

# BROOKS BULLETIN

*Serving Brooks & County of Newell since 1910!*

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2025

## Local leaders provide state of the region update

**SANDRA M STANWAY**  
BROOKS BULLETIN

About 100 business people, politicians and guests attended the annual State of the Region earlier this month to get a Reader's Digest understanding of issues from the past year and this year's programs.

County MLA Arno Doerksen not only discussed some of the current projects including the county's

managing of CDC South but also opposing the federal government's Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act (which the county has been turned into a resolution that will be discussed by member municipalities at Foothills Little Bow on Friday).

He said southeast Alberta has multiple sources of reliable and cheap energy including coal, natural gas and sunshine.

"We believe we need to

exploit all of them but it needs to be done affordably with a view of the bottom line."

But south of the border the second Trump administration is the catalyst for the economic uncertainty including the 25 per cent tariff threat.

"Chasing a green energy ideology, as though economics don't matter, has created an overburden that wants to and will break our economy if we don't check it," he said.

He said it is important that

the region continues to work together.

"We're stronger together. It's always important that we iron out our challenges locally because nothing gets solved outside of the district better than we can solve our differences locally," he said.

Doerksen is optimistic for 2025 and beyond because of the leaders at all levels.

"I think we're ahead of the game."

Doerksen, who often says the Eastern Irrigation District needs to open more acres for irrigation faster told attendees that there needs to be a way to accelerate production.

He said the Bow River Irrigation District is moving to expand their district by 25,000 acres. The district is currently holding meetings with irrigators to discuss the expansion. A future plebiscite would follow.

"That is the kind of initiative that attracts investment in value added agriculture."

Brooks mayor John Petrie said 2024 was a good year for development in the city while working through challenges particularly in the area of housing, however, there could be over 300 new units built this year.

"In the last 20 years we've had very little development in the community so when I look at 300 I think that's very impressive," he said.

The number of units do not include single family, privately built or Habitat for Humanity which is also expected to construct additional housing units over the next year or two as is Brooks Housing.

He said wastewater capacity in the city could be a concern for growth so a new wastewater facility will be constructed at the cost of about \$30 million.

And while he is pleased there are new units he is disappointed that a couple of businesses did not get licences due to the Not In My Backyard ideology.

"I just get so disappointed when we lose business in the community on ideological reasons," he said.

The city has considered a public transit system in the past but the cost was too high



**Alberta Premier/Brooks-Medicine Hat MLA Danielle Smith, centre, with Brooks mayor John Petrie, left, and county reeve Arno Doerksen delivered their annual State of Region update on Jan. 3 to about 100 people. | SANDRA M STANWAY PHOTO**

and the issue, he said, is still being discussed.

"We haven't given up on the issue."

Petrie said he hasn't made a decision about his political future.

"I'm going to take a walk in the snow in April and make a decision," he said.

Premier and MLA Brooks-Medicine Hat Danielle Smith touched on multiple provincial topics including housing, health and education.

The province initiated a program for new physicians that will include 50 in both Grande Prairie and Lethbridge in hopes that if they are trained in rural Alberta they will remain in the area.

With the introduction of allowing nurse practitioners to open their own practice, there are now 33 nurse practitioners working including one in Brooks.

The province has invested \$12 million on 82 rural hospitals over the past 10 years and an inventory will be taken of what needs to be repaired and equipment that is needed by hospitals.

The major increase in population has resulted in the need for schools across the province which will include a new school in Brooks. An announcement is expected to be made in the spring about the new Catholic school.

She said agriculture, energy and small businesses are the driving forces of development in Brooks.

"Who knows? Maybe an AI data centre," she said.

An AI data centre uses an enormous amount of power.

"The confluence of gas, power, water and broadband internet access is essential for the siting of these locations and I think our region is perfectly situated," said Smith.

Smith shared updates on local issues including CDC South and the new road access to JBS Food.

"I think we have one more little piece with the Eastern Irrigation District that I'm hoping we will be able to resolve today (Jan. 3) and then we'll be able to get that road built," she said.

"We have been working as well to get the access at the (Lake Newell) Marina and boat launch," she said.

The county has been helping the Marina Association with legal documents to ensure that the grounds remain public and the association is raising money for infrastructure including reworking the area in front of the marina's building.

Smith said she hopes to have an update on the project next year.

Bow River MP Martin Shields was not able to attend the event.



**The dock at Lake Newell Resort Marina awaits spring arrivals. | BULLETIN PHOTO**

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# INTERIOR FINISH SALE

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# NOTICE OF NOMINATION PERIOD 2025 LOCAL AUTHORITIES ELECTION

Residents of the County of Newell are hereby notified that the Nomination Period for the 2025 Local Authorities Election is now **OPEN** and will remain open until 12:00 PM (noon) on Nomination Day, September 22, 2025.

The positions open for election during the October 20, 2025 Local Authorities Election are nine (9) Councillors for Electoral Divisions 1 through 9.

Detailed Candidate Information Packages, which include the prescribed nomination form, are available on the County of Newell website: [countyofnewell.ab.ca/2025-municipal-election](http://countyofnewell.ab.ca/2025-municipal-election)

Paper copies of the Candidate Information Package are available upon request.

- ✓ Completed nomination forms must be submitted to the Returning Officer between 8:00 AM & 4:30 PM or **NOON on September 22**
- ✓ Address: 183037 Range Road 145, Brooks, AB
- ✓ Nomination deadline: September 22, 2025 at NOON

MUNICIPAL **2025**  
ELECTION



**If you are interested in serving the County of Newell ratepayers, please consider running for municipal office in the upcoming election.**



## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY ENGINEERING SUPERVISOR

The County of Newell is seeking an enthusiastic self-motivated leader with a strong technical aptitude to join our team as an Engineering Supervisor. This is a full-time permanent position reporting to the Manager of Planning, Development and Engineering Services. The position is responsible for the coordination and implementation of annual construction and maintenance programs, including budgeting, data collection, design, tendering, and supervising. It is also responsible for the coordination of County Asset Management Plans, the collection and processing of assets and features of assets in GIS for all infrastructures related to transportation, water, wastewater, and storm water services, and for assisting with long-range capital planning and the coordination of professional services to execute annual workplans.

**Areas of Responsibility:** A variety of administrative and technical tasks related to civil engineering, survey, design, construction, and asset management are performed by this position. The primary responsibilities will focus on the total life cycle management of all County infrastructure, including making recommendations for both acquisition and disposal processes in accordance with County policy.

**Preference will be given to applicants possessing:**

- Education in Civil Engineering, or related field
- Previous experience in construction management is an asset
- Experience in RTK GPS Survey, Design, and CAD Drafting is an asset
- Minimum three (3) to five (5) years of experience in a similar capacity, including proven skills
- Must work efficiently in a computerized environment
- Excellent interpersonal, public relations, and technical skills
- Must possess a valid Class 5 Driver's Licence
- Must be bondable.

The County of Newell offers a competitive salary and benefits as well as excellent training and education programs. A pre-employment drug and alcohol screen and an occupational health assessment for new and returning employees is required as per County policy. The successful candidate is required to provide a clear criminal record check prior to employment. This position will remain open until a suitable candidate is found.

### INTERESTED?

Please submit a cover letter with your resume in confidence, including salary expectations, and 3 references to:

Attention: Human Resources  
County of Newell  
183037 Range Road 145  
PO Box 130  
Brooks, AB, T1R 1B2  
Or email [HR@newellmail.ca](mailto:HR@newellmail.ca)



### 2025 COYOTE INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Coyotes play a vital role in the County of Newell's ecosystem. But when their numbers grow too large, it impacts wildlife, livestock, and even public safety. That's why we're taking a proactive, responsible approach to manage their population.

For every coyote managed under this program between December 1, 2024 and March 31, 2025, there's an incentive of \$20. Coyotes can be brought to the Shop attached to the County Administration building, where an ear is clipped for proof, and to receive your payment. You are then responsible for the proper disposal of the coyote.

