

VILLAGE OF COUTTS NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2026



Municipal News

Taxes - In January 2026 we will once again be offering a 5% discount on any amount paid towards your 2026 property taxes, based on the 2025 tax assessment. If paid in February, the discount will be 4%.

Utility prepayments for residential owners will also be offered in January. The prepay amount will be \$445.50. The prepayment is available only in January.

FRIENDS OF THE COUTTS LIBRARY—AGM

Thursday January 15

6PM at the Library

Open to All

THANK YOU—FROM CANADA POST

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you

From the bottom of our hearts, for all the items that were donated for the Food Bank/Christmas Hampers.

We are very overwhelmed with your generosity. We hope to do it again next year.

From the Coutts Post Office, Happy New Year!



COUTTS MUNICIPAL LIBRARY BOARD—AGM

JANUARY 27 @ 4:30 PM

@ THE COUTTS LIBRARY

COUTTS LIBRARY NEWS

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE COUTTS MUNICIPAL LIBRARY! WE HOPE YOU HAD A BLESSED CHRISTMAS!

The Library will resume regular hours January 6th at 2pm. We would love to see you!

As we put away all the Christmas décor, lights, and all our family goes home, we find ourselves unsure what to do... on January 22th from 2:30pm-4:30pm the library has invited Sandra Hansen to teach a class on making dishwasher-safe modge podge plates, the class will be \$20 per plate. Please contact (call or text) Kari Hall at 403-492-0055 by the 20th to sign up.

Book club January 8th at 2:00pm everyone is welcome! Bring your favourite book list, share titles and recommended reads.

As always, we offer library cards at no charge! Come in and check out our new titles and top read shelves or pick from many puzzles, borrow an internet smart hub, or even get your crafting on with our Brother Scan and Cut 2.

Don't be shy! Pop on in for a visit and grab a hot chocolate! See you soon ☺

BORDER RASCALS SOCIAL CLUB

Happy New Year. New beginnings for all. We had a wonderful bus trip on December 13th to the Japanese Gardens light show. And we were also able to take in the Christmas Train, that arrived in Lethbridge that evening. A beautiful evening for all, and the weather was very mild. Looking forward to whatever comes next. Our next planning meeting is on January 8th at 10am. We will be also taking down the Christmas decorations at this time. January 22nd is our next potluck at 5pm. This is also our annual AGM meeting. We will collecting \$5 each for membership dues. Also after dinner we will have our elections. Hope to see as many as possible to make your wishes known. Also anyone who may want to join our card games from here on, may contact Steve Pain, or Mardell Peterson, or Lori Minor.

MILK RIVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We would like to wish you all a HAPPY NEW YEAR! Over the past year we have done several changes in the museum. The Milk River Historical Society would like your input for what we can do in 2026. What would you like to see in the local museum? Displays, various classes, genealogy class, presentations, etc. Please send your suggestions to milkriverhistorical@outlook.com or message us on our Facebook page. Looking forward to your great suggestions.

We are still open for tours in the off-season

Call William King @ 403-647-3428

COMMUNITY PASSENGER VAN SERVICE

Seniors 55+ and Disabled Persons

Residents of Coutts, Milk River, Village of Warner, Warner County

Transit Service available Monday through Friday

Local daily service dependent on van/driver availability

Out of Town service: Lethbridge (medical and non-medical)

Raymond, Coaldale & Taber (medical)

*** Handibus Always Available for Charters ***

Non-Expiry Book of Six Passes \$42

In town passenger service:

Warner, Milk River and Coutts \$7 return service

(1 punch on pass ticket)

Out of town passenger service:

Lethbridge, Raymond, Coaldale, Taber: \$14 per trip

(2 punches on pass ticket)

Tickets and registration at local municipal offices

Weekly Pre-booking is promoted and encouraged

Pre-Booking: Milk River Town Office (403-647-3773)

Monday to Thursday, 9am - 12 noon, 1pm - 4pm

Inquiries for van availability during the service week

Please call our co-ordinator D.S. Fraser @ 403-492-7821

General Information: Steve @ 403-603-8578

The Heritage Handibus Association remains grateful for the continuing financial and operational support from the municipalities of the Village of Coutts, the Town of Milk River, the Village of Warner and the County of Warner. Their contributions remain the foundation that enables this service to continue in our respective communities.



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CELL: 403-635-2013



SOUTHERN ALBERTA OUTDOORSMEN UPCOMING EVENTS



Fishing day- December 27th 2025, Goldsprings park, 10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Family ice or shore fishing day with lunch and hot drinks provided by the Southern Alberta Outdoorsmen

Measuring day- January 3rd 2026, Milk River Heritage Hall

Bring your harvest to the Heritage hall between 8:00 am and noon to have it scored or swing by for refreshments and a visit.

