



Affinity
Funeral Service

780.778.3330

Unit #1, 4105 41 Avenue
www.affinityfuneralservice.ca

FREE TAKE ONE!

COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



The Press

Locally Owned & Operated



Vol. 12 - Issue 50 | Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Sharing the Christmas spirit Dionne-style, one light display at a time



A camper heading home for the holidays.



Patrick Carew

780-778-0053

pdcarew@telus.net

Just a phone call away from your home buying and selling needs.



5114-50 Street, Whitecourt AB 780-778-6678

Each office independently owned and operated



By Serena Lapointe

Woodlands County resident Gwen Dionne presented to Woodlands County Council at the end of November seeking funding for her magical light display, a holiday tradition for many in the region. For years, a large expanse

of Dionne's property has been painstakingly transformed into a glittering wonderland of holiday magic. The driveway she and her husband Richard use is shared with hundreds throughout December, with visitors constantly coming in.

Their displays feature all kinds of things, from fun characters to whimsical patterns to Christmas activities and nativities. The lights are known for being an exceptional display of time, talent and

continued on page 11

Holiday Helper

2 MEDIUM
2-TOPPER PIZZAS
+POP +MINI DONUTS
\$30⁹⁹*

*Plus applicable taxes, deposits, levies and fees.
Promo valid from Nov 20th-Jan 7th, 2024 or while supplies last.
© Coca-Cola Ltd, used under license.



GET 2 MONTHS OF CRAVE BASIC ON US!



Crave™

- LIMITED TIME OFFER -

Promo code must be redeemed at crave.ca/redeem, valid until February 2, 2024. For promotion details, terms and conditions please visit: https://www.pizza73.com/promotion/crave-promo/. Crave is a trademark of Bell Media Inc. and used under license.

PIZZA 73

(780) 778-5656



VERHAEGHE
LAW OFFICE

780-778-6644

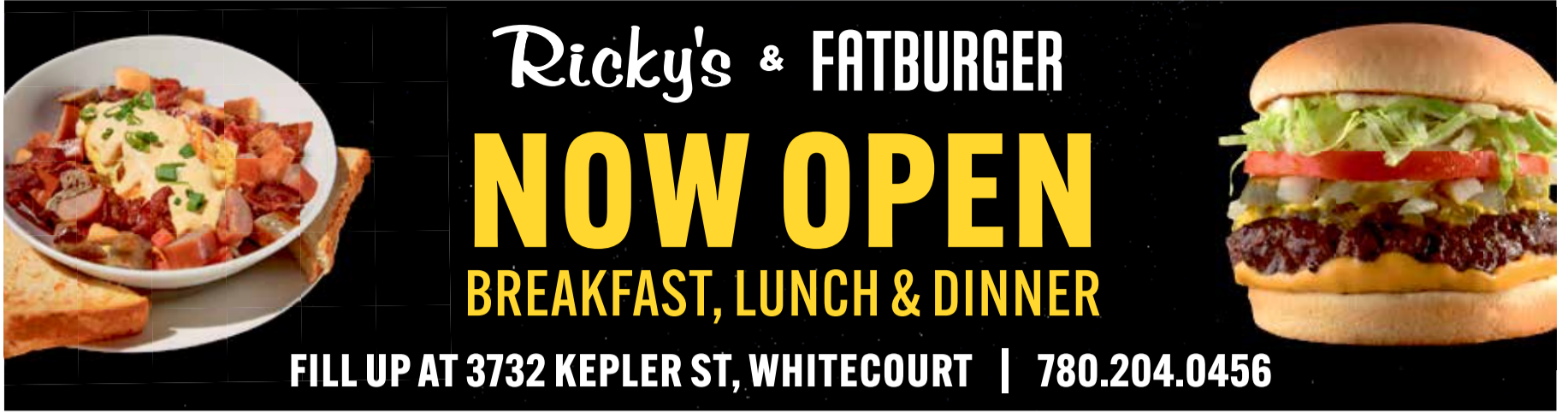
Real Estate, Wills & Estates, Family Law, Corporate & Commercial Law

5011-51 Ave, Whitecourt, AB. T7S 1P7

info@freedomlaw.ca

www.freedomlaw.ca

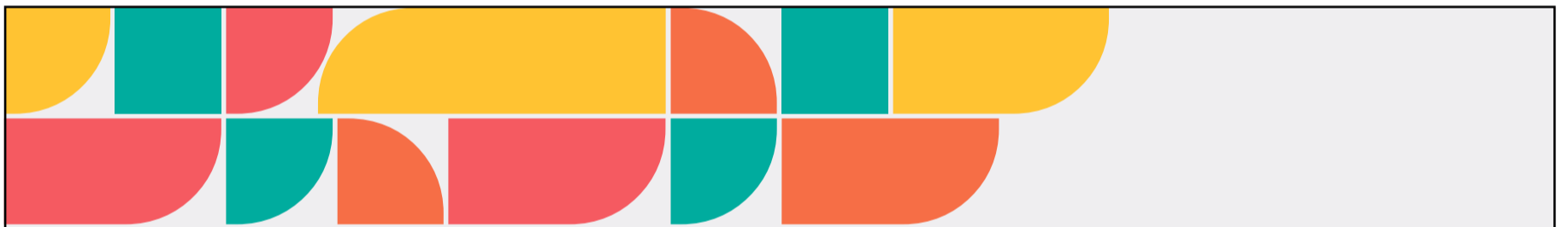




Ricky's & FATBURGER
NOW OPEN
BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER
FILL UP AT 3732 KEPLER ST, WHITECOURT | 780.204.0456



Last week, Judy Stanski, President of the Friends of Whitecourt Society, accepted a cheque in the amount of \$2,175.00 from Tim Hortons in Whitecourt. The funds were raised through the sale of Smile Cookies in November, with members of the society contributing by decorating the cookies. The collected money will be used to purchase equipment for the Whitecourt Healthcare Centre. In a related scene, Janice Milligan is pictured decorating a tray of cookies.



RENOVATION CELEBRATION

December 8 to December 14

SAVE MORE

LOVE OUR BRANDS



77¢
ea. limit 6

SAVVY Facial Tissues 88's-126's
AFTER LIMIT 99¢

SWIPE + SAVE



77¢
ea. limit 4 with your Be Well Rewards Card

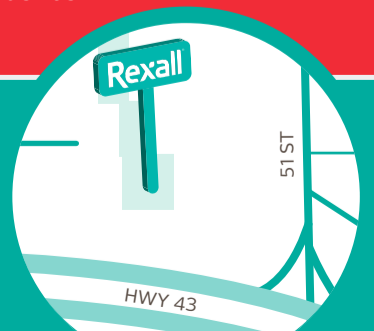
99¢
ea. without a Be Well Rewards Card



COLGATE Max Fresh, Regular or **CREST** Complete, Cavity or Tartar Protection Toothpaste 50mL-100mL or **ORAL-B** or **COLGATE** Manual Toothbrushes Select Types **AFTER LIMIT 99¢**

Rexall

4702 51st Street, Whitecourt, AB T7S 1R9
 780-778-3676
 Mon. - Fri. 9am - 9pm | Sat. 9am - 6pm | Sun. 10am - 6pm



Christmas Gifts to Cherish



Candy Cuban necklaces. This 8mm chain is a perfect stand-alone gift. Many colours to choose from. \$220



Amazing custom-made druzy chalcedony pendant. A beautiful example of the wonders of nature. One-of-a-kind! \$4,299



A cute walnut finish wooden jewel box with drawers and doors to hold sparkling treasures. \$229



A dazzling diamond collection! This brilliant jewellery set makes a perfect gift!
Earrings: \$667
Pendant: \$599
Ring: \$427

Caine's

JEWELLERS



www.cainesjewellers.com

5012 – 50th Street | Whitecourt | Phone: 780-778-3302

Serving Whitecourt and area for over 10 years



Barrhead RCMP investigate suspected arson at two churches

On Dec. 7, 2023, at approximately 7:52 p.m., Barrhead RCMP responded to a structure fire at The Glenreagh Church, located on Range Road 40 in Barrhead. At 9:00 p.m. Barrhead RCMP responded to a second structure fire at The United Church, located on Range Road 54 in Barrhead.

The Barrhead Fire Services attended both of these active fires and the blazes were extinguished quickly. No injuries were reported as a result of the fires. Despite efforts of the first responders, both Churches were extremely damaged. After

the initial investigation from the fire examiner, it was determined that the fires were intentionally set.

