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The Press

COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Locally Owned & Operated

Vol. 13 - Issue 31 | Wednesday, July 31, 2024

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'Love Your Yard' signs showcase the blooming beauty of Whitecourt



Twinkly lights on Allan Place.



A pretty ladybug and friends on Harold's Hollow.

Have you spotted a Love Your Yard sign yet? Communities in Bloom volunteers have been busy planting signs in front yards throughout the municipality. Here's a look at some of the downtown Love Your Yard winners. Next week, we will showcase some from uptown. See story page 6.



Patrick Carew

780-778-0053

pdcarew@telus.net

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY SLOANE

7th

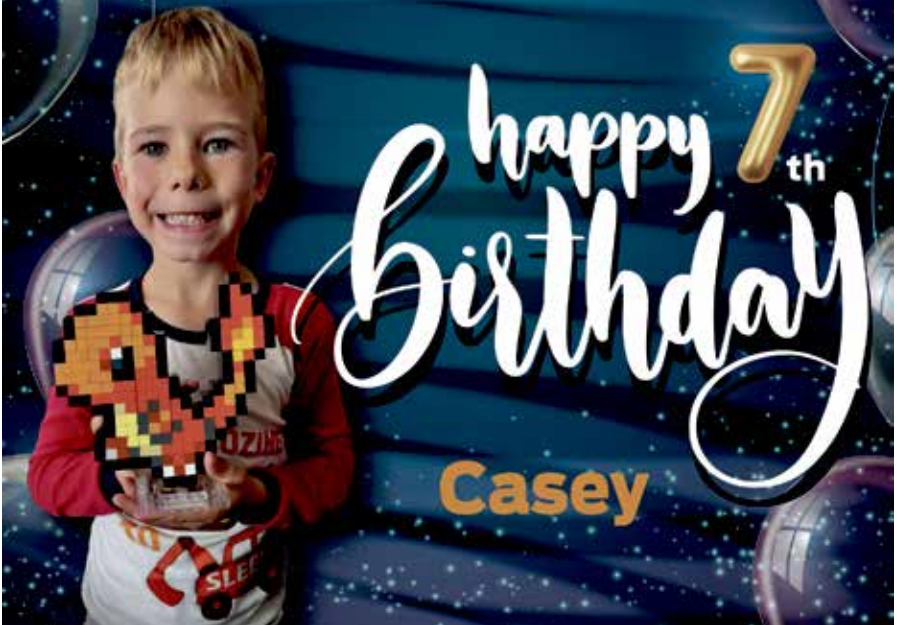


Donation for a cause



Mike Bates (No Frills), with his framed 'thank you' picture, alongside several cadets.

happy 7th Birthday Casey




Air Cadet BBQ.

During the Whitecourt and District Chamber of Commerce Fresh Community Market event on Saturday, held in the Staples parking lot, the Whitecourt Air Cadet 721 Hawk Squadron held a fundraiser to support its upcoming season. The Chamber invites local non-profit groups to sell food items, like a barbeque, to help raise funds to support the services and programming groups offer. Several youths from the 721 Hawks were in attendance, along with parent volunteers, to feed market goers burgers and hot dogs, raising over \$600 during the 9 am to 1 pm event. Mike Bates, co-owner of Mike and Rebecca's No Frills, was in attendance and was presented (pictured) with a framed cadet portrait to thank him and Rebecca for supporting the club. They generously donated everything the squadron needed for a successful BBQ, from burgers and hot dogs to trimmings and even the plates and napkins! Whitecourt Transport donated its large tent, and ChampionX donated the use of its massive barbecue, making it all possible. Now that's community support!



Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Agence d'évaluation d'impact du Canada

Black Bear Power Plant Project Comments Invited

What is happening?

July 25, 2024 — Kiwetinohk Energy Corp. is proposing the Black Bear Power Plant Project, a new power plant located near Swan Hills, Alberta.

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) invites Indigenous Peoples and the public to review the summary of the Initial Project Description and provide comments on the proposed project. This feedback will help IAAC prepare a summary of issues that will be given to the proponent.

Visit the project homepage on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry (reference number 88747) to:

How can I participate?

- Submit your comments online by 11:59 p.m. on August 14, 2024. All comments will be published to the registry.
- Find information on participant funding, which will be available to eligible participants during this comment period. details will be announced shortly on the Registry.
- Join a virtual information session to learn more about the project and the impact assessment process.



Scan the QR-Code to visit the project homepage.

Have a question?

Write to us at BlackBear@iaac-aeic.gc.ca or visit IAAC's website at canada.ca/iaac.

For media inquiries: media@iaac-aeic.gc.ca or 343-549-3870.



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WHITECOURT GROUP OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

All meetings are in person and online (hybrid)

- Mondays 7:00pm
- Wednesdays 7:30pm

Meetings held at the Family Worship Center upstairs.

ZOOM ID: **818 413 483** PASSWORD: **gratitude**



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*



"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

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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



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Shelter:

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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

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

New Women's AA Group on Saturdays @11 am

Located at the United Church Basement 5201 - 50 St

Please Leave a Message for AA member (780)424-5900

or **Contact Addictions Helpline @1(866)332-2322**

GRIEF SHARE

Support group on Tuesdays 6:30pm - 8:30 pm, starting September 17, 2024 at Crossroads Community Church, 4419 44 Ave, Mayerthorpe.

