

# VILLAGE OF COUTTS NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2024



## **WATER**

Level II water restrictions remain in place.

1. All non-essential water use is prohibited (eg. Washing cars, sidewalks, pads, and exterior of buildings etc)
2. Lawn and garden watering is allowed two days a week from 6:00 am – 9:00 am **OR** 7:00pm – 10:00pm.

**ODD** numbered addresses are allowed to water on Tuesdays and Fridays.

**EVEN** numbered addresses are allowed on Mondays and Thursdays.

We thank everyone that followed the restrictions. Conservation is still important, so please be mindful when watering and stick to the allowable hours.

Contingency plans are being put together to ensure there will be water next spring. The plan will be circulated once finalized.

## **YARD WASTE BAGS**

Yard waste pick up will continue into October as long as the weather holds. The last day for pick up will be October 14th.

## **WEBSITE**

The new website has launched. Please be patient while we load more information. Thank you to Craig Blackmer for letting us use his beautiful photos, we appreciate it very much.

## **BORDER RASCALS—SENIORS GROUP**

Welcome back to the Border Rascals for fall, as I missed talking to you last month. An update from our day trip that members took on August 10th to the Etzikom Museum. A full tour of the facility was provided for our group, as well as lunch complete with homemade apple pie. A wonderful time was had by all; there will be more day trips in our future. As well there will be monthly trips to local venues, picked by members. In October, Japanese Gardens has been chosen; to see fall colors. Date to follow. Call a member to get details. The next Border Rascals meeting will be October 10th at 10am. Our Thanksgiving potluck dinner is on the 24th, doors open at 5pm. Turkey provided, requesting other harvest dishes. 50/50 draw and games to follow supper. Games will resume in October, dates are the 2nd, 16th and 30th. Start time is 1:30pm. Fun times and laughter provided. Hope to see you in October.

## **THANK YOU**

The Frank Lippa Family would like to thank the Milk River Medical Clinic and Hospital staff, as well as the Coulee Medical Clinic with Dr Krog and his staff. They also thank the ambulance service and Dr Wong and his team in Lethbridge ICU. The family appreciates each of you for the care and consideration given to Dorothy through the past years.

### **NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY**

Fall is officially here and the time to get back to reading a good book or watching a movie and we have lots of both for your enjoyment at the library and don't forget the cost of a library card is zippo!

Our October promotion is a contest for **TEENS ONLY!** Borrow a puzzle, DVD or book in October and enter your name at the desk, it's as easy as that! There nine \$100 gamestop gift cards up for grabs. One entry per person. Winners will be drawn in November.

Book club this month will be on Thursday October 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm here at the library. This is a drop in event and open to anyone who wants to chat about books and have a few laughs.

Halloween falls on a Thursday this year so we will be open on October 31<sup>st</sup> from 2:00 – 4:30 pm so that everyone can get home to get ready for the kiddos out collecting those great treats they look forward to. Have a great night everyone and stay safe!

There has not been enough response to doing a dream catcher workshop so we will not be pursuing this.

### **MILK RIVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Our next meeting will be October 17th at 7pm at the museum. Everyone welcome!

Don't forget we are Facebook, please like and share our page: "Milk River Historical Society"

As always, please call William King for a tour of the museum 403-647-3428.

St. Peter's Catholic Church

### **ROAST BEEF DINNER**

Sunday, October 6, 2024

Milk River Civic Centre

**Buffet meal served at 1:00 p.m.**

Adults \$20.00 Children (6 to 13) \$10.00 (5 & under) Free

**Take out Available**

Bake Table, Fishpond for Kids, 50/50, Silent Auction, Religious Gift Store

**Everyone Welcome**

### **POPPY CAMPAIGN**

The Poppy Campaign runs from Friday October 25th until November 12th, 2024. Those of you that have wreaths or crosses can display them during this time frame at your business or home. If you'd like to purchase a wreath or cross I have few in stock tht can be purchases at a reduced price for your own personal use.

Call 403-666-2260. Thanks Raylene.

## **Notice of application to be filed for approval of the natural gas distribution franchise agreement between the Village of Coutts and ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd.**

### **Application summary**

The Alberta Utilities Commission expects to receive an application from ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. to approve the existing current and valid natural gas distribution franchise agreement with the Village of Coutts. This application for approval is required due to changes made by the *Utilities Affordability Statutes Amendment Act, 2024*, to various statutes governing franchise agreements.