RCMP and the Barrhead Fire Services continue to investigate the cause of the fires and both are being treated as arson. An older model two tone truck was observed leaving the scene at The Glenreagh Church and is believed to be linked to the fires.

If you have an information regarding this crime or those responsible you are asked to call Barrhead RCMP at 403-780-674-4848. If you wish to remain anonymous you can

contact Crime Stoppers by phone at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), by Internet at www.tipsubmit.com or by SMS (check your local Crime Stoppers www.crimestoppers.ab.ca for instructions). To report crime online, or for access to RCMP news and information, download the Alberta RCMP app through Apple or Google Play. To report crime online, or for access to RCMP news and information, download the Alberta RCMP app through Apple or Google Play.

Until suspects are identified and interviewed, their exact motivations remain unknown.



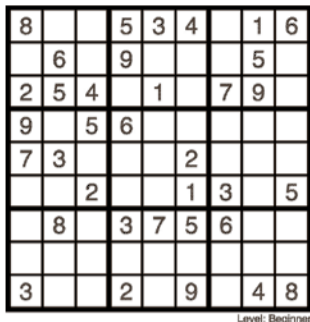
GOT A NEWS TIP?

Call Valerie Winger at 780.706.1858
or email wctpress@gmail.com

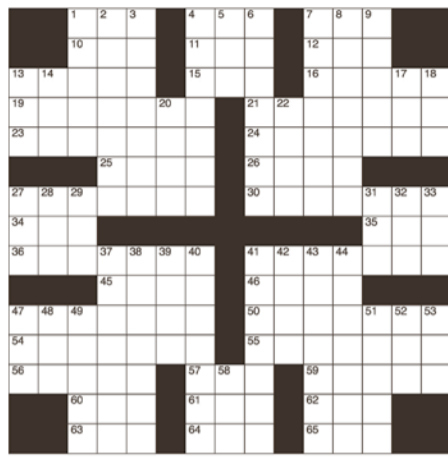
The Press

SEE SOLUTIONS PAGE 15

SUDOKU CROSSWORDS



Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!



Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Crossword Clues

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Mimic
- 4. Payroll firm
- 7. Perform in a play
- 10. Opine: __ philosophical
- 11. Crony
- 12. Political action committee
- 13. 1991 Wimbledon winner
- 15. Affirmative
- 16. Exclamation of disgust
- 19. Action of connecting
- 21. A way to calm
- 23. Especially fine or decorative clothing
- 24. Walked proudly
- 25. Group of people related through male heir
- 26. Supplemented with difficulty
- 27. Soft touch
- 30. Erases
- 34. Spanish river
- 35. A princess can detect it
- 36. Clouds of gas
- 41. A way to get through
- 45. Part of a book
- 46. Southwestern US state
- 47. Fields where rice is

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Inspiring
- 2. Put into a box
- 3. Breathes out
- 4. Pacify
- 5. Patriotic society for women
- 6. Fell down
- 7. Clothing brand
- 9. Former French republic
- 13. Single lens reflex
- 14. Men's fashion accessory
- 17. Consumed
- 18. Marry

- 20. __ up: intensifies
- 22. Body of water
- 27. People of southern Benin
- 28. Decorate a cake with frosting
- 29. Snag
- 31. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- 32. Records brain activity (abbr.)
- 33. Car mechanics group
- 37. Brought up to snuff
- 38. __ faire: Economic approach
- 39. Phil __, former CIA
- 40. Affixed
- 41. Period of adolescence
- 42. Substance
- 43. Danced
- 44. Baked without its shell
- 47. Parts per billion (abbr.)
- 48. Satisfaction
- 49. Balkans river
- 51. Christmas carols
- 52. Partner to tonic
- 53. "The Godfather" character Johnny
- 58. Swiss river

DECK THE HALLS WORD SEARCH

D C W R C M E H W S S Y C E C N M E A S
 N G N R H Y E W R N I N H U D C G P H P
 A L B E D A L N G O M B R H G U O B A S
 L R S K B P B T D W D H I L F N U K C L
 R I H C E C A R O M N I S E E R W D U L E
 A R A A U U T D G A N O T T O T O F F E
 G R T R F K A I T N L D M N T D D I P B
 N F N C U D L I Y E W N A A E N N R O T
 A S A T A G F I A B T K S M L A K E U S
 G L S U O E N W H P H B T G T T G P W W
 S E Y N D O I D L G T W R W S S Y L I T
 W I D E C O R A T E U F E W I S E A C R L
 D G L U H W R E A T H C E D M T L C Y L
 Y H Y M U L I N I C I R H P T K A E O N
 W M D P O I N S E T T I A M E N O R A H
 O E P W E G S L B W R R I W W D K D I L
 D C F A A N G E L Y A L P S I D K K E L
 N Y L L O H O R N A M E N T S F W P E A
 I S T H G I L D E G N I R T S N L M P B
 W N O S G N I K C O T S H C G P Y I S S

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

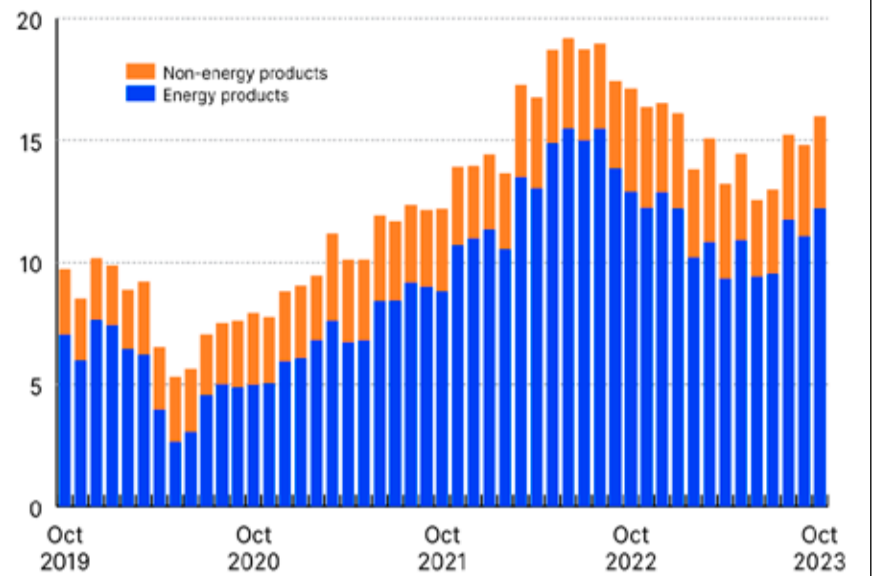
WORDS

- ANGEL
- BELLS
- BOUGH
- CHRISTMAS TREE
- DECORATE
- DISPLAY
- FIREPLACE
- GARLAND
- HOLLY
- INFLATABLE
- MANTEL
- MENORAH
- MISTLETOE
- NUTCRACKER
- ORNAMENTS
- POINSETTIA
- SANTA
- SLEIGH
- SNOWMAN
- STAND
- STOCKINGS
- STRINGED LIGHTS
- WINDOW
- WREATH

Albertans encouraged to know their healthcare options

International exports from Alberta

\$ billions, by product type, merchandise only



Source: Statistics Canada table 12-10-0175-01 Graph by ATB Economics

By ATB Financial's Economics & Research Team

Fall and winter are traditionally busy times of year for healthcare services, with the potential for high demand in emergency departments and hospitals across Alberta.

Alberta Health Services (AHS) is always working to manage the capacity in emergency departments to ensure efficient, high-quality care.

If you have a medical emergency, or come to an emergency department, you will always receive care. But sometimes many people visit an emergency department because they don't know where else to go for care.

AHS wants Albertans to get the right care in the right place. There are many options to receive the care you need.

Make sure you know all the care options available and choose the one that suits you and your family.

Some of your care options include:

- A community clinic
- Health Link at 811
- Your local pharmacist

In many instances, self-care can also help you cope with non-severe symptoms of seasonal illness. If you're unsure, call Health Link at 811 or visit a family doctor, pharmacist or community physician. AHS also has information that can help parents and caregivers know when to seek medical attention and when they can provide care at home to sick or injured children. This information is available at ahs.ca/heal.

Get to know your options. Visit www.ahs.ca/options, which offers information in Arabic, French, Vietnamese, simplified Chinese, traditional Chinese, Punjabi and Spanish.

Alberta Health Services is the provincial health authority responsible for planning and delivering health supports and services for more than four million adults and children living in Alberta. Our mission is to provide a patient-focused, quality health system that is accessible and sustainable for all Albertans. Our current focus is on reducing emergency department wait-times, improving EMS response times, increasing access to surgeries, and improving patient flow.

