



Get your paint on



Donna Y poses with the Home Hardware beach paint night.

Photos courtesy of Ravenwoods Studio

By Brandie Majeau

Redwater is now home to a fun and creative way to spend an evening with friends. Ravenwoods Studio is where aspiring artists can book a paint night for a group of 4-20 people. Led by local artist Donna Y, this

unique experience is perfect for beginners and advanced artists alike. It is an opportunity to unleash creativity and make unforgettable memories!

Donna Y relocated to Redwater from Toronto, Ontario, where she successfully managed Brushes

& Cocktails paint events. She organized passionate paint night events for residents of upscale rental buildings in the downtown area on a monthly basis. Donna has continued to make a creative impact on the community by establishing the Artisan Corner

at Home Hardware's Garden Centre. She initially held art classes at the Redwater Art Society upon her arrival.

Donna's long-cherished dream of having her own artistic sanctuary has finally come true. Ravenwoods Studio, her creative work

area and inspiring art gallery, is now a reality. The space boasts a cozy coffee and snack corner and serves as the venue for delightful paint nights. The grand opening on September 14th was celebrated with

Continued on page 2

Portable Monitoring Station Report Released: Newbrook residents experience similar air quality to other Airshed communities

Heartland Air Monitoring Partnership (HAMP) uses a portable station to determine air monitoring needs in the Airshed and capture data that characterizes air quality in the communities it serves.

Between February 2023 to January 2024, the Keith Purves Portable (KPP) Station collected air quality measurements in the Hamlet of Newbrook. The 12-month project showed Newbrook's Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) was a low risk to health more than 87% of the time - slightly more often than six other Airshed communities compared in the report.

The slightly better rating suggests Newbrook was less affected by the spread of wildfire smoke across the Airshed than other areas. Overall, however, air quality results show Newbrook experiences very similar air quality to other Airshed communities during regional air quality events such as wildfires and winter-time temperature inversions. Newbrook's air quality was a moderate risk to health 8% of the time and a high or very high risk to health just over 4% of the time during the project.

In addition to

Continued on page 2

Understanding public hearings

By Brandie Majeau

Public hearings are a fundamental process of local government,

allowing residents to participate in important decision-making processes. With the recent public hearing

being held, the Town of Redwater wants to ensure everyone understands how it works.

The Town of Redwater must have a Public Participation Policy under Section 216.1(1) of the Municipal Government Act. This policy ensures that residents are involved in decision-making processes that affect their community. Public hearings fall under Level 2 Consultative Decisions and are designed to gather input before making decisions to consider the views and concerns of residents.

Public hearings are formal meetings where residents can express their opinions on proposed bylaws, zoning changes, land use amendments, and other municipal matters before making a final decision. They are a legal requirement for specific decisions under the Municipal Government Act (MGA). Public hearings are not a vote. They do not directly decide whether a proposal is approved or rejected. They are not a forum for personal grievances unrelated

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TYPES AND LEVELS OF ENGAGEMENT		
DIRECT DECISION (LEVEL 1)	CONSULTATIVE DECISION (LEVEL 2)	COLLABORATIVE DECISION (LEVEL 3)
<p>Informing the public about routine operations or legal requirements.</p> <p>Recent Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statutory Notices - Special Council Meeting - Temporary Road Closures Notice - Programs Information 	<p>Gathering input prior to making decisions that affect the community</p> <p>Recent Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statutory Public Hearings - Land Use Planning Bylaws - Public Surveys - Non-Statutory Public Hearings - Dog Bylaw 	<p>Partnering with the community in the decision-making process</p> <p>Recent Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Members - MDP Steering Committee Committees - Event Partnerships - Discovery Days

Residents say, "Enough!"