This program is open to all County residents, urban residents within County boundaries, and those who own/manage land here. It's important to note that only coyotes within the County of Newell are eligible for this incentive.

**Together we can protect our community and wildlife!**

183037 Range Road 145, Brooks, AB  
T1R 1B2

Phone: (403) 362-3266

E-mail: [administration@newellmail.ca](mailto:administration@newellmail.ca)

Office Hours: Monday to Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

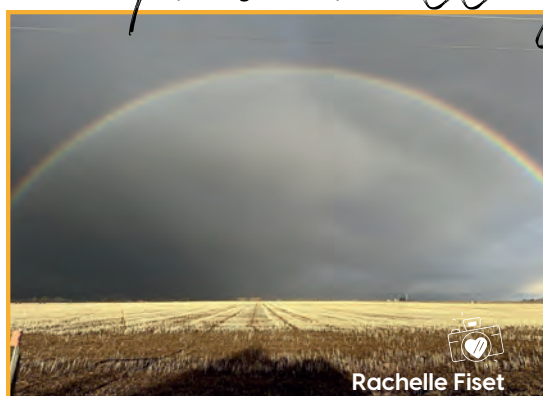
**12%**

**DON'T FORGET** → **TAX PENALTY**

**APPLIED TO ALL TAX ARREARS AFTER MARCH 1**

## Join #myCountyofNewell photo challenge

through Newell Connect



What is Newell Connect?





On behalf of the Masonic Foundation of Alberta, Bassano Masonic members Scott Rose, left, and Braden Rose, present Molly Douglass of the Bassano Health Foundation \$2,000 towards the health foundation's annual Christmas wish list. The Masonic Foundation presents \$2,000 to each of the 14 districts in Alberta and the NWT. | SUBMITTED PHOTO

# Brooks ranks 11th as most liveable city in Alberta

SANDRA M STANWAY  
BROOKS BULLETIN

In the Globe and Mail's second edition of Canada's Most Liveable Cities (those over 10,000) Brooks' overall ranking in Canada improved by 43 positions to 126 and by 10 positions to 11th in Alberta.

The Globe looked at 50 variables within 10 categories that they identified as particularly crucial when contemplating a relocation and included economy, housing, demographics, health care, safety, education, community, amenities, transportation and climate.

While climate is a new category this year the writers found that, "People care more about communities amenities and less about education."

Each category including amenities were ranked in relation to others and include essential facilities, recreational and entertainment options, parks and other leisure opportunities.

Regarding parks and other leisure, Brooks ranked 14, Medicine Hat ranked 79 and Clearwater County ranked 445 which was one of the highest in Canada.

Under education Brooks ranked 340.

The city improved in its rankings in all categories when people are looking to relocate including young professionals, families raising kids, midlife transitions, retirement, newcomers and entrepreneurs.

The top 20 Alberta municipalities starting with Calgary in the top spot, was followed by St. Albert, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Strathcona County, Okotoks, Canmore, Wood Buffalo, Olds, Beaumont, Brooks, Lacombe, Rocky View County, Strathmore, Spruce Grove, High River, Red Deer, Airdrie, Lloydminster and Medicine Hat.

## LETTERS

### Taxpayers getting shafted

Editor, The Bulletin;  
I read in the Nov. 6 Bulletin that city taxes were to increase about 5.5 per cent. In the Nov. 20 Bulletin I read elected officials are getting a raise of \$5,000 to \$10,000. This seems to me that taxpayers are getting somewhat shafted--taking from Peter to pay Paul, taxpayers being Peter.

In the area of Fairview Park Lane where I live, the town/city has been taking taxes for about 24 years.

The city does nothing for us because of some deal signed when the condos were built.

We look after everything through condo fees--water main and sewer line breaks, etc. We pay to have snow removal on our roads by a private company. We are a cash cow for the city.

Apparently there were too many mistakes in construction years ago for the building inspector to handle--he just threw up his hands and walked away.

Further to my rant, I looked up the word "bamboozled" --there was a picture of Brooks city council. Where else would you find a city giving away 20 plus acres of potentially taxable land to a school board which can get money from government (tax dollars) and never pay taxes to the city. Crazy.

HERB FEHR,  
Brooks, Alta.



Brooks.ca | 403-362-3333



#### What's Happening?

##### Equity, Diversity & Inclusion World Cafe

Your voice matters! Join the conversation about Mental Healthcare in Brooks at the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion World Café.

Date: January 23, 2025

Time: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Location: Heritage Inn Hotel & Convention Centre

Share your experiences, engage in open conversations, and help improve mental health services in our community.

- Breakfast and lunch provided
- Must be 18+ to attend

Register now: <https://tinyurl.com/2s8em8sx>

##### EcoBrooks Community Benefit Grant Program

The goal of the Community Benefit Grant Program, which is funded by Elemental Energy (Brooks Solar II) is to provide eligible organizations financial support for projects, events, or initiatives that improve environmental quality, reduce environmental degradation, or increase community awareness of environmental issues. For 2025, the total grant funding available for all projects is \$10,000. Grants may range from \$100 and up.

Funding applications are accepted for projects within the Brooks Newell Region.

Applications open February 1 and close February 28!

Find the guidelines, application form and more information by visiting [brooks.ca/310/EcoBrooks-Committee](https://brooks.ca/310/EcoBrooks-Committee)

##### Get Active: Explore Our Recreation Schedules

Looking for drop-in gym times, arena skate times (including shinny and public skate), pickleball, or swimming pool hours? Check out our full recreation schedule to plan your next activity!

View schedules here: [brooks.ca/402/Schedules](https://brooks.ca/402/Schedules)

#### Public Notices

##### Next Council Meeting

- Monday, January 20 at 4:30 PM
- Brooks City Hall - Council Chambers (201 1 Ave W)
- Open to the public
- Streaming live on the City of Brooks Facebook and YouTube
- Find the agenda at [brooks.ca/agendacentre](https://brooks.ca/agendacentre)

##### Next Council Committee Meeting

- Tuesday, January 28 at 4:30 PM
- Brooks City Hall - Hayes Room (201 1 Ave W)
- Open to the public
- Find the agenda at [brooks.ca/agendacentre](https://brooks.ca/agendacentre)

##### Utility Bill Penalties - Important Information

We want to address concerns related to utility bill penalties.

Due to the Canada Post strike, we were unable to mail out utility bills as usual. We communicated this delay through social media, our website, and other channels, and informed residents that payments were still due by the original deadline.

Unfortunately, as a result, penalties were applied to accounts that were not paid on time. We understand this may cause frustration, and we appreciate your understanding during this challenging situation.

Please remember, all utility bills must be paid by the due date to avoid penalties. For future reference, you can always view your utility bill online or sign up for e-billing to ensure you receive timely notifications. Visit <https://ico.brooks.ca:9191/> to get started.

If you'd like to contact the Utilities Department, please email [utilities@brooks.ca](mailto:utilities@brooks.ca).

#### Regional Assessment Review Board - Board Members Needed!

Board positions are available for citizens of the City of Brooks, County of Newell, Town of Bassano, and the Villages of Duchess and Rosemary who are interested in serving as a member of the Regional Assessment Review Board.

Members are required to take online Provincial training to learn the applicable legislation in relation to fair and equitable property assessments.

Once trained, the members of the Regional Assessment Review Board will hear appeals as required for all member municipalities. The appeal hearings will be organized by Assessment Review Board Clerks and the members will be called upon in accordance with the nature of the appeal.

Members will receive remuneration for both training and hearing participation.

Residents interested in serving on this Board are requested to contact:

Cathy Slaney  
Financial Planning Supervisor  
Email: [cslaney@brooks.ca](mailto:cslaney@brooks.ca)  
Phone: 403-362-3333

#### City of Brooks Municipal Election Nomination Period Open

Are you passionate about making a difference in our community? Now's your chance!

The Nomination Period for the 2025 City of Brooks Municipal Election is officially open and runs until September 22, 2025, at 12:00 PM.