Trading up - Alberta exports jump in October

By Siddhartha Bhattacharya
ATB ECONOMICS

According to new Statistics Canada data, the value of Alberta's international merchandise exports increased by \$1.2 billion (8.1%) to reach almost \$16 billion in October—the highest level since January.

Energy exports rose 10.4% in October and accounted for nearly all of the monthly increase in total export value.

While trending higher since June, exports remain below last

year's elevated levels. Alberta's export revenues were down by \$27.9 billion (-16.2%) on a year-to-date (YTD) basis relative to the first ten months of 2022, weighed down by lower energy prices.

There are, however, some bright spots among Alberta's non-energy exports so far this year. Sales of industrial machinery (+37.5% YTD) and farm, fishing & intermediate food products (+22.9% YTD) have

posted solid gains this year.

Nationally, exports jumped 5.3% on a monthly basis with Alberta posting the largest increase among provinces. They were, however, 2.5% lower YTD despite improvements in Ontario and Quebec.

Looking ahead, we expect the recent pull-back in oil prices to weigh on exports in the final two months, but remain well above historical norms.

Page sponsored by



Alberta Newsprint Company wishes you and yours a Merry Christmas and all the very best in 2024!

In the hustle and bustle of the season, splurge on moments of joy and togetherness. Spend time with those you cherish. And save the memories made along the way!

For all open career opportunities, please check out our website at albertanewsprint.com → Careers.

SPREAD HOLIDAY CHEER WITH A PERSONALIZED CHRISTMAS GREETING

Make this holiday season extra special by sharing your heartfelt Christmas greetings in the upcoming December 20 edition of The Press! Capture the joy and warmth of the season with your personalized message.



Contact us at wctpress@telus.net or 780-706-1858

BOOK YOUR AD NOW Call Valerie Winger at 780.706.1858 or email wctpress@gmail.com The Press

12th ANNIVERSARY Celebrating 12 years! The Press

PUBLIC NOTICE

www.whitecourt.ca | facebook.com/TownofWhitecourt | 780-778-2273



GET INVOLVED....IT'S YOUR TOWN! OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Town has various boards and committees that provide Town Council with perspective and recommendations regarding important civic issues. Whitecourt is a diverse, growing town, and citizens are in the best position to provide input on our changing community needs.

The Subdivision and Development Appeal Board currently has openings available for people to serve as part of a quasi-judicial board, to make decisions on appeals of subdivision or development decisions made by the Development Officer or Municipal Planning Commission. The Board meets on an as need basis, and the successful appointees will also attend a mandatory training session. The Board typically meets less than twice a year.

If you are interested in serving on this Board, please complete an application form which can be found on the Whitecourt website at www.whitecourt.ca or picked up at the Town Office. Applications must be received before 12:00 noon, Wednesday, January 17, 2024 to:

Whitecourt Town Administration Office Attention: Executive Assistant 5004 - 52 Avenue, Box 509 WHITECOURT, AB T7S 1N6 email: administration@whitecourt.ca

Applications will be presented to Town Council at the January 22, 2024 Regular Meeting.

This page is sponsored by:

YOUR ONLY LOCAL CARRIER SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1950



Proud supporter of our local Organizations
780-778-2226



Supporting growth in Whitecourt since 1922, we salute our not-for-profit community.

Millar Western Forest Products Ltd.
a resourceful company





Soaring Eagle Support Society

Offering support services for marginalized individuals


- Outreach worker, laundry and shower facilities by appt
- Tax program & Bag Lunch Program

5027 - 51 Avenue, Open: Monday to Friday 10am - 4pm **780-396-8777**



"Serving the community for over 30 years"
The Food Bank relies on donations of cash or food in order to help families in need.
Open Mon, Wed & Fri 11:00am to 2:00 pm
Phone: 780-778-2341

Located within the Carlan Services Community Centre
The Whitecourt Food Bank is operated by the Town of Whitecourt Food Bank Coordinator and dependent on volunteers to operate. The Food Bank relies on donations of cash or food from individuals and organizations. Local grocery stores drop off baked goods including bread and pastries weekly. Other corporations and schools schedule food drives throughout the year.
Open: Mon, Wed, & Fri 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Phone: 780-778-2341



WHITECOURT GROUP OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

All meetings are in person and online (hybrid)

- Mondays 7:30pm
- Wednesdays 7:30pm

Meetings held at the Family Worship Center upstairs.
ZOOM ID: **818 413 483** PASSWORD: **gratitude**

LORNE'S BLANKET
is transitional housing for men.

We exist to help homeless men get back on their feet.

If you know of any male requiring assistance, please Call Lorne's Blanket at 780-778-0952



WHITECOURT CANCER & WELLNESS SOCIETY

Providing timely and easily accessible financial support for Whitecourt patients and their families who are dealing with a cancer diagnosis.

This can include help with parking costs for hospital visits, living expenses and unforeseen medical expenses. Applications can be made through the Drs at both Whitecourt Medical Clinics or (office hours, can leave a message):
Kim Nendsa (President of Whitecourt Cancer & Wellness Society) **780-778-0932**
Aimee Grierson **780-262-0222**

<https://wctcancerwellness.com/>
**Monthly meetings have been postponed due to COVID-19

24/7 CRISIS LINE
780.778.6209
1.800.467.4049


WELLSPRING FAMILY RESOURCE & CRISIS CENTRE
@whitecourt_shelter

Shelter:
Wellspring Provides a Safe, Short Term, Supportive Residential Environment for Women With or Without Children, Fleeing Family Violence & Experiencing Crisis.

Outreach Support Program:
Ongoing Support, Advocacy, Follow-Up & Support Groups for Women, Men and Youth in Whitecourt and Surrounding Communities.

Child Support Program:
Child Care & After School Programs - Age Appropriate Programs & Support for Children Who Have Been Affected By Family Violence

Preventative Education:
Provides Workshops, Information and Awareness to Schools, Community Organizations, Agencies and Businesses



Family Resource & Crisis Centre
www.whitecourtshester.ca

GRIEF SHARE



Weekly grief support group starting Tuesday, 19 September through Tuesday, 5 December, from 6:30pm to 8:30pm., at Crossroads Community Church, 4419 44 Avenue, Mayerthorpe. \$35 for 12 sessions includes your personal GriefShare Workbook. Pre-registration is required by calling **Reverend Ruth Lotholz at 780-786-2695.**

Whitecourt Alcoholics Anonymous Group



Meetings are three times each week

- Monday 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm
- Wednesday 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm
- Friday 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Located at the United Church Basement on Legion Street (formerly 5201 - 50 Street)
More info Contact: (780)286-5144. Please Leave a Message for Our AA member or Contact Addictions Helpline @1(866)332-2322

Sales & Service Directory

FURNITURE DEN
 Mattress Superstore
 Appliances & Electronics

Shop local for all your home furnishings

E: sales@furnitureden.ca

780-778-2016  <https://www.furnitureden.ca>
 4807 - 50 Avenue Whitecourt, AB

Get The Press App at iTunes AppStore and Google play

The Press

Available on the App Store

GET IT ON Google play

DEBT SOLUTIONS
 780-424-9944

Debt/Credit Counselling Debt Consolidation
 Creditor Negotiations Consumer Proposals
 Bankruptcy Alternatives Bankruptcy Protection

FREE Consultation
www.DEBTFREE.ca

A.C. Waring & Associates Inc.
 Licensed Insolvency Trustee
 Trustee in Bankruptcy

Busted Knuckle Technical Service Inc.

GENERAL AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR SHOP

- Licensed Journeyman Mechanic
- Serving Whitecourt and surrounding area for more than 12 years
- Body, Chassis & Electrical Diagnostics
- Shop Rate \$90.00/hr.

Call Des: 780-779-8546

METRIX GROUP LLP
 CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

4927 - 51st Avenue, PO Box 328, Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N5

Accounting Tax Estates and Trusts Consulting Contract Controllorship Audit and Review Engagements

MICHAEL EPP Partner CPA, CA, CMA **TERRY ST. LAURENT** Partner CPA, CGA, CA **AMANDA LIND** Associate CPA, CA

Edmonton T: 780-489-9606 Lloydminster T: 780-875-7433 Fox Creek/Whitecourt/La Crete T: 780-778-3091 T: 780-928-9525
 Fort Saskatchewan T: 780-992-0266 Evansburg T: 780-727-2017

Toll Free: 1-877-489-9606 METRIXGROUP.CA

Leanne Gould
 Mortgage Associate

toll free 1.866.235.9906
www.mortgagegroup.com

403.505.9906
leanne.gould@mortgagegroup.com

THE MORTGAGE GROUP
 The Mortgage Group Alberta Ltd.
 304 - 3018 5th Ave. NE, Calgary AB T2A 0K2

WOK BOX

we deliver!
 CALL 780-778-3348 TO ORDER

Hours: Mon to Sun 11am-10pm



Whitecourt
 3722 Kepler Street

Providing Traffic Control and Piloting

780-865-5815

We're there where you need us most!