By Brandie Majeau

Residents near Smoky Lake and Thorhild County, particularly in the Newbrook area, feel unsettled and frustrated due to a recent increase in rural break-ins and thefts. They are criticizing the "catch-and-release" bail system, expressing concerns

that repeat offenders are being released too quickly with no real consequences. This situation, locals feel, leads to a crime cycle

that repeatedly targets the same areas. Theft has become a major concern in these communities and is being discussed

everywhere, from coffee shops to the post office and grocery stores. As theft continues to be a problem in these areas, local community members are urging each other to be proactive and vigilant. They are not advocating for vigilante justice or personal interference but asking everyone to come together and take preventive measures.

With thefts persisting and thieves

targeting the same properties multiple times, the community is uniting to encourage people to keep their yard lights on, lock their gates, remove keys from motorized vehicles, and, most importantly, speak up. They are also urging everyone to check on their neighbors and report any suspicious behavior.

The monetary loss

Continued on page 8



Sturgeon County Council meeting highlights

Here are the highlights from Sturgeon County Council's regular meeting on September 24, 2024.

Request for Utility Charge Cancellation – Utility Account 08155.020

Council heard a request from property owners to waive utility charges caused by burst frozen pipes. A recommendation from Administration will be presented to Council at a future Council meeting.

Bylaw 1638/23 – Road Closure – Portion of Range Road 222 – Second and Third Readings

Council gave second and third (final) readings of Bylaw 1638/23, following a public hearing on the matter

held earlier this year. This bylaw addresses right-of-way requirements in support of a proposed expansion of Cando Rail and Terminals existing rail terminal in Sturgeon County.

Rural Municipalities of Alberta Resolutions

Council authorized the submission of a resolution to the Rural Municipalities of Alberta advocating that the association commit to hosting an annual "Alberta Room" at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Conference to showcase the province and enhance interprovincial relationships.

Council also authorized the submission of a resolution to the

Rural Municipalities of Alberta advocating that the Government of Alberta and the Government of Canada strengthen their direct collaboration to accelerate the implementation of broadband infrastructure projects in rural Alberta.

Appointment of Chair to the Assessment Review Boards

Council appointed D. Lee Danchuk as Chair of the County's Assessment Review Board effective immediately, to carry out duties prescribed in the Municipal Government Act and Sturgeon County's Bylaw 1409/18.

Public Hearing – Estates of Tuscany Outline Plan

A Public Hearing was held to provide opportunity to the public to comment on the Estates of Tuscany Outline Plan which proposes to establish a new non-statutory planning document for the land legally described as NE 13-54-25-4 in the Sturgeon Valley.

Advanced notification for this Public Hearing was provided on Sturgeon County's website, in local newspapers, on social media, and on road signs.

Council will consider input received

during the Public Hearing and make a decision at a future Council meeting.

Public Hearing – Bylaw 1648/24 – Estates of Tuscany Redistricting

A Public Hearing was held to provide opportunity to the public to comment on Bylaw 1648/24, which proposes to redistrict a portion of NE 13-54-25-4 in the Sturgeon Valley from AG – Agriculture District to R7 – Transitional Valley Residential District and PU – Public Utility District.

Advanced notification for this Public Hearing was provided on Sturgeon County's website, in local newspapers, on social media, and on road signs.

Council will consider input received during the Public Hearing and make a decision at a future Council meeting.

Next Council Meeting

The next Sturgeon County Council meeting will be held at 9 a.m. on October 8, 2024. Future agendas and past meeting minutes can be found online.

Portable Monitoring Station

Continued from page 1

determining the effects of regional air quality events, the portable monitoring project also sought to determine:

- The possible influence of emissions near the hamlet (such as a Class II landfill 5 km away); and
- The long-range effects of air contaminants when winds are blowing from the Edmonton Metropolitan Area and the Industrial Heartland, given Newbrook's

location near HAMP's northern boundary.

Data analysis showed that when the wind was coming from the southeast quadrant of the Airshed (where most emission sources are located) levels of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and fine particulate matter still remained well below provincial objectives for the vast majority of the time. Nor were landfill emissions found to have any appreciable impact on the local air quality.