Interested in becoming a candidate?

Learn more about the process and requirements here: <https://www.brooks.ca/584/Information-for-Candidates>

Election Day is October 20, 2025!



Muwad Abdulrhaman, a grade 3 student at Eastbrook Elementary, gives the thumbs-up during morning recess on Thursday. | SANDRA M STANWAY PHOTO

## Local munis agree to stay in SAEWA after questioning its necessity

SANDRA M STANWAY  
BROOKS BULLETIN

Newell Regional Solid Waste Association (NRSWA) will continue with its membership in the Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Association (SAEWA) as it looks to construct an energy from waste facility.

Following last year's termination of negotiations with HZI to build a large regional facility at the local landfill some member municipalities questioned whether or not SAEWA had a future.

However, with the announcement in November that SAEWA had selected Global Green to construct sub-regional units in member municipalities, during a special meeting of the NRSWA last week the committee voted to pay their SAEWA dues and remain with the association.

SAEWA chair and city councillor Ray Juska said the local landfill was selected years ago to host a large energy from waste facility.

"We (SAEWA) still have to do the memorandum of understanding with Global Green before it can move onto the stage where they're contracting property use and waste commitment. They're not at the point where they're going ahead to build yet," he said.

SAEWA is still needed

because the MOU will not be signed between the company and Global Green but between the company and SAEWA although member municipalities will eventually see sub-regional units.

"SAEWA still has the ability to apply for grants. It also has quite a bit of experience and the ability to facilitate the process," Juska said.

While Global Green will build the facilities it will be up to municipalities to make a waste commitment and begin the siting process which will include approvals by the province.

"What's changed is we've gone from regional (one large facility) to sub-

regional (many smaller facilities in many locations)."

Juska does expect the MOU to be signed by the end of the month which will kick off more "serious" negotiations with Global Green.

Once signed, Global Green will use the MOU to line up financing while municipalities undergo their siting processes to consider how many units should be built and where.

"We've been moving at the speed of light ever since the deal with HZI collapsed and once we saw the new direction. You could conceivably have a plant up and running within a couple of years."



SANDRA M STANWAY  
BROOKS BULLETIN

### \$20K worth of copper wire stolen, \$10K in damages to site

Sometime between 12:30 a.m. and 5:30 a.m. on Jan. 5 about \$20,000 worth of copper wire was stolen from an oil site in a rural area near Chancellor and Standard.

Bassano RCMP reports that a vehicle was used to pull and tow a large amount

## Bassano and area RCMP report

of thick cable and during the theft there was about \$10,000 in damages done to the site.

Police collected evidence and the investigation is continuing.

### Peace River driver facing impaired driving charge

On Jan. 7 at 4:15 p.m. Bassano RCMP responded to a report of a vehicle that was partially stopped in the right hand lane of Hwy. 1 just east of Bassano and that its driver was slumped over the wheel.

Police found the lone occupant and they determined later that the

driver was three-and-a-half times over the legal limit of alcohol.

The driver lost his licence for 90 days and his vehicle for 30 days while waiting for criminal charges to be laid.

Police continue to investigate and report that no other vehicle was involved.

If you have any information on these or any other crimes contact Bassano RCMP at 403-641-3677 or if you wish to remain anonymous contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS).

## Bassano Banner

BASSANO/GEM/ROSEMARY

TOM McPHAIL



BASSANO - The Men's Curling Bonspiel wrapped up on Saturday, January 11. The Josh Steinbach Rink including Jayme Harbinson, Jean Graham-Brochu and Dennis Unruh captured the A Event. The Shane Fladhmer Rink including Cody Thompson, Greg Brown and Duane Fladhmer were the B

Event winners. The Gavin Roen Rink including Shawn Helmle, Bryson Helmle and Cayson Helmle were the C Event winners. Looks like some hard-fought wins all week. Don't put your brooms away yet. Plenty of winter ahead. Thank you, Jose Rabadan, for sending me the list of winners.

Recent birthday

celebrants at Playfair Lodge were Bonnie, Lloyd, Carmen and Harold.

Congratulations to our local wedding anniversary couples: John & Alice Slomp, Gordon & Bev Smillie, Kyle & Monica Marks and Harold & Merle Prentice.

My contact information remains the same. Let's hear from Gem and Rosemary.



## Recognize a volunteer who makes a difference

Nominations for the Brooks-Newell Citizen & Jr. Citizen of the Year are now open!

Nomination deadline is February 21, 2025.

Call 403-362-4549 for more information or to make a nomination



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# Micro issues help to fill MLA-premier's time across the riding

**SANDRA M STANWAY**  
BROOKS BULLETIN

In 2024, Alberta premier and Brooks-Medicine Hat MLA Danielle Smith addressed everything from micro issues that serve the riding to major provincial issues.

"I think the job of an MLA is to identify problems and solve them," she said during a year end discussion with The Bulletin.

Micro issues such as re-opening the group camping site at Kinbrook Provincial Park, working with the county to build a new road at JBS Food, upgrading boat launches with the Lake Newell Marina Association and meeting with doctors regarding equipment deficiencies and upgrades for operating rooms.

"So, there's a lot of things that are local," she said.

One of the larger local micro-projects has been working with the County of Newell to reopen the CDC South facility. The county initiated the project to better utilize the provincial asset. At the final county meeting, council agreed to sign a lease agreement. The county will find occupants and sublease space.

"To find a way to get it back to its former glory," she said.

"We're in the process of transferring over the management and the budget for that locally and then working as a connector."

The connection is with the Prairie Rose School Division, which plans to add agriculture to their high school curriculum, Medicine Hat College which is interested in including ag programs and the CDC.

"That's the exciting part. You meet a lot of people, find out a lot of little problems, and you can connect them with each other. If there's a provincial role to play, then I'm happy to play it. They're micro issues. They're not a lot except to the people who are impacted by them," she said.

## AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

As mussels have now been found in the Assiniboine and Clear Lake river systems very close to Saskatchewan, the Alberta AIS task force has released its final recommendations.

They include increasing the number of inspection stations to 11 this year from seven last year and to add in 2026 to pilot a dip tank for watercraft that would kill AIS in extremely hot water.

## WATER

The Eastern Irrigation District (EID) and its users will not be negatively impacted by any of the water changes being considered by the province. Over the past couple of months there have been water meetings that irrigation districts have encouraged the public to attend.

"The only way they (EID) might be affected is if we could find more allocation

## MLA-PREMIER



DANIELLE SMITH

so that we are able to do more irrigated lands and more irrigated acres," Smith said.

"That would be one of the ways they would be impacted but that is a very clear use case about why you want to make sure that you're using water well because it's such an incredible growth area for our agricultural products."

She mentioned that the province is water-restrained, with Calgary expected to run out of its allocation when it reaches 1.5 million people. The province is looking at 100 sites for more reservoirs to catch more water, whether it's melting or raining, so the allocation doesn't flow through the jurisdiction. "That will create more water allocation and hopefully provide those who need more water with the ability to get some of those rights," she said.

Smith said there is also the issue of overallocated systems and the need for transparency in water licences.

She mentioned the lack of a return flow credit for municipalities that clean and return water to the system.

"They should get some return flow credit. Some municipalities have more

water that they return to the river system than they take out in the first place."

The province is eyeing the Eyremore Dam and exploring the expansion of the Ghost Reservoir to protect downstream communities on the Bow River to provide water security for the Bow River Basin. That option will move forward to phase

three, which will begin this year with the engineering and regulatory approval process.

Smith emphasized the importance of efficient water use and ensuring that existing water rights holders do not feel nervous. "It's just a matter of how can we get more water users by getting more efficient use of the water," she said.