\$35 includes 12 weekly sessions.

Pre-register by calling 780-786-2533.



PUZZLES

SEE SOLUTIONS PAGE 15



SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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!

CROSSWORDS

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10										
11					12														13	
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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. Nasal mucus
- 5. Hairs on the back of a dog
- 11. Ones who build anew
- 14. Consume too much food
- 15. Praised
- 18. Provides weapons
- 19. Become less lively
- 21. Engine additive
- 23. Thought or suggestion
- 24. South Korean city
- 28. Midday rests
- 29. Expression of acidity or alkalinity
- 30. Group of rockers
- 32. Very fast airplane
- 33. One who is paid to do something

- 35. Buzzing insect
- 36. Monotheistic religion founder
- 39. Strong dark beer
- 41. Blood type
- 42. Square measures
- 44. Honorific titles in NW Semitic languages
- 46. Present
- 47. Afflict in mind or body
- 49. Duty
- 52. Municipality in Stockholm
- 56. In a normal way
- 58. Rode a bicycle
- 60. Charitable
- 62. Verandas
- 63. Uncredited

CLUES DOWN

- 1. No seats available

- 2. Russian river
- 3. A European river
- 4. Phrase
- 5. Idol
- 6. Keyboard key
- 7. Prefix indicating mutual
- 8. Kilometers per hour
- 9. Set an example
- 10. It's among the "Great" ones
- 12. VVV
- 13. Murdered
- 16. Icelandic poems
- 17. Seas
- 20. Famed cartoonist
- 22. Partner to "Ma"
- 25. Equal to one quintillion bytes
- 26. Speak incessantly
- 27. Disquiet
- 29. Parts per billion (abbr.)
- 31. Upper-class young woman (abbr.)
- 34. S. American plant
- 36. Monetary unit of Thailand
- 37. Regions
- 38. Baseball legend Yogi
- 40. Ancient Egyptian notion of spiritual part of humans
- 43. Fishing net
- 45. Tinseltown
- 48. MacBeth's wife was one
- 50. Took a spill
- 51. Adversary to pets
- 53. Town in Galilee
- 54. Secret racist society (slang)
- 55. About aviation
- 57. Longing or yearning
- 58. Hawaiian dish
- 59. Field force unit
- 61. Partner to "Pa"

HOROSCOPE

ARIES

(March 21 - April 20)



Your feelings this week may not be entirely trustworthy, Aries. You could end up worrying for nothing, and being pulled into difficult situations for the wrong reasons.

TAURUS

(April 21 - May 21)



Taurus, if you are feeling a little lost these days, it could be that you need a change in perspective and location to help you get inspired. Plan a short trip to recharge.

GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)



You cannot serve as mediator or help friends establish harmony if you are all over the emotional map, Gemini. Work your way through your emotions before offering to help.

CANCER

(June 22 - July 22)



Cancer, you may be so caught up in a specific vision for the future that you are not open to new ideas that are equally beneficial and possible. Be more receptive to what others offer.

LEO

(July 23 - August 23)



Leo, once you give a certain plan a little more thought you may determine it isn't worth your time right now. Perhaps you've been building this idea up in your head.

VIRGO

(August 24 - September 22)



Virgo, you are eager to share your ideas and vision with others, but right now the audience isn't as receptive as you would have hoped. Do not give up.

LIBRA

(September 23 - October 23)



Libra, you have a way of doing things, and right now you're not ready to deviate from that routine. With time you may be able to branch out and try a new approach.

SCORPIO

(October 24 - November 22)



People are receptive to your words and you often speak with assertiveness Scorpio. Do not let this go to your head, though. Aspire to be humble while exhibiting confidence.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)



Sagittarius, this is one of those weeks when you can get into trouble if you let your emotions be the driving force behind your actions.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)



This is your week to really shine, Capricorn. Let others know what you're made of, but be sure you do not do something at another person's expense just to get ahead.

AQUARIUS

(January 21 - February 18)



Aquarius, if you do not like the course you are on, you have the ability to change things whenever you want. Nothing is set in stone at this point, so start dreaming up new ideas.

PISCES

(February 19 - March 20)



Pisces, there are so many ways you can be creative and express yourself. This is a week of true inspiration and exploration. Nothing is off-limits if you desire it.

AT THE FAIR WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

AMUSEMENTS
ARCADE
BAND

CARNIVAL
CAROUSEL
CONCESSIONS
CONTEST

CORNDOG
DANCING
FAIR
FERRIS WHEEL

FIFTY-FIFTY
FUNNEL CAKE
GATE
JAMBOREE

LAUGHTER
LEMONADE
LIVESTOCK
MERRIMENT

PERFORMANCE
POPCORN
RIDES
THRILLS
TICKETS



STOP Bullying

PUTTING A FACE ON SUICIDE



Stella Chiara Polizzi
Age 15

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.

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'Love Your Yard' signs showcase the blooming beauty of Whitecourt



Patriotic colours on Lions Crescent.