About Heartland Air Monitoring Partnership

Heartland Air Monitoring Partnership monitors the air quality in a 4,500 square kilometre region north-east of Edmonton that includes Alberta's Industrial Heartland. Continuous data is collected 24 hours a day, seven days a week and generated through a live data feed accessible to anyone who visits www.heartlandairmonitoring.org. HAMP air quality monitoring and reporting is guided by a scientific advisory group and driven by national and provincial standards.

Get your paint on

Continued from page 1

a birthday afternoon paint event for a group of seven. The event was a hit, with everyone having a great time and picking up new painting techniques.

Donna has a natural talent for creating a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere, guiding participants as they paint their way through serene beach scenes or vibrant poppy fields. Recently, she delighted a group of grandmothers and granddaughters with a special session, where they bonded over giggles, tea, coffee, cookies, and

beautiful paintings to take home as mementos of their cherished time together.

The space also played host to a memorable Staff Appreciation end-of-season event for Redwater's Home Hardware. The evening began with a delectable dinner and culminated in a collective painting session of a beach scene. The event ran seamlessly, providing a wonderful experience for everyone involved. To top it off, the group was pleasantly surprised by their artistic prowess and left feeling as though they had caught a bit of a tan – or was it just a rosy glow

from all the laughter and camaraderie?

Ravenwoods has over thirty paintings to choose from for paint events. Groups are encouraged to pick a date and email ravenwoodsstudio@gmail.com to get the paint brush going. Explore the website at <https://www.facebook.com/ravenwoodsstudio>, navigate to the photos/albums section, and choose the "paint nights" category to pick a painting that the group would be interested in trying. Donna Y also accepts requests, so if there is a specific theme or subject in mind, feel free to reach out.



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of the most significant financial decisions of their lives, ensuring they feel confident every step of the way.

I also collaborate closely with experienced industry professionals, including my mentor Mike LaRue, to continually refine and expand my expertise. Together, we are building a team dedicated to delivering exceptional mortgage services.

At the heart of my work is a passion for helping people secure the home of their dreams while building lasting relationships based on trust and integrity. As I grow in this field, I'm committed to providing an exceptional client experience that is as rewarding as it is reliable.

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Schlamp, Gordon Edward

April 18, 1949 - September 25, 2024

Gordon Schlamp of Thorhild, AB passed away peacefully with his family by his side on September 25th, 2024 at 75 years of age.



Keith (Lori) Schlamp, and Crystal (Francois) Croteau; Grandchildren Warren Wheeler, Lyndzee (Ryan) Snow, Quinn Croteau, Leo Croteau and Kallan Schlamp; Great-grandchildren, Hudson Snow and

Gordon loved auctioneering, cattle, farming, gardening, horses, reading westerns, volunteering, was a corn hole expert, loved ice cream, baking and especially loved his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Marlow Wheeler; and sister Elsie Kochan.

He spent almost 50 years auctioning for Barrhead, Boyle, and Morinville auction marts as well as his own auction company.

He will be dearly missed by many nieces, nephews, neighbours and friends.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife of 55 years, Stella; Children Koni Wheeler (Loren),

A funeral will be held Wednesday October 9th 2024 at 1:00pm at the Westlock and District Community Hall (10711 104 Avenue

Westlock, AB T7P 2E6) with interment at Moose Hill Cemetery.

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Marty 780-905-6985

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SCHOOL NEWS



Redwater School's Junior High cosmetology students were constantly working on gore makeup, perfecting their skills with fake blood, bruises, and scars. It was a fun and creative way for them to get into the Halloween spirit while learning practical techniques for special effects makeup.

