

# VILLAGE OF COUTTS NEWSLETTER



**DECEMBER  
2022**



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **OFFICE CLOSURE**

The Village Office will be closed from Dec 23rd at noon until January 3rd. If you have an **emergency** during this time, please call Lori at 403 642-7429.

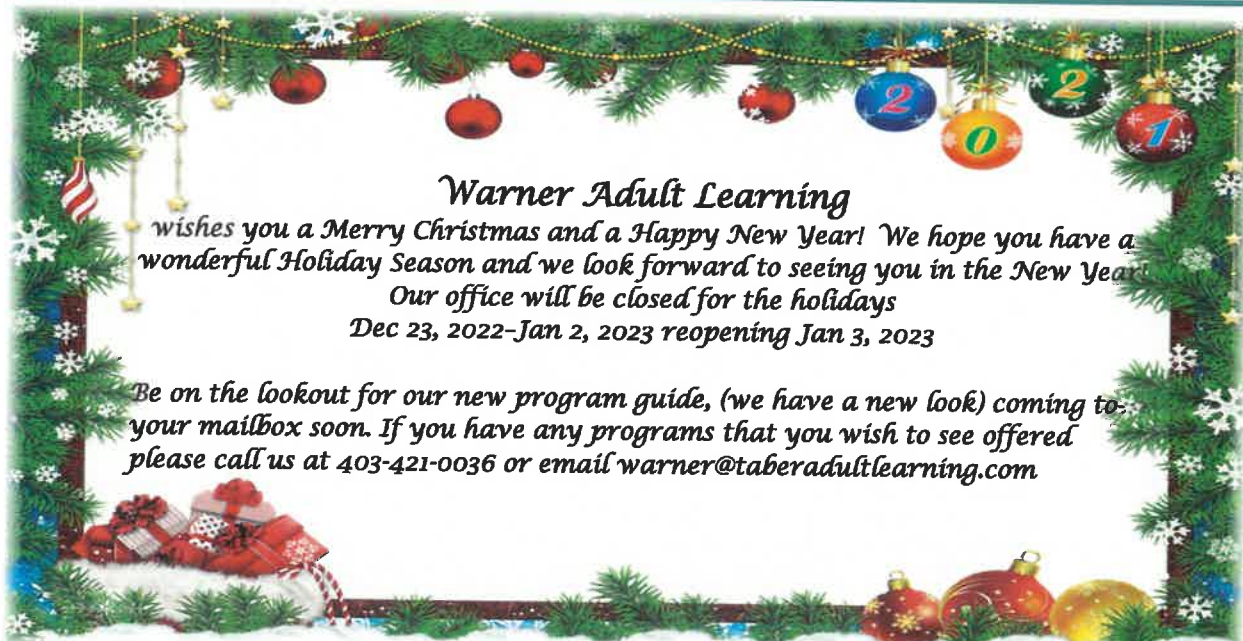
### **PREPAYMENT OF TAXES AND UTILITIES**

Looking ahead to 2023, you may want to save a little money and prepay your taxes and/or utilities. Residents can save 1 month of the base bill for 1 month on utilities by prepaying for the year, if paid in January. The amount payable is \$412.50, for this you will receive a credit of \$450.00. Businesses and Residents alike can save on their taxes. Any amount paid in January will receive 5% towards their payment, and 4% if paid in February. For example if you pay \$100 in January, you will receive a credit of \$105, if you pay \$100 in February, you will receive a credit of \$104.00.

### **A NOTE FROM THE MAYOR.**

As we approach the Holiday Season at the end of what has been a very interesting year, I would like to wish all the residents of Coutts and the surrounding area a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May you enjoy a season of joy and love and find some time to relax with family and friends. Let's all count our blessings and be thankful.

Health and Happiness to you all. Jim Willett



## **NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY**

Once again, the calendar has rolled over to one, if not the only, most exciting month of the year, especially for the children. Christmas will soon be upon us and the arrival of Santa and all his helpers. What excitement is in the air!