By Serena Lapointe

Signs that say Love Your Yard have been popping up in front yards throughout the community over the last month as Whitecourt Communities in Bloom committee members make their way around town. The signs acknowledge residents for putting effort into their property, anything from a small, well-kept flower bed to fully decked-out landscaping and everything in between.

"We see that they're doing something. It does not have to be with thousands of dollars of landscaping and flowers, but that they took the initiative to take care of it. That is our main goal. We want it to spread and have it encourage others to

want to do more so that maybe they are recognized too," explained Bloom Committee Chair Jeannine Steinke.

One difference between these signs and previous signs from Communities in Bloom is that this program is not a competition. Previously, the committee had competitions for Best Blooming Block (signs still remain up from past years) and awards for residential, commercial, apartments and the like. However, they do not have enough volunteers to make a local competition happen this year. Instead, they decided to create signs and award them throughout the community.

"I actually got the idea of the signs from Devon. Their Commu-

nities in Bloom committee does something very similar. They highlight every house and do a little blurb on them," said Steinke. She explained that they used to highlight yards online, but low volunteer numbers made that hard to do. "We have come away from posting a lot on Facebook, but we still share a bit online and then recognizing yards with the signs," said Steinke.

"The main thing is to be able to tell people thank you. Thank you for taking the time to care for this little piece of property that you have and making Whitecourt a better place," she explained. As of Wednesday last week, there were around 30 signs out. Steinke said they were

hoping to put out 50 total. "We honestly did not think we would get that many nominations, but it has grown so much."

The program started with the committee members driving around when they had time. "It just spiralled from there. People call, text, and message almost daily about yards we should check out. It's really cool to see the community come together with this." Steinke said it's also nice because it seems to be inspiring others to tidy up. "We are getting people talking and getting people thinking about cleaning up their yards."

Steinke said that next year, the committee might put together swag bags to give to

homeowners who receive a Love You Yard sign. The bag could include things similar to what they have done in the past, including gardening gloves and gardening-related books. "We might even do gift certificates towards local garden centers like Thyme to Grow to help support those people too."

Any residents who love to garden and have some time to volunteer are encouraged to reach out to the committee. "People who are interested in joining us and helping us do things and help us make our community a better, cleaner, more beautiful place, then this is the committee to join," said Steinke. The committee takes care of donation gardens at the

Community Garden, the Heritage Garden at the FIC, localized competitions (when able), and various workshops, including a compost-related workshop coming soon at the Whitecourt Library. "It can be taxing if only a few people are always doing all of the things. Having more people join us would be wonderful. I love it, and I enjoy it, but I am definitely exhausted when winter comes around," laughed Steinke. "It takes manpower and time, and we are all volunteers."

Though the Whitecourt Communities in Bloom Committee does not have the ability to put on a localized competition this

continued on page 7



Beautiful blues, pinks and purples on Olson Crescent.



Tiger lilies on Graham Road.

continued from page 7

year, Communities in Bloom National does and will be coming to Whitecourt to judge the community on August 12. “They will be doing a tour with us. We will see all the homes with signs and showcase our nice little pockets in town and the things we

want to show off.” Steinke said residents can do a few things to help the community get the best possible score. Mowing lawns and cleaning up yards before the judge's arrival would be great, she said. “Even if store owners could clean up around their buildings and parking lots.

Taking that extra step would be nice.” She said if residents spot vandalism, they should call the town office. “We also have free graffiti removal kits at the AJMC that we are giving out to citizens. We would love people to use them. Unfortunately, it is sad that people have to clean up vandalism,

but we are trying to give people the resources to do it for free.” On August 12, Communities in Bloom National will join Whitecourt’s Community in Bloom members and a member of Town Council to travel around the community. If residents see a bus out front of their house, give them

a wave. The National Committee is celebrating 30 years and has helped over 1,000 communities in that time. The comprehensive report that judged communities receive back features nearly 80 elements in seven categories to provide specific suggestions for areas of

improvement. Bloom communities need to be judged every three years to remain active. To join the Whitecourt Communities in Bloom Committee as a volunteer, contact the group on their Facebook page or call 780-778-3637 and ask to speak to Recreation Manager Kelly Sadoway.



Butterflies and a flowery bike on Poplar Drive.



A character-filled flower bed on Soper Street in the River Valley Estates.

Spreading wildfires prompt evacuation orders and put oil production at risk

ATB ECONOMICS

With the wildfire situation worsening and reaching Jasper, our thoughts go out to everyone affected and we join other Albertans in hoping that conditions improve quickly.

As of Wednesday afternoon, there were over 175 active wildfires in the province and some 17,500 evacuees (not including visitors to the Jasper area who had other places to return to).

The most significant impact is the human toll of the disruption and property loss.

We are monitoring the potential economic impacts. The situation is highly dynamic and we don't have a complete picture, but we have some early indications and past wildfire

seasons to go on.

Major energy producers have put staff on high alert and implemented emergency response measures. So far the actual impact on production appears minimal, but risks are elevated. Suncor indicated that it temporarily curtailed some output at its Firebag site. The situation on the ground is evolving, but some sources state that nearly 400,000 barrels per day (bpd) of crude oil equivalent are presently at risk based on proximity to major wildfires.