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5224 54ST REDWATER



This charming 1.5-story home in Redwater offers an unbeatable location, backing onto the 6th hole of the Redwater Golf Course and just steps from the hockey arena and Redwater School. The main floor features a cozy living room, a kitchen with newer appliances and a spacious pantry, a 3-piece bathroom, a mudroom, and one bedroom. The upper floor, currently used as a primary bedroom with ample closet space, can easily be converted back into two separate bedrooms as it once was. The unfinished basement provides excellent storage space and potential for future development. Outside, enjoy a fully fenced yard with a fire pit and pergola, perfect for relaxing or entertaining. The double detached heated garage is a standout feature, complete with a private bar for hosting gatherings, and still offers plenty of space for parking. Additional outdoor parking, including space for an RV. Upgrades over the years, including shingles, fencing, most windows and renovations to the kitchen & bathroom.

17339 TWP RD 592A, SMOKY LAKE COUNTY



This recently updated 1,229 sq. ft. bungalow is situated on .5 acre lot just a short distance from the town of Smoky Lake. The beautifully renovated kitchen features a breakfast nook, quartz countertops, and stainless steel appliances. Adjacent is the dining room, leading to a sunken living room with a cozy fireplace. The main floor offers 3 bedrooms, including a primary bedroom with a 2-piece ensuite, and a 5-piece main bathroom. The basement is prepped and ready for your finishing touches, with drywall and primer already in place. It includes a spacious rec room, a bedroom, a den, a 3-piece bathroom, a utility room, and cold storage, along with an exterior door and stairs for easy access to the backyard. A highlight of the property is the dream garage/shop, measuring 26x38, complete with a new natural gas heater and front and rear overhead doors, providing convenient drive-through access.

#14 CEDARWOOD, REDWATER



This three-bedroom condo features brand-new carpets on the upper level, along with a new dishwasher and stove in the kitchen. The top floor includes a primary bedroom with a walk-in closet, makeup vanity, and a 2-piece ensuite, plus two additional bedrooms and a 4-piece bathroom. The main floor offers a spacious living room with a gas fireplace and access to the fenced yard, as well as a large eat-in kitchen and a 2-piece bathroom. The undeveloped basement provides a blank canvas, ready for your personal touch.

5353 65ST REDWATER



Welcome to this 4-level split in Redwater with a heated double attached garage, backing onto green space for privacy. This home features many upgrades, including a new concrete driveway, shingles, central A/C, a renovated kitchen with maple cabinets and quartz countertops, updated upper-level bathrooms, new flooring, and most windows. The main floor offers a spacious living room, kitchen, and dining area with patio doors to a covered deck. Upstairs, you'll find three bedrooms, including a primary with a 3-piece ensuite and walk-in closet, plus a 4-piece bathroom. The lower level includes a family room with a fireplace, a bedroom, 2-piece bath with laundry, and walkout access to the backyard. The basement has a rec area, utility room, and storage. The large backyard includes a shed, greenhouse, and wiring for a hot tub. This well-maintained home offers privacy and comfort in a great location!

5330 64 ST REDWATER



What a fantastic location! This charming 2+1 bedroom home backs onto Poplar Park, offering privacy with no rear neighbors and just a short walk to the elementary school. The main floor features an open layout, including a cozy wood-burning fireplace, a dining area that opens to a covered deck, and a kitchen with a lovely view of the park. This level also includes a 4-piece main bathroom, a primary bedroom with a 2-piece ensuite, and an additional bedroom. The single attached garage is conveniently located at the end of the hallway. The basement offers an extra bedroom with its own 3-piece ensuite, a laundry room, and a rec room with a wood-burning stove. The space is ready for your personal touch with new flooring needed in the basement. Recent upgrades include a high-efficiency furnace with central A/C, a tankless water heater, and a fully fenced yard.

5231 54ST REDWATER



Looking for a property with great potential to build equity quickly or flip? Look no further! This 2-bedroom bungalow, situated on a spacious corner lot in Redwater, offers a solid foundation and is ready for some TLC. With a little attention to the home and yard, you can restore it to its former charm and beauty.

