

VILLAGE OF COUTTS NEWSLETTER



**FEBRUARY
2022**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPAYMENT OF TAXES

Residents/business wishing to prepay their 2022 taxes, may still do so in February. In February, a 4% incentive will be applied. If you would like to know how much you should pay, please call the office.

DOG LICENSES

Please renew your yearly dog license. \$5 for spayed/neutered. \$30 for non-spayed/neutered.

NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

We have received a new rotation of audio books for your enjoyment so come in and check them out. We continue to get new books by purchasing or by donation so stop by and remember that if you don't already have a library card there is no charge for a card at the Coutts library and you have access to over thirty libraries through Chinook Arch, you don't get more bang for your buck than that!

For the month of February we will be closed on Wednesdays, Tuesday and Thursday hours remain the same 2:00 - 7:00 pm. Hopefully this will only be for February but we will keep you posted if we need to extend it for one or two more weeks. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Hope to see you soon while we have some nicer weather.

BORDER COMMUNITY WELLNESS FOUNDATION UPDATE WINTER 2022

On behalf of the BCWF board, I would like to send out a huge thank you to all those who made our Silent Auction such a success! Thank you to ATB for accommodating our request to be included in the rotation, as well as to the VERY generous individuals and businesses who donated such great items. As well, thank you very much to all those who were able to grab some wonderful last minute Christmas gifts while supporting such a worthy cause. Without the support of all those mentioned we would not have had the success that we did. Also, if you sat at the Kinsmen Corvette table and helped us to sell tickets, we are very appreciative. Having that option for the limited fundraising that our small organizations have is due to the efforts of the Milk River Kinsmen Club. They never disappoint! We are always looking for ideas to increase the health and wellness of our communities, so if you have any ideas for us to sponsor, please let us know. This note is full of gratitude for all of the kindness and generosity of our communities; may this feeling of gratitude continue throughout the year! Wishing you all a wonderful 2022! Robbie Wills 403-344-4312.

HERITAGE HANDIBUS

AGM

WEDNESDAY FEB 9 6:30 PM

MILK RIVER COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ALL WELCOME

COUNCIL UPDATES

Councillor Scott MacCumber

Quad Municipality Healthcare Support Committee – As we begin 2022, AHS continues to advertise for a second doctor in Milk River, but so far, any applications received have been from doctors that would not be a good fit in the community. So, the search continues. That hasn't stopped all the other work that this committee has done. Here is a recap of some of what happened in 2021: our website physicianscareersmilkriver.com was brought back online and updated, our Facebook page, "physician careers in Milk River" is being used regularly to post public notices and give recognition to our local healthcare workers, we continued to provide "welcome baskets" to our visiting Locum doctors, we celebrated various healthcare days/weeks, such as Physicians Assistant Day, National Physician's Day, Nurses Week, Rural Health Week, World Pharmacists Day, Healthcare Aide Day, Massage Therapy Awareness Week, and Christmas, we purchased various items for the Doctor's Suite in the Health Centre such as an iron, ironing board, bedding, coffee maker, and various other items, we started a scholarship program for graduates of ERHS and Warner who are pursuing a healthcare related program in a post-secondary setting, we provided the medical centre practicum students with \$200 each to help out with their expenses while in Milk River, we completed and distributed 1047 "Healthcare Services" booklets throughout Coutts, Milk River, and Warner to highlight all of our local healthcare providers, we started advertising available Health Centre jobs on our Facebook page, and we welcomed some new members to our committee. We hope to do all of this and more in 2022, so stay tuned. We are always looking for new members, so if you are interested, please let me know.

Milk River Watershed Council of Canada – The Council has hired Allison Choquette as a Wildlife-Outreach Technician. Allison will be leading the Little Brown Myotis Bat stewardship project and developing and delivering other outreach programs. If you have any bat stories or know of any bat colonies, you may call her at 403-647-4035. We are hoping to be able to deliver on more community projects and outings this year, but it will all depend on Covid restrictions. If you are wondering what this Council is all about, check out our website, mrwcc.ca.

Canada's Western Gateway Trade & Logistics Corridor – We had a meeting on January 21, 2022, to kickstart this project again. The purpose of this initiative is to advertise, identify and promote economic development and opportunities along highway 4 from Coutts to Lethbridge. If you would like to see more about this project, you can go to our website, canadaswesterngateway.ca.