So much to do and so many wonderful events to attend and presents to wrap and hot chocolate to drink and cookies to eat and the list goes on! Be sure to come in and get your books and movies to tide you over during the holidays. The library will be closed from December 23, 2022 until January 9, 2023, we will reopen on the 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm. Don't forget that we also have jigsaw puzzles for you to borrow as well so if you are a puzzler make sure you take some out over the holidays, it's a perfect time to do a puzzle.

Our foot traffic promotion for December is a thank you to our patrons. Fill in an entry form when you are in the library and you will be entered to win a LUSH bath and body gift set. The draw will take place on December 20<sup>th</sup>.

Book club this month is on Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm, hope to see you there!

Wishing all of you a wonderful Holiday Season with family and friends! Enjoy the craziness but take a little time to relax and enjoy a good book, sing some Christmas carols and give thanks for all that we have. All of us at the library are thankful for you, our patrons, and the people in our community and we would like to wish to all a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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## **ANGEL TREE AND CHRISTMAS FOOD HAMPER**

Just wanting to send a reminder out to those that picked an angel from the Angel Tree to please return your gift to Milk River Town Hall by Monday December 12<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you to everyone who participated in picking an Angel; your kindness is greatly appreciated!!

Food donations towards the Christmas Food Hampers can be dropped off at the Town of Milk River office. Also, for anyone wanting to make a cash donation towards the Food Hampers you can make cheques payable to Town of Milk River with memo line stating it is for the Christmas Food Hamper. Taxable receipts will be issued.

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the Angel Tree and Christmas Hamper programs, your generosity is truly appreciated.

Darlene Fleming, Angel Tree Program

403-393-3223

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## **POPPY CAMPAIGN**

The members of the Foremost Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion would like to send out a HUGE "Thank You" to all of you for your generous donations to the 2022 Poppy Campaign. Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated. Once again "Thank You."

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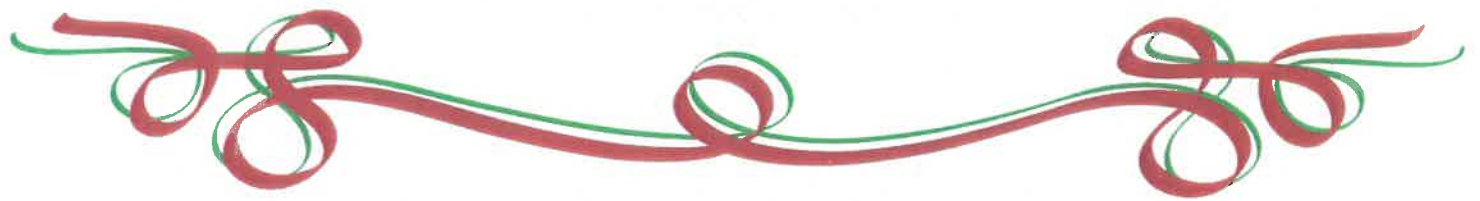
## **ATTENTION: FORMER STUDENTS AND TEACHERS AT ERLE RIVERS HIGH SCHOOL**

The Erle Rivers High School Alumni Club is establishing an endowment with the Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwest Alberta. The purpose of the fund is to create three (3) scholarships for graduating high school students. Our objective is to raise \$100,000+. By using the interest earned each scholarship will be \$1000 (One Thousand). The three categories will be:

- #1 A student going into a science program with the best average in science and math.
- #2 A student going into an Arts program with the best average in Social Studies and English.
- #3 A student going into a Vocational program with the best average.

Donations can be made to the Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwest Alberta anonymously and charitable donation tax receipts will be issued. If you have any questions or require further information you can contact Charleen Davidson, Executive Director at the Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwest Alberta at (403) 328-5297. OR Rachele Miller, Principal of Erle Rivers High School, Milk River (403) 647-3665.

The Scholarships will be called the Erle Rivers Scholarships.



# COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

THURSDAY DECEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2022

COUTT'S CIVIC CENTRE

**POTLUCK SUPPER AT 6:00 pm**

CHILDREN'S MUSIC

HAY RIDES - WEATHER PERMITTING

AND SANTA

## GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST:

**PRIZES AWARDED FOR ALL AGES**

**Bring your houses to the Civic Centre on the 22<sup>ND</sup> by NOON.**

## DECORATED HOMES CONTEST

Winners will be selected by voting as in the past.

1<sup>st</sup> - \$100      2<sup>nd</sup> - \$75      3<sup>rd</sup> - \$50.

Best Business \$50.

*Please light up your homes for all to enjoy!!*

*ALSO, new this year, The Friends of the Library will have a table. They are running a contest, 1 prize for each of 2 categories. 13 and Younger, and 14 and Older. Please write a story about your favorite Christmas, to be handed in by December 19 no later than 4pm to the Village Office.*

**COME OUT WITH YOUR FAMILY FOR AN EVENING OF  
SOCIALIZING AND CHRISTMAS SPIRIT!**

Prizes sponsored by the Village of Couatts, Couatts Ag Society, and Couatts Community Events.



## News from the Border Rascals Social Club

Our October club sponsored Thanksgiving potluck was enjoyed by 26 of us, with many new faces welcomed. We look forward to seeing all of you at our regular (where everyone brings for potluck) November potluck on Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 5:00pm and we eat at 5:30. Stay for bingo after dinner!

December is on our doorstep and we all look forward to the festive season around the village. Some Christmas decorating has already started and the Rascals are now planning our December Christmas potluck and party. Mark your calendars for December 15, 2022 and join us for our Christmas celebration. This year we will have a "Christmas sweater or hat or tie theme" at the club sponsored dinner. There will be a phone fan-out to members for dishes to bring and the club will provide the roasted meat. Non-members welcome but are asked for a \$5.00 donation to join us for dinner. We will have a Yankee gift exchange which is voluntary. If you wish to take home a gift you must provide one under the tree. We have set a \$20.00 limit for gifts. Please mark gifts as to "for him or for her".

Each year we are reminded to be of good cheer and remember those of us who are less fortunate. Please consider charitable giving to the cause of your choice. Good deeds, food baskets and gifts can mean as much to the sender as to the receiver. And thoughtfulness and giving are not just for this time of year but for all year.

From the Border Rascals' Social Club to each of you, a blessed Christmas Season.  
your executive;

Jim Willett, president                      Kris Rollins, secretary  
Betty Ostby, vice-president              Mardell Pederson, treasurer

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## Heritage Handibus Association Dec 2022 Newsletter

The Toyota Handibus is scheduled to travel to Lethbridge on Dec 7, 2022. The cost is \$40.00 per person with a minimum of 3 riders prepaid. Riders are required to book their ride 24 hours in advance with payment due at that time. If 3 riders are not prepaid, the bus does not travel.

The only the small bus is available for charters at the moment.

Please call the Town of Milk River Office Staff to arrange booking, payment and more information.

The next meeting of the Heritage Handibus Association is Dec 14, 2022 at the Town Hall. Everyone is welcome, we need more community participation please.

Merry Christmas to all and have a wonderful 2023.

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## Milk River Historical Society

We are selling calendars in support of the museum. These calendars are mostly focused on the Sweetgrass Hills and have wonderful pictures taken by William King. If you would like to purchase a calendar, they are \$20 each and you can buy one by contacting William King at  
**403-647-3428**

Our next meeting will not be until February 16, 2023, 7 pm at the museum. If you would like a tour of the museum, please call William at the above number to arrange a suitable time.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support of the museum all year long and wish everyone a very Merry Christmas.



# Mistletoe Market

Saturday, December 3 (10—4)

Milk River Civic Centre 321 3rd Ave

Enjoy the day shopping, eating and visiting.

