer Club. Their gratitude extends to the many sponsors,

whose donations help them reach their goals. Diamond Spring Lodge would like to offer a special thank you to North West Refineries, Theo's Pharmacy, Ltd. Oilfield, Connect Energy, IGA, OK Tire and Tim Horton's.

SCHOOL NEWS

Thorhild Central School news



The elementary students at Thorhild Central School reveled in the musical performances presented by Mr. Jim Cardinal and Bryce Delorme during their Métis week activities.

Redwater School news



The Owls at Redwater's Ochre Park enthusiastically showcased their moccasins last week as they celebrated Métis Week 2023.

H.A. Kostash School news



The students in grades 9-11 from Smoky Lake H.A. Kostash School took a trip to the RCMP Regional Headquarters in Edmonton to explore careers with the RCMP. They engaged in a fitness test, including Ms. R, who participated with enthusiasm. The group also visited the 911 call centre and gained insights into RCMP vehicles. The experience highlighted the diverse career opportunities available within the RCMP.



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janine.paly@thorhildcounty.com

Division 5
Trevor Dafoe
Office: 780-656-8165
trevor.dafoe@thorhildcounty.com

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS November 14, 2023

Below is a summary of decisions and discussions at the November 14, 2023, Regular Council meeting:

Third Reading for Council Code of Conduct Bylaw 14-2023

Council gave Third Reading to Bylaw 14-2023 Council Code of Conduct.

Rural Renewal Stream - Community Designation

Council directed Administration not to proceed with the application to the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program, Rural Renewal Stream, Community Designation.

Thorhild County Safety and Loss Management System

Council was presented the Thorhild County Safety and Loss Management System, which is an integrated framework providing a systematic approach to planning, implementing, measuring, and improving organizational performance for a gas distributor's facilities. Council approved the Thorhild County Safety and Loss Management System.

Thorhild County Integrity Management Program

Council adopted the Thorhild County Integrity Management Program, as revised from time to time, as a guideline in operating and maintaining the County's gas distribution system.

Banking Services Proposals

Council authorized Administration to continue with the current practice of utilizing the ATB and the Scotiabank as concurrent primary financial institutions.

Delegation: Quaife, Carl

Council moved to waive invoice #13594 in the amount of \$985.00 plus GST.

THORHILD COUNTY FAMILY MEDICAL CLINIC

A Nurse Practitioner can diagnose, treat illnesses, order and interpret lab tests, manage chronic illnesses and prescribe medications. Blood pressure checks and weight check-ins available.

Please call the clinic to schedule your appointment at **780-398-4MED (4633)**.

HOURS OF OPERATION
Monday: 9 am - 3:30 pm
Tuesday: 11 am - 6 pm
Wednesday: 10 am - 3:30 pm
Thursday: 9 am - 3:30 pm
Friday: 9 am - 3:30 pm

Call to book your flu shot at the Thorhild County Family Medical Clinic.

Please note that the Thorhild County Family Medical Clinic is closed all day on November 24 and the afternoon of November 29, 2023.

ENVIRONMENTAL FARM PLAN WORKSHOP

WHEN:
November 30, 2023 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Walkthroughs of Chapters 1 & 2 will take place at 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

WHERE:
Thorhild Legion Hall

You MUST register ahead of time for this workshop. Please call or text Chelsea at 780-284-9975 for more information or to sign up. The deadline to register is November 23, 2023.

Please note this workshop is only open to Thorhild County residents



Check out the Events Calendar at www.thorhildcounty.com for more information & details on how to sign up.

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THORHILD COUNTY COMMUNITY YOUTH GROUPS

Thorhild County offers annual assistance to local community groups that offer programs for youth.

Community groups must be operating in active capacity to be eligible.

Eligible groups must submit the following prior to **November 30, 2023**, to be considered for funding this December:

- 1) Groups main contact name, phone number and email
- 2) Mailing address
- 3) Number of Thorhild County youth registered in the group
- 4) Proof of society in good standing
- 5) Registration with applicable parent organization

Funding is based on the amount of Thorhild County youth registered in a program.

Current groups that have previously received funding must still confirm they are in active status, update contact name and how many Thorhild County youth that were registered this year prior to November 30, 2023, to be eligible for funding.

For any questions or to submit your group's request, please contact Laurie Hodge at Laurie.hodge@thorhildcounty.com or call 780-398-3741 ext. 2810.



