

# VILLAGE OF COUTTS NEWSLETTER



**MAY 2020**



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Deferral of Utilities**

After careful consideration and discussion, The Village of Coutts will not be deferring utility payments. The feeling was that it is not beneficial for anyone to not pay their bill, when the result is a higher bill at the end of the deferral period. If you have been laid off because of Covid-19, and feel you cannot pay your utility bill, please call the office and we will work with you to find a solution.

### **Recycling**

The recycling trailer will be closed on May 5<sup>th</sup> until further notice due to Covid-19. The virus can remain on metal for days and we do not want to put our workers at risk.

Brown Bags with yard waste will be picked up Monday mornings, please have your bags out by 8:30am. Do not leave your bags on the curb until Sunday night. If it rains they disintegrate quickly and they cannot be picked up easily.

Cardboard will still be taken by the shop in the usual location.

We are still collecting "refundable" bottles for Coutts Day next year.

### **Coutts Days**

Coutts Days have been cancelled along with the Rodeo, Ball Tournament, and Outdoor Market, due to Provincial Regulations. We look forward to celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Coutts Day next year.

### **Paving**

Contact has been made with the pavers. They are hoping to start soon as the weather permits. Our town will be one of the first they do this year since we were put off last year because of the weather. Please keep vehicles that are not registered, not running, or not being used off the streets.

### **Generator**

The generator for the Booster Station in Milk River has been ordered. If you will recall, when the power is out in Milk River we have no way of receiving water. This project cost approximately \$60,000 and will be funded with grant money. It will be completed within 3 months, generators are built as they are ordered, so there is a waiting list.

## UPDATE FROM COUNCIL

All Council Committee meetings have been cancelled due to Covid-19, so they have nothing new to report.

### Message from the Mayor

Just a short report this month. There is nothing much as far as news goes that hasn't been rehashed a million times by television news. Locally everyone seems to be adapting to the changes and practicing the rules. As of this writing Warner County remains Covid free. That is a testament to everyone being careful and diligent. Let's keep it up.

We had our first virtual Council meeting and that went surprisingly well. No one was in pjs that I could see! May's meeting will be another Zoom experience.

The province stays in communication with the municipalities through teleconferences every couple of weeks and we are able to ask questions of Dr. Hinshaw and on occasion the premier and some of the ministers. During those meetings is when it becomes apparent how fortunate we are here in Coutts. Our finances are in good shape and we are relatively unimpacted by the current restraints. Our business community has been impacted with the closing of the Duty Free, restrictions on Smugglers and Hills of Home, as well as a lack of traffic at the Double Tree. Hopefully Federal and Provincial programs will offer some assistance if required.

We do have some patrons at the RV Park. One couple always counts Coutts as their summer home so they are quarantining here. You may see others there on occasion depending on their situation. The RV Park is a private campground and is allowed to be open. The CPO who is the AHS health officer for our area registers and monitors all transients. We can be hospitable, just from a distance.

It promises to be a long hot Summer without the usual social events and camping trips we all are used to. Hopefully some of the restrictions will be loosened and we'll find ways to socialize with our neighbours and friends. The last thing we want to do is let our guard down now and undo the progress that has been made.

Have a good May and we'll all hope for some May showers for our flowers, since April let us down!

Wash Your Hands!

Jim Willett, Mayor





## Riverside Community Golf Society Board

**GOLFERS** please note that the AB Government and Alberta Health Services have advised that all golf courses **MUST REMAIN CLOSED** Once we are advised of a date to open you will be notified.

There will be no Membership Fee increase for 2020 due to the COVID situation.

Punch Cards do not have an expiry date so any games left at the end of the 2020 golf season can be used in the 2021 golf season.

**ATTENTION EVERYONE** – The golf course is **CLOSED** to everyone – Please stay off the golf course. Signage will be posted shortly.

- No golfing
- No dog walking
- No walking/playing on the course

Only the 2 Staff members should be on the course doing routine work.

As per AB Government & AHS regulations if anyone is on the golf course the RCMP will be notified and fines can be implemented.

If you wish to purchase Punch Cards or Memberships please contact Bob Matlock 403-642-7166 or Russell Dobrocane 403-421-0031.