*“Kinette Christmas Shoppe for Mom and Pop”*

## **Over Forty Vendors**

Amsoil, Avon by Natasha, Big Al Bags, Bonnie's Towels, Brindle Dixie Designs, Chalk Couture, Classic Cultery (Rada Knives), Clay Creation by T, Country Home Baking, Dedee's Craft Corner, Devil's Coulee Fundraiser, Dream Inspirations, Fairyring Design, Fifth Avenue Jewellery, Fromthewoodpile, If the Shoe Fits, J Richardson (Doll Clothes), JDR Games, JM Woodworking, Joanne's Jewellery, Jo-Lee Boutique, Juice Plus, Karina's Crochet Corner, Kelsey Jo Photos, Kinette Shoppe for Mom and Pop, Laula Handmade, Little Chompers, Little Herbs of Healing, MM Designs, MR Quilters, October Days Handmade, Norwex, Pampered Chef, Party Lite, Pie Mama, Plunder Design, Prairiewind Designs, She Shed Creations, Sipology by Steeped Tea, Sparked, Star Mountain Soapworks, Suds by Grace, Tammy's Wreaths, The Hasty Heifer, Tiber River, Usborne Books, Wrights Delights

**Concession with Take Out Available**

**EVERYONE WELCOME**



**MERRY**  
*Christmas*  
**FROM  
PRL**

WE ARE READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS HERE  
AT PRAIRIE ROSE LODGE!

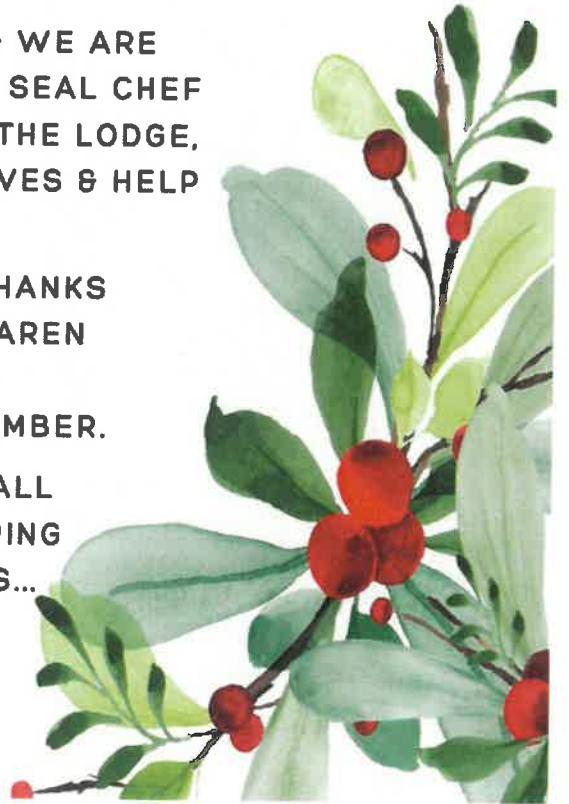
THIS MONTH WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE  
SHOE FITS BEING HERE ON DECEMBER 5TH, WANDER  
WEST ON THE 16TH, AS WELL THE GOOD TIMERS WILL  
BE JOINING US LATER IN THE MONTH.

OUR RESIDENT/STAFF CHRISTMAS PARTY WILL BE ON  
DECEMBER 7TH, & WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO ONE OF OUR BEST TURN  
OUTS YET! TERRA HAS LOTS OF FUN OUTINGS PLANNED, SUCH AS A  
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TOUR, THE CHRISTMAS CONCERT, & SHOPPING TRIPS  
WHICH WILL GIVE OUR RESIDENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET THEIR GIFT  
GIVING LISTS FILLED.

WE HAVE RESTRUCTURED OUR KITCHEN, & WE ARE  
PLEASED TO BE WELCOMING OUR FIRST RED SEAL CHEF  
TO THE PRL TEAM! IF YOU HAPPEN TO BE IN THE LODGE,  
PLEASE FEEL FREE TO INTRODUCE YOURSELVES & HELP  
US MAKE ANY FEEL WELCOME!

WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS A SPECIAL THANKS  
TO MARTY & MARGO KIRBY, AS WELL AS KAREN  
OSTENBERG FOR THEIR VERY  
THOUGHTFUL POPPY PIN DONATION IN NOVEMBER.  
TO THE LADIES AUXILIARY, THANK YOU FOR ALL  
THE EXTRA SUPPORT THIS MONTH WITH HELPING  
PLAN, & EXECUTE OUR CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES...  
WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR ALL OF YOU!

FROM OUR FAMILIES TO YOURS,  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**





# Prairie Rose Lodge Ladies Auxiliary

## Activities Update

Yet another winter has set in. We are once again indoors for our monthly birthday party. We enjoyed celebrating with 3 of the lodge residents and their families this month. Many of the residents joined us in this milestone birthday celebration, so there was a great turnout. It may have been cold and snowy outside but Gordon Kopp heated things up with some good old ole time music. Gordon kept things lively switching between guitar, banjo, and accordion. Residents enjoyed singing and clapping to familiar tunes. Gordon was even the brunt of some good-natured heckling from one of the feistier residents, giving us all a good laugh. Entertainment was followed by cupcakes and ice cream. The delicious butter pecan cupcakes with caramel icing were a hit!

Our monthly loonie bingo was also a hit, and a big thank you to Louise for organizing it.

It was our privilege to be able to donate funds to provide more puzzles for the puzzle fanatics at the lodge. It's going to be a long winter and those ladies love their puzzles!

A group of our ladies were excited to be able to help Terra decorate for the Christmas season at the lodge. What a wonderful job Terra does making things festive and keeping the residents involved! We look forward to helping more in the future.

On a more serious note, some of our ladies have decided to leave us. Some temporarily due to health reasons and some retiring permanently. Each and every one of you will be missed. It saddens us to see you go. You have been instrumental in enhancing the lives of every resident at the Prairie Rose Lodge. We thank you for all your years of service. You are appreciated. Thank you!





**Christmas is a time of joy. A time for love and cheer. A time for making memories to last throughout the year. And a time to show appreciation to the people we care about.**

**The Milk River Health Professionals Attraction & Retention Committee would like to acknowledge, recognize and say thank you to all of the wonderful health care workers in the Milk River area. Your work matters and makes a difference to every individual and family who receives health care services in our community. To those who work on the front-line, or behind the scenes, or who support the workers as family or friends, we wish you the very best during the upcoming Christmas season and in the New Year.**

**To show our appreciation, we will be giving away 5 gift baskets worth more than \$100 each to 5 health care workers or those employed by health care professionals. Helping us with this Christmas give-a-way are: Smart Alice Shop, Kim & Co Café & Gift Shop, Riverside Market, J-T Wine & Spirits, and Napa.**

**To enter, send an email to: [smaccumber24@gmail.com](mailto:smaccumber24@gmail.com), with your name, place of work, and job title. Entries must be received by noon on Sunday, December 18th. A random draw will be made on December 19th and the winner's posted on our Facebook page. Good luck and we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**



**COUNTY OF  
WARNER**







**LONEWOLF  
HANDYMAN  
SERVICES  
INC.**

**SPECIALIZING IN:  
DECKS, LANDINGS, FENCING,  
EAVESTROUGH CLEANING,  
OTHER CARPENTRY, PAINTING,  
ROOFING, PROPERTY CLEAN  
UPS, DUMP RUNS, PROPERTY  
MAINTENANCE, MOWING  
AND MORE  
CALL JAKE**

**CELL: 403-635-2013**



## SOUTHERN ALBERTA OUTDOORSMEN

### UPCOMING EVENTS

All events subject to AHS rules



**Family Fun Bonfire-Sledding-etc** Tuesday, December 27 2022 – Snow Gravel Pit near Barry and Barb's home.  
8:00 a.m. – Early Afternoon (or when the fun is done). The Snow's are letting us use their RV for the day, for the bathroom and change room  
Weiner roast and hot chocolate will be provided. Bring the kids out for some fresh air and fun.