- Traffic Control Personnel
- Provide service for emergency lane or road closures
- Construction zone set ups

Road Monitoring & Radar Services

Servicing Woodlands and Yellowhead Counties

Whitecourt Veterinary Clinic 4439 - 52 Ave

 ...where pets are family...



Thank you to all those loving families who've adopted the pets at the Whitecourt Vet Clinic.

The Press

Family owned and operated

RF RESCHKE FRITZ LLP
 PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

MARK R. RESCHKE, CPA, CA
 PARTNER

Tax planning
 Corporate & Personal Tax Preparation
 Full Accounting Services

Box 569, #101, 5011 - 51 Ave
 Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N6
 780-778-3981 mreschke@rflp.ca

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS

Call Valerie Winger at 780.706.1858
 or email wctpress@gmail.com

Career ads, online at:
www.whitecourtpress.com

HB HENDRICKSON BLACK LLP
 Chartered Professional Accountants
 ** TAX & ACCOUNTING SERVICES **

Dean Hendrickson CPA, CMA, CFP Partner Lana McDonald CPA, CGA Partner Sarah Letkeman CPA, CGA Partner Debbie Davio CPA Partner

Locally owned & operated

Mayerthorpe office 780-786-4044 Whitecourt office 780-778-4116 Fox Creek office 780-622-3944

www.hendricksonblack.ca 

ATS APPLIANCE AND REFRIGERATION
 Whitecourt, AB.

(780) 779-0673

Stop bullying!

Wednesday, December 13, 2023
www.whitecourtpress.com



If your life is in danger or you know someone's life is in danger DIAL EMERGENCY NOW 911!

If you are experiencing suicidal thoughts, you need to know that you're not alone. You can also call if you are not in crisis, seeking additional information. The new Canada Suicide Prevention Service (CSPS), by Crisis Services Canada, enables callers anywhere in

Canada to access crisis support by phone, in French or English: toll-free **1-833-456-4566** Available 24/7
Crisis Text Line (Powered by Kids Help Phone) Canada Wide free, 24/7 texting service is accessible immediately to youth anywhere

in Canada by texting TALK to **686868** to reach an English speaking Crisis Responder and TEXTO to **686868** to reach a French-speaking Crisis Responder on any text/SMS enabled cell phone.
KidsHelpPhone Ages 20 Years and Under

in Canada **1-800-668-6868** (Online or on the Phone). First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness 24/7 Help Line **1-855-242-3310**
Canadian Indian Residential Schools Crisis Line **1-866-925-4419**
Trans LifeLine – All Ages **1-877-330-6366**

Have you been bullied, and want to share your story?

Email wctpress@telus.net All submissions remain confidential



Are you or someone you know being bullied?

Call the Bullying Helpline (Confidential)

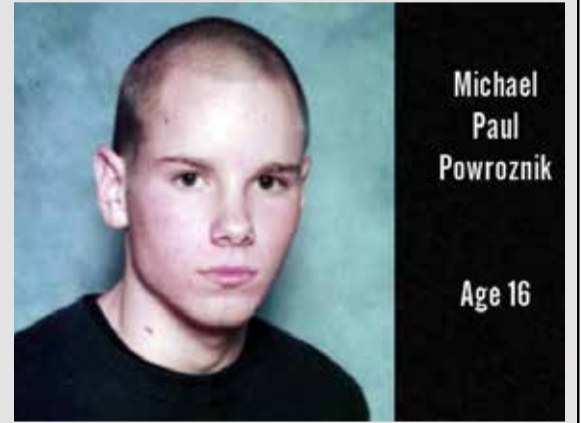


Toll Free, open 24 hours per day, seven days per week

1-888-456-2323

Stand up! Don't be afraid of bullies!!

Putting a face on suicide



Every 40 seconds somewhere around the world someone dies by suicide, that's 99 people every 66 minutes. Every day, that's almost 100 people in the United States alone, and over 2160 worldwide. Putting a Face on Suicide (PAFOS) is a suicide awareness project that creates posters and videos to pay tribute to those we have lost to suicide with dignity and respect. PAFOS humanizes the daunting statistics; lovingly replacing numbers with faces.

SPONSORED BY

The Press
ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS

Call **Valerie Winger** at **780.706.1858** or email wctpress@gmail.com

Tri-Logging Ltd.



Tri-Logging is against bullying

Robert Brown
Owner
3507 37th Avenue
Whitecourt, AB T7S 0C3
Phone 780-778-0699
Fax 780-778-8431



FLINT™
A Division of ClearStream
780-778-5000

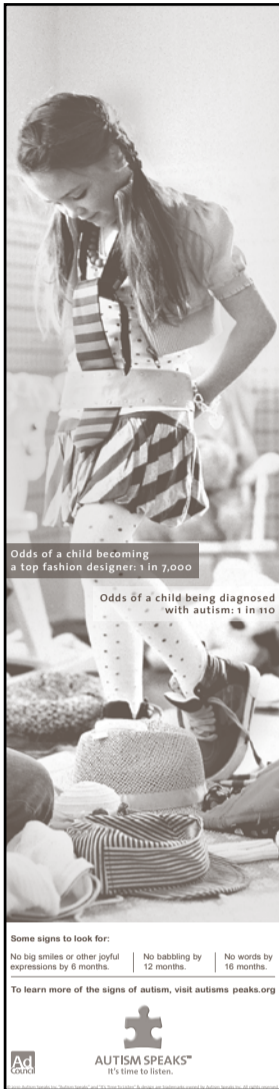
- Electrical & Instrumentation
- Fabrication & Modularization
- Maintenance & Turnarounds
- Insulation
- Facility Construction
- Pipeline Integrity Digs
- 24/7 Callout Services



Blanket Classified Ads

Alberta and NWT for \$269 (up to 25 words) \$8.00 each additional word. These ads are placed in over 100 community newspapers throughout Alberta. We can also place ads in other provinces throughout Canada.

Visit www.whitecourtpress.com



Odds of a child becoming a top fashion designer: 1 in 7,000
Odds of a child being diagnosed with autism: 1 in 310

Some signs to look for:
No big smiles or other joyful expressions by 6 months. No babbling by 12 months. No words by 18 months.

To learn more of the signs of autism, visit autismspeaks.org

AUTISM SPEAKS*
It's time to listen.

Auctions

MEIER FIREARM AND SPORTSMAN AUCTION, Saturday December 16, 10AM Rifles, Shotguns, Ammo., Hunting Supplies. 4740 57 ST Wetaskiwin. Consignments accepted up to sale time, Free Pickup. Visit www.meierauction.com PH 780 440-1860.

Aviation

BLANKET THE PROVINCE with a classified ad. Only \$269/wk (based on 25 words or less). Reach almost 90 weekly newspapers. Call NOW for details. 1-800-282-6903 Ext 225; www.awna.com.

Career Training

GET YOUR MESSAGE SEEN ACROSS Alberta. The Blanket Classifieds or Value Ads reach over 600,000 Alberta readers weekly. Two options starting at \$269 or \$799 to get your message out! Business changes, hiring, items for sale, cancellations, tenders, etc. People

are increasingly staying home and rely on their local newspapers for information. KEEP people in the loop with our 90 Weekly Community Newspapers. Call THIS NEWSPAPER now or email classifieds@awna.com for details. 1-800-282-6903, 780-434-8746 X225. www.awna.com.

Feed and Seed

WE BUY DAMAGED GRAIN - Heated, Mixed, Tough, Light, Bugs, Spring Thrashed....Barley, Wheat, Oats, Peas, Flax, Canola. "On Farm Pickup". Westcan Feed & Grain 1-877-250-5252.

ALBERTA FEED GRAIN: Buying Oats, Barley, Wheat, Canola, Peas, Screenings, Mixed Grains. Dry, Wet, Heated, or Spring Thresh. Prompt Payment. In House Trucks, In House Excreta Cleaning. Vac Rental. 1-888-483-8789.

Health

HIP/KNEE REPLACEMENT.