The current franchise agreement, which took effect in November of 2018, grants ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. the exclusive right to deliver natural gas to the residents of Coutts for approximately ten years.

No changes to the franchise agreement or to the franchise fee rate rider percentage are being made as part of this application. The franchise fee rate rider percentage will remain at its current rate, which is 20% per cent. Including linear taxes, the resulting average monthly franchise fee for an average residential customer will remain the same at approximately \$11.41. The franchise fee is calculated based on distribution charges. An average residential customer uses about 105 gigajoules per year.

You may send your concerns about, objections to, or support for the application in writing to the Village of Coutts or to ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. on or before **October 4, 2024** at:

Village of Coutts, Lori Rolfe, 105 Centre Ave, PO Box 236, Coutts, AB  
T0K 0N0, [vilcouth@telus.net](mailto:vilcouth@telus.net).

ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd., Attn: Franchise Coordinator, 5302 Forand Street S.W.  
Calgary, Alberta, T3E 8B4, phone: 310-5678; email: [franchisecoordinatorgas@atco.com](mailto:franchisecoordinatorgas@atco.com)

Any submissions received, unless you request otherwise, will be part of the application submitted and will become part of the public record.

For more information on franchises or to receive a copy of the franchise agreement please contact either the Village of Coutts or ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. at the addresses listed above.

### **For more information:**

For more information about the AUC or its approval process associated with franchise applications, please contact the AUC directly at 310-4AUC or at [info@auc.ab.ca](mailto:info@auc.ab.ca).

The Alberta Utilities Commission is an independent, quasi-judicial regulatory body responsible for making decisions about utility-related applications.

Issued on September 27, 2024.

## **HERITAGE COMMUNITY PASSENGER VAN**

### **Heritage Handi Bus**

#### **SENIORS & DISABLED 55+ (AS PER OUR GRANT GUIDELINES)**

Monthly Unlimited Ride Pass \$30

6 Daily Pass ticket (no expiry) \$42

Clients may take a guest/companion simply by booking and applying against their ticket

#### **TUESDAY & THURSDAY Community Service**

Simply book in a time slot and destination within or amongst Coutts, Milk River or Warner

#### **Lethbridge service on WEDNESDAY**

Limited Local service possible on Wednesday

Lethbridge service on Friday dependent on driver availability

Passenger registration and payment at Coutts, Milk River and Warner Town Offices

**ADVANCE BOOKINGS THROUGH MILK RIVER TOWN OFFICE (403-647-3773)**

Office hours are Monday through Thursday, 9am – 12 and 1 - 4pm, Friday 9-12 and 1-3:30pm

Trips must be booked the week prior to ensure driver availability.

Special Requests/Questions: call/text Steve @ 403-603-8578

Other info: **Next meeting** of the HandiBus committee is October 9, 2024 at the MR Town Chambers.

**Charters** are still available and unchanged using the Bus and or (on availability) the Van.

**Please enjoy our new service, we thank all who have tried it out so far.**

**See you soon on your next adventure with a friend.**

## CHRISTMAS HAMPER AND ANGEL TREE PROGRAM

It is the time of year when we start thinking about the Christmas Hamper and Angel Tree Programs. For 2024 I will once again be gathering information and coordinating with the Town of Milk River and St. Pauls United Church to help make some Christmases a little brighter.

We are asking the citizens of Milk River, Coutts, and surrounding area that you think about your neighbors and if you feel that these Programs would possibly benefit and make Christmas a little bit easier for yourself or an individual or family you know please contact me by November 8<sup>th</sup> with the appropriate information. I will need the name of the family and a phone number to contact them.

The Angel Tree will be placed in the Milk River Town Office on November 12, 2024 so we must have the information prior to that date.

Mark your calendar and remember to come to the Town Office after November 12<sup>th</sup> to pick up an Angel if you wish to purchase a gift for a child.

Darlene Fleming, Angel Tree Program  
Home Phone: 403-393-3223

### MILK RIVER HOSPITAL LADIES AUXILLARY

2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL  
SILENT AUCTION

MONDAY OCTOBER 7  
THRU  
FRIDAY OCTOBER 18

CONTACT ROBERT MATLOCK TO DONATE  
403-642-7166

TO VIEW ITEMS PLEASE VISIT  
ALBERTA TREASURY BRANCH – MILK RIVER

**BID/BUY/BENEFIT**





[www.mandkhomesales.com](http://www.mandkhomesales.com)

 **Triple M Housing**  
*Designed for Living, Crafted for Life*

**ATB Financial**<sup>®</sup>

If you have been thinking about buying a home for yourself or as an investment, come on down to the Milk River Town Hall on Thursday, October 3rd, at 6:30 p.m.