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- ✔ Loans & Line of Credit
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OR EMAIL TO BOOK A TIME

November 27, 2023 | 10 am - 3 pm
📍 Thorhild County Office

In Partnership with



dsswestlock@albertacf.com

tawatinaw.albertacf.com

780-349-2903

THORHILD COUNTY FCSS 2023 CHRISTMAS HAMPER CAMPAIGN

Donate	Request a Hamper
<p>Drop off gift cards, toys or toiletries at the following locations by December 14, 2023.</p> <p>Thorhild:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thorhild North Corridor Co-op Home Agro Store - Marvelous Munchies Bakery - Library <p><i>*Cash donations are accepted at the County Administration Building (801-1 Street)*</i></p> <p>Radway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Post Office - Library 	<p>Call Tammy at (780) 656-6016 or Corinne at (780) 206-0018 between 8:30 am & 4:30 pm Tuesday through Friday to register. Please have your physical street address or legal land location ready.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Register by December 14, 2023.</p> 



Packing hope and smiles

By Brandie Majeau

Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse and originally a program in the United Kingdom, commenced in 1993 as a response to a request fulfilled by Franklin Graham. He was asked to assist children in Eastern Europe who were facing hardships. The specific task was to fill shoeboxes with small trinkets, toys, and hygiene items for distribution to the children. Since its inception as a shoebox ministry, the project has expanded, annually distributing millions of boxes globally.

Numerous individuals, organizations, and businesses collaborate to contribute to this extensive Christmas endeavor, including St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church in Thorhild. What began over twenty years

ago as a small project incorporated into a Sunday School class evolved into an annual initiative inviting church members to pack their shoeboxes or donate items. Operation Christmas Child not only provided an opportunity to contribute to ministry work but also served as a lesson in empathy, prompting individuals to consider a world marked by hardships. The physical and emotional connection developed through envisioning a child and selecting items for that child imparts an understanding of touching the life of someone thousands of miles away.

The project at St. Anne's Parish gained momentum as donations and boxes poured in from individuals and students at the local school, adding to the piles of shoeboxes each year. As contributions of small items

and school supplies became integral to the annual event, St. Anne's parishioners organized packing parties held every November, a week before the boxes were collected. Potluck lunches were prepared, and children and adults alike gathered in the church basement, packing shoeboxes with love and prayers. Children often colored pictures or wrote personalized Christmas notes to include with the simple treasures, creating a unique surprise for the recipients.

The goal of Operation Christmas Child is a ministerial campaign designed to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ and bring joy to children, some of whom have never received a present before. While the overarching aim is to touch the lives of those around the world, for St. Anne's Parish, it evolved into an act of humility



Shoeboxes were received and packed on November 10, they have been placed on the altar and will receive a blessing before continuing their journey to find themselves in the hands of a child.

that touched the lives of those in their own community. The initiative brought together numerous people,

spreading laughter and joy in their lives. After being unable to hold these events for the past several years,

St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church is proud to reinstate their shoebox packing events.



The Redwater Lion's Club extended hearty congratulations to Alexa Gordey, the recipient of the Lions of Alberta Foundation (LOAF) Scholarship.



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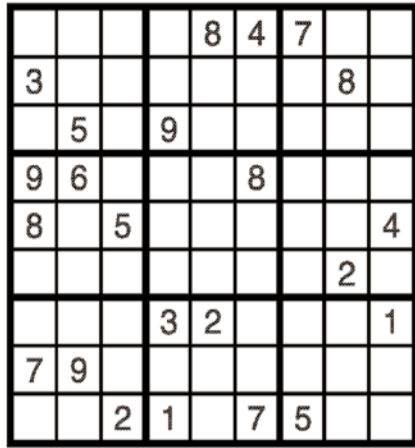
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PUZZLES

SEE SOLUTIONS PAGE 15 *Review*

SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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!

CROSSWORDS



1. Colorless fluid part of blood
2. Of a main artery
3. Photographic equipment
4. Confirms a point
5. Developed over time
6. Not the leader
7. __ Lang (country singer)
8. Adults need one
9. Nests of pheasants
10. Antelopes
11. One quintillion bytes (abbr.)
12. Japanese three-stringed lute
13. Type of cat
14. Cools your home
15. The ancient Egyptian sun god
16. Pouches
17. Trigraph
18. Form of Persian spoken in Afghanistan
19. __ route
20. Body part
21. Bridge building degree
22. Indicates position
23. Political action committee
24. Tasty snack
25. Part of a quadruped
26. Locate
27. Pitching statistic
28. Of I
29. City in Utah
30. Football players in the trenches
31. Hammer is one
32. A "nightmarish" street
33. Performers
34. Slang for cut or scrape
35. More breathable
36. Most slick
37. Provokes
38. Home to college's Flyers
39. Sodium
40. Large fish of mackerel family
41. Zero
42. __ and behold
43. The Palmetto State
44. Popular Tom Cruise movie franchise (abbr.)