**Predator Hunt** – Friday, January 6, 2023 From Sunup to Sundown Friday and bring your result in to **Measuring Day** at Heritage Hall the next day at noon to enter points and socialize.

**Measuring Day** - Saturday, January 7, 2023 – Heritage Hall, Milk River, AB.

Open at 9:00 a.m. Entry Cut Off is 12:00 noon, sharp. SAO will have soup and buns for sale

**\*\*Antlered Entries** must be accompanied by a license and tag number and all wildlife entries must be clean (no residual flesh), dry, and free of odor. (Or can be rejected)

**\*\*Photo Contest** for photographers of all ages with three categories - Wildlife, Open, and Scenery for Juniors (Under 16) and Adults.

Photos must be presented unframed and no smaller than a 5" x 7" and must be taken by the person entering them as well as being a member of SAO.

## **AGM – January 10, 2023, 7:30 p.m. at Milk River Town Hall Council Chambers**

This will be the first ½ hour of our regular meeting. We would like to see as many possible attend.

**Outdoorsmen<sup>9th</sup> Annual Swap Meet & Gun Show** - March 11, 2023, 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: Rodger King 403-344-2124 Scott Tollestrup 403-642-7728  
Craig Blackmer 403-344-2146 R Clayton Taylor 403-634-7258

**Awards Banquet** - Saturday, Feb 11, 2023– Coutts Civic Center, AB. – 4:30 p.m. (Note the earlier than usual date.)

The evening will begin with socializing, silent auction, raffles and cocktails. Banquet at 6:00 pm  
Come on out for a fun night! Tickets will be available from the Executive starting Measuring Day

**Gopher Hunt** – Saturday, May 6, 2023 – Meet at the Heritage Hall, Milk River, AB - for refreshments after an ethical day of hunting and disposal of the gophers. Bring tails only, for count, by 5:00 p.m.  
SAO will supply hot dog supper

**Family Fishing Weekend and Camp Out** – June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> tentatively at Taber Kinsmen Park at Chin bridge. If we are unable to obtain booking here, Hutterite Bay will be 2<sup>nd</sup> choice.

This year, during Campout weekend, we will be drawing for another exciting new raffle. We are raffling another e-bike! This can be traded back to our supplier for our purchase price on any other e-bike they sell. Watch for the announcement on FB when ticket sales go on line. Some of the raffle proceeds in 2022 were sent to ACA to provide some 12-14 inch stockers for Gold Springs Park.

*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from the  
Southern Alberta Outdoorsmen*



# 3RD ANNUAL SANTA CLAUSE PARADE & FIREWORKS SHOW

DECEMBER 17TH, 2022  
7PM

If you would like to come to the fire hall starting at 5pm - 6:30pm to get a picture with Santa and maybe a get a hot dog, bag of chips and hot chocolate (pay by donation).

If you want to join the parade with a float of any kind please be at the fire hall before 6:30pm.

The parade will start from the fire hall at 7pm and will head up old highway 4 and around by CoreAG and County of Warner buildings and then back down old highway 4 in front of the Viterra Elevators.

Once the fire trucks are parked on the gravel road behind the staging area for the fireworks then the fireworks show will begin!

If you would like to donate to the fireworks show please send checks

to Warner Fireman's Society Box 88 Warner, Alberta T0K 2L0

The fireman's society greatly appreciates the support to make this event bigger and better every year.



DECEMBER 23RD 5PM-7PM

# LIVE INTERACTIVE NATIVITY



**A GIFT FROM RIVER OF  
LIFE CHURCH TO OUR  
COMMUNITY**

Christmas music

Free hot dogs

Hot chocolate

Christmas snack bags for kids

Photo opportunity with animals