M & K Home Sales, Triple M Housing, ATB Financial, and representatives from Coutts, Milk River, and Warner will be there to talk to you about sales, design, mortgages, and municipal lots.

Presentations start at 6:30, with lots of time for questions and mingling afterwards. Everyone is welcome.

M & K Home Sales will have a discount promotion for people who attend towards the purchase of a home. Some conditions apply, so see a sales rep. for more details.

*See you there!*



Sponsored by the Milk River Health Professionals Attraction & Retention Committee



Celebration of Life  
For

Mildred Thiessen

Saturday

October 5 @ 1:00 pm

Coutts Civic Centre



# Prairie Rose Lodge

We've had such a great month at PRL! We are so excited to be welcoming back FCSS – they have resumed their visits & our Residents have already enjoyed some Fall Activities with them. They will be holding 'Group Drumming' the first Tuesday of every month, & 'Memory Café' will be held the third Thursday of every month.

'Grand Pals' will be starting up Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> – for more information on that, please call Terra at the Lodge, & if you are able, please join us with your favorite little people to visit our Residents!

Octoberfest will be held on Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup> – The Good Timers will be here to entertain us & we'd also love to see you all come out for that fun evening - The party starts at 7:00pm!

"If the Shoe Fits" will be here October 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:00am to 2:00pm, it will be an excellent opportunity to get in on a little bit of good ol' retail therapy with us!

We'd like to also remind everyone that our Ladies Auxiliary hosts a Birthday Party here at the Lodge the second Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm. We are so grateful that they always go the extra mile in helping us celebrate any of our Residents birthdays within each calendar month. We would also like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to them – they generously donated two new Lift/Recliner chairs this past month!! We are absolutely loving them, & they are already getting put to such good use! Thank-you ladies for always doing so many great things to improve the lives of our Residents!

HAPPY FALL FROM ALL OF US HERE AT PRL!!



# Annual Oktoberfest Fundraiser

Saturday, October 19, 2024

Milk River Civic Centre

## Family Event - activities for kids

5:00 – 6:00 Hospitality Hour/Start of Silent Auction

6:00 – 7:00 Schnitzel Supper

7:00 – 8:00 Variety of Entertainment - 50/50, Silent Auction, Chicken Bingo, Duck Draw, Kids Activities