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!

Crossword Clues

CLUES ACROSS

1. Nocturnal S. American rodent
5. Requesting
11. Give temporarily
12. Happiness
16. Military branch
17. - __, denotes past
18. Middle Eastern city
19. Air hostesses
24. Partner to Pa
25. Percussion instrument
26. Popular computers
27. Decrease light
28. Valley in the Osh Region
29. "To __ his own"
30. Absence of difficulty
31. Notice announcing intended marriage read out in church
33. Trims by cutting
34. Impact
38. Military member

39. A French river
40. Member of prehistoric people in Mexico
43. Messenger ribonucleic acid
44. Musician Clapton
45. Greek sophist
49. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
50. Narrow valley
51. A way to disentangle
53. Indicates not an issue (abbr.)
54. Recommending
56. Genus of legumes
58. Friend to Larry and Curly
59. Off-Broadway theater award
60. Fencers
63. Small Eurasian deer
64. Denoting passerine birds
65. Separate by category

CLUES DOWN

CAREGIVING WORD SEARCH

E D E C I P S O H V L K K T K A K M O A
M V N O I S S A P M O C T H P T E I X R Y
V A G E I N P L A C E G N G Q K A L I Y
R Q E P T A N X A E P M E N R A F L P L
H L S D Y G H C C D G D M I Q G O N H I
D H R D P T L P I I V R P G A E E E T M
U F U O R A U R O A P M I A V L M S V A
V F N X O G L E Y H X N U M L F O S Q F
V C C F X S A L Y T L A Q E A Y H C U H
U O K L Y C E K I L K Y E D C S G O M H
R S L R L R I E M A A F I F A K N O E R
D S L U A C A K I E T V H I R Y I R T Y
X K C C N P N A K H Y I V K E Y S D U S
O M Y E V T M M E E Q P V S G R R I C K
M A G G O E E V K M V I A E I O U N A I
D R X L M F U E Q O T L M R V T N A F L
E P A O R G O P R H T S K K E R E T F L
D L R D K N L E C X T N S Y R H E O Q E
U Y G K G N I U N I T N O C A U T R L D
D C I R T A I R E G E T I P S E R O R E

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

- | | | | | | |
|--------------|------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|
| ACUTE | AGING | COORDINATOR | GERIATRIC | ILLNESS | PROXY |
| AGE IN PLACE | CAREGIVER | DAYCARE | HOME HEALTH | MEMORY | RESPIRE |
| | COMPASSION | EQUIPMENT | AIDE | NURSE | SKILLED |
| | CONTINUING | FAMILY | HOSPICE | NURSING HOME | THERAPY |
| | | | | PALLIATIVE | VOLUNTEER |

HOROSCOPE

ARIES

(March 21 - April 20)



Play to your strengths to reach your goals, Aries. You do not have to change much about yourself to get ahead. In fact, people will appreciate you being honest about who you are.

TAURUS

(April 21 - May 21)



Taurus, do not worry about being passionate about what you do. If you weren't this passionate, you may not be able to persuade others to listen up and follow your suggestions.

GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)



Gemini, you may not have had the entire story, but you certainly will get it this week. It's up to you to make up your mind how you want to act on the information you gather.

CANCER

(June 22 - July 22)



For some reason you are really interested in a friend or family member's behavior and comings and goings, Cancer. Are you having trust issues? Give them the benefit of the doubt.

LEO

(July 23 - August 23)



Leo, this week's cosmic energy could see you pushing some boundaries. It's fine to take risks as long as you have someone to pull you back if you go a bit too far.

VIRGO

(August 24 - September 22)



A romantic adventure may prove the catalyst for change in your life, Virgo. Many exciting prospects are ahead if you allow yourself to get swept along in the momentum of your feelings.

LIBRA

(September 23 - October 23)



Unchecked anxiety can lead you down a slippery slope, Libra. It's not easy facing new situations, but worrying about things before it is necessary will not do right now.

SCORPIO

(October 24 - November 22)



Scorpio, you are no stranger to psychic feelings. This week you know what a loved one is thinking and want to help this person out in any way you can.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)



Sagittarius, you cannot control the world or others' behaviors. All you can do is control how you react to situations. Don't be sidetracked by noisy distractions in the days ahead.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)



Capricorn, you have been making pleasure and play time your priority of late. It's now time to get down to business. Own up to your responsibilities.