Other medical conditions causing TROUBLE WALKING or DRESSING? The Disability Tax Credit allows for \$3,000 yearly tax credit and \$30,000 lump sum refund. Take advantage of this offer. Apply NOW; quickest refund Nationwide: Expert help. 1-844-453-5372.

Services

CRIMINAL RECORD? Why suffer employment/licensing loss? Travel/business opportunities? Be embarrassed? Think: Criminal Pardon. US entry waiver. Record purge. File destruction. Free consultation. 1-800-347-2540. www.accesslegalmjf.com.

Wanted

CASH PAID FOR GOLD, SILVER & PLATINUM! Buying coins, collections, 999 bullion, bars, ingots, jewelry, nuggets, sterling, old money. PURCHASING ENTIRE COIN COLLECTIONS! Call Todd 1-250-864-3521.

The Press
A locally owned and family operated newspaper serving Whitecourt

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

Contact

Valerie Winger at 780-706-1858
Email: wctpress@telus.net

Find us on:



The Press is printed on high quality newsprint using vegetable based ink. We encourage you to share, save, reuse, rehash & recycle.



Do You Suffer from Foot or Ankle Pain?

Our Specialist Can Help!



Call Now To Book Your Consultation!

Phone: 587-328-0743
Fax: 1-888-289-2162

Medical and Surgical Services or Treatments Provided:

Achilles Tendon Pain
Athletic Injuries
Bunions
Fungal Toenails
Heel Pain
Prescription Custom Orthotics

Arch Pain
Arthritis
Corns and Calluses
Flatfoot
Hammertoes
Warts

Athlete's Foot
Ankle Sprains
Diabetic Foot Care
Forefoot Pain
Ingrown Toenails



Dr. Ben Sefcik, DPM
Podiatrist

No Referral Necessary • New Patients Welcome • Covered under most Insurance Plans •

Whitecourt
Advanced Health
Pharmasave
5112 50 St.
Whitecourt, AB

Grande Prairie
Parkland Medical
Centre
#202, 10127 121 Ave
Grande Prairie, AB

Airdrie
Apple Wellness Center
229 1 St. SW
Airdrie, AB

Evolution Foot and Ankle Clinic
www.bensefcikdpm.com

A look at the local weather

P.O.P.
High
Low
Wind
24-Hr Rain / Snow

Wed., Dec 13
Cloudy with sunny breaks
30%
4°C
-1°C
SW 9 km/h

Thu., Dec 14
Mainly sunny
30%
3°C
-5°C
W 10 km/h

Fri., Dec 15
Mix of sun and clouds
20%
0°C
-5°C
SW 6 km/h

Sat., Dec 16
Mainly sunny
20%
0°C
-3°C
W 11 km/h

Sun., Dec 17
Sunny
10%
-2°C
-5°C
W 7 km/h

DISCRETIONARY USE APPLICATIONS

DISCRETIONARY USE APPLICATION 15-065-2023

Location: PT. SE 3-59-10-W5M
Proposed Development: Additional Residence
Response Deadline: December 14, 2023, 4:30 pm
Decision Date: December 20, 2023, 4:00 pm, Whitecourt Municipal Office

For full details on Development Permits visit <https://woodlands.ab.ca/> Email: planning@woodlands.ab.ca Call: 1-888-870-6315

DISCRETIONARY USE APPLICATION 15-066-2023

Location: pt. SE 31-59-12-W5M Plan 832-0901 No Block No Lot
Proposed Development: Accessory Building
Response Deadline: December 14, 2023, 4:30 pm
Decision Date: December 20, 2023, 4:00 pm, Whitecourt Municipal Office

DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM APPLICATIONS OPEN



Affected Woodlands County property owners and businesses that incurred losses or damages from overland flooding during June 16 - 22, 2023, may be eligible to receive Disaster Recovery financial assistance from the Government of Alberta.

The Disaster Recovery Program provides funding for uninsurable property damage, loss and other expenses incurred as the result of a natural disaster.

NOTE: Hail, sewer backup and insurable deductibles do not qualify under the program as insurance coverage is considered readily and reasonably available.

HOW TO APPLY

ONLINE

1. Log-in to your Alberta.ca account. account.alberta.ca
If you do not have an account, you can create one at the Log-in page.
2. Apply using the Disaster Financial Assistance Portal. recovery.alberta.ca

**Deadline to Apply
February 26, 2024**

EMAIL OR MAIL

1. Visit www.alberta.ca/DRP to download the application form that applies to you.
2. Submit form via:
Email: drp.info@gov.ab.ca
Mail: Alberta Emergency Management Agency
5th Floor, Terrace Building
9515 107 Street NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2C1

For more info contact:
Alberta Emergency Management Agency

phone: 1-888-671-1111
email: drp.info@gov.ab.ca



DAVE KUSCH
Mayor
Councillor for Area 1
Division 1
dave.kusch@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-9037



JOHN BURROWS
Councillor for Whitecourt West
Division 2
john.burrows@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-4747



ALAN DEANE
Councillor for Whitecourt
Central Division 3
alan.deane@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-778-0054



JEREMY WILHELM
Councillor for
Whitecourt East Division 4
jeremy.wilhelm@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-779-6264



BRUCE PRESTIDGE
Councillor for Blue Ridge
Division 5
bruce.prestidge@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-779-3917



PETER KUELKEN
Councillor for Goose Lake/
Freeman River Division 6
peter.kuelken@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-284-2425



DEVIN WILLIAMS
Councillor for Fort Assiniboine/
Timera Division 7
devin.williams@woodlands.ab.ca
Phone: 780-305-1825



The Cossette sisters were surprised when two of Santa's reindeer photobombed their picture!



The Godwin Family was full of Christmas glee when they met Santa Claus.

Santa Claus has been busy visiting with children and adults for the last few weeks, posing for pictures, giving high fives and hugs, and spreading Christmas cheer the way only Santa can. As the days wind up to Christmas, the holly jolly fellow will return to the North Pole to prepare for his worldwide journey on Christmas Eve. During one of his most recent stops in Whitecourt, Santa posed for pictures and brought along a couple of his reindeer! Can you spot them?



A makeshift pond with characters skating around.



A farmer on his tractor with a newly cut tree.



A crew of singers synced to music.



The reindeer barn.

One of the area's favourite Christmas-themed attractions is two weeks into its 2023 run, and hundreds of residents have already taken part in the festive fun. The Dionne Lights have been putting smiles on faces for fourteen years by lighting up the night and sharing the Christmas spirit with young and old.

continued from page 1

love, all done for the sheer joy and appreciation of others. When it comes to Christmas in Whitecourt and Woodlands County, a stop at the lights, for many, is a tradition they do not miss.

In 2021, the Dionne's added wagon rides to the fun, enticing visitors to come and see the light displays in a whole new way. The event was such a hit that they brought it back in 2022, this time with two nights. It was planned the same for 2023. The first event of this year took place on December 9, and the second is slated for this weekend, on Saturday, December 16.

The Dionne's had sought financial support from Woodlands County for adding the wagon rides and received it in both 2021 and 2022. Gwen was joined by Heather Anderson, Community Services Coordinator for Woodlands, for the presentation. "In 2021, we provided \$1000 for one night for the wagon rides. In 2022, the cost of the wagon rides increased, and she did two nights. So there was \$1,600 provided. This year, she's doing two nights again, and the wagon rides cost has increased again, so she is requesting \$1,750," explained Anderson. She also said that Woodlands County would help market and display the rides for the community in a way similar to any other tourism-related event.

Dionne began her presentation by emotionally thanking the Council for supporting her venture of the wagon rides for the last two years. "It's been awesome!" Dionne explained that in the first year, she had to turn people away from the rides, but she didn't last year. "We had 334 people on the first night, and on the second night, even though it was really cold, we still had 289 people that came for the rides," she explained.

"I collect food for the food bank, and you know last year was a hard year because we usually get around two thousand pounds and last year we only got 850 pounds. Nobody was turned away from the lights or the rides, whether they had food bank donations or not," said Dionne. "This has gotten to be an annual event for families from Whitecourt and Woodlands County and even the surrounding areas. We have anywhere from 1,800 to 2,000

people drive through our yard every year. I quit counting after 2,000."

Dionne also provides hot chocolate for everyone who attends the wagon ride nights, and the kids in attendance can put their names into a draw from which she awards various prizes. "It has really gotten to be a big event in the County, and I think you should all come and see it and come for the ride," she smiled. Reeve Dave Kusch called the Dionne Lights a "fantastic place," adding that he enjoys taking his children to see it. "It's very well done," he remarked.