THE HOETMER TEAM

Give us a call or visit our website to view all of our listings



Raymond Hoetmer
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SMOKE ALARMS



Make Them WORK For You!



Thorhild School participated in their first junior volleyball tournament, and everyone did a great job!

Continued from page 1
to the matter at hand, and the goal is to gather relevant feedback on a specific issue or proposal. It is necessary to understand the importance of public hearings as required by law for certain actions, such as adopting or amending bylaws and making significant land use changes. This allows residents to understand the concept of procedural fairness, which ensures that everyone has a fair chance to participate and that decisions are

made based on the facts and feedback presented during the hearing. Procedural fairness involves providing notice and opportunity, equal access to information, impartiality, the right to be heard, and transparency in decision-making. The Council's role during a public hearing is to listen to public input, ask questions to inform their decision-making process and avoid debating with the public. Council members must approach the hearing with an

open mind, remain impartial, and consider all perspectives presented. This commitment to neutrality allows them to make informed decisions based on the feedback received, demonstrating respect for the community's voice and concerns. After a public hearing, the Town Council deliberates and decides based on the feedback and evidence provided. No decision is made during the hearing itself. Council members consider the opinions of residents, technical reports,

UNRESERVED TIMED ONLINE AUCTIONS





Bids Close Oct 16- Online Redwater Consignment Sale

Viewing Oct 13, 14 & 15, 1-7 pm 6- Dodge Diesel Pickups, 1992- 2011, All running • One Owner 2002 Chev 1/2 ton 4x4, Plus Various Vehicles • 4- Flat Deck Trailers • 16' Enclosed Trailer • 1963 Honda CB72 Motorbike V.Nice • Farm Equip. • MF 165 Gas Tractor • Fordson Power Major Diesel Tractor, 3 pt • AGT QS12R Small Trackhoe • Bobcat Attachments • 2007 Dutchman 26' Bumper pull- 1 slide Holiday Trailer • 2- Toro Workman Battery operated mules c/w dump box • Coates 40-40A Tire Machine • JD, 3 pt, MX6 Mower VG • 8' Veterinarian Box • Kubota 5' snowblower • Lots of Good Misc. • Misc. is Full

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Bids Close Oct 21- Estate of David MacDonald, Cardiff. Ph Janet (780) 939-5498
Preview: Oct 18, 19, 20, 1-6pm • 2006 GMC 3/4 ton 4x4 (Sharp) • Jeep c/w Blade • MF 210 Diesel Tractor • Deutz-Pull behind Backhoe • Huge Amount of Quality Hand & Power Tools

Bids Close Oct 23- Estate Sale, North of Athabasca
Selling 10.85 Acres c/w Older Mobile • Vehicles • Tools & Households • Watch for Details

Bids Close Oct 29- Farm Retirement Sale For Janice & Norm Larsen, South of Sherwood Park PH (780) 910-1585 Brief Listing

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expert opinions, and municipal policies before making a final decision. Public hearings are important for

maintaining procedural fairness and ensuring that all residents can voice their opinions on important

community issues. Feedback from residents, whether for or against a proposal, is essential to the process.

NEW LISTING

2 BEDROOMS IN LEGAL WITH OVERSIZED DOUBLE GARAGE



This cheery two bedroom comes with a NEW DECK, large backyard and a double detached 24'x38' garage. Pass the low maintenance front yard to enter into the living room with a large picture window with the first bedroom off the living room - could be used as a lovely office as well. Through the living room is an open concept kitchen and dining room with a double sink and pantry. In the south side of the house is the primary bedroom, four piece bathroom, and laundry room by the back door with room for a deep freeze. Downstairs is a partial basement with cold room and crawlspace for utilities. The fenced backyard has a brand new deck, access to the garage, and a sizeable garden next to the garage - if that's not enough space, there's also a driveway next to the house for RV parking! Within walking distance of parks and shops, and with easy highway access to head into Morinville or Edmonton; this home is perfect for a couple just starting out or looking to downsize. **\$249,900 Call Glenn to view.**