AQUARIUS

(January 21 - February 18)



Unraveling old patterns or actions will be good for you right now, Aquarius. If you can't do it on your own, work with a friend or therapist to get to the root of any issues.

PISCES

(February 19 - March 20)



Pisces, think about collaborating with others to bring out the best in yourself. In fact, you might find any group activity transformative. Don't shy away from these ventures.

National Indigenous Veterans Day celebration at Métis Crossing



Juanita Marois reads the poem "Victorie of Frog Plain" (Chanson des Bois Brules) by Pierre Falcon to the public. The poem is about the Battle of Seven Oaks in the early 1800s.



Bernie Poitras lays a wreath at the monument at Métis Crossing.

By Irene van der Kloet

On November 8, Métis Crossing proudly hosted National Indigenous Veterans Day. The general public was invited along with some special guests, and around 50 indigenous and non-indigenous people answered that call. Juanita Marois, CEO at Métis Crossing and MC for this day, welcomed the public in the big hall where coffee, tea and pastries were offered. The organization had gone the extra mile by decorating the tables and the hall and inviting APTN to record the event. "The role of Métis Crossing is to share the Métis culture with all people," Juanita explained, upon which she invited elder Lilly Rose Meyers to the microphone. Lilly Rose Meyers, elder and Knowledge Holder shared the pride in commemorating Indigenous heroes who fought for Canada. Bernie Poitras, District 12 captain, briefly referred to the importance of Métis Crossing for everyone, Métis

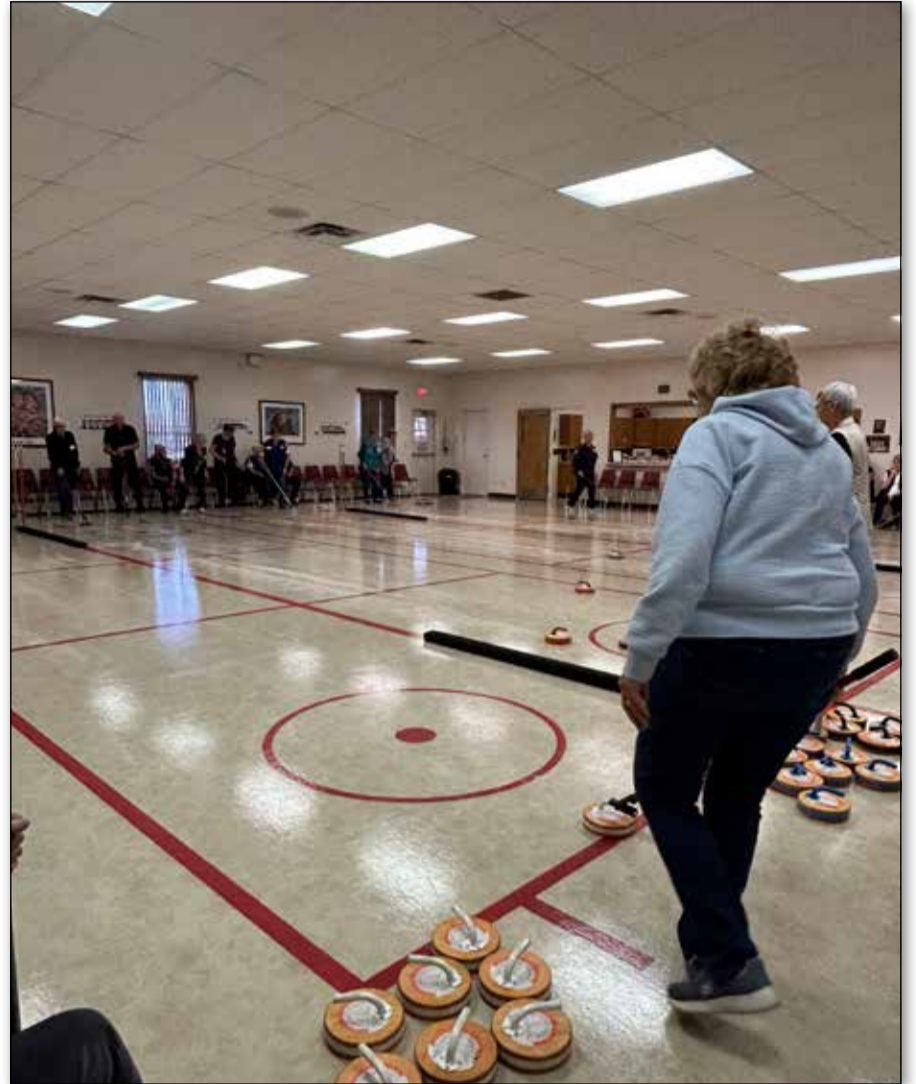
and non-Métis people alike: "This place is still in its infancy," he said, implying that there are significant events to come, of which we have seen some good examples this past summer. Bernie thanked the people who made the ultimate sacrifice and welcomed the elders they are still learning from. He thanked all in attendance for being here today and closed with: "Freedom is not cheap; it comes at a very high cost," as we can all witness from the war in Ukraine and Israel. The first Indigenous Veterans Day was held on November 8, 1994, when Indigenous people came together to honour their veterans who fought for Canada. 12000 Indigenous veterans served and sacrificed themselves in World War 1, World War 2 and the Korean War, but also on peacekeeping and peace enforcing missions throughout the world. Countries around the world have recognized their bravery and skill. Bruce Gordon, the next speaker, was one