Reeve Kusch asked Anderson if anyone else was seeking funding support from the Community Grants budget line this year, which still had \$2,500 left for 2023. Anderson explained that one other group would be putting in receipts soon and was expected to receive \$500, leaving \$2,000 in the budget, more than

enough to cover the ask from Dionne.

Reeve Kusch then asked if increasing her support to \$2,000 and using up the remaining dollars in the Community Grants budget, which is replenished each year, would be more helpful. "Oh, absolutely," said Dionne. "I usually buy most of the door prizes myself and give away about twenty gifts."

Councillor John Burrows said he fully supported the increased funding. "We as a Council, we can approve buildings and put stuff up, but the people that are around us, that's the community. I really want to thank you for building that community spirit. That's what makes this the place that it is. Thank you very much for doing this." He encouraged residents to look into the funding available through the County for events and block parties to help build more community spirit.

Council unanimously

voted to provide \$2,000 to support the wagon rides. Dionne typically starts putting her display together in September for her grand opening on December 1. She's been inviting residents onto her property for well over a decade and said one of the busiest nights is Christmas Eve. "I enjoy doing this. I love Christmas lights, and the people seem to enjoy it. I can't tell you how much I appreciate it."

The second of the two wagon ride events is happening THIS Saturday from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Food bank donations are encouraged with two drop-off spots: Santa's Workshop or the back deck of the main home. Dionne said she doesn't have any more storage for new lights but will somehow have to find more. "I said I wasn't

getting anymore because I don't have the storage room, but I did end up getting a few more this year," she laughed.

The Dionne's Lights are open nightly from 5-10 pm and are located at 590055 Range Road 121. There are two ways to reach the property. From Whitecourt, head down West Mountain Road and hang a left onto Tower Road. This option includes a big hill climb on gravel but is a straight shot. The other option is to stay on West Mountain Road, climb the big, paved hill, and hang a left onto TWP RD 591A. When you reach the end of the road, turn right onto Range Road 121. The Dionne's home will be up the road and on your left. A driveway full of characters and a large nativity scene will greet you at the gate.



Photo by Woodlands County

Reeve Dave Kusch presenting Richard and Gwen Dionne with the check.



Is that you Frosty?



Human Resources Manager

Reports To: General Manager

PURPOSE

A structured Human Resources Manager role is critical to the success of the Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza. The primary purpose of the Human Resources Manager is to provide guidance and coaching on all Human Resources matters to our property.

ROLES

Reporting to the General Manager, the Human Resources Manager oversee all aspects of human resources practices and processes.

DUTIES AND REPONSIBILITIES

- Support departments in developing and delivering strategic HR plans that fit with the overall business direction
- Plan, monitor, and appraise HR activities by scheduling management conferences, resolving employee grievances, training managers in how to coach and discipline, and counseling employees and supervisors
- Champion the onboarding process by ensuring that it's high-quality and up to date, and provide clarity and connection for employees so their roles serve the overall business vision
- Maintain management guidelines by preparing, updating, and recommending human-resources policies and procedures
- Build strong relationships with external suppliers, fostering trust and promoting collaboration
- Handle confidential matters with discretion
- Lead the recruiting function at the property

IMPACT OF ACTION

The Human Resources Manager has a direct impact on the ability to provide Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza staff and management with a safe and suitable environment in which to visit and/or work.

KEY WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

This position requires the ability to communicate clearly, deal tactfully and work effectively with Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza staff and management. The incumbent in this position will provide a primary interface to other Casino & Plaza departments.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- A minimum of 8 years of progress human resources experience in a medium to large organization with experience leading teams and assessing human resources services
- A minimum of 2 years in a senior role in and HR department
- An affinity for the service sector is essential
- Demonstrated success in HR systems and HR Policy/Practice
- Experience of negotiation and influencing at senior management levels
- A leadership style that will incite enthusiasm, provide vision, create a positive morale, role model standards of professionalism
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills are necessary to support diverse associate population
- Strong facilitation and interpersonal skills are essential
- Ability and willingness to develop presentation as required
- A track record effective human resources decision-making and an "urgency to execute" attitude is essential for the fast-paced environment

CANDIDATE PROFILE

- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Ability to meet deadlines in a rapidly changing business environment.
- Ability to work independently.
- Developed writing skills sufficient to prepare written materials involving detailed descriptions and explanations requiring the accurate use of specialized terminology.
- Self-planning skills sufficient to schedule, organize, and carry out work assignments according to established work plans, adjusting work schedules according to changing priorities.
- Developed judgment and problem-solving skills sufficient to interpret and/or analyze factual and conceptual information with the ability to adapt general procedures or approaches when formulating responses to problems.
- Manages workload independently and works well in teams.
- Develops security and systems knowledge through on-the-job experience.
- Must display leadership skills, the ability to multi-task and adjust to multiple jurisdictions.
- Models company values at all times. Shows strong teamwork skills.
- Working knowledge of MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint.

HELP WANTED

Tim Hortons in Whitecourt is looking to fill the following positions:

Food Service Attendant
Full Time / Shift Work

Food Service Supervisor
Full Time / Shift Work

SHIFT INCENTIVE FOR OVERNIGHTS

Please apply in person at the restaurant.



4331-52 Ave Unit 1
Whitecourt, AB

4216 Elko Drive
Whitecourt, AB

NEED HELP? CALL ANYTIME! (24-7)

Mental Health Helpline 1-877-303-2642
• Addiction Helpline 1-866-332-2322
• Health Link 811

BROAD REACH at an AFFORDABLE PRICE

Advertise Province-wide

with a combined circulation of over 650,000 for only...

\$799

plus GST

Ask about the

Value Ad Network

Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association
toll free 1-800-282-6903 x225
email classifieds@awna.com
or visit your community newspaper



SHOE REPAIR SHOP FOR SALE

Very Busy Shoe Repair Shop in Spruce Grove, AB.
Specializing in all Safety, Work and Cowboy Boots.
» Must see to believe, how busy this shop actually is.
» Will teach, coach and advise shoe repair business.
» Possibility to develop multiple Shoe Repair Shops.

Call George at 780.819.3777 to discuss potential.

Money Matters

One Canadian Dollar = 0.73 US Dollar
at an exchange rate of **0.7356** (using nominal rate).



Dollar Values as of December 13, 2023

Letter to the Editor policy

The Press welcomes readers to write letters to the Editor. A maximum of 300 words is preferred but not necessary. Letters must carry a first name or two initials with surname and include an address and daytime telephone number. All letters are subject to editing. Please email letters to wctpress@gmail.com.





Front of House Manager

Reports To: General Manager

PURPOSE

A structured Front of House Manager role is critical to the success of the Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza. The primary purpose of the Front of House Manager is to provide leadership and oversight for the food and beverage service and sales.

ROLES

Reporting to the General Manager, the Front of House Manager will be responsible for the daily operations of the outlets (the restaurant and the bar, as well as banquets, catering and special events). The Manager must ensure that service standards, appearance and cleanliness are of the desired levels. The Manager is also directly responsible for ordering inventory, inventory controls, budgeting, and cash floats.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Actively promotes an environment conducive to high quality customer service and employee relations by being a positive leadership example.
- Must ensure that staff maintains prompt, efficient, friendly and knowledgeable service.
- Scheduling, payroll, disciplinary actions, training and mentoring for staff of food and beverage outlets.
- Work with Marketing to promote the food & beverage outlets.
- Create, manage and implement departmental policies & procedure.
- Maintain compliance with AGLC regulations.
- Ensure alcohol is served responsibly.
- Maintain effective inventory controls and practices.
- Ensure maintenance of safety and sanitation standards and policies
- Provide overall direction, coordination, and ongoing evaluation of outlets operations.
- Budgetary, projections, and cost-control skills to be applied to the daily operations of the Department as outlined by the Manager.
- Use a "hands-on" approach to management. Able to coach staff effectively.

IMPACT OF ACTION

The Front of House Manager has a direct impact on the ability to provide Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza guests, staff and management with a safe and suitable environment in which to visit and/or work.

KEY WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

This position requires the ability to communicate clearly, deal tactfully and work effectively with Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza guests, staff and management. The incumbent in this position will provide a primary interface to other Casino & Plaza departments.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- 4-5 years' experience in the Food & Beverage Industry.
- 3-4 years' supervisory/management experience within the Food & Beverage Industry.
- Experience in a casino setting preferred.
- Post secondary education in a related field preferred but not required.
- Training in management and employee development preferred.
- Continuous training and education to keep abreast of changes in the industry and external environment.