NEW LISTING

HUNTER'S PARADISE IN THORHILD COUNTY



109 acres of native bush land at the end of a dead end road just over an hour north of Edmonton. Property has been used as cattle pasture many years ago. Great hunting opportunities as it backs onto Cache Lake and borders crown land. Lots of wildlife in the area. Build your off grid property or tie into the grid as power runs along the road in front. Live year round, use it as a weekend getaway, hunting property or add to your pasture land. Close to Long Lake Provincial Park where there is a golf course, ski hill and great beach and boating. **\$175,000. Call Heather to view.**

2.24 ACRES NORTHEAST OF REDWATER



Spacious, well kept, 1470 sq ft 3 bdrm, 3 bath modular home on full partially finished basement with separate entrance to basement from outside. 40'x24' metal clad garage with 220 power. Upgrades in the past few years include septic tank (2021), shingles (2016), vinyl windows, bathroom renos and all new flooring. Lots of cabinets (and island) in the large eat in country kitchen with garden doors to back deck, main floor family room, formal living room with corner wood burning stove, large master bedroom with walk through his and hers closets and 4 pce ensuite. Two additional bedrooms and 4 pce bath complete the main floor. Basement has a 3 pce bathroom, is framed and partially drywalled and ready for buyer to finish. Lots of planted trees, flower beds and shrubs and plenty of room for a future garden. Located right on pavement, but set well back from the highway for privacy. Less than an hour to Edmonton, just about 15 min NE of Redwater. **\$272,900. Call Janine to view.**

79.5 ACRES OF LAND IN THORHILD COUNTY



Hay and bush land about 50 min north of Edmonton boundaries. About 50 acres has been in hay since 2008. Was previously grain land. It was aerated last fall and fertilized this spring. The 30 remaining acres is mature bush (some of it was logged about 5 or 6 years ago and is growing back nicely. Nice building sites with power along the north side and part of the west side. Mostly high rolling land with very little low land. Lots of moose and deer in the area. County bylaws should allow this land to be subdivided once more. Long term renter would be willing to keep renting the land. **\$225,000. Plus gst. Call Heather for more info.**

LARGE THORHILD BUNGALOW



This original owner home was designed for space in 1968. At 1260 sq ft it was one of the largest bungalows of its time. Main floor features a large living room, kitchen with gorgeous satin walnut cabinets with newer corian countertops, dining room with built in china cabinet, 3 large bedrooms, 4 pce bath and a handy 2 pce bath at the back entrance. The owner says the one thing she wanted in a home was lots of storage space and so there are plenty of closets throughout the main floor. Bsmt features a huge family room, third bedroom, large den and cold room. Upgrades over the past 10 years include shingles, furnace, hot water tank and all upper floor windows except dining room. Backyard has a lovely covered patio, lots of mature trees, huge raspberry patch and large garden area. There is also a single detached garage and garden shed. **\$214,900. Call Janine to view.**

FULL QUARTER IN THORHILD



Nice mixture of grass land and mature trees. Nice building sites in the trees with power running along the road south of this property. There was a gravel pit that has been mostly reclaimed. Nice hard pad still there which would be great for a shop and parking area. Some black dirt still piled up and a bit of gravel piled there. Seller is willing to spread this however buyer would like. Good 5 strand barbed wire fence and a dugout in the northeast corner so would make great pasture land. Only 2 miles south of pavement and close to Half Moon Lake. Build your house and have land to raise a few animals. Or use it for hunting, quadding and snowmobiling. **\$399,900. Call Heather for mor info.**