8:00 – 12:00 Beer Gardens, Family Dance featuring Bamboo Guppies



**Purchase Early Bird Tickets by October 11 @**

**Mane Street Hair Styles, JT Wine and Spirits, Smart Alice**

**Adult Dinner & Dance \$25.00**

**Youth (6-13) Dinner & Dance \$15.00**

**Adult Dinner Only \$18.00**

**Youth (6-13) Dinner Only \$10.00**

**Adult Dance Only \$ 10.00**

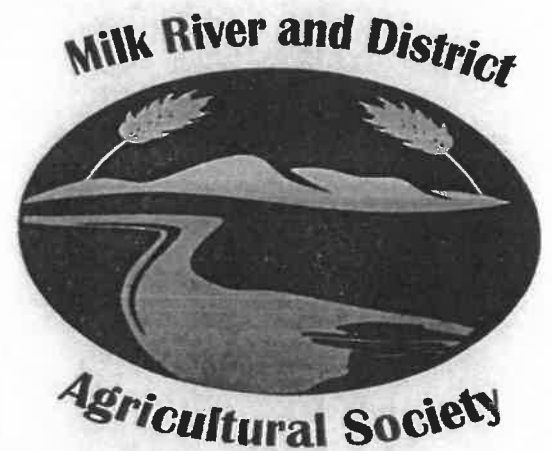
**Youth (6-13) Dance Only \$5.00**

**5 and Under Free**

**(There will be limited dinner tickets available at the door)**

**For More information contact Laurie at 403-642-7500**

**Thank you in advance for your support of this fundraiser**



# Pumpkin Patch Farmers Market

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12**

**10:00AM - 4:00PM**

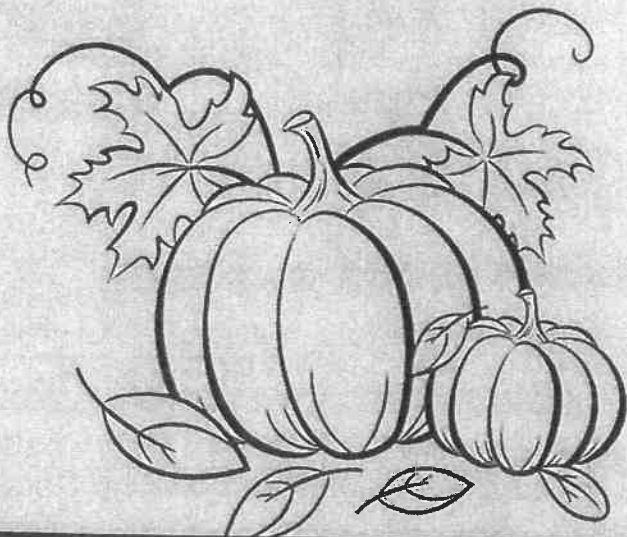
**MILK RIVER CIVIC CENTRE (321 3<sup>RD</sup> AVE)**

**Everyone Welcome**

Join us for a Festive Fall Day

Shop with new and returning vendors  
while enjoying a

**Fall Themed Concession**



- **Fall Photo Opps**
- **Kids Craft Corner**
- **Dine In or Takeout**  
**Available at the**  
**Concession**
- **Contact Laurie Balog**  
**403-642-7500**

# October is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Child Abuse Prevention Month is observed to raise awareness about child abuse in our communities and empower individuals to become advocates for children in need. Under the governance of the Chinook Sexual Assault Centre, the Chinook Child and Youth Advocacy Centre (CCYAC) is dedicated to giving children and youth who have experienced abuse or severe neglect a safe space to share their story and receive the support they need through the disclosure, investigation, and judicial process. Below are some ways that you can make a difference in your community and support our organization!

**SCAN THE QR  
CODE TO GET  
YOUR TICKETS  
FOR BOTH  
EVENTS!**



Through Oct 31st, you can participate in our 50/50 Raffle! Half of the proceeds will go to the winner, while the other half will directly support the crucial services that the CCYAC provides. This is your chance to win up to \$10,000 and make an impact in your community!

On October 26th we are hosting a Galactic Giving Event in partnership with Galaxy Bowling & Pizza! This afternoon of cosmic blacklight bowling is a great chance to dust off your bowling skills and have some fun with family and friends. Alongside bowling, the event will feature free snacks/pop and a silent auction!



**OCT  
26  
2024**

**DROP - IN  
2pm - 6pm**



**GALAXY BOWLING & PIZZA  
BOWLING  
FUNDRAISER**

**100% of Proceeds Proudly Supporting**

 **CHINOOK CHILD AND YOUTH  
ADVOCACY CENTRE**

A Specialized Program of the Chinook Sexual Assault Centre.

## INTERNATIONAL DAY of the OLDER PERSON

**WHAT:** International Day of the Older Person was declared to bring awareness to seniors, their interests, and the issues that affect them.

**WHEN:** The International Day of the Older Person is on October 1, 2024

**WHY:** Our aging population is increasing. In 2019, there were 703 million people over the age of 65 across the world. Over the next three decades, that number is expected to double. In light of this, it is important that we work together to make our communities a safe and supportive environment!

**HOW** to foster a safe and supportive community for seniors:

- Volunteer and spend time with seniors in your community.
- Keep your neighborhood accessible by raking leaves, keeping sidewalks shoveled and salted, and collecting debris.
- Educate the seniors in your life about elder abuse. Here are some helpful resources for learning about and preventing elder abuse:
  - Government of Alberta: Facts on Elder Abuse
  - Alberta Elder Abuse Awareness Council: Staying Safe: A Resource for Older Adults Living in Alberta
  - Contact the Lethbridge Elder Abuse Response Network:  
403-394-0306

**HOW** FCSS supports seniors:

- FCSS has many programs and services available for seniors, including presentations, workshops, conferences, and support with applications (provincial and federal seniors' benefits). For more information about Senior Services, contact Renee White at (587) 370-8518 or [renee.white@fcss.ca](mailto:renee.white@fcss.ca).

Visit [www.fcss.ca](http://www.fcss.ca) for more information.

**Renee White**  
Senior Services Coordinator



SERVING:

Barnwell | Barons | Coaldale | Coalhurst | Lethbridge County | County of Warner | Coutts | Milk River  
M.D. of Taber | Nobleford | Picture Butte | Raymond | Stirling | Taber | Vauxhall | Warner