---

## Coutts ATB Financial

**Is now a fully banked location!!**

### We can do:

- **Account Openings,**
- **Investments, Mortgages**
- **Loans, Business Accounts**
- **RRSPs, GICs, TFSAs**
- **ATB Wealth & Prosper**

**ATB, Serving our community!**

**Thank you for your support!**



# **LIVE ALONE?**

**WOULD YOU LIKE A DAILY CHECK IN?**

**Join the Seniors Phone Tree and someone  
will call/text/email or video call you every  
day**

**PLEASE REGISTER WITH:**

**Lana Proctor  
(403)647-2677**

**Or**

**Penny Pittman  
penny.pittman@fcss.ca  
(403)915-4017**

**There is no cost for this service**



**[www.fcss.ca](http://www.fcss.ca)**



## ONLINE SUPPORT & PROGRAMS

### LIVE WEBINAR WITH TAMI BUROKER FROM AHS

#### Male and Female Brains and How to Co-Parent

Wednesday May 13th

10:30 am

Listen from any mobile device or computer. Video is optional

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AND  
CLICK ON THESE LINKS TO  
ACCESS OUR FACEBOOK,  
TWITTER, INSTAGRAM &  
YOUTUBE FEEDS



CONTACT PENNY OR CHECK OUT  
OUR WEBSITE FOR A LINK TO  
COMPLETE YOUR DEVELOPMENTAL  
CHECKUP ONLINE



### STAY TUNED FOR

### LIVE TRIPLE P SEMINARS

- The Power of Positive Parenting
- Raising Confident, Competent Children
- Raising Resilient Children

### TRIPLE P PRIMARY CARE

In 4 online sessions learn why children behave as they do and develop a parenting plan that supports you in encouraging desirable behavior & changing challenging behavior.

ALL of our online programs are available to families in the following areas: Barnwell, Barons, Coaldale, County of Warner, Coutts, County of Lethbridge, Milk River, MD of Taber, Nobleford, Picture Butte, Raymond, Stirling, Taber, Vauxhall and Warner

#### CONTACT INFORMATION:

Penny Pittman  
[penny.pittman@fcss.ca](mailto:penny.pittman@fcss.ca)  
(403)915-4017

## PRAIRIE ROSE LODGE BIT' & PIECES-MAY 2020

Well folks, with lock down, safe distancing and stay at home, what the heck am I going to say? I know we can talk about the wind or the promise of spring by our weatherman. The Corvid 19 has forced everyone into a very different life-style. Daughter phoned and asked how husband & I were managing being home constantly with each other. I have considered applying for hazard pay but decided after 61 years together we probably wouldn't qualify. Truthfully, it is no different than living on the farm-we were isolated and for the most part-stayed at home.

When we are able to have birthday parties-are we ever going to have a PARTY! I have really missed the visits with all the residents. The most important fact though is our residents are all safe. There had to be some rigid restrictions put in place under the direction of AHS. This has been extra commitment and work for the staff. Our communities need to commend and be appreciative we have such committed, caring people working in our facility. Many thanks to the churches for ringing the bells at 7PM each evening to let all the caregivers know how much we care and appreciate their dedication.

In the month of May, we acknowledge Lloyd Vornbrock's birthday on May 1<sup>st</sup>. The auxiliary wish you a happy birthday; sorry there will be no entertainment, cake or ice cream. The patio under the Pergola has been made available for the residents to get fresh air and sunshine. During the month of May, the residents will be discussing Mexico as the feature country. The usual in-house events will continue-balloon badminton, one on one card games, Tuesday exercises, walking the halls, and bingo. The garden has been planted so we just need sunshine.

A special note of appreciation to the Gold Springs Society for their donation of 2 iPads(1 for the lodge & 1 for long term care) complete with case and accessories. This has been a real hit with the residents as it enables them to keep in touch with their families, near and far.

Terra has established a reading group (respecting the distancing directive) that has been very enjoyable. The book they are presently reading is *The Old Woman Who Broke All The Rules* which is an enjoyable read.

I believe the Stay at Home directive has a positive aspect. We keep in touch with family and friends on a regular basis by phone. We realize just how little we actually do need to be happy. We are together as a family-going for walks, playing games and doing the children's school work. Let us continue to pray in our homes for strength and guidance through this challenging time.

Always look for the positive and remember to be kind. God Bless All. Emma Hulit



All Southern Alberta Outdoorsmen events, meetings and functions are cancelled until the regular Oct. 13, 2020 meeting . Like everyone, we are working out details through virtual and tele conferencing and some of it is a bit awkward. The 'Outdoorsmen in past has sponsored a number or events such as Hunter Ed, Firearms Safety Courses, Fishing and Hunting events and many others. This year, to avoid groups of people and promote social distancing, we will make a donation to the Tri Community Food Bank instead.