What a weekend! Our U15 Tier 1 Jr. Bandits traveled to Camrose on January 10th for a tournament that started with a 4-2 win Friday night against the LaCrete Lumberjacks. Saturday morning they faced the Olds Grizzlies and came out with a 6-1 victory. Saturday afternoon was a tie with the Indus Hurricanes which was all they needed to land them in the gold medal game against the Sylvan Lake Lakers on Sunday. The Jr. Bandits were down 3-0 halfway through the first period, but then they scored...and kept on scoring! This team fought back to win 6-4 and earned themselves a much deserved gold medal.

**Pictured: (back row) Coach Johnny Broerson, Mckinley Tremblay, Braze Shpak, Nash Broersen, Colby Hewitt, Benjamin Langley, Braxton Ranch, Damian Gagley, Everett Smith, Nixon Donald, Cale Ste-Croix, Coach Brandon Wiscombe.**

**(middle row) Marcus Schwartz, Jace Irwin, Kingston Smith, Hayden Wiscombe, Foster Campbell, Messi Chivv, (front row) Knox Brown, Gavin Webb. Missing: Manager Jessica Hewitt, Kaden Friesen. | SUBMITTED PHOTO**



PRAIRIE PIONEERS - Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year!

# VOICES FROM THE PRAIRIES

Extraordinary Stories of Ordinary Ranch Women

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## 2024 Eastern Irrigation District Scholarship Recipients

Paige Bergquist	Carley Briggs	Russell Buteau	Dustin Engbrecht	Ella Forrest	Carsyn Good
Dexter Hale	Riley Hodgson	Brooke Martin	Garnet Miller	Peekay Moss	Brandon Neigum
Brett Niznik	Kate Niznik	Sarah Niznik	Isaiah Porter	Ross Redelback	Holly Schaffer
Laurel Schaffer	Olivia Sinclair	Liam Sjodin	Leighton Slomp	Kennedy Stenger	Alonso Tapia Ruiz

The Eastern Irrigation District Board of Directors would like to congratulate the EID Scholarship Recipients for 2024. A total of \$45,000 was awarded in scholarships this year. Since the program began in 2008 a total of \$747,000 has been awarded to 388 recipients.

# COMMENT

## The Great Canadian EV Winter Adventure

*I drove from Saskatoon to Edmonton in an EV, and it went exactly how you think it would.*

**ROBERT SKARZYNSKI**  
PIPELINE ONLINE

I know what you're thinking: Who willingly drives an electric vehicle (EV) from Saskatoon to Edmonton in the dead of winter? We all know it's a bad idea, borderline dangerous, but I thought, how bad could it be? Spoiler: It was worse. Much worse.

Saskatoon - 10:00 AM (-7°C)  
0 hrs - 0 km  
It all started when the rental company handed me a shiny 2024 Kia Niro EV. I had requested a car. You know, a real car with an engine. But the nice lady at the counter informed me that EVs were all they had. She reassured me with a bright smile, "Oh, it's no problem! 300 km of range, an hour to charge, you'll be fine!"

I was told the car had been charged to 97%; however, by the time I got in, the battery had already dropped below 80% - a not-so-promising start to the journey.

North Battleford - 11:30 AM (-10°C)  
1.5 hrs - 130 km

I barely made it to North Battleford. The battery was on life support as I pulled into the Canadian Tire parking lot to recharge.

Cost: \$20/hr. Estimated charge time: 2 hours.

I settled for a 90-minute charge, just enough to scrape my way to Lloydminster, Alberta. I couldn't help but notice the drivers at the gas pumps, refueling quickly and continuing on their way, while I waited for the car to gain enough charge to crawl to the next stop.

Lloydminster - 2:30 PM (-15°C)  
4.5 hrs - 260 km

Driving slower and turning down the heat helped conserve battery. By the time I limped into Lloydminster, the EV dashboard read 5% battery remaining. I had made it halfway to Edmonton, yet I was already 4.5 hours in. If I had been driving a gas-powered car (ICE vehicle, as the EV crowd likes to call them), I would've been in Edmonton already, cozy and warm.

Instead, I was staring down the barrel of another 3-4 hours of charging time for what should have been 2.5 driving hours left.

Vegreville - 5:00 PM (-16°C)  
7 hrs - 418 km

Almost there... until I wasn't. The final top-up charge before Edmonton was in Vegreville. I pulled up to the charger only to discover it was out of service. Someone had cut and stolen the charging cable for its copper. My EV was almost out of battery. I checked my phone for nearby chargers - all were out of range.

At this point, it hit me: Driving an EV in Canada in the winter isn't just inconvenient. It's dangerous.

Stranded and frozen on the side of the Yellowhead Highway is not where I wanted to end up. I drove the car into a nearby hotel parking lot, plugged the car into a 110V outlet, and got a room.

Vegreville - 9:00 AM (-25°C)  
23 hrs - 418 km

I woke up hopeful. The car had been charging overnight, surely I could at least limp to Edmonton?

Nope.

The display showed 78 hours to a full charge. I called the rental company, and they sent a tow truck. That's right

- I finished my great EV adventure in a diesel truck.

Edmonton - 5:00 PM (-20°C)

31 hrs - 510 km I finally arrived in Edmonton, 31 hours after leaving Saskatoon. To put it in perspective, the drive itself is about 5.5 hours. The tow truck driver, likely used to these types of rescues, shared a chilling story of a Tesla owner who had to break a window to escape because the battery had died, locking the power doors shut.

The True Cost

This trip didn't just waste time—it cost me all my meetings and added unnecessary expenses. Between charging fees, waiting hours, and relying on a tow truck, the inconvenience and costs of this journey far outweighed any benefits. This trip was a stark reminder that EVs, as they are today, are not practical for Canada's winters.

Lessons Learned

1. EVs and Canadian Winters Don't Mix - Cold weather destroys battery range, charging infrastructure is sparse, and vandalism can leave you stranded.

2. Range Estimates Are Overly Optimistic - The advertised range doesn't account for cold weather, snow-covered highways, or real-world conditions. What looks like 300 km on paper quickly becomes 150 km—or less—in practice.

3. The System Isn't Ready - Our government wants full electric adoption, but the product doesn't work in Canada's extreme conditions.

Canada's Transportation Problem

The Canadian government is pushing hard for full EV adoption, aiming for 100% of new light-duty vehicle sales to be zero-emission by 2035 and 60% by 2030, supported by rebates and infrastructure investments. That means you might end up in the exact situation I did: stranded and frustrated in the middle of winter.

EV batteries simply aren't capable of handling the extreme cold, leaving drivers vulnerable.

Block heaters are a standard feature on many vehicles sold in Canada because of the extreme cold—they're a practical necessity. Meanwhile, EVs, which face even greater challenges in winter, are sold without addressing these critical reliability issues. The inconsistency isn't just frustrating—it's unsafe.

In contrast, other nations like China are taking a more practical approach with Extended Range Electric Vehicles (EREVs). These vehicles use smaller batteries for short trips but include small gas engines to extend range on longer drives. It's a solution that acknowledges real-world challenges while still reducing emissions.

Instead of focusing on ideology, China's emphasis on practicality means fewer stranded drivers and more reliable transportation. Canada, on the other hand, is charging forward with an EV agenda that creates poor products, poor services, and puts Canadians at risk.

The Road Ahead: Canada needs to be realistic. EVs work well in urban centers, but for rural areas and long-distance travel - especially in winter - we need better solutions. Whether it's EREVs, improved infrastructure, or alternatives, our country can't afford to gamble with its transportation systems.

In the meantime, I'll stick to gas-powered cars.

# TIME CAPSULE



BASSANO DAM  
November 20, 1925

BASSANO DAM NOV. 20, 1925  
B-1524

## Climate Feedbacks - Not in Front of the Children

COLUMNIST

GWYNNE DYER



"This does not mean the international +1.5C target has been broken, because that refers to a long-term average over decades." If those carefully chosen words don't set your alarm bells ringing, you have not traveled much in the land of lawyers.

This statement was published on Friday in the annual report of Europe's Copernicus Climate Change Service, the EU's main climate science centre. Yet elsewhere in the same document it admitted that the world's average temperature did indeed exceed 1.5 degrees Celsius higher than the pre-industrial level (+1.5C) in 2024.