TOWN OF MILK RIVER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY TRANSFER STATION OPERATOR

The Town of Milk River is currently accepting applications for the position of **Transfer Station Operator**.

Transfer Station Operator is responsible for the supervision and general maintenance and upkeep of the Milk River/Coutts Transfer Station building and property during the hours the station is open to the public as directed by the Public Works Foreman.

Qualifications include:

- Valid Class 5 Driver's license
- High School Diploma
- Experience in safe operation and maintenance of equipment
- Keen attention to detail
- Good mechanical aptitude
- Ability to work with limited supervision and resolve routine task related issues
- The applicant will be subject to a criminal record check.

Hours of work are 18 hours per week: Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday 10 – 4.

This position will remain open until a suitable candidate is found.

For further information, or to forward resume via email or in person to:

Jon Hood, CAO
Box 270
Milk River, AB T0K 1M0
cao@milkriver.ca

All applicants are thanked in advance for their interest in this position. Only those individuals who are considered for this position will be contacted.



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

PRAIRIE ROSE LODGE BITS AND PIECES- FEBRUARY- 2022

Yes- I'm guilty. I missed the December cut-off date for newsletter submissions. No reason. I have to share that at our age, husband and I took positive action. We had our 3 Covid shots and I, my flu shot. I have been ill the month of January. I can't imagine what would have happened if I did not have this added protection. Luckily there were no birthdays in January, 2022.

Auxiliary once again had gifts for all the residents and staff, however we were not allowed to be part of the Christmas party. A special thank you to Sharla Nelson and Linda Sutton who donated the staff gift bags on behalf of the Warner Revitalization Society. Your support is so appreciated. This was a different Christmas but the restrictions soon will pass. Ladies-bring all that money you saved by not being able to go shopping. Personal Touch Fashions will be at the Lodge on Feb. 8th from 10 AM to 2 PM. They also have clothing for men, so they also have an opportunity to shop. The next day, Feb. 9th, is International Pizza Day, so the residents will be taking part in this event.

February is the month of love-Valentine's Day is celebrated. There will be a Valentine craft on Feb. 3rd. The Good Timers will be entertaining Valentine's Day on February 14th-residents only.

On Feb. 23rd, the auxiliary will be hosting a birthday party-the first in over a year. We will be able to have entertainment (must be vaccinated) and hopefully cupcakes. There will no longer be candles blown out on a large cake. About 3 auxiliary members are allowed to attend. We are celebrating the birthdays of Julia Racz- Feb. 13th; Faye Bosch- Feb. 7th; and Mabel Stirling-Feb.16th. Happy birthday to these lovely ladies.

Residents are learning new games to go along with all their other activities. The latest card game is Saskatchewan Rummy. Sounds interesting.

The past two years has forced us to change our daily lives. We are separated from our families and friends. This is not a healthy way of life-we need to see people smile and hear their laughter. Always try to help where needed. This too will pass. Please be kind. God Bless all. Emma Hult

MILK RIVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Due to Covid restrictions, we haven't had much activity with the Historical Society. We haven't scheduled any meetings and will just play it by ear as to when we can have a meeting again at the museum.

However, now would be the perfect time for anyone to have a private tour of our fabulous museum. William King is available for tours, just give him a call at

403-647-3428 to set up a time that is convenient for you. You won't be disappointed! All Covid protocols will be adhered to during the tours.

Milk River Elementary – February 2022 News



Mini-Basketball— We are looking forward to our coed grades 3 – 5 mini-basketball season. Thanks so much to all our volunteer coaches – with their support and dedication we will have three mini-ball teams this year. We are counting on a team or two from Warner, which will give us lots of games to play for these very enthusiastic basketball players! We will be practicing the month of February and hope to start playing games the first week of March. The finalized schedule will be posted in the March Newsletter.