Last year, about 300,000 bpd of crude oil equivalent were offline for a period of time in May, primarily natural gas and natural gas liquids. Fortunately, conditions improved,

and the disruption was relatively short-lived. Canadian oil and gas output (as measured by real GDP) fell about 4% in May 2023, but fully recovered by July. All in, the disruption to production was estimated to shave about 0.1 percentage points from Alberta's GDP growth last year.

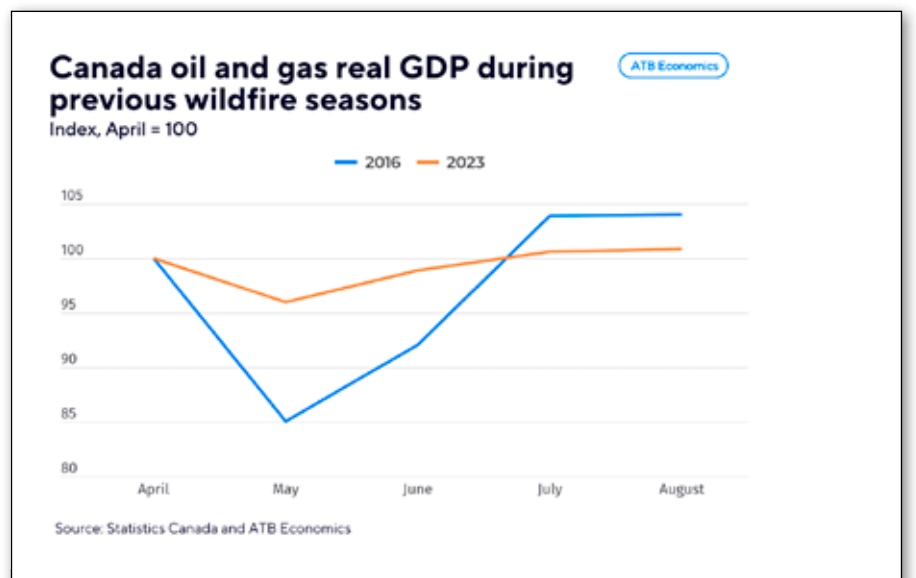
But the impacts could be much higher. The 2016 wildfires in the Wood Buffalo area provide an indication of the downside risk. The 2016 fires hit the major production center in Alberta's oil sands region, temporarily shutting in more than a million bpd of oil production. That year the drop in oil and gas GDP was 15% in May. The estimated net impact to Alberta's an-

nual GDP growth that year was a reduction of 0.6 percentage points.

Outside of energy production and local business activity, a sector that will be deeply impacted by the current fires is tourism. Jasper National Park attracted 2.48 million

visitors in 2023 including 475,000 last July. Around 25,000 visitors and residents have been forced to evacuate. The entire national park is under an evacuation order, which poses a significant threat for businesses such as hotels and restaurants

operating out of the area and relying heavily on the busy summer months. The latest report is that the wildfire has reached the Jasper townsite, but the extent of the damages to property and infrastructure remain unknown.



Freeman River fears prompt resident to approach Woodlands County Council for help



The Freeman River RV Camp (circled) in-between Hwy 33 (above) and winding river (below).

Example of Freeman River Bank during natural flow.



Same view point of the Freeman River during high water levels



River flows before (up) and after (below), taken from same vantage.

Located just outside Fort Assiniboine, nestled between Highway 33 Grizzly Trail and the Freeman River, lies the Freeman River RV Park. Owner/operator and Fort Assiniboine resident Shaneen Beaugard has owned the park since buying the land in 2012 and also lives on the land with her family.

During a Woodlands County Council meeting several weeks back, Beaugard expressed her grave concerns over the movement of the Freeman River, its encroachment on her land, and its eventual path towards the highway beyond her border. Beaugard wanted Woodlands County Council to support her by applying to the Drought and Flood Protection Program to secure the banks of the Freeman River. As a private landowner, she could not apply, but the

municipality could.

Beaugard presented the changes on her land over the years, including the devastation suffered during last year's flooding event, which completely changed the look and functionality of her campground. "I have expressed the previous attempts for support throughout the years, the displacement of my family since June of last year, the destructive risks to our community and the potential threat that the river could have on our surrounding areas," she began.