And here's United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres, peddling the same story on the same day: "Individual years pushing past the 1.5-degree limit do not mean the long-term goal is shot."

You'll find similar mantras on the websites of NASA and NOAA in the US, the Hadley Centre in the UK, the Potsdam Centre for Climate Impact Studies in Germany, and the Japan Meteorological Agency. None of them is actually lying, but they are definitely seeking to mislead.

The problem is that our scientists and politicians have been telling us for ten years that we must never exceed that 'aspirational' +1.5C target or very bad things would follow (as indeed they will). Nobody listened, we have now passed that target, and some of that

hell is breaking loose. Los Angeles is this week's example.

So now they need to reassure us that it is still worth trying to hold the warming down (as indeed it is). This requires playing down the importance of passing +1.5C, which is why we have just had a coordinated effort by politicians and scientists telling us we really didn't go there. How did things get so tangled?

The 'aspirational' +1.5C target was adopted by the 2015 climate conference partly because the hard target of 'never more than +2.0C or the heavens will fall' was seen as too far away to motivate people properly. The other reason was that a group of scientists centred around the Potsdam Institute had been working on 'feedbacks'.

They knew that heating the planet with our emissions would have big effects on other parts of the climate system, and set out to discover what those effects were and when they would be triggered.

The feedbacks are the real killers. Our emissions heat the planet, and then wildfires, floods and mudslides, hurricanes and cyclones, rising sea-levels and half a dozen other feedbacks wreak mayhem.

Many of the feedbacks also cause more warming, like the melting snow and ice which expose dark rock and open water, which then absorb sunlight and heat the planet further.

Some of these feedbacks are active already and almost all will be activated between +1.5C and +3.0C. Since we did not cause them directly, we can't shut them off. Only planetary cooling can do that, and how likely is that?

The scientists also knew that there were almost certainly other feedbacks lurking in wait for us, so staying below +1.5C really did matter. However, it's gone now,

and the bitter truth is that we probably won't see it again in this century (if ever).

We stumbled across the first big 'unknown' feedback in June 2023, when the average global temperature jumped by more than two-tenths of a degree in a single month. It has never fallen back, and it took scientists more than a year even to figure out (tentatively) what is causing it: less low-level marine cloud, which therefore reflects less incoming sunlight.

Average global temperature for 2024 has been +1.55C, and the past three months have been +1.6C, so why are the Great and the Good telling us that we haven't 'really' passed +1.5C? What's all this nonsense about waiting a couple of decades to be sure?

Requiring a twenty-year run of data when calculating average global temperature made sense when temperatures fluctuated up and down in the familiar old way. It makes no sense to use that method to calculate the headline number for average global temperature, incorporating data from as long ago as 2005, when the only way it has gone each year is up.

So why do they do it? Partly because they have always done it that way, but there is also a belief among both scientists and politicians that the public cannot be trusted with the brutal truth. They might riot in the streets demanding huge immediate emissions cuts - or, (more likely) they might retreat into paranoid fantasies and deny climate change exists.

It's pointless. Scientists can use the old method among themselves if they wish, but don't try to foist it on the public. It just undermines trust. Give them straight information in terms they can understand, and let the chips fall where they may.



# BROOKS BULLETIN

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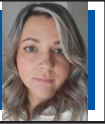
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# Rainier Record

COLLEEN VAN DEN HOEK



**RAINIER** - Happy Birthday wishes to Annas Guttman & Kyle Crump on Jan 15, Gerwin Van den Hoek & Debbie Ketchmark on Jan 19, Sadie Biette on Jan 20, Inge Hoekstra on Jan 21 along with Robert & Arlene Smith Anniversary, Ethan Rosen & Tommy Ovinge on Jan 24, Jonah Friesen on Jan 26.

Alcoma School News- If anyone has any bottles for recycling they would like to donate to the school please leave them by the quonset looking building. Thank you for your donations. SPEC playgroup will be at Alcoma School Jan 24 - 9:30 am to 11am. All are welcome! JH Girls & Boys basketball starts Jan 7. If you're interested in a schedule you can contact myself or the school and we would be happy to share.. Alcoma, Rolling Hills & Tilley will be joining forces to create teams.

Alcoma Community Library will be open to the

public during school hours and Thursday evenings 6:30pm to 8pm.

Rainier community Hall will be holding there AGM Feb 11 @7pm at the Rainier hall. The hall is looking for more individuals to come out and share their ideas & support. All are welcome.

Meet baby Irene Martina Davidson Orr at the Rainier Hall on January 25th @ 2pm. Aileen and Eric have been blessed with lots of baby supplies. Please do not feel obligated to bring a gift, however if you like to. Please see the link to their registry to be sure it's something they still need. Needed items include clothing bigger than 12 months. They also love second hand and handmade items! You can never have too many books! Please bring a book instead of a card and write a message/sign it for baby Irene's library.

Rolling Hills AG. Society invites you Feb 15th for a Prime Rib Supper. Tickets

can be purchased online @ rollinghills.ca (under general store tab), other options include RH post office, or Cordon Electric in Brooks. Doors open @ 5:30 pm, Supper @ 6:30pm. There will be a live band from 8:30pm-12:30am. No tickets sold at the door. If you need more info contact Michele @ 403-793-4130

Stay in the loop with the Rainier Community Facebook Page for more Alcoma & Community Events! Have an upcoming event in the County? We are happy to include it in our emails and promote it in our community! Send us an email @ rainiercommunityclub@gmail.com with your information.

I welcome any emails of information you would like included in this column.

Please contact Colleen by Sunday @ colleenvandenhoeck@gmail.com

# The Gift of Love

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT OF THE WEEK



**David Bradford Brooks Alliance Church**

Christmas has come and gone. Gifts have been given and received. No doubt there were many surprises as gifts were exchanged over the last few days. Some people have gone to great lengths to plan the perfect gift for someone they love - whether in being creative, taking time to make the gift perfect, or spending lots of money.

One of the great parts of opening a gift from someone you know and love, is that beyond the gift itself, you know they give it to you because they love

you! To know we are loved is something very powerful.

This year, as the celebration of Christmas fades far too quickly into the rear-view mirror, my encouragement for all of us is to make sure we never forget the love we celebrate at Christmas.

Very simply and famously, Jesus says in John 3, verse 16 - "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

The motivation for the coming of Jesus to earth was quite simply God's love for you and I. God knew that you and I were in a hopeless situation - our sin had broken our relationship with Him and there was no hope for us to get out of that on our own. So

God, because He loves us so very much, sent His Son Jesus to the earth - born as a baby in a manger. Later in His life, Jesus went to the cross to pay the price for our sins, because of His love for us.

Right now, take a moment as you finish reading, and reflect on God's love. His love for you. The gift of His Son Jesus was motivated by His love for you. Does that change your perspective right now? Does it change your outlook on life? Does it change your view of yourself? It should! As you enter the New Year, enter knowing that you are loved by God Himself.

see us online at [www.brooksbulletin.com](http://www.brooksbulletin.com)

# Church

Come worship with us...



**ST. MARY'S**  
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
BROOKS + TIDE LAKE MISSION

Main Church:  
511 - 4 St. W., Brooks, AB T1R 0E5

Tide Lake Mission Church:  
19115 Range Rd 100, Iddesleigh, AB

Parish Office: (403) 362 4466  
Fax: (403) 793 2571  
Email: [secretary@saintmarysbrooks.com](mailto:secretary@saintmarysbrooks.com)  
[www.StMarysBrooks.ca](http://www.StMarysBrooks.ca)

Parish Priest  
Rev. Fr. Eligio "Fr. Eli" Cañete

**HOLY MASS SCHEDULE**  
Saturdays at 5:00pm  
Sundays at 9:00am, 11:00am & 6:00pm  
Tuesdays & Wednesdays at 7:00pm  
Thursdays & Fridays at 9:00am

If you need assistance,  
please contact our on-call help hotline:  
**Society of St. Vincent de Paul**  
(403) 409 9510  
Tuesdays-Thursdays 9:30am-3:30pm



804 Cassils Road E.,  
Brooks, Alberta T1R 0L2  
Pastor Daryle Fox  
Church: 403-362-5060  
Cell 403-793-7203

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE - 11 am

Affiliated North American Baptist Conference  
Connecting People to Christ and His Caring Community!  
EVERYONE WELCOME!