of those brave Métis who served during the Suez crisis in 1956-1957 and commemorated the work of Métis military men and women abroad during missions. He pointed out the sacrifices made, being away from family and friends, sometimes in faraway countries under dangerous circumstances. Status Indians were exempt from the draft for World War 1 and 2 and had to give up their status to serve. More than 3000 enlisted in World War 2, but when they came back, they were no longer considered "Indians" [old term] under the Indian Act and could not re-enter their previous lives. That has all changed. Fifty Indigenous persons were decorated for bravery during World War 1. More than 2700 persons of Indigenous origin serve in the Canadian Forces. The celebration ended with a wreath-laying ceremony at the monument worth visiting. The names of Indigenous veterans are engraved on plaques, dating back to the early 1800's.

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Light Up!
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CRAFTS FOR CHILDREN
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Donations for the Thorhild County Hamper Program of cash, gift cards, toys and toiletries would be much appreciated

CO-OP North Corridor



The Alberta Floor Curling Association tournament takes place twice a year at the Redwater Pioneer Club. The November 17 event featured 20 teams, each consisting of seniors from various locations in northeast Alberta. During the tournament, every team engaged in three games. The prizes awarded were \$100 for the first-place team, \$80 for the second-place team, \$60 for the third-place team, and \$40 for the fourth-place team. Redwater Pioneer Club expresses thanks to Ideal Signs for the new score boards

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Energy prices drive up Canada's international exports in September

The value of Canada's merchandise exports increased for the third month in a row in September. Adjusting for seasonality, Canada's exports rose 2.7% to reach \$67 billion.

In volume terms, the increase in exports was more modest at 0.4%

Driven by higher prices, foreign sales of Canadian crude oil were up by 12.6% and accounted for 90.2% of the net increase in

total export value. Aircraft exports (+8.6%) and agricultural exports (+8.1%) also posted strong growth in September.

On a quarterly basis, exports increased for the first time since the second quarter of 2022. Foreign sales in the third quarter were 4.3% higher than the previous quarter with higher energy prices once again driving most of the improvement.

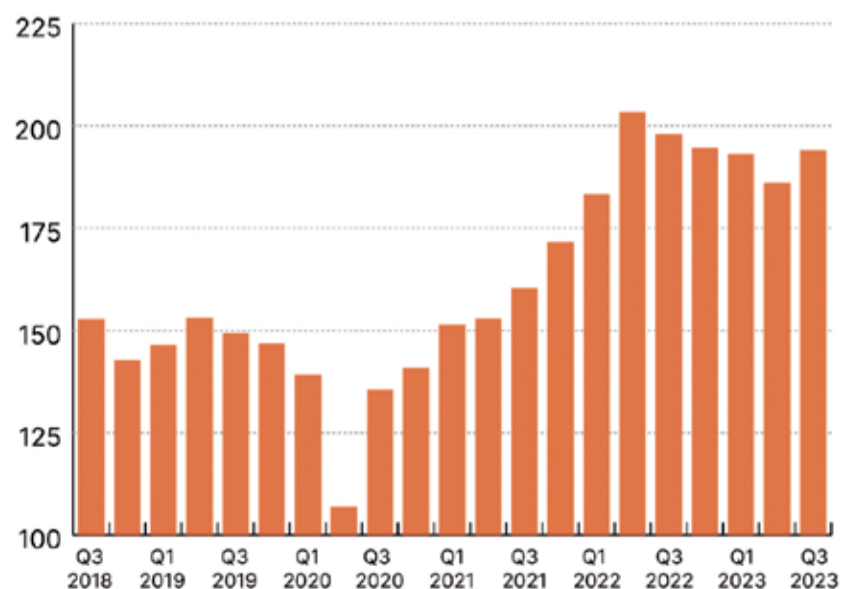
In real terms

(calculated using chained 2012 dollars), national exports were 0.6% higher in the third quarter of 2023.

