

VILLAGE OF COUTTS NEWSLETTER



**APRIL
2022**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cemeteries Working Group

A cemeteries working group is being formed to do some maintenance and upgrades to both of the Village cemeteries. If you would like to be part of this group, please contact Mardell Peterson at 403-344-3886. A few days were spent before the snow came, and the beds were cleaned out at the Holy Angels Cemetery, and trimming was started at the Anglican one. Thank you to Steve Pain for working so hard on this. Work days will be arranged once the weather turns to spring. The Village will also accept donations and give tax receipts if you would like to donate a monetary amount.

COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

We are planning for a community garage sale on May 28 if there is interest. Please call the office by the end of April if you are interested in having a sale that day. As usual, Coutts Community Events will post an ad on the TV, and do up maps.

COUTTS DAY

Coutts Day will be June 19th. It will be the 50th Coutts Day, so we're hoping for a lot of participation. Look for the information posted on the next pages.

YARD WASTE

Yard waste pick up will begin on May 2nd, weather depending. Waste must be in brown bags, and branches bundled in 6' sections.

Dogs

Why this has to continue to go in every newsletter is frustrating. PLEASE pick up after your dogs....yes, even on the ball diamonds, sliding into home plate through a pile of crap cannot be fun.

The 2022 issue of the **Royal Canadian Legion Military Service Recognition Book** has just arrived. There are some stories in this issue of some of our local veterans. This issue is 352 pages in length. For those of you that receive a copy yearly I'll be in your area sometime this spring to deliver them. If you'd like to receive a free copy call (403) 666-2260. If any are to be mailed charges will apply.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING QUAD MUNICIPALITY HEALTHCARE SUPPORT COMMITTEE

TUESDAY APRIL 5, 2022

7:00 P.M.

**MILK RIVER TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
EVERYONE WELCOME**

Councillor Scott MacCumber

Quad Municipality Healthcare Support Committee – We had a regular meeting on March 1st. Early in January our committee, along with community assistance, sold Kinsmen Corvette tickets in Lethbridge for a week. Thank you to all the volunteers that sat at the table and thank you to the Kinsmen of Milk River for this opportunity. We have started a new scholarship opportunity for current health care workers in the area. If you are taking any training courses and you are out of pocket for some expenses, we have a limited number of \$250.00 awards that we are giving out. If you would like to see if you qualify, please email me at smaccumber24@gmail.com with the details of your training or to request more information. We are holding our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, April 5, 2022, starting at 7:00 pm, in the Milk River Town Hall Council Chambers. Everyone is welcome. As for our search for a second physician, the Alberta Ministry of Health has partnered with RhPAP (Rural Health Professions Action Plan), to launch a new program called RESIDE (Rural Education Supplement & Integrated Doctor Experience). Its purpose is to attract physicians to practice in rural communities with the long term goal of improving physician retention in these communities. Milk River is one of 16 communities that has been chosen. The program is open to new-in practice physicians in their second or third year of residency who are eligible to work in Canada, and it provides them up to \$80,000 in financial benefits for a 3-year commitment. The application deadline is March 31st, and we are hopeful that it will attract a second physician. If you are interested in learning more about this program, you can go to RhPAP's website at: <https://rhpap.ca/programs-services/reside/>

Recreation Board – We had a regular meeting on March 23rd and we have scheduled our Annual General Meeting for Wednesday, April 13th, at 7:00 PM, at the Coutts Civic Centre. Everyone is welcome. We do have a Village position open on the board, so if you are interested, please attend the meeting. We are also looking for project ideas for 2022, so if you have any, you can give me a call or email Doug Hulit at dhulit1@gmail.com or myself at smaccumber24@gmail.com.

Milk River Watershed Council of Canada – We had a regular meeting on March 24th and have scheduled our Annual General Meeting for May 26th. There are open seats on the Council. If you are interested and want more information, you may contact Tim or Mary at the Council office (647-4342 or 647-3808). The Council is hiring an Outreach Assistant for the summer. Applications have been received and the selected candidate will start on May 2nd. The Council is conducting a project aimed at bats and we need your help. It is a research and monitoring project for the Little Brown Myotis Bat throughout 2022. Through the collaboration with landowners across our watershed, our goal is to document important roosting and hibernation sites for this species to develop a better understanding of their population and bolster their habitats with the implementation of bat houses. If you have bats on your property, are curious about the benefits of bats in the watershed, would like to assist in the research and monitoring of Little Brown Bats, please contact Allison Choquette at allison@mrwcc.ca or 403-647-4035. More information of the project can be found here:

[https://mrwcc.ca/files/2616/4513/5253/Bat Stewardship Project.pdf](https://mrwcc.ca/files/2616/4513/5253/Bat%20Stewardship%20Project.pdf)

The Council is hosting an on-line auction during the first week of April 2022. Check out our website at mrwcc.ca or Facebook page for more details. Youth Range Days Camp is scheduled for July 7 and 8 and will be held at the lower St. Mary's reservoir campground. Other summer activities are in the planning stages. As always, you can find lots more information about the Council and our activities on our website: mrwcc.ca

**COUTTS RECREATION BOARD
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2022
7:00 PM AT COUTTS CIVIC CENTRE
EVERYONE WELCOME**

**THE COUTTS RECREATION BOARD
IS LOOKING FOR PROJECT IDEAS FOR 2022.**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS,
PLEASE EMAIL THEM TO:**

DOUG HULIT AT: dhulit1@gmail.com

OR

SCOTT MACCUMBER AT: smaccumber24@gmail.com

THANK YOU

Milk River Elementary – April 2022 News



Monday, April 4 - Horizon School Division – FREE Early Childhood Developmental Check-ups for children aged 3-5. Learn more about your child’s developmental progress, as well as the benefits of Early Childhood programming. To book an appointment please call Sheina at Milk River Elementary School at 403-647-3747 by Wednesday, March 30.

The **Hot Lunch** dates for this month are **Wednesday, April 6, 13 & 27**.

Tuesday, April 5 - We will celebrate School Spirit by participating in a “**DIY Easter Hat Day**” along with our general assembly at 11:30 hosted by the Grade 2 class.

Wednesday, April 6 – “**Green Shirt Day**” – Milk River Elementary & Erle Rivers High School will participate in a joint event in honor of the **Logan Boulet Effect**, supporting organ donor awareness and registration across Canada. Green is the official color of organ/tissue donation, symbolizing the hope organ donors provide to patients in need!

April 7 – May 11 - Alberta Foundation for the Arts Travelling Exhibition– “Microcosm”— There is a miniature embodiment of the vivacity of life and the progression of existence within this exhibition, with systems that appear simple but are quite complex, and all the little creatures and plants that help it along; and thus, a microcosm is born. In “Microcosm” we find subtle characters in their natural domain, almost hiding away among the foliage. We are entranced with the illustrative details and the creatures we find within these tiny worlds. We are very excited to have this exhibition displayed in our hallways!

Friday, April 8 – The wind-up for our coed grades 3 – 5 mini-basketball season will take place on Friday, April 8 at Milk River Elementary School. Our students love basketball, and we would like to thank everyone that helped make it possible – thank you to our coaches, referees, timekeepers, and everyone that came out to cheer on the players and help promote the joy of basketball!

Tuesday, April 12 - We will be hosting a “**Celebration of Learning**” at our school from 3:30 P.M.– 6:30 P.M. for all our students and their parents to take part in a “Student-led Conference/ Open House”.

Easter Break—Friday, April 15 is **Good Friday** and the beginning of Easter break.
Students will return to school on **Monday, April 25!!**

Pitch-In Week—April 17—April 23 is the 55th Annual PITCH-IN CANADA WEEK proudly sponsored by Tim Hortons. PITCH-IN is the largest environmental improvement campaign in Canada and is dedicated to the preservation and sustainable growth of our natural ecosystems and communities. We will do our part by joining together with Erle Rivers on **Tuesday, April 26** and sweeping the town for a community clean-up!

National Volunteer Week—April 24 - 30, 2022. The theme for the 2022 campaign is “**Volunteering is Empathy in Action**”. The empathy, compassion and generosity of volunteers creates connected communities and builds a stronger Canada.

We are very proud to recognize these events, as we are forever thankful for our clean environment and to all the volunteers who take their time to provide us with the many extras that enhance our learning environment and make our school such a great place to be—what a great community we live in . . . thanks so much! Volunteers truly are the “HEART” of our community!

Happy Easter!!



Milk River Cable Club

Box 698, 201 Main Street
Milk River, AB. T0K 1M0

To our valued members,

We are holding our Annual General Meeting at **7PM on Wednesday, April 6th at the Heritage Hall in Milk River**. We **STRONGLY ENCOURAGE ALL MEMBERS** to come to this meeting as we are currently faced with a large decision regarding the future of Cable TV at the MRCC.