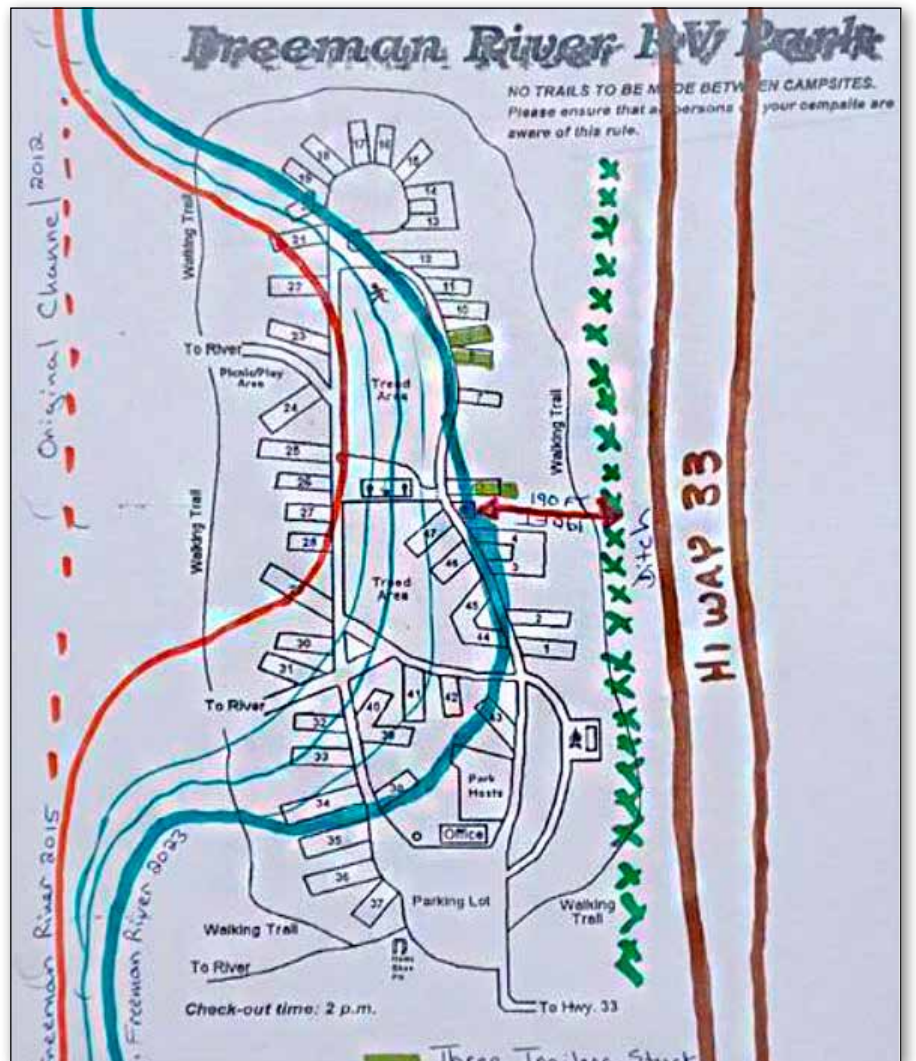
She provided images that showed the river when the flows were normal and comparisons showing what the same area looked like after last year's high water levels. She said the water was approximately two meters higher. "I know this river well and have

monitored water levels and speeds for over a decade," said Beaugard. "The Freeman River is now dredging through my property, only 180 feet to Highway 33 Grizzly Trail."

In 2023 alone, Beaugard lost over 200 feet of her property, swept away by the raging water. "This explains the urgency to secure these banks. When the flow breaks through the bush line, it won't have anything to turn back on. It will be heading straight for Highway 33. This is not considered overland flooding. It is dredging straight at it, like a T-intersection," said Beaugard.

The Freeman River follows a winding path. The RV park sits at the upper point of a horseshoe shape as the river turns dramatically toward land before

continued on page 9



The Freeman River in Fort Assiniboine is not where it used to be, thanks to rising levels that have migrated the river's trajectory. Flooding events like last year's, which split the Freeman River RV Park in two, have significantly chewed away at the bank, getting it dangerously close to Highway 33. RV Map shows previous riverbank (dotted) and current bank (thick blue).



Councillor John Burrows pointed out the low landscape.



Shaneen Beauregard, left.

continued from page 8

turning back sharply in the other direction, a U shape. Beauregard's concern was that there might be nothing left to retreat the water back in the next flood. She said the full flow would push inland, overwhelming Highway 33 and could move further into properties on the other side.

"It's not the river just widening, it's taking foot by foot (of land) because it's only gravel and dirt. Once it hits that 180 feet and

goes through that bush, there's nothing to turn it back. That whole channel of river is going to be going down Highway 33," warned Beauregard. "I know there has been numerous amounts of flooding in the area, but it is a ticking timebomb," she added.

Beauregard said after speaking with professionals and putting countless hours into securing quotes and funding attempts to secure the bank, she believes the best course of action is to place Ga-

bion Baskets along the bank. "Gabion Baskets are one meter by one meter by three meters and approximately ten thousand pounds each once they are filled with rocks. In some areas, they would need to be stacked two or three high, and they would need to extend approximately fifteen hundred feet along the riverbank from point A to B," explained Beauregard.

Beauregard said she had collected 142 signatures from area residents who supported armouring the river-

bank. She also invited Woodlands County Council members to visit her campground and see the damage firsthand. "(The river) runs on a regular flow of six clicks (km). In my last flood, it hit 390 clicks (km). How are you going to stop that? Once it pops through that bush, that whole valley (will) be filled with water."

Councillor Jeremy Wilhelm asked Beauregard if she had spoken to her MLA about the issue, which she said she had. She added that

she had been approved for her home and business through the Disaster Recovery Program but that the program would not fund armouring the bank. She said it felt like they were waiting for the water to hit the highway before doing something about it.

When asked by the Council what they could do, Andre Bachand, then Acting CAO, said there was not much since it was a provincial territory. "As far as what Council can do, I believe the only thing you can

do is talk to the elected MLAs and put pressure on them. We can't speak to the province as far as Highway 33 getting impacted and at what point they would step in. That would be their call."