The strong showing on the exports side of the equation pushed Canada's trade surplus with the world to just over \$2 billion.

Note: Provincial trade statistics are reported on a different basis than the headline national numbers. We will dig into the Alberta data in a future edition of the Owl.

International exports from Canada
 \$ billions, quarterly, merchandise only
 balance of payments basis



Source: Statistics Canada Table 12-10-0011-01

Redwater artist captures the depth of humanity

By Brandie Majeau

Deb Laninga, an award-winning artist hailing from Redwater, Alberta, has always harbored a passion for art. Despite her innate artistic inclination, Laninga, like many others, initially doubted her ability to be considered an "artist." She ventured into careers as a commercial pilot, overseas mission pilot, and worked for a non-profit charity. However, life took her back home, where she devoted herself to caring for her terminally ill parents. It was during this period that Laninga rediscovered her passion for art, gaining newfound clarity. In 2014, she participated in a workshop titled "Portraits in Clay," unveiling a remarkable talent that had long lain dormant, awaiting discovery

and expression. As a three-dimensional thinker, Laninga found that she could create incredible sculptures out of clay, realizing that painting and drawing never allowed her to fully express her abilities.

Throughout her life, Laninga has immersed herself in roles of servitude, witnessed conflicts and war, experienced the depth of human emotions, and has been fortunate to travel extensively. Laninga's remarkable ability to capture motion, moments, and emotions is evident in her work. Focusing on her inspirations, her sculptures serve as snapshots into life, telling stories through depictions of animals and individuals. Her pieces, sculpted with clay and cast in bronze or cold-cast bronze resin, have garnered various awards and

accolades. Since 2019, Deb Laninga has been a full-time artist.

Presently, Laninga's artwork is showcased at the Alberta Lottery Fund Art Gallery, situated in the Dow Centennial Centre in Fort Saskatchewan.

The exhibit, titled "Connection," celebrates family, sacrifice, joy, and self-worth—an exploration into Laninga's inspiration and a reflection on personal experiences. The gallery is open on Thursdays and

Fridays from 11 am to 2 pm and during performances at the Shell Theatre. For more information, please visit www.deblaniga.com or contact 1-780-992-6400 to arrange a visit to the Art Gallery or obtain additional

exhibit information. Art enthusiasts from all walks of life will undoubtedly appreciate the beauty and soul encapsulated in each stunning piece. An artist meet and greet is scheduled for November 24 from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm.



Deb Laninga's sculpture entitled "Comfort". Courtesy of Deb Laninga



On October 27, the Lighthouse Youth Group at Redwater Alliance Church conducted a Food Drive for the Redwater Fellowship of Churches Food Bank. They express their appreciation to all who generously donated, enabling them to collect around 750 pounds of food and a \$500 donation.

Continued from page 1

couple of women experienced the profound impact of why community events and projects are so essential. While sewing potholders, one crafter remarked to another, "You look so familiar." Pieces were connected, not just of fabric, and the conversation

evolved, leading to the rediscovery of a long-forgotten friend. The sense of familiarity settled in, and they realized that forty years ago, they had worked together at Maligne Lake. It is often said that the world is small, but small communities seem to possess a special kind of small-world magic.



Photo courtesy of Lori Lahti

4620 49 ST REDWATER



\$264,900

Charming 1300Sqft bungalow with lots of upgrades recently done. The main floor has all newer windows. All 3 bedrooms on the main floor have new vinyl plank flooring. Primary bedroom also has a 2 piece ensuite with new flooring, vanity and toilet. The main 4 piece bath has been completely redone with new flooring, toilet, vanity, tile work and soaker tub. Large closet with connections for main floor laundry. Great sized kitchen with ceramic tile and refinished cabinets. The dining area has refinished built-in cabinetry and connects to the living room with a beautiful wood burning fireplace. The basement has all new vinyl plank flooring, Summer kitchen and large rec area with chimney already installed for wood burning stove. Additional option for 4th bedroom in basement if larger window installed. 3 piece bath in basement. Plenty of storage in the basement including a utility room with 2 furnaces. Big backyard with back alley access and gate to back the RV in next to the 24x26 detached garage.