625 8 St W, Brooks, AB  
(403) 362-2952  
[www.brooksefch.com](http://www.brooksefch.com)

Sunday Services  
10:00 am

Kids program and nursery available

Jon Chalmers - Lead Pastor  
Garth Everett - Family Pastor  
Josiah Johnson - Youth Pastor



**Spirit of Grace Lutheran Church**

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE  
Brooks United Church  
507 3rd Ave. West  
10:00 am

REVEREND ESTHER CREWS  
Phone: 403-362-3637  
Inviting, Including, Inspiring



**BROOKS**  
304 Cassils Road East  
Phone 403-362-8908  
Website:  
[www.brooksalliancechurch.com](http://www.brooksalliancechurch.com)

PASTOR DAVID BRADFORD

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE  
10:45 am



Sunday Worship Service 11:30 am  
Everyone Welcome!

LUTHERAN HOUR  
Sundays 7:30 am  
CHAT FM94.5 RADIO  
8:30 A.M.  
CKMX 1060

"He Made Me a Believer"  
(John 2:11)



Box 298, Duchess, AB. T0J 0Z0  
Phone 403.633.2829  
Email: [office@duchessmennonite.ca](mailto:office@duchessmennonite.ca)  
Website: [www.duchessmennonite.ca](http://www.duchessmennonite.ca)

Sunday Worship Service  
10:30 am

Pastor Nathan Ramer  
Pastor Terry Jackson

Office Hours: Tuesdays to Thursdays  
8:30 am to 12 Noon



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE  
10 AM  
ALL ARE WELCOME  
Kids Programs Available.  
For online worship please see our Facebook page or [www.brooksunitedchurch.com](http://www.brooksunitedchurch.com)

507 - 3rd Ave. W.  
Brooks, AB.  
Phone/Fax: 403-362-3637  
Email: [bksunite@shaw.ca](mailto:bksunite@shaw.ca)  
Office Hours:  
9:00 to 12 Noon  
(Tues. - Fri.)



Pursuing God, Life, Family & Purpose

God is doing a NEW thing!  
Jesus came so we could all have life, and life in abundance.  
Come & encounter your fullest life with us!

Worship Service & Kids SuperChurch (K.G.6)  
Sundays | 10:00am

Youth Group (Gr. 7-12)  
Fridays | 7:30pm

Pastor Aaron & Cynthia Barrington

15th Ave & 3 St W  
403.362.7785



One Block North of Cassils Rd. at 11th Street West

Join us for Sunday Worship  
10:00 am

403-362-8142  
[www.brooksrcr.org](http://www.brooksrcr.org)



403-378-4933

Sunday School 10:00 am  
Worship Service 11:00 am  
Welcomes Everyone!

Pastor: Josh Mueller



Pastor Ryan Reeves  
780-232-2926

420 - 2nd St. W.

SATURDAY SERVICE  
Sabbath School:  
10:00 am  
Worship 11 am



Worship Sundays at 10:00am

Ed. Hour : Gr 5 + at 9:00am  
Age 3- Gr 4 during Worship

Pastor Maggie Theiss  
811 Cassils Road West  
403-362-4259  
[brkstrin@telusplanet.net](mailto:brkstrin@telusplanet.net)

For more info on Trinity go to [brookstrinity.ca](http://brookstrinity.ca)



SUNDAY SERVICE at 10:30 am

JOIN US AT OUR NEW CHURCH HOME  
190004 RGE RD 142  
ACROSS THE OVERPASS  
ON ONE TREE ROAD



SCAN THE QR CODE  
CALL 403-362-8697



Brooks International Gospel Church  
120 1st Ave E.  
Brooks, AB. T1R 0S4  
403-363-0843

[big.church@yahoo.com](mailto:big.church@yahoo.com)  
2024 Year of Doing New Things  
Bible Study: 9:30 am  
Worship Service: 10:30 am



**A EVENT WINNERS** at the 2025 Ag-Energy Men's Bonspiel is the Josh Steinback Rink: left to right Jayme Harbinson, Jean Graham-Brochu, Dennis Unruh, Josh Steinbach. | SUBMITTED PHOTO



**B EVENT WINNERS** at the 2025 Ag-Energy Men's Bonspiel is the Shane Fladhamer Rink: left to right Cody Thompson, Duane Fladhamer, Greg Brown, Shane Fladhamer. | SUBMITTED PHOTO



**C EVENT WINNERS** at the 2025 Ag-Energy Men's Bonspiel is the Gavin Roen Rink: left to right Cayson Helmle, Gavin Roen, Bryson Helmle, Shawn Helmle. | SUBMITTED PHOTO

# One Tree World

IRMA MERKL



ONE TREE – Well our weather is sure crazy with some snow, then we get rain and then it freezes. This spells disaster as there are so many people falling and breaking limbs. Folks, Please be real careful and try not to fall, don't spare on the Ice Melt, it's better than falling. I'm told that there have been many folks with broken bones the last while due to the ice.

NOTICE \*\*To our folks who leave donations at the Brooks United Church for our Thrift. Please note that due to some people misusing the porch, we have had to resort to locking the door at night from 7:00pm to 8:00am in the mornings. Your cooperation in this is greatly appreciated. A special thank you, to all who leave their donations for us, we appreciate them.

\*\*\*NOTE\*\*The Brooks United Church THRIFT Sale is THIS Thursday, January 16th, from 8:00am to 12:30 pm noon. See you all there and come and see what there is that you don't need, but have to get.

Get well wishes go to Joe Hajash who took a very bad fall on ice last Wednesday morning, resulting in a fractured skull +. Hopefully he'll heal really soon and be able to come back home. We wish him a speedy recovery.

On Sunday, January 5th Inge Ellefson and Vicki Hall of Brooks left and flew to New Orleans, where they boarded a ship for a cruise on the Mississippi River up to Vicksburg and back. They went on tours of where they saw where the first Settlers lived and saw plantations of sugarcane. They saw the Darrow big house, where the owner, (boss) of the plantation used to live and later owned 10 other plantations. They were told that Louis Armstrong gained his fame in New Orleans. They toured the University Historical Museum, which they had found very interesting and the Gardens were just beautiful. They said the weather was okay for the first couple of days then, it was quite cold, windy and rainy. After spending almost a week there, they report having a wonderful time. They returned to Calgary late Saturday evening and stayed overnight and then Erwin came and picked them up on Sunday.

I had a call to let me know that my friend Edie Verbicky of Fairview fell on ice last Friday and broke her ankle quite badly and she was taken to Grande Prairie and had surgery on it on Saturday. We wish you a speedy recovery Edie!!

Birthday greetings for the coming week go out to my Great-grandson Luca Merkl of Edgeley, SK

(Jason's son) who'll be two years old on Jan. 17th; to Tamzin Velasco on Jan. 19th; to David Slomp on Jan. 20th; to Brian Nichols on Jan. 21st; Logan Hickey and John Velasco, both on Jan. 22nd. We wish each of you a great day and a "Very Happy Birthday" to each of you and to everyone else that is celebrating a birthday. We wish everyone all the best for the years ahead.

Happy anniversary wishes go to Ty and Glenda Charlton on Jan. 20th and to Tyler and Tamina Charlton

on Jan. 21st. We wish all of you the very best for many happy years together.

Not too much to report this week, I guess everyone is low key after the holidays.

If you have any news or announcements you'd like in my column, Please give me a call at 403-362-3023 or email me at the following -simerkl@eidnet.org by Sunday evening no later than 8pm. If I need more information I'll contact you. It would sure help a lot if folks would call me. So! Folks till next week.