We wish to send out a huge thank you to our communities for all the support given to us through the years. Hoping that we didn't miss anyone, also the local businesses and organizations who regularly support us.

In no particular order;

B & C Insurance, Mane Street Hair Styles', Truck/RV/Car Wash, Sleepy Hollow Seeds, Sandstone Motel And Restaurant, Milk River Dental, Avail CPA, Teedee's Customs and Diesel Dottie's Detailing, Marksman's Sports Ltd, Bordertown Autobody Inc, Miller Seeds, UFA and Flaman Rental, Riverside Market, M & R Lumber (Milk River Home Hardware), J T Wine & Spirits, King Polled Herefords, NAPA Auto Parts, Galts Mobile Service, Blackmers Black Ops Optics, Keith Routley Contracting, Lavonne's Hair Nook, AM Service, Triple-O -Sales, Milk River Watershed Council Canada, Tread Pro Tire Centre, Foremost Farm & Hardware, Garber Agencies Inc, Smart Alice, Rocky Mountain Equipment, BP Heavy Duty Repair, D F Smith & Sons, Laura's Creative Catering, D & S Insurance, Beckman Automotive, Viterra, Mel's Diner, Foremost Farm and Hardware, The Butcher Shop (Paul and Marylin Vornbrock), Coutts Ag Society, Milk River Kinsmen

THANK YOU ALL,

Tight lines, dry powder and stay safe.

---

## **Milk River & District Seniors Society**

Due to COVID-19 the Milk River & District Seniors' Society monthly meeting for May 2020 is CANCELLED. All monthly meetings will be cancelled until further notice. Our meetings/gatherings will resume once AHS & the AB Government indicate it is safe to do so.

Our office is still open Monday to Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm. We ask that all who come into the office be mindful of social distancing and please take a pair of gloves to wear while in the office. There is also sanitizer on the wall by the door.

We have launched our new Cable TV packaging! If you are missing channels you previously subscribed to, please contact us to update packaging.

With COVID-19, many networks are offering free previews of channels for the next couple of months. Initially, the free preview was only until April 30<sup>th</sup>, but several networks have agreed to continue until May/June. Please tune in to our Community Channel on 231 for updates.

MRCC will continue to waive bandwidth overage charges until May 31<sup>st</sup>. Please note, the sudden increased usage on our system is resulting in slower speeds, especially at peak times. While we are waiving overage fees, the intent is to accommodate changes to usage for working from home and students now having to do online courses. When streaming etc, please be conscientious of the internet needs of others.

Also, as a reminder, please refrain from downloading copyrighted material such as movies and television shows. While we do not issue a penalty for copyright infringement, we do receive notices of these downloads and keep a record of them.

RFD is coming to MRCC!

You may have noticed RFD on our Cable TV Guide on channel 438. We are currently waiting for confirmation to offer the channel. While we currently air RFD programming on channel 470, the new channel will offer guide information.

The Weather Network on channel 232 has been without sound for some time. This is an equipment issue and we are waiting for a replacement receiver. We hope to have this resolved within the week.

For Cable TV and Phone service, please contact our Help Line at 1-866-344-7142 ext. 2 or [mrconnect@mrcable.ca](mailto:mrconnect@mrcable.ca)

---

## **MILK RIVER HOME HARDWARE**

Store Hours from May 1st, 2020

8:00 AM to 6:00 PM (Mon to Fri)

8:00 AM to 5:00 PM (Saturdays)

**Mother's Day Special 10" Hanging Flower  
Baskets \$15.99 - Arriving May 1st, 2020**

Today 10% Cash Tuesdays, Great Savings

Every Tuesdays Until, Further Notice

All Regular Price Items Including

Prepaid Special Orders

Some Restrictions Apply





## Milk River & District Ag Society

Not much has changed at the Civic Centre. All events are still cancelled/postponed until this pandemic passes. However, we are using this time constructively; painting the walls, thoroughly cleaning common areas, replacing furnaces, minor repairs. It'll all be ready for us once we open those doors again.

The Ag Society has had a *Harvest Festival* idea for a while and we started putting some pieces together early this year to take it one step closer to having it this fall..

Mark your calendar for October and keep your eyes open for more detail information on our exciting new event celebrating family and agriculture in our community.

Meet our Mascot, Aggie.



Stay safe, stay healthy.

Follow us on FB: <https://www.facebook.com/mrdagsociety>

Our email address is [mrdagsociety@outlook.com](mailto:mrdagsociety@outlook.com)