Councillor John Burrows said diverting a river is one the toughest things to do. Looking at the charts in Beauregard's package, he honed in on the River Engineering and Technical Services report from the Government

continued on page 10

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Alberta Newsprint Company wishes you enjoyable Spring and Summer seasons in our beautiful surroundings!

We remind everyone to obey local fire bans as posted and be mindful with campfires and fire pits. Protect our forests by checking twice before leaving to ensure your fire is completely extinguished.

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

United for Jasper; hearts and hands together



In times of need, communities come together, and they stand in solidarity with Jasper. Deepest gratitude to the #WhitecourtFireDepartment and all the brave individuals working tirelessly to provide assistance and relief. Their dedication and selflessness are an inspiration to all.

Thank you to every firefighter, first responder, volunteer, and community member who is lending a helping hand. These efforts make a profound difference in these challenging times.

continued from page 9

of Alberta on the Freeman River Riverbank erosion. “Where the current 2023 riverbank is and where the river park is that is all downhill to the highway, and then through the highway is all downhill for another 700 meters. This is an Alberta-generated report in 2023. So, they’re aware this highway’s coming out. It’s only a matter of time,” he said.

“In reality here, the province is either going to be building a multi-million-dollar bridge over this thing, or they are going to be pushing to move this river or to keep it on the

other side of the highway,” said Burrows. He felt they needed to advocate for it. “This is at the very least something we should be talking about with the province. I think we should at the very least be writing some letters.”

Reeve Dave Kusch agreed with his colleague. He said painting a picture to the provincial government of a proactive approach rather than a reactionary one would be good. “The costs now will be minuscule (compared) to what it would be later on if we have to replace highways and bridges or anything else.”

Woodlands Coun-

ty Council directed its administration to gather a list of relevant ministries and MLAs and draft letters about the issue on the Freeman River, specific to Highway 33 and Beaugard’s property, regarding mitigation work. “I’m sure everybody around this table here can see the need for wanting to protect Highway 33 and the property in between. We will see what we can do before it becomes a reactionary endeavour instead of something proactive,” said Reeve Kusch. Any results from advocacy will be updated as information comes forward.

FIRE BAN IN EFFECT FOR WHITECOURT



Whitecourt
Visit www.whitecourt.ca for details.

The fire ban will remain in effect until conditions improve. The fire ban includes the following but is not limited to:

- Backyard fire pits,
- Campground fire pits
- All open burning,
- Fireworks,
- Flame propelled floating lanterns,
- Charcoal briquettes,
- Turkey fryers,
- Tiki torches.
- Allowed for use during the fire ban:
- CSA approved or

ULC certified gas or propane barbeques used for cooking,

- CSA approved or ULC certified Wood Pellet Smokers,
- Propane and natural gas fire pits,
- Catalytic or infrared-style heaters,
- Electric or propane meat smokers.

The operation of Off Highway Vehicles (OHV) within the Town of Whitecourt is prohibited under the Traf-

fic Bylaw 1573 which prohibits OHV use within Town boundaries between April 1 and November 30 annually. Penalties for contravening Bylaw 1573 range from monetary fines to OHV seizure.

Updates on the fire ban will be posted on www.whitecourt.ca and on Whitecourt’s Facebook page. For details on fire bans across Alberta, visit www.albertafirebans.ca.

In the shade



A mom and her youngster were spotted enjoying the shade on Saturday afternoon. As mom kept close watch on those walking or driving by, her young one closed its eyes for a little siesta.

Local news printed on local newsprint



The Press has started a new Facebook page

After losing our page due to Canada's online news act, we have decided to start fresh. Find us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61560863737829>

The Press

Stay safe from insect and animal bites this summer



Albertans are encouraged to take precautions this summer when coming across wildlife and insects to prevent bites and infections.

Insects can carry viruses and diseases in Alberta. West Nile virus is an infection spread by mosquitoes that can affect your brain and give you flu-like symptoms. Ticks can carry Lyme disease, an infection that can cause problems with your skin, joints, nervous system and heart.

Prevent mosquito and tick bites:

- Cover as much of your body as possible when outdoors, especially in grassy or wooded areas. Wear a light-coloured, long-sleeve shirt, long pants and a hat.
- Consider using a Health Canada-approved insect repellent (for example, products

containing DEET or Icaridin) and follow the product label instructions. Always check for ticks when you come in from the outdoors.

- For more information on insect repellents and other products, visit Insect Repellents – MyHealthAlberta or Personal Insect repellents - Canada.ca
- If you've been bitten by a tick, call Health Link at 811. You can also submit a photo of the tick to the Submit-a-Tick program to help monitor ticks in Alberta.

Rabies is an infection caused by a virus that affects your nervous system, including the brain, spinal cord and nerves. Bats have been known to carry rabies in Alberta in recent years. If household pets

and indoor animals are not up to date on routine rabies immunizations, they can also carry rabies and infect people.

Prevent bat bites:

- Never handle a live or dead bat with bare hands. Bats are likely to bite in self-defence.
- Children are curious and more likely to approach animals. They might not tell someone if they get a bite or scratch. Talk to children about not touching bats or wild animals.
- If you or your child are bitten or scratched by a bat:
- Wash the animal bite, scratch or open sore with soap and water.
- Call Health Link at 811. If rabies vaccine is recommended, you will be told where to go to get the vaccine.