CANDIDATE PROFILE

- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Ability to meet deadlines in a rapidly changing business environment.
- Ability to work independently.
- Extensive food & beverage knowledge and ability to develop and apply practices, procedures, and principles in a casino environment.
- Developed writing skills sufficient to prepare written materials involving detailed descriptions and explanations requiring the accurate use of specialized terminology.
- Self-planning skills sufficient to schedule, organize, and carry out work assignments according to established work plans, adjusting work schedules according to changing priorities.
- Developed judgment and problem-solving skills sufficient to interpret and/or analyze factual and conceptual information with the ability to adapt general procedures or approaches when formulating responses to problems.
- Manages workload independently and works well in teams.
- Develops security and systems knowledge through on-the-job experience.
- Must display leadership skills, the ability to multi-task and adjust to multiple jurisdictions.
- Models company values at all times. Shows strong teamwork skills.
- Working knowledge of MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint.

WORKING CONDITIONS

The Schedule for this position may vary and would require the ability to work shift work, late nights, weekends and holidays.



Placing wishes on the tree.

Hilltop High School student Payton Baker received a well-deserved shout-out on the school's social media last week for her loving gesture towards area seniors. After hearing about a project at the Mayerthorpe Public Library, Secret Santa for Seniors, which brings senior's Christmas wishes to life, Baker thought her school could do the same. Working hand in hand with Spruceview Lodge, senior's wishes have been written onto cards and are hanging on the tree. Students and residents can take a card, buy the gift, and return it to the school unwrapped by December 20. Spruceview seniors without family this Christmas, or those who need a little extra Christmas cheer, can have their wishes come true, thanks to the community's generosity. If you want to participate, visit the school office during regular hours. Great job, Payton!



Payton standing next to her tree full of Christmas wishes.



Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza Now Hiring Security Guard Supervisor NOC 62029

Responsibilities:

- Co-ordinate, assign and review the work of security guards and other service workers not elsewhere classified
- Establish work schedules and procedures and co-ordinate activities with other work units or departments
- Resolve work-related problems and prepare and submit progress and other reports
- Hire and train staff in job duties, safety procedures, and company policies
- Requisition of supplies and materials
- Ensure smooth operation of computer systems, equipment, and machinery, and arrange for maintenance and repair work
- Monitor quality and production levels
- May perform the same duties as workers supervised.
- Arrange for maintenance and repair work
- Assist clients/guests with special needs
- Co-ordinate activities with other work units or departments
- Ensure smooth operation of computer equipment and machinery
- Establish work schedules and procedures
- Handle emergency situations
- Monitor quality and production levels
- Prepare and submit progress and other reports
- Requisition or order materials, equipment, and supplies
- Resolve work-related problems
- Supervise the operation of mechanical equipment and machinery
- Supervise, co-ordinate and schedule (and possibly review) activities of workers
- Train staff/workers in job duties, safety procedures, and company policies.

Qualifications:

- Completion of college courses related to the area supervised may be required.
- Experience in the occupation supervised is usually required.
- Certification or licensing AGLC.
- Must be able to complete Smart training course
- Must have a valid driver's license class 5
- Must be able to complete AML.

Experience: 2 – 3 years.

Education: Completion of secondary school an asset.

Terms of Employment: Permanent full-time 44-hour work week.

Language: English

Employment Conditions: Shift work, Day, Evenings, Weekends, Holidays, Nights.

Wage: \$20.77 per hour.

Benefits Package: Vision, Dental, Health after 90-day probation period.

Location: Twp.Rd.602A, Hwy 32 North, Whitecourt, AB Canada.

Address: Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza P.O Box 10 Whitecourt, Alberta Canada T7S-1N3

Contact: 780-779-2727 or Fax 780-706-7451

Visit our Website: www.eaglerivercasino.ca

How to Apply: Send resume to HR@eaglerivercasino.ca, mail or fax



Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza Now Hiring Casino Shift Manager NOC 62022

Responsibilities:

- Co-ordinate, assign and review the work of casino workers
- Establish work schedules and procedures and co-ordinate activities with other work units or departments
- Resolve work-related problems and prepare and submit progress and other reports
- Hire and train staff in job duties, safety procedures, and company policies
- Requisition of supplies and materials
- Ensure smooth operation of computer systems, equipment, and machinery, and arrange for maintenance and repair work
- May perform the same duties as workers supervised
- Perform the same duties as workers supervised
- Assist clients/guests with special needs
- Co-ordinate, assign and review work
- Ensure smooth operation of computer systems, equipment, and machinery, and arrange for maintenance and repair work
- Establish work schedules and procedures and co-ordinate activities with other work units or departments
- Hire and train staff in job duties, safety procedures, and company policies
- Requisition materials and supplies
- Resolve work-related problems and prepare and submit progress and other reports.

Qualifications:

- Completion of secondary school is usually required.
- Completion of college courses related to the area supervised may be required.
- Experience in the occupation supervised is usually required.
- AGLC casino gaming license will be required.
- Must be able complete Smart training courses
- AML certificate

Experience: 3 – 5 years.

Education: Completion of secondary school is required, casino gaming license.

Terms of Employment: Permanent full-time 44-hour work week.

Language: English

Employment Conditions: Shift work, Day, Evenings, Weekends, Holidays, Nights.

Wage: \$23.08 per hour.

Benefits Package: Vision, Dental, and Health after a 90-day probation period.

Location: Twp.Rd.602A, Hwy 32 North, Whitecourt, AB Canada.

Address: Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza P.O Box 10 Whitecourt, Alberta Canada T7S-1N3.

Contact: 780-779-2727 or Fax 780-706-7451

Visit our Website: www.eaglerivercasino.ca

How to Apply: Send resume to HR@eaglerivercasino.ca, mail or fax.

Woodlands County Council recap

Woodlands County Council discussed the following items at their recent meeting of Council:

Fort Assiniboine Parent's Society's Megan Petryshen, Meghan Koster and Jenny Kuelken presented their plan of implementing a Breakfast Program at the Fort Assiniboine School. The Society has applied for Breakfast Club of Canada grant and are on a waiting list for funding. Council will discuss funding opportunities at its regular meeting on December 20, 2023.

Dale Kluin, Chair of the Fort Assiniboine Bicentennial Planning Committee, and Louise Ralston, Treasurer of the Fort Assiniboine Friendship Club, provided a debrief on the Bicentennial celebrations. The Committee requested the \$12,395.78 in remaining funds from Woodlands County's contribution stay under care of the Friendship Club to be used for projects such as a Bicentennial online archive of photographs and videos and the management of the Voyageur Brigade's 20 ft. canoe donation which could be rented out from the Fort Assiniboine Museum in the future.

Karen Gariepy from Barrhead & District FCSS Society provided an update on their services for region. As indicated in the Social Needs Assessment, the Fort Assiniboine and Goose Lake area needs enhanced social services. Barrhead & District FCSS Society can provide enhanced services directly in the hamlet of Fort Assiniboine 1-2 days a week following the completion of a new agreement. Woodlands County will enter into a 3-year agreement at a cost of \$58,000 per year.

Following a public hearing, Development Permit application 15-060-2022 was approved with conditions for a Class 1 Gravel Pit

and Processing west of Fort Assiniboine in the Pride Valley area. Council requested Alberta Environment and Protected Areas to attend a future Council meeting to discuss the approval process for gravel pits in flood prone lands.

Woodlands County continues to review and update Human Resource policies to promote fair and progressive practices. Council adopted Policy 1975 – Flexible Work Options, 1976 – Mobile Communication Devices, and 1977 – Remote Work.

Infrastructure policies were also reviewed and updated to ensure the effective management of infrastructure assets. Council adopted Policy 3106 – Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance and Replacement which outlines the procedures for the maintenance, repair and replacement of County vehicles and equipment, and Policy 3233 – Test Product Signage which defines the placing of public signage when implementing test products on roadways in Woodlands County.

As per Council's strategic priority of pursuing new opportunities for labour force attraction and retention, Council endorsed Woodlands County's application for municipal rebranding under the Northern & Regional Economic Development Program, pending approved 2024 operating budget. The grant could provide up to a maximum of 50% in provincial matching contribution for the \$125,000 project.

Upcoming scheduled meetings:

- Regular Council - Wednesday, December 20, 9:30 am

Meetings are held in-person at the Municipal Office in Whitecourt and streamed on the Woodlands County YouTube channel. Agenda packages are available on the Woodlands County CivicWeb Portal.

Compassionately serving families in Whitecourt, Mayerthorpe, and surrounding communities since 1941.