ROLLING HILLS  
A.G. SOCIETY

## Valentine's Prime Rib Supper

- Saturday, February 15, 2025
- Rolling Hills Community Hall
- Formal wear is encouraged
- Doors Open: 5:30 p.m.
- Supper: 6:30 p.m.

**Live Band:**  
"Chevelle SS 396"  
8:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.

- Tickets sold:
  - online at rollinghills.ca (under General Store)
  - Rolling Hills Post Office
  - Cordon Electric- Brooks
  - **NO tickets sold at the event**
- Tickets \$55 each
- Limited # of tickets printed
- Reserve a table for 8 : \$440 and receive a bottle of wine!

50/50

02-04c

NEED MORE INFORMATION?  
CALL/TEXT MICHELE @403-793-4130



**BUFFALO** - This week, we extend sincere sympathy to Tanya Jaques and her family on the passing of her father recently. He lived at Yorkton, Sask. May you treasure the happy times always. Condolences to all the families.

Kendra Waldner and daughters Brooklyn and Nicole flew off to Disneyland for a short visit. I hope all your plans come true considering the devastating fires in the area.

Just a couple of reminders this week:

Firstly, Buffalo Ag Society will host the Valentine's Day Extravaganza at the hall on Saturday, February 15, 2025. Doors open at 6:30 with "Digging Fun" beginning at the same time. There will be a Hot Dog Bar and then music by the "Who Knew Band" will begin at 8:00 p.m. Plan to come and enjoy this family event with all the kids.

Secondly, mark your calendar for FRIDAY, February 28 when Buffalo Ag Society presents Jake Mathews in Concert at the hall. Ham supper will be served at 6:00 p.m. with the show beginning at 7:00 p.m. Tickets already purchased for the December show will be honored and Ag Society members still have tickets for sale. We hope to see you there.

Please watch this column for details on the Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper now in the planning stage. We look forward to seeing you.

## City internet provider looking to expand into county

SANDRA M STANWAY  
BROOKS BULLETIN

The internet provider that was contracted to install fibre optic service in Brooks now has their sights set on two areas of the county.

A representative of Galaxy Fibre, the company that operates BrooksNet, has been speaking with residents at Lake Newell Resort and Westland Acres to gauge support for their internet service.

The city started the program in 2021 and has used \$5.4 million of its federal gas tax funding for construction and was to receive revenue beginning this year. There has been no public update on the program since 2022 although Mayor John Petrie

said in his staté of the region address that "we're optimistic about BrooksNet as construction is complete and we're excited to get homes and commercial properties connected."

Resort residents have multiple fixed wireless options including EIDNet, Rogers, Telus and Xplornet but it does not have a fibre to home option according to the federal government's National Broadband Internet Service Availability Map.

The EIDNet, which is operated by the Eastern Irrigation District, received an \$8.303 million grant last March for a portion of its fibre-optic internet construction under the federal-provincial broadband funding agreement.





Brooks Elks Lodge #77 teamed up with local businesses for a Blue Bin pilot project during which time the Elks collected the contents of metal recycling bins for a month. The money raised will be used to allow Lodges to purchase medical equipment for newborn and young children who are in hospital. Brad Biette, left, presents \$6,588 to Will Ward of Alberta Elks Foundation. It is expected that the program will continue to run. | SUBMITTED PHOTO

# Bow City Signal

WANDA SMITH



BOW CITY - Well Mother Nature has given us a lot of different weather this last week. I sure can't wait for Spring but know the farmers need lots more moisture.

I had the crazy ladies cards here on Tuesday and as usual we had lots of laughs. Mom and Vickie were the lucky winners this week. It is so nice to have these beautiful ladies to play cards with.

Helene and Ernie Mathieu had appointment in Calgary on Thursday. Hope all is going good Ernie.

Joyce and Jerry were in Medicine Hat on Friday for an ultrasound for Pops.

Carrie was my ride to Medicine Hat on same day for my appointment with the surgeon. Slowly coming along. I even run into Mom in waiting room.

June and Brian were also in Medicine Hat last week for appointments. It's too bad we couldn't all get together. Have them around the same time so we didn't have to drive three different vehicles right wishful thinking. We all have to be thankful the roads were good.

Jacob and Kelsi Palko were weekend visitors with Brad and Carrie. Had a few

things to do but was great visit.

On Saturday night, we had the pleasure of visiting with the Palko clan which we always enjoy. Thanks for the visit guys.

On Sunday afternoon, we had the pleasure of Greg and Blair Cyr for the afternoon and they also brought us supper and

a banana loaf. How nice thank you so much. We also had a few games of crib. I'm not mentioning who the winners were. Don't wanna make anybody mad but great afternoon thank You.

Please get a hold of me at 403-363-7496 with any news to share. Love hearing from you.

**Brooks and District Fish and Game Association**  
**Annual HUNTER EDUCATION COURSE**  
**8 WEEKS: Wednesdays from Feb. 26th to April 16th**  
 6:30 TO 9:00 PM AT BROOKS COLLEGE  
 Cost is \$50 per person  
 Hunter Education is for first time hunters looking to get their licenses to put in for tags.  
 Must be 10 years old and up.

**To register please call**  
**Jordan Johnson 403-633-0033**  
**Alisha Johnson 403-363-4443**  
 email:  
**Jordan\_alishajohnson@hotmail.com**

## Bandits go 1-1 over weekend and remain in second place

SANDRA M STANWAY  
BROOKS BULLETIN

The Brooks Bandits went 1-1 over the weekend defeating the Vernon Vipers, 7-3, in Brooks but were defeated by the Sherwood Park Crusaders, 5-3, in Sherwood.

Both games were penalty-filled with multiple powerplay goals.

On Friday three goals by the Vipers and five goals by the Bandits were on powerplays.

During the second period the penalty box door was opened and closed so often that the frame went on close to 40 minutes.

Despite the penalties, the Bandits were able to earn their third consecutive win and hand BCHL rookie goalie Zach Zahara his first win in his first game.

The 19-year-old from Rocky View arrived in Brooks last Tuesday and signed with the Bandits on Wednesday. He had been playing in the Western Hockey League with the Medicine Hat Tigers.

Bandits Michal Kišinský opened the scoring at just under one minute of play with a powerplay goal. It was followed by a powerplay goal from Vernon's Luke Bibby, a former Bandit.

Bibby followed that goal with another PP goal of the game in the second period which gave Vernon a 2-1

lead.

Bandits Nick Peluso scored on the powerplay at 5:08 which was followed by a regular strength insurance goal at 6:05 by Jace Letourneau.

About four minutes later Vernon's Kyren Gronick got his own powerplay goal and the game was tied at three.

Although the next goal, scored on another powerplay by Bandits Ethan Beyer was technically 46-seconds after Gronick's goal, it was scored during a series of penalties in a 40 minute period.

In the final period Beyer and Letourneau each had their second PP goal while Davide Patella got one at even strength.

With the Jan. 10 trade date now passed, teams including the Vipers and Bandits will settle in for the remainder of the season.

Vipers head coach Lukas Lomicky said he is pleased with his four additions.

"We have added size, experience and players with tremendous upside," he said.

One of their new players is 2007-born Jackson DeGraves, brother of former Bandit Nicholas.

With a couple of wins to their credit the Bandits faced one of their toughest rivals on Saturday - Sherwood Park Crusaders and for the third time in the fifth meeting, the Bandits

were defeated. Saturday's score was 5-3 Crusaders.

The game opened quickly with penalties, goals and hits.

The opening goal was netted at 72 seconds by Crusader's Malachi McKinnon.

Bandits Caden Drury tied the game at 1:38 which was followed by McKinnon's powerplay goal at 3:19 and then two Bandits goals, one from AJ Lacroix at 7:07 and a shorthanded goal by Davide Patella at 8:20.