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As the time of one year approaches since we lost our Joe, we want to thank our Friends, Family, Community and St. Joseph's Church for the unbelievable outpouring of love and support in all forms. We will never forget the effort you made in trying to ease our suffering as you endured suffering yourselves.

*Our appreciation cannot be measured as it is so great. XOXO
Love from,*

-The Davio's

Tips for changing careers later in life

(NC) It's never too late to learn a new skill or pursue a new career. Whether you're looking for something more meaningful or you want a new challenge, a career shift is possible at any age. To make the big move successfully, consider these tips:

- 1. Do some self-reflecting.** Take time to ensure you're headed in the right direction for the right reasons. Clarify why you're searching for a change, what your goals are and how a new job might fit into your lifestyle. A few sessions with a career coach could be a smart investment.
- 2. Identify transferable skills.** While many hard skills are specific to their respective industries,

soft skills like leadership, collaboration and emotional intelligence are valuable in virtually any job. By understanding the existing skills you can bring to a new career, you can position yourself as a seasoned professional looking for something new rather than an inexperienced candidate.

- 3. Consider upgrading your education.** A course or certificate program can be a great way to not only make sure you have the knowledge needed for a new career, but also develop a network in your new industry. Look for continuing education courses with professors who are leaders in the field

so you can tap into real-world experience and connections.

- 4. Look for a thriving industry.** The last thing you want to do is switch to a job in a dying trade with limited opportunities. Consider information technology, or IT, for a field that's growing quickly and welcoming new professionals for a range of employment opportunities.

"Age is just a number when it comes to career transitions, particularly in the tech industry," explains Pablo Listingart, founder and executive director of ComIT, a charity that provides free training to people struggling to overcome employment barriers. "Don't let being 50-plus discourage you from acquiring new skills. In today's world, it's never too late to embrace change and thrive in a dynamic field like technology."



Career ads, online at:
www.whitecourtpress.com



Public Notice

Canfor's Whitecourt and Fox Creek 2024 Vegetation Management Program has been approved by Alberta Forestry and Parks. The application of glyphosate will take place on cutblocks located within our Forest Management Area and timber licenses in the Whitecourt, Fox Creek, Fort Assiniboine, Swan Hills and Edson areas. A maximum of 4500 hectares will be treated throughout the following locations:

Township	Range	Meridian
50	10, 11, 12	W 5M
51	11, 12	W 5M
53	11	W 5M
58	13, 14, 16, 17, 21	W 5M
59	13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23	W 5M
60	11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18	W 5M
61	12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21	W 5M
62	14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22	W 5M
63	6, 7, 8, 9	W 5M
64	6, 7, 8, 9	W 5M
65	6, 7, 15, 16	W 5M
66	6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 15, 16	W 5M
67	12, 13	W 5M
68	10, 11	W 5M
69	10, 11	W 5M

This treatment, part of our forest renewal program, will temporarily control herbaceous, shrub and deciduous competition, to improve the growth and survival of tree seedlings and saplings. Herbicide will be applied through either aerial or ground-based application.

Application of herbicides is scheduled to begin on or around August 10, 2024, and completed prior to September 15, 2024.

For more information, please contact our Silviculture Supervisor at (780) 778-2221 Ext 2164, or WCTSilviculture@Canfor.com



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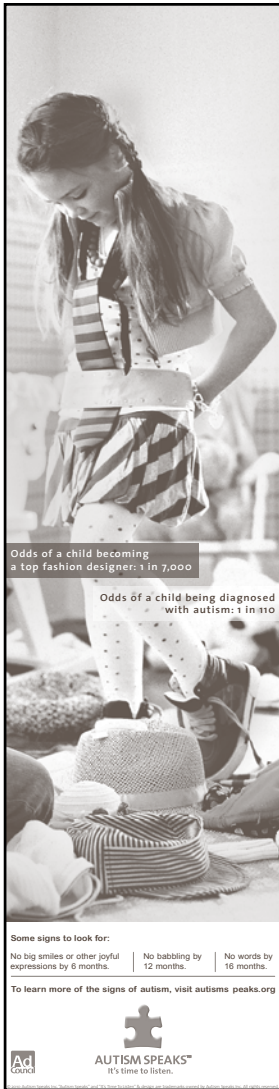
No applications accepted after September 1, 2024



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.

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tenders, etc. People are increasingly staying home and rely on their local newspapers for information. KEEP people in the loop with our 80 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.

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Real Estate

SELLING MY RETIREMENT HOUSE with river and mountain views on 3.93 acres along the Red Deer River and adjoining 200+ acres of environmental reserve. Buy 4 acres and enjoy the use of 204 acres. For more information and pictures, see MLS listing #A2148481.

Services

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business opportunities? Be embarrassed? Think: Criminal Pardon. US entry waiver. Record purge. File destruction. Free consultation. 1-800-347-2540. www.accesslegalmjf.com.

PRIVATE MORTGAGE LENDER. All real estate types considered. No credit checks done. Deal direct with lender and get quick approval. Toll free 1-866-405-1228; www.firststandsecondmortgages.ca.