To summarize the issue at hand; Shaw has announced that effective Dec 31, 2022, they will no longer offer their HITS QT system, which is how our entire Cable TV system is run. There is no replacement for the system that Shaw currently supplies us. As such, MRCC now needs to find a solution to be able to continue to offer television services or decide as a club to cease offering television service altogether.

This is an unprecedented situation, as we have under 8 months to completely replace our existing system. Generally, these types of changes have several years' notice.

We have the following options:

1. Bell PDU Headend in a Box
 - a. Estimated upfront cost of \$250,000-\$300,000
 - b. Would require replacing our existing headend in its entirety
 - c. Still only available in Milk River and Coutts
2. Install Fiber to the Home
 - a. Estimated cost of \$1.8 million
 - b. Not a recommended or viable option
3. IPTV (Streaming App)
 - a. Estimated upfront cost of \$75,000-\$175,000 (different companies' costs vary)
 - b. Would require internet connection to use
 - c. Available to Rural members
4. Stop Offering TV Service
 - a. Shaw or Bell satellite are available locally

As you can see, we are looking at big changes and some potential high costs. We are still collecting as much information as we can so that the membership can make an informed decision on which direction you want the club to proceed, and we hope to see you at the meeting on April 6th.

Thank you

COUTTS DAY 2022 - Saturday June 18

Breakfast: There is an opportunity for a service group to put on a breakfast the Saturday morning. Our grills will be available for use. We will not be serving our regular breakfast unless a group comes forward to host it.

Parade: Parade Theme is "The 1970's", as the first Coutts Day would have been in the 70's.

Lunch: Hot Dogs at the school grounds went over well for our Summer Celebration, so we will be doing that. A few volunteers would be appreciated. This will be free, with donations appreciated to cover costs with events.

Kids Games: A group of volunteers is needed in order to have kids' games. A budget will be given for prizes or supplies. The bouncy houses and games we have will be available for use. Without a group of volunteers, the kids games will not be held.

Entertainment: We have awesome entertainment booked. **The Popovich's.**

<https://www.richardanddeborah.com/> . We hope lots of people come to enjoy them.

These are the areas that Coutts Community Events (Lori) looks after. If you would like to volunteer, please call the Village Office.

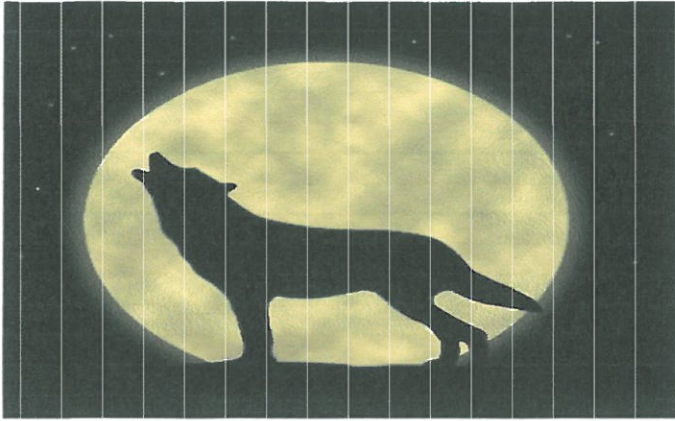
There are lots of activities going on that weekend where many hands are required for a good experience for the residents and visitors alike. Please consider donating an hour or 2.

Thank you, Lori

HERITAGE HANDI BUS – APRIL 2022

The Handi-bus will once again be making trips to Lethbridge. It will go the first Wednesday of each month. The first trip will be **APRIL 9TH**.

- 1) A few changes have been implemented. The passenger limit is 3 riders. The ride fare is now \$40 and must be paid upon booking to guarantee your seat. Please book your trip with the Milk River Town Office at 403-647-3773. You can pay at the Village office in Warner or Coutts, or the Town office in Milk River. This fee is non-refundable. If you decided you do not want to go, you may find someone to take your place, so you are not out money. Under a few circumstances your fare will be refunded, one example is a Medical appointment was cancelled by the clinic you are going to. If there are not 3 riders, the bus will not go, and your money will also be refunded.
- 2) The bus will leave Milk River at 8:30 am (times will be adjusted for Coutts and Warner pickups), and leave Lethbridge at 2:30. Times may also be adjusted for medical appointments. The goal is to be in Lethbridge 5 hours or less.
- 3) Besides Medical appointments, the bus will only be making 2 stops, **Park Place Mall**, and **Walmart South**. You will need to make your own arrangements to go to any other establishment. The driver will give a time for you to meet for the trip back home.
- 4) The limit of 2 shopping bags remains. You must be able to carry the bags yourself as the driver will not be carrying them for you.
- 5) Medical appointments that are not on the first Wednesday can also be arranged. The cost is \$25/hr plus \$1.00/km for the van or \$1.25/km for the bus. Book early as possible so a driver can be arranged.
- 6) If you are interested in arranging a charter, please call Lori at the Village of Coutts office, 403-344-3848, and she will help you organize, and explain the rates.
- 7) Any questions can be handled by the Village of Coutts office 403-344-3848, Town of Milk River office 403-647-3773, or Marvin Bohne, president 403-647-6901.