Outdoorsmen 11th Annual Swap Meet & Gun Show - March 14, 2026, Milk River Civic Center, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Guns, Hunting, Optics, Re-loading and Fishing Gear. \$500.00 door prize, Admittance \$5.00

***Vendor tables** \$25.00. Call: Brandyn Hulit 403-647-7979 or James Wills 403-647-6113

Awards Evening - Sunday, March 22, 2026 – Coutts Civic Center, AB. – 4:30 p.m. This year we will be doing a

POT-LUCK SUPPER If you plan to attend, please bring a supper or desert dish. SAO will provide coffee, water and juice. You are welcome to bring your own refreshments as well. The evening will begin with socializing, silent auction, raffles and cocktails. Supper at 6:00 pm

Come on out for a fun night!

Family Fishing Weekend and Camp Out –June 5th, 6th and 7th 2026 at Goldsprings

Park. Please book your own reservations if you plan to camp! Saturday, as usual, will be the main event with SAO supplying dogs and drinks

WOOD CRAFT CLASS GENERAL INTEREST COURSE

WHAT

Join Cariss from Birch & Blossom for a fun workshop painting and putting together your very own wooden project. All supplies are provided.

Choose as many project as you would like to paint.

- Cardinal Winter Sign \$38
- Home Theme Wooden Bench and set \$40
- Barn Quilt \$35

Instructor: Cariss, Birch & Blossom

WHEN

Saturday, January 17
10:30 am - 12:30 pm

WHERE

Coutts
Rec Hall

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Deadline Jan 10.

To register visit our website www.fcss.ca or contact **Stacey**
403-756-3572 (call/text)
stacey.maynes@fcss.ca



Cardinal Winter Sign



Barn Quilt



Wooden Bench set



WOOD CARVING CLUB GENERAL INTEREST COURSE

WHAT

Join our relaxed and welcoming Wood Carving Club! This drop-in style program is perfect for beginners and experienced carvers alike. Bring your own tools and supplies, choose your own project, and enjoy the support of a knowledgeable facilitator who can help you get started or offer guidance as needed. Whether you're learning new techniques or simply carving alongside others, this is a great place to connect, create, and unwind. If you need help purchasing supplies let us know.

Instructor: Margaret O'Hara

WHEN

**Tuesdays, January 27,
February 24, March 24, April 21**
7:00-9:00 pm

WHERE

Coutts Civic Centre

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Cost \$20, deadline Jan 26.

To register visit our website www.fcss.ca

Stacey Maynes

403-756-3572 (call/text)

stacey.maynes@fcss.ca



Celebrate Family Literacy Day

January 27, 2026

Family Literacy Day is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen connections and build lifelong learning habits together. This year's theme, "**Make Mealtime Family Learning Time**," encourages families to turn everyday routines — like cooking, grocery shopping, and sharing meals — into fun and natural literacy-building experiences.

Mealtime offers countless chances to learn. Writing grocery lists helps children practice spelling and planning skills. Reading recipes introduces new vocabulary and math concepts through measurements and timing. Even simple dinner conversations can spark curiosity, improve communication, and develop critical thinking. These small, meaningful moments create a strong foundation for literacy while bringing families closer together. For example, try these conversation starters at dinner:

- What was the best part of your day and why?
- If you could invent a new food, what would it be?
- What's one thing you learned today that surprised you?
- How would you describe your favorite meal to someone who's never tasted it?
- If you could invite any character from a book to dinner, who would it be?

Remember, literacy isn't just about reading — it's about engaging, sharing, and exploring ideas as a family. Let's make January a month of learning, laughter, and connection — one meal at a time!

For more information and to learn about child and family programs offered through FCSS, please contact Petra DeBow at 403-795-3328.

FCSS offers programs and services for all individuals in the region, including specific supports for newcomers and Indigenous families. For more information about FCSS programs and services, please visit our website at www.fcss.ca

Submitted by:
Petra DeBow
Manager



SERVING:

Barons | Barnwell | Coalhurst | Coaldale | Coutts | County of Warner | Lethbridge County
MD of Taber | Milk River | Nobleford | Picture Butte | Stirling | Warner



Programs at a glance

Mondays

DROP IN PLAY at Warner FCSS
9:30-11:00 am **START DATE: JANUARY 12TH**

Wednesdays

STAY & PLAY at the Milk River Civic Center - Agora room
9:30-11:00 am **START DATE: JANUARY 14TH**

TRIPLE P GROUP for LGM Families: Online
6:00-8:00 pm January 27th - March 3rd
Registration is required

INFANT MASSAGE at Warner FCSS
1:00-2:15 pm January 21st - February 18th
Childcare available **Registration is required**

General Interest Classes

WOOD CRAFT CLASS at Coutts Rec Hall
10:30 - 12:30 am
Saturday January 17th

WOOD CARVING CLUB at Coutts Civic Center
7:00 - 9:00 pm
Tuesday January 27th

WATERCOLOR FOR YOUTH at Warner FCSS
2:00 - 4:00 pm
Friday February 6th

HANDCRAFTED CHOCOLATE TRUFFLES at the Milk River Civic Center
6:00 - 8:00 pm
Wednesday February 11th