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Wanted

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Airdrie, AB

Evolution Foot and Ankle Clinic
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A look at the local weather

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

Wed., July 31
Chance of a shower
30%
23°C
12°C
NW 12 km/h
<1mm

Thu., Aug. 1
Sunny
40%
22°C
12°C
W 20 km/h
-

Fri., Aug. 2
Mainly sunny
20%
23°C
10°C
SE 10 km/h
-

Sat., Aug. 3
Mix of sun and clouds
20%
24°C
12°C
E 12 km/h
-

Sun., Aug. 4
Mix of sun and clouds
50%
24°C
13°C
E 10 km/h
-

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.



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



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

HELP WANTED

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Job#: 24-039, Administrative Clerk I, Casual Position.

Job#: 24-040, Infrastructure Services Engineer, Permanent, Full-time Position.

Please visit www.whitecourt.ca for all employment opportunities and details on how to apply.



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Dollar Values as of July 31, 2024



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.



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
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

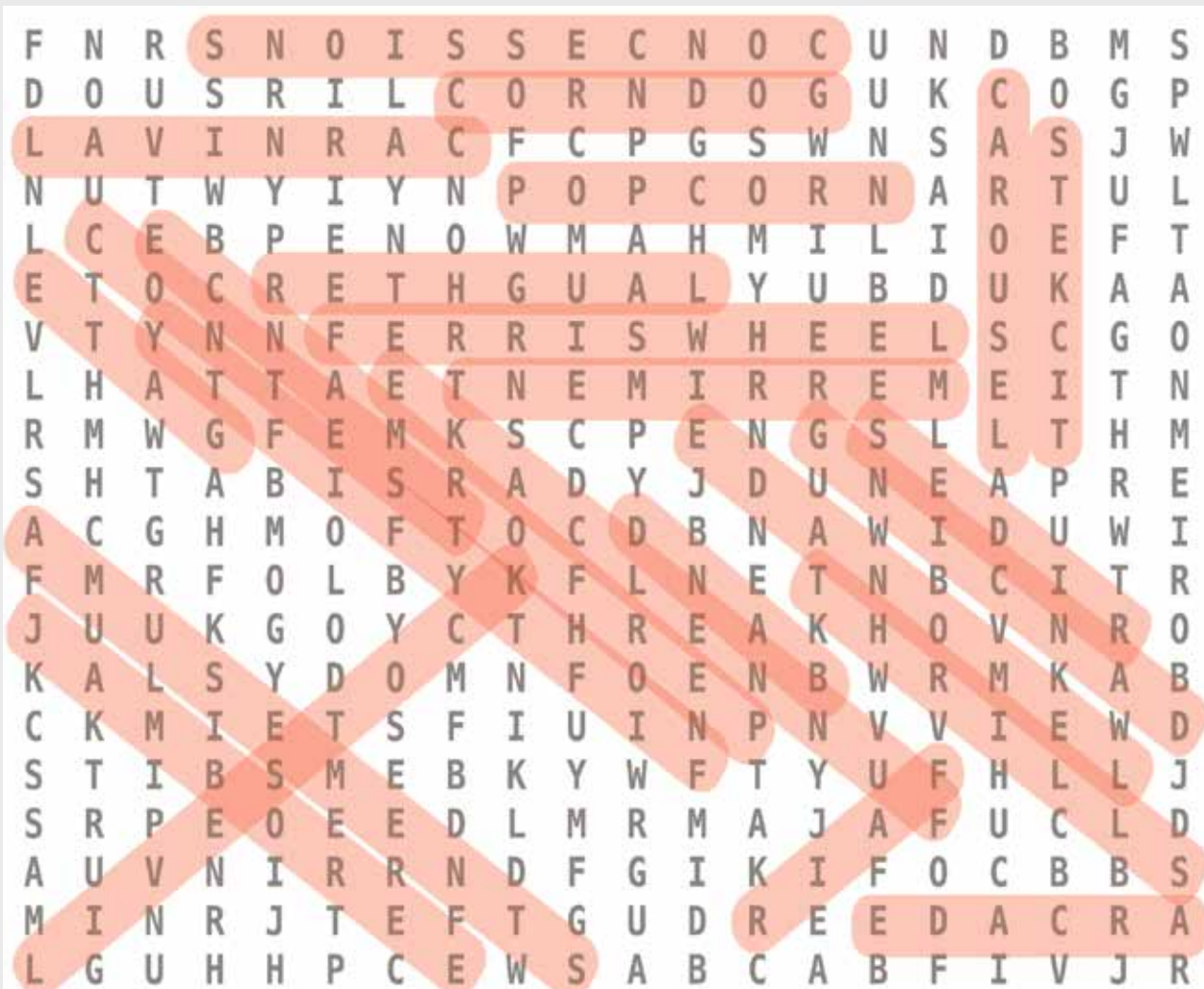
Current opportunities are posted on the Town's website and when required, opportunities are posted on purchasingconnection.ca. Currently, Whitecourt has the following opportunities:

- 2024-07-23: Business Market Analysis Attraction and Retention Strategy – Closes: August 27, 2024 at 4:00pm MST.

For further details on any of these opportunities visit www.whitecourt.ca and search the project title.

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

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	Fort Saskatchewan T: 780-992-0266	Evansburg T: 780-727-2017

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