Upcoming Events –

- **Wednesday, February 2** – Groundhog Day
- **Wednesday, February 2, 9 & 16** – Hot Lunch Days!
- **Thursday, February 3** – Virtual Assembly – hosted by the kindergarten class
- **Monday, February 14** – **Happy Valentine's Day** – classroom activities
- **Tuesday, February 15** – **"Pink Shirt Day"** – we will support anti-bullying by wearing a pink shirt to school on **Tuesday, February 15**. Today our diversity is becoming more visible than ever as people continue to embrace their cultures, identities, and true selves in more open and direct ways; making the need to **Lift Each Other Up** and have a greater acceptance, respect, and inclusion for everyone so important.
- **Monday, February 21 to Friday, February 25** – **Family Week – NO School!**

THE BENEFITS OF FILING YOUR TAXES



While the term *taxes* can spark anxiety for some, there are many positive reasons to file your taxes that can create less stress and anxiety for you and your family in the future. Here are just a few:

- 1) **FREE tax assistance is available for families who meet the criteria (see the chart below)*:**
 FCSS offers FREE assistance with tax returns to individuals, families, and seniors with modest income and simple tax situations.
 Call or text Cindy Lauwen at (403) 915-7063 to make an appointment.
 For services in Low German, contact Susie Peters at (403) 593-0618 (Whats App supported).
 - a. When you file your taxes with FCSS, you can also learn about our other services including free counselling, family supports, child and youth programs, volunteer opportunities and many more!
- 2) **You may be eligible for a refund:** This means more money in your pocket for things like groceries and housing for your family or you can put it in a bank account and save it for a rainy day.
- 3) **You can access additional benefits if you file your taxes on time:** The Canada Child Benefit, Old Age Security, Working Income Tax Benefit, Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), and GST/HST credit are only available to families and individuals who file their taxes. This can add up to thousands of dollars of additional income for families struggling to make ends meet.
- 4) **It contributes to building your community, province, and nation:** Taxes help grow your community's infrastructure, including roads, internet connectivity, public transit, and drinking water.
- 5) **You can file online to get your return quickly:** FCSS's volunteers will ask you if you consent to an online return and will file your taxes electronically so you can receive your refund without delay.

*Tax Return Assistance Income Criteria

Family Size	Total Family Income
1 person	\$35,000
2 persons	\$45,000
3 persons	\$47,500
4 persons	\$50,000
5 persons	\$52,500
More than 5 persons	\$52,500 (Plus \$2,500 for each additional person)

Cindy Lauwen is the Volunteer Services Coordinator at FCSS and provides support to seniors.

For more information, contact her at cindy.lauwen@fcss.ca or 403-915-7063.

Visit www.fcss.ca for more information.

Submitted by:
Cindy Lauwen
 Volunteer 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



Public Market

Saturday, April 16, 2022

*10am-4pm at the Milk River Civic Center
321 3rd Ave*

-market with 40 vendors

-concession available

-kids corner

Adults \$2 admission

Proceeds to Breast Cancer

Kids free

Kinette Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 Football Field

Everyone Welcome!

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



Warner Adult Learning

New Classes... What's all the excitement about?

WINDOWS 11 That's right - Make the Move

Thursdays Feb 3 - Feb 24 Milk River



Beginner Quilting

Bring your own sewing machine, material, scissors, thread, rotary cutter if you have one. A pattern will be provided before hand to be able to help you pick your material.

Thursdays, February 12 and 26, 2022
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Milk River ■ Cost \$20.00
Instructor: Linda Cavanaugh

COUNTY OF WARNER
Adult Learning
and Literacy

For more information and to register contact:
WARNER OFFICE: 403-421-0036
TAFER OFFICE: 403-223-3199
email: walar@warneradultlearning.com

Paint Parties

Milk River - March 11 Warner- Feb 11 Stirling Feb 24

Online - Scam Awareness & Basic Computer -Tricks & Tips

Feb 7 & 28

call 403-421-0036 to register for all classes

**"HAVE YOU HAD A YEARNING TO
OPERATE A RESTAURANT?"**

Riverside Community Golf Society will give you the opportunity.

**We are looking to lease our Restaurant and Lounge for the 2022
golf season. From May 1st to the end of September. With option to
Renew or Year round available!!!!!!!!!!**

**For more information contact Bob Matlock @ 403-642-7166, or
Russell Dobrocane @ 403-421-0031.**



Milk River & District Ag Society

2022 Rollerskating

7:00 to 9:00 PM

February 4
March 11
April 22
May 13

February 18
March 25
April 29



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Admission
\$1.00

Helmets must be
worn by every skater