ONLY \$149,900 FOR 2 BEDROOM BUNGALOW IN LEGAL



Looking for affordable living that's move in ready? This 2 bedroom bungalow in Legal is perfect for first time buyers, investors or seniors who aren't quite ready to give up their pets and move into a lodge. Many upgrades over the years including furnace, vinyl siding and windows. Renos in the past year include all new bathroom with stacked washer and dryer and on demand hot water heater, new counter tops and backsplash in kitchen, eavestroughs, sump pit and pump. Fresh paint throughout. Brand new carpet in bedrooms and lino in bathroom and back entrance and the living room/kitchen flooring is only a few years old. Large 75'x66' fenced lot with fire pit, flower beds, deck and plenty of parking space for a couple of cars and holiday trailer. Or build a garage if you like. Ramp is also in place for easy access with wheelchairs or walkers. Legal is a great small town that's only a few minutes north of Morinville. Move in ready! **\$149,900. Call Glenn to view.**

STUNNING 10.72 ACRES NEAR WASKATENA



A gardeners delight with mature trees, flower beds, gazebo and garden area. Older home was added onto in 1996 and completely remodelled to make a 1485 sq ft 2 bdrm, 2 bath house with covered veranda. Features a mixture of old country charm and modern conveniences. Some original doors and light fixtures, lots of kitchen cabinets with granite countertops, gas fireplace, both main floor and bsmt laundry facilities, large back entrance. Bsmt just needs flooring to complete the family room, bath (with corner jacuzzi tub) and den. 32'x28' double heated garage was built in 2021. Even has roughed in wiring for future electric car charger. 56'x20' metal clad cold storage shed and small barn. Completely fenced with new page wire fencing. **\$565,000. Call Heather to view.**

LARGE COMMERCIAL LOT WITH HOME IN THORHILD



This 1.06 acre lot right in the Hamlet of Thorhild offers many possibilities for use. The 807 sq ft 2 bedroom, 2 bath bungalow has been substantially remodelled since about 2019. Main floor features a large living room/kitchen and large back porch with main laundry as well as the bedrooms and bath. Bsmt has roughed in plumbing and is waiting for the new owners development ideas. Upgrades include h/w tank, furnace, windows, painted stucco, metal roof and all new bathroom, flooring, kitchen cabinets, paint and flooring. The huge lot has lots of natural bush at the back along the back alley and offers lots of privacy around the fire pit. There is plenty of room to build a shop. Zoned commercial but presently used as residential so there are many options for future uses. 2 vacant commercial lots on 1st street are included in this package. Home comes completely furnished so just bring your clothes and move in. **\$235,000. Call Heather to view.**

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Continued from page 1

from theft is significant, but the additional damage adds to the cost and makes it even harder to cope. The ongoing cycle is exhausting, especially for residents who have been victims of these crimes. As the problem persists, people feel angry and overwhelmed, and question their right to feel safe in their communities.

Simon Landhauser, a hobby farm owner, was recently targeted. The violation of their safe haven left Landhauser feeling a sense of helplessness and his wife afraid. Thieves targeted their property one night, and the Landhausers were alerted by their security system. Upon contacting local law enforcement, they were disappointed that they, driving from Edmonton, beat local law enforcement to the property. Adding to their frustration, the thieves returned the following night but were deterred by an obstacle placed in the driveway. Simon Landhauser was disheartened as he remarked, "They didn't leave much except underwear and socks. It was our happy place."

For many, this is a familiar story, a feeling of helplessness and a feeling of being unheard or supported by local law enforcement and politicians. There is an understanding of police being stretched thin, but rural residents feel this is no longer an excuse. They feel like nothing is happening. When discussing their loss, victims are often met with the response of "at least it's just stuff," a comment referring to people being safe as an outcome. While most agree, sometimes, stuff is not just stuff. It is irreplaceable keepsakes, or worse, the irreplaceable feeling of safety. And for most, that is what it comes down to, not the loss, not the increased cost of insurance, not the frustration of feeling like they are unable to do more or are not fully informed...they just want to feel safe.