5224 53 ST REDWATER



\$314,900

Fully renovated bungalow with large double detached garage! Over 1150 SQFT with 3 bedrooms up and 2 more down. This home is move in ready with tons of just finished upgrades including shingles on both the house and garage, front and back doors, windows on the main floor, vinyl plank flooring throughout the whole house, full kitchen reno including-cabinets, sink and appliances, both bathrooms, baseboards, paint and the list goes on... The basement has a rec room, utility room, storage room and the 2 additional bedrooms. Back alley access and a huge yard completes this beautiful home.

5008 50 AVE REDWATER



\$139,900

Close to Redwater school, shopping, Rec Centre, golf and banks. 845 square foot basement less 2 bedroom bungalow built in 1990. Main floor laundry, large kitchen, dining area, 4pce. bath and two good sized bedrooms. 8 x 26 foot covered front veranda. Large lot with back alley and garden shed. Some renovations and flooring are still needing completion. With a few minor improvements this is a dynamite starter home or empty nester, senior living with no stairs.

59157 RR 195 SMOKY LAKE COUNTY



SOLD

\$289,900

Perfect size acreage in a great location only 1/4 mile off highway 28. This 1050 SqFt home was approx. built in 1960 and moved onto a new concrete foundation in 2008. They also added the living room with a wood stove and screened in sunroom. The main floor has a dining area, kitchen, 4 piece bathroom and 2 bedrooms. In the basement there is a large rec area with a bar, 3 piece bathroom, utility room, laundry room and additional room that could easily be converted to a bedroom. The basement and living room addition have infloor heating, newer HE furnace supplies heat to the rest of the home. Massive 36'x30' double garage with 8' doors was built in 2017 and has roughed-in infloor heating. The 60'x40' coverall quonset is perfect for parking all the toys or equipment out of the elements. Corrals and fencing for horses or other livestock with some hay land to bale up and feed them through the winter.

60306 HWY 63 THORHILD COUNTY



PENDING

\$239,000

Affordable acreage living! This 3 bedroom bungalow sitting on 9.83 acres is located along highway 63 less than 1 hour to Edmonton and on the way to Fort McMurray. Over 1100 SQ FT with 3 bedrooms, 4 piece bathroom, kitchen, living room and large boot room. In the basement there is the antique wood burning kitchen stove, laundry area and storage space. Many upgrades have recently been completed including HE furnace, hot water tank, flooring and paint, bathroom reno, septic tank, shingles on the house, gas line installed from the house to the garage with newer garage heater and insulation. Many out buildings and sheds to set up spots for chickens and any other livestock.



We are excited to announce our 2023 WM Thorhild County Student Scholarship winners! Congratulations to:

- Daniel Feledichuk*
- Ethan Vetsch*
- Julia Moscaluk*
- Sydney Sawchuk*
- Terran Ewasiw*
- Victoria Dutchek*
- Zoey Feledichuk*

WM developed this scholarship program in partnership with our Community Advisory Committee and the Together Enriching Academic Minds Society for Thorhild County students entering post-secondary. Healthy thriving communities depend on involved citizens, organizations and corporate partners for momentum. We lend our support to causes that promote civic pride, economic development and revitalization. It's a responsibility we take to heart.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, PLEASE EMAIL SLYASKOV@WM.COM.

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SMOKY LAKE REGIONAL HERITAGE BOARD

Town of Smoky Lake is seeking a Member-at-Large to serve on the Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board. It is the preference of the Board to appoint a youth Member (aged 16-20) to serve on the Board.

The purpose and mandate of the Board is to:

- ✓ To manage identification, evaluation, designation, preservation, restoration, planning, financing, and development of the heritage resources.
- ✓ To advise municipalities on matters relating to the resources of the County.
- ✓ To stimulate in the general public, an appreciation and knowledge of natural and built heritage, and encourage, promote and advocate for the preservation and safeguarding of the integrity of landscape heritage, ecological heritage, cultural heritage events and built heritage in Smoky Lake County.

Criteria:

- ❖ Commitment to Smoky Lake region heritage.
- ❖ Talents and skills needed to achieve the purpose of the Heritage Board.
- ❖ Demonstrate ability to be a team player.

Membership on the Board is voluntary, and no remuneration will be paid for serving as a member. Members will be reimbursed for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses and mileage to attend each meeting of the Board and Committee meetings. The Board would like to encourage youth participation to bring fresh ideas and to mentor the younger generation about volunteering on a democratic board and the importance of heritage conservation.

For information please contact Noreen Easterbrook, Chair at 780-656-5901.

Interested?

All interested persons are encouraged to submit a letter with background information no later than **November 30, 2023** to P.O. Box 460 Smoky Lake, Alberta T0A 3C0, or email town@smokylake.ca.