LONEWOLF HANDYMAN SERVICES INC.

BEING THAT TIME OF YEAR.. I THE LONE-WOLF
HANDYMAN, AM STILL THERE FOR THE
COMMUNITIES AND PEOPLE, WILL BE DOING
SNOW REMOVAL; DRIVEWAYS AND ROOFS ETC.
AS WELL AS ANY INTERIOR WORK. SUCH AS
FLOORS RUGS, CARPETS AND SUCH.
STILL DOING PROPERTY CLEANS UP, AND DUMP-
RUNS.

CALL JAKE

CELL: 403-635-2013



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



YARD SALE!

April 15 & 16
10am-4pm



112 3RD AVENUE NE
MILK RIVER

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS,
DISHES, LINENS,
ORNAMENTS, JEWELRY,
ETC.



The Milk River School
Enhancement Society
are having a recycling

fundraiser

« APRIL 18TH-22ND »

A TRAILER WILL BE SET UP IN THE MRES PARKING LOT

»»» PICK UP AVAILABLE FOR LARGER QUANTITIES «««

Please drop off bags of
cans & bottles, as well as old
car, truck, boat, or tractor batteries

For any questions contact **Randi Welsh @**
403-485-0662



Public Market

Saturday, April 16, 2022

10am-4pm at the Milk River Civic Center

Confirmed Vendors as of March 24

Affordable Beef by Farmers Alliance*All About Bling*Avon by Natasha*Baking by Deanna*
Bite Me*Bonnie's Towels*Chalk Couture*Clay Creations by T*Color Street*Danity Designs
by Lyndsay*Deedee's Craft Corner*Devil's Coulee Fundraiser*Dream Inspirations*Fairyring
Design*Fifth Ave Jewellery*Gray and Co.*Hoop's by Katie*Isla & Evelyn Designs*J-M's Tree
Art*Joanne's Jewellery*Jo-Lee Boutique*Kelsey Jo Photos/Juice Plus*Knotty Wood
Macrame*Little Chompers*Milk River Library*Natural Gypsy*Norwax*Plunder
Design*Prairie Glow Design*Prairiewind Designs*Sipology by Steeped Tea*Sparkle Tattoo
Inc.*Star Mountain Soapworks* Tammy's Wreaths*The Hasty Heifer*The Revolving Rack*
Tricky Treats

-concession available

-kids corner

Adults \$2 admission Proceeds to Breast Cancer Kids free

Kjnette Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 Football Field

Everyone Welcome!

Contact Laurie Balog @ 403-642-7500 for more info.

HELP WANTED

Riverside Community Golf Course

is currently looking for kitchen and bartending staff for our upcoming golf season which is
May 1st to Sept. 30th

*Flexible hours!

*Wage to be discussed.

Must be 18+ for bartending position and have, or be willing to, obtain a ProServe.
Kitchen staff should have, or to be willing to obtain, Food Safe.

To apply, please contact:

Russell @ 403-421-0031

russelld@mrcable.ca

or Kristin @ 403-421-1444

dobrocane@gmail.com

Ad will run until suitable candidates are found.

Milk River Historical Society

We were finally able to hold a meeting on March 17th after not having one since last September, due to Covid regulations. Great turn out and productive meeting!

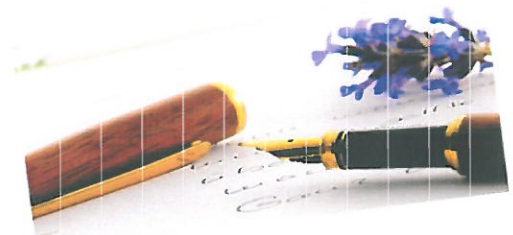
The museum has been the recipients of some historical articles from the Devil's Coulee Museum in Warner which is downsizing. We thank them for these items.

We would like to thank the Kinsmen for their generous donation to our society. This money will go a long way for us to keep the museum going. We will really appreciate it.

Save the date: July 16, 2022 at 1:00 pm will be our Annual General Meeting. Everyone welcome to attend.