In the first period Patella had a big hit on a Crusader and he was sent to the box but it overturned. Following his goal he was called for crosschecking and was ejected from the game which allowed Crusaders Matthew Frost to score a powerplay goal and tie the period at three.

The second period saw a couple of minor penalties on both sides including unsportsmanlike behaviour and a powerplay goal by Sherwood Park to break the tie and take the lead and they had their final goal in the third period.

Bandits will return to the ice after the All-Star break on Jan. 24 to host the first place Penticton Vees.

As of Sunday, the Bandits are trailing the Vees by four points. The Vees are 26-6-2-0 while the Bandits are 24-6-0-2.

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## The nightmare is almost over.... but it will take years to undo the damage



I suspect most Canadian citizens have experienced some sense of relief from the impending resignation of Prime Minister Trudeau, hopefully soon. I expect many folks in the Alberta agriculture industry are particularly relieved as they have been on the frontline of many anti-agriculture-related initiatives by a long-hostile federal Liberal government. That sense of relief by the ag industry is somewhat similar to when the UCP defeated the Alberta NDP government. In both instances, it was preceded by ag organizations who, guided by polling numbers, had decided to disengage from any further consultations with the Alberta NDP and federal Liberal governments and just wait them out until

they were defeated or voted out. I suspect that, in both cases, neither government really cared if they consulted with producer organizations because they viewed the ag community as political opponents.

In the case of the past Alberta NDP government, their disastrous handling of the farmworker rights issue and wilfully ignoring producer organizations in favour of union and city party supporters was the early tipping point from which the NDP never recovered. To be fair, after their electoral defeat, the Alberta NDP did send out missionaries to try and discover the existence of the ag industry. Surprisingly, that mission saw them assemble some actual realistic NDP ag policy. With the present intense urban focus and elitist leadership of the Alberta NDP, there is no danger of any realistic NDP agriculture policies coming forth anytime soon.

For the federal

Liberal government, their obstinate refusal to exempt grain drying and heating of production facilities from the carbon tax was an early tipping point that their fixation on climate change ideology would be their priority. Subsequent anti-agriculture government bills and the complete emasculation of the venerable federal Department of Agriculture were clearly indicative that the federal Environment Department was deciding the fate of federal agriculture policy. The federal nitrogen emissions reduction policy aspiration was perhaps the final straw. That saw most ag organizations become utterly disillusioned with so-called federal government after the fact consultations.

What sealed the fate of Liberal intentions towards realistic ag policy was the disclosure by the federal auditor-general department that Agriculture Canada

had spent over \$200 million taxpayer dollars on climate-related ag research projects. The disclosure indicated that the department had "no strategy to meet its expected contributions to reductions of greenhouse gas emissions." That expenditure showed more than 25% of the department's budget was spent on environmental and climate change research whims, incentives and even contests. That expenditure was seemingly at the expense of production ag research, which was the traditional mandate of the department.

At the time, A senior department official indicated there was no point in production research if climate change couldn't be stopped by 2030. It would seem a new Conservative Minister of Agriculture will have a massive cleanup job to return some sanity to Agriculture Canada - good luck with that.

One of the side benefits of the prorogation of parliament is that many government bills, in effect, die on the order list of both the Commons and the Senate. This would include such notorious bills as Bill 282, preventing supply management from being discussed during trade negotiations. Bill 355 (also known as the Jann Arden Act) would prohibit transporting horses by air for feeding and processing. Bill 293 which would single out the closure of food animal production and processing during a pandemic. Bill 275, which would ban the use of Roundup. Prorogation also means two positive ag-related bills also die, that being Bill 234, which would have exempted the carbon tax on grain drying and Bill 275, which would criminalized trespassing on intensive livestock operations by animal rights activists.

However, it's not over yet; the federal Liberal government is still in

business, perhaps until June if an election is called. Although they have said they would defeat the Liberal government at the next opportunity, the NDP could prop up the despised Liberal government until next October even if Trudeau was replaced as Liberal leader. So, there is more damage that they could do as long as they cling to power.

Federal Liberal Greenpeace Environment Minister, the loathsome anti-Alberta zealot Steven Guilbeault, has already stated that he will be applying and enforcing climate change-related regulations until the bitter end. That would include an orgy of climate change spending and collecting the hated carbon tax at every opportunity. The nightmare is not yet over.

*Will Verboven is an ag opinion writer.*



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# Buffalos football player at Alberta Senior Bowl

Kyler Stein....

**SANDRA M STANWAY**  
BROOKS BULLETIN

The Brooks Buffalos senior high school football captain was one of 84 students who made the cut for the recent Senior Bowl All-Star game.

Kyler Stein, the 6'1", 295 lb centre represented one of the 42 Team South players at the 34th annual Senior Bowl High School football game that was held in Calgary on Jan. 5.

It wasn't Stein's first provincial football event. In grade 10 he was part of Team Alberta.

He said if a player is good enough their coach will give them the tryout papers for the senior bowl so there were about 150 players at the December tryout.

"I had a really good camp," he said.

Naturally, Stein was happy to have made the cut. "It's something I've always wanted to do - to cap your high school career."

"To make the team and to put the skills and talent together to get more offers - to showcase your skills to more of the coaches and to show how good you really are," he said.

Following the game, which Team North won 31-10, Stein was approached by a couple of coaches.

Like any new team that is formed Stein said it was a little rough at the start but they did click for the game although the errors cost the team.

"Just a couple of errors. We got behind and fell apart from there," he said.

"We came out at the first drive of the game. They got a really big stop which they got set up in good field position and then they started scoring. After half time we started to come together a little bit but defence got worn out and we couldn't execute on the



**Kyler Stein, a former Brooks Buffalos football player, at the Alberta Bowl in January.** | SUBMITTED PHOTO

schemes we were supposed to do."

By the end of the first quarter the North had a commanding 14-0 lead which remained as the score until early in the third when Team North got a touchdown.

The South did get on the scoreboard in the third quarter with a 34-yard field goal and in the fourth quarter with a 39-yard touchdown pass.

The North closed out the game with a field goal and a final TD pass.

Stein said it was a great experience.

"It was just fun and a great time."

The grade 12 St. Joseph's Collegiate student has played since grade two and he would like to continue at university, in either Canada or the United States.

He has not yet committed to a school but according to his online profile, he would like to graduate with an education degree and teach social studies.

"I just have to narrow it down where I want to go. I want to make it as far as I can, so go to university and see what happens out of that," he said.

Buffalos head coach

Dylan Hartley said during Stein's three years with the team he was the starting centre, long snapper and on the defensive line.

In grade 11 he was selected as the Rangeland Football Conference Most Outstanding Lineman and this year he was recognized as a league All-Star for his play on the offensive line for the Southland Football League.

"Kyler was fundamental to our team with his ability to make reads and adjustments. He set the tone for the group and they followed. We tried to scheme to keep Kyler involved in the play so we could utilize his run and pass blocking abilities," said Hartley.

He said is and always has been a very dedicated and driven player.

"He has put in a ton of work in the off-season to work on his speed and strength in the weight room as well as attending different camps and playing for different spring teams. His high school career reflected that and it is helping his recruitment to play at the next level.

"I wish Kyler the best as he takes those next steps."

## Duchess Dispatch

LINDA MOREY



DUCHESS - A warm shout out to the gentleman, always accompanied by his sweet brown and white dog, who took some time on Sunday morning to do a bit of neighbourly shovelling! He made quite a swath in the neighbourhood south of the Hall. Your efforts are

appreciated!

Duchess Curling Club is hosting their Open Bonspiel February 3-8. Call Tony at 501-8240 to register.

There will be a P.A.L course on January 25 from 9 am to 7 pm. This course is needed to obtain a non-restricted Firearms

Possession and Acquisition License. Minimum age for the course is 12 years old. It will be held in Brooks.

Please call or text me with news items at 403-793-1630.

Quote: "either you run the day, or the day runs you."

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# Brooks and area RCMP report



**SANDRA