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MOUNTIE MINUTE Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment

- Break and Enter and theft reported on November 6 near RR 130 and HWY 28, male attended and took thousands of dollars worth of building supplies
- BE at RR 170 and TWP 592, rural property numerous items taken
- RCMP located stolen property on a rural property near RR 165 and TWP 603
- RCMP also received calls for service for other Thefts, Harassments, sudden deaths and civil issues
- Members attended Remembrance Day Ceremonies
- Numerous vehicle collision reported, it's that time of year be cautious with road conditions due to weather change
- If you see any suspicious vehicle which not normally in your area call the RCMP to report

IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON A CRIME CONTACT THE SMOKY LAKE RCMP AT 780-656-3550 or CRIMESTOPPERS 1-800-222-TIPS(8477)

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this paper**

REDWATER CHRISTMAS HAMPER

Anyone needing a Christmas Hamper, please leave your name & number at the **Food Bank 780-942-2061**. Cut off date is **Dec. 8, 2023**. Clients will be contacted prior to the delivery of the hampers, that will be done on Dec. 18, 2023 am. The Christmas hampers provided by the Food Bank will be food products only. The Redwater Chamber of Commerce Santa's Toy Store will carry on the tradition of toys.

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Churches Food Bank

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Contact **Murray @ 306-304-1862** for viewing appointment

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V F N X O G L E Y H X N U M L F O S Q F
V C C F X S A L Y T L A Q E A Y H C U H
U O K L Y C E K I L K Y E D C S G O M H
R S L R L R I E M A A F I F A K N O E R
D S L U A C A K I E T V H I R Y I R T Y
X K C C N P N A K H Y I V K E Y S D U S
O M Y E V T M M E E Q P V S G R R I C K
M A G G O E E V K M V I A E I O U N A I
D R X L M F U E Q O T L M R V T N A F L
E P A O R G O P R H T S K K E R E T F L
D L R D K N L E C X T N S Y R H E O Q E
U Y G K G N I U N I T N O C A U T R L D
D C I R T A I R E G E T I P S E R O R E

CROSSWORDS

P	A	C	A		A	S	K	I	N	G		
L	O	A	N		G	I	D	D	I	N	E	S
A	R	M	Y		E	D			D	U	B	A
S	T	E	W	A	R	D	E	S	S	E	S	M
M	A	R	A	C	A		M	A	C	S		D
A	L	A	Y		E	A	C	H		E	A	S
					B	A	N	N	S		P	A
A	F	F	E	C	T				M	A	R	I
L	O	I	R	E		O	L	M	E	C		
M	R	N	A		E	R	I	C		A	B	A
O	E	D			G	L	E	N		U	N	C
N	P				C	O	M	M	E	N	D	A
D	A	L	E	A		M	O			O	B	I
S	W	O	R	D	S	M	E	N		R	O	E
					O	S	C	I	N	E		S

SUDOKU

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



KRIS KRINGLE HOLIDAY MINGLE

FREE!

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1
5:00 – 8:00 PM AT PEMBINA PLACE**

FREE!

- Festival of Trees
- Visits with Santa
- Horse-drawn Wagon Rides
- Fire Pits & S'mores
- Photo Booth
- Cookie Decorating
- Crafts
- Airbrush Tattoos
- Face Painting
- Coloring Contest Display
- Free Public Skating (4:00-7:00PM)
(Helmets mandatory for users under 18)
- Secret Santa Workshop for Kids
- Turkey Curling with Prizes
- Jeannie & Friends Carolers
- Redwater High School Band
- Free Hot Chocolate & Hot Dogs
(While supplies last)
- Free Popcorn (While supplies last)
- Food Bank Donations Appreciated
- Concession Open

The Festival of Trees is held in support of the Redwater Fellowship of Churches Food Bank. Please bring a food or cash donation if you can Friday evening.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM AT PEMBINA PLACE**

- Redwater & District Ag Society's Christmas Craft and Bake Sale
 - Festival of Trees
 - Concession Open
 - Food Bank Donations Appreciated

5:00 – 8:00 PM THROUGHOUT THE TOWN

- Festival of Lights (Vote for your favorite seasonal displays!)

Cruise the Town with this self-guided tour. Enjoy the Christmas lights, and vote for your favorite locations! Pick up your map and ballot from Tim Hortons or Pembina Place, or download it from our website.

WWW.REDWATER.CA/P/EVENTS-PROGRAMS

QUESTIONS? CONTACT THE COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICE AT 780-942-4101

Kris Kringle Holiday Mingle is organized to provide quality, affordable family programming for our community, and to strengthen community bonds.