WHITECOURT: 780-779-2533 | MAYERTHORPE: 780-786-2533

CONSUMER CHOICE AWARD 2023 NORTHERN ALBERTA 13 YEAR

Wheelchair Accessible

We will help you with:

- Personalized Ceremonies
- Pre-arranged Funeral Plans
- Clergy / Church and Halls
- Obituary Notices
- Reception Catering /Flowers
- Monument Tributes
- Grief Support
- Assistance with CPP Applications

Park Memorial Ltd.
Funeral Home & Crematorium
www.parkmemorial.com

Woodlands County's application to the Government of Alberta's Disaster Recovery Program (DRP) has been approved, and affected residents and business owners can apply for financial assistance

Funding is available for affected residents and businesses who suffered uninsured loss or damages to their home or business caused by overland flooding during the events from June 16 - 23, 2023. Individuals who have chosen not to insure their property or belongings, or do not have adequate insurance, are not eligible.

DRP application deadline is February 26, 2024.

View Disaster Recovery Program resources at <https://www.alberta.ca/disaster-recovery-programs>.

There are two ways to apply for funding:

Apply online

1. Log-in to your Alberta.ca Account. If you do not have an account, you can create one by clicking on the Create Account button on the page.

2. Apply using the Disaster Financial Assistance Portal.

Apply by mail or email

1. Download the form that applies to you at <https://www.alberta.ca/disaster-recovery-programs>

- Homeowner and tenant
 - Small business
 - Irrigation district
2. Submit the form by

• Email: drp.info@gov.ab.ca

• Mail: Alberta Emergency Management Agency 5th Floor, Terrace Building 9515 107 Street NW Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2C1

This is a Government of Alberta program and applications must follow its process.

Contact AEMA with application process questions: Phone: 1-888-671-1111 Email: drp.info@gov.ab.ca

PUZZLES SOLUTIONS

WORD SEARCH

D	C	W	R	C	M	E	H	W	S	S	Y	C	E	C	N	M	E	A	S
N	G	N	R	H	Y	E	W	R	N	I	N	H	U	D	C	G	P	H	P
A	L	B	E	D	A	L	N	G	O	M	B	R	H	G	U	O	B	A	S
L	R	S	K	B	P	B	T	D	W	D	H	I	L	F	N	U	K	C	L
R	I	H	C	E	C	A	R	O	M	N	I	S	E	E	R	W	D	U	L
A	R	A	A	U	U	T	D	G	A	N	O	T	T	O	T	O	F	F	E
G	R	T	R	F	K	A	I	T	N	L	D	M	N	T	D	D	I	P	B
N	F	N	C	U	D	L	I	Y	E	W	N	A	A	E	N	N	R	O	T
A	S	A	T	A	G	F	I	A	B	T	K	S	M	L	A	K	E	U	S
G	L	S	U	O	E	N	W	H	P	H	B	T	G	T	T	P	W	W	
S	E	Y	N	D	O	I	D	L	G	T	W	R	W	S	S	Y	L	I	T
W	I	D	E	C	O	R	A	T	E	U	F	E	W	I	S	E	A	C	R
D	G	L	U	H	W	R	E	A	T	H	C	E	D	M	T	L	C	Y	L
Y	H	Y	M	U	L	I	N	I	C	I	R	H	P	T	K	A	E	O	N
W	M	D	P	O	I	N	S	E	T	T	I	A	M	E	N	O	R	A	H
O	E	P	W	E	G	S	L	B	W	R	R	I	W	W	D	K	D	I	L
D	C	F	A	A	N	G	E	L	Y	A	L	P	S	I	D	K	K	E	L
N	Y	L	L	O	H	O	R	N	A	M	E	N	T	S	F	W	P	E	A
I	S	T	H	G	I	L	D	E	G	N	I	R	T	S	N	L	M	P	B
W	N	O	S	G	N	I	K	C	O	T	S	H	C	G	P	Y	I	S	S

CROSSWORDS

A	P	E	A	D	P	A	C	T											
W	X			P	A	L	P	A	C										
S	T	I	C	H	P	R	O	P	S	H	A	W							
L	I	N	K	A	G	E		P	L	A	C	A	T	E					
R	E	G	A	L	I	A		P	A	R	A	D	E	D					
F	I	N	E	S	S	E		D	E	L	E	T	E	S					
O	C	A																	
N	E	B	U	L	A	S		P	A	S	S	A	G	E					
P	A	D	D	I	E	S		B	O	M	I	N	G	O					
P	H	R	A	S	E	S		E	M	B	R	O	I	L					
B	A	I	T	S				I	A	R		A	R	E	N	A			
N	E	E	L	A	T	E	E	L											
A	D	Z		E	R	Y		D	D	S									

SUDOKU

8	9	7	5	3	4	2	1	6
1	6	3	9	2	7	8	5	4
2	5	4	8	1	6	7	9	3
9	1	5	6	8	3	4	7	2
7	3	8	4	5	2	1	6	9
6	4	2	7	9	1	3	8	5
4	8	9	3	7	5	6	2	1
5	2	6	1	4	8	9	3	7
3	7	1	2	6	9	5	4	8

Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza

Now Hiring Cashiers NOC 65100

Responsibilities:

- Greet customers
- Receive and process payments by cash, cheque, credit card, or automatic debit
- Provide information to customers
- Calculate foreign currency exchange
- Calculate total payments received at end of work shift and reconcile with total sales
- Verify the age of customers when selling lottery tickets, alcohol or tobacco products
- Operate cash register
- Process money, cheques, and credit/debit card payments
- Scan Items
- Tabulate total payment for goods or services required
- Receive payment for goods or services
- Calculate daily/shift payments received and reconcile them with total sales
- Suggestive selling
- Provide excellent customer service
- Assist customers with self-service items
- Participate in promotional activities

Qualifications:

- Some secondary school education is usually required. High school graduation may be required by some employers.
- Eligibility for bonding may be required.
- A casino gaming license may be required for cashiers working in gambling casinos.
- Must be able to complete Smart training courses
- Must be able to complete AML

Experience: 2 – 3 years, or we will train.
Education: Some post-secondary, high school may require.
Terms of Employment: Permanent full-time 40-hour work week.
Language: English
Employment Conditions: Shift work, Day, Evenings, Weekends, Holidays, Nights.
Wage: \$15.00 per hour.
Benefits Package: Vision, Dental, Health after 90-day probation period.
Location: Twp.Rd.602A, Hwy 32 North, Whitecourt, AB Canada.
Address: Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza P.O Box 10 Whitecourt, Alberta Canada T7S-1N3
Contact: 780-779-2727 or Fax 780-706-7451
Visit our Website: www.eaglerivercasino.ca
How to Apply: Send resume to HR@eaglerivercasino.ca, mail or fax



A mildly chilly evening with crispy fog lingering low resulted in a beautiful sight early last week. Light pillars, which are created when light reflects on tiny ice crystals suspended in the air, were visible around midnight and added a beautiful glow to the sky thanks to the low cloud cover. Vibrant blues, oranges, and sharp whites shot up into the sky like lightsabers, making for a pretty shot.



KEYERA

Thank you, Woodlands County

For 25 years, **Keyera** has been a proud Alberta company, living, working, and investing in the communities where we operate.

In 2021, we began construction of **KAPS**, Alberta's newest 575-kilometre-long pipeline system supporting Canada's role on the global energy stage. Spanning from Grande Prairie to Fort Saskatchewan, we are excited to announce that we have completed construction in the Woodlands County community. Thanks to you, KAPS represents more than a pipeline, it's a symbol of partnership and prosperity.

Your engagement and partnership during the project were critical to the successful completion of KAPS. We value the time that we spent with each community, including approximately 400 site visits with 22 Indigenous communities and receiving approval on the pipeline route from nearly 600 landowners and occupants. We thank you for your input, support, and patience leading up to and during construction. Keyera will continue to have a small presence in the area for reclamation and operational activities, and thanks you in advance for your continuing support.

In celebration of KAPS and our commitment to communities along the KAPS route, we are proudly investing a total of \$300,000 through our Keyera Connects Social Investment program across three pillars:

- **Environmental Innovation:** Project Forest to plant nearly 50,000 trees at the Wagner Natural Area close to the KAPS right-of-way.
- **Indigenous Reconciliation:** Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) to support education and training for Indigenous community members with employment opportunities in the industry.
- **Community Resiliency:** Inside Education to facilitate education and empowerment of youth living in communities connected to KAPS.

As Keyera celebrates its 25th anniversary this year, we look forward to building our relationships and continuing to collaborate with the Woodlands County community for the next 25 years and beyond.