Our next meeting will be April 21st at 7:00 pm, come out and see what we are all about. We welcome all.





Warner Adult Learning

presents

Pen Pal 2022

Pioneer to Modern Era!

Looking for Junior & Senior Pen Pals

To participate in a
letter writing adventure,
September to December 2022.



For more information & to register

Call/Text 403 421 0036 OR Email warner@taberadultlearning.com

Registration closes June 23, 2022

PRAIRIE ROSE LODGE BIT'S AND PIECES-APRIL-2022

Time just flies by so darn fast it seems as though all I ever do is prepare for the newsletter, so here we go again. With all the curling, basketball, and hockey to watch, it is very easy to let obligations slide. Before I go any further, I wish to commend the staff at the lodge. Terra, Paul and the staff have been the leaders in all aspects of the operation and ensuring the residents are well taken care of. Thanks for holding down the fort-you are all awesome.

Keep in mind the Easter bunny comes on April 17th so it will be busy times. The lodge birthday party will be on April 13th honoring Ann Dixon-Bruder on the 6th and Faye O'Hara on the 19th. Word from lodge residents is the cupcakes replacing birthday cakes was just great. Not having to deal with leftover cake has also been a plus. Our entertainment for the evening will be Derrick -a gentleman everyone enjoyed in the past. Our parties start at 7 PM and at this time, families still are not able to attend. April 1st is apparently the day for additional restrictions to be lifted so hopefully it will be.

Easter will be a very busy time. During this Easter season, Terra will have residents making Easter bonnets (I'm not sure how the men will decorate their caps but it should be interesting). There will be an Easter bingo with bunnies and chicks for prizes (I hope that would be chocolate). Somewhere during the Easter season, time will also be made to color Easter eggs. There are the usual card games, puzzling and horse racing. If the weather co-operates and time permits, a spring drive is planned.

During the past two weeks the weather reminds us that spring may be here. I have heard geese late at night honking to the north and a robin has been sighted. Moisture is so badly needed for this farming/ranching area after the very dry weather and wind of last season. With the prediction of a shortage of grain, it would be wonderful to have a great crop season. However, as I have said many times, it is up to God and Mother Nature.

During this Easter season our thoughts go to the less fortunate of the world and the unnecessary suffering and demise of thousands of men, women, and children. Our prayers are sent daily for the souls of these very committed brave people.

With the passage of time, I find myself trying to make all my efforts worth the energy. You know you are getting old when you stoop to tie your shoelaces and wonder what else you could do while you are down there.

Life is wonderful. God Bless.....Emma Hulit

FUN ACTIVITIES TO HELP KICKSTART SPRING



Have you and your family felt cooped up from the long winter months? As spring slowly but surely starts to set in, it can be fun to get outside and get moving to help boost your mood and your energy.

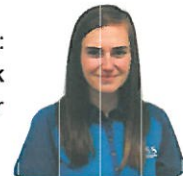
Here's a helpful list of activities that you and your kids can do to make the most out of springtime:

- **Make a Snow Sculpture** – Unfortunately, snow is still a regular occurrence during spring. Why not take snowman making to another level and let your creative juices flow! For example, try spray-painting the snow using water and food coloring in a spray bottle. This is a fun and creative way to make your yard or community feel more cheery and bright. By making something different, you will be more engaged and excited to be outdoors.
- **Invite the neighbor kids to play outside** – By helping someone else out, you will feel more responsible and motivated to have fun with them.
- **Go for a walk** – Fresh air and exercise will boost your mood and make you feel refreshed.
- **Join the Snow Angels Program through FCSS** – As mentioned, the snow isn't completely gone yet, so why not help volunteer in the meantime? By becoming a Snow Angel, you can help a senior in your community by shoveling their snow. Connect with Cindy Lauwen, FCSS's Volunteer Coordinator for more information: 403-915-7063 and cindy.lauwen@fcss.ca.
- **Do a spring themed scavenger hunt with your family or friends** – This is a great way to get outdoors, have fun, and get connected with your community!

Sometimes, even if the activity you want to do is fun, it can be difficult to motivate yourself to go out and do it. It can be helpful to schedule some time each day or week to get outside. It can also be motivating to help someone out, for instance shoveling snow for your neighbors!

Stacey provides leadership and volunteering opportunities for youth ages 11-13 through DO Crew Jr. stacey.vandenhoeck@fcss.ca

Submitted by:
Stacey Vandenhoeck
Youth Program Leader



Visit www.fcss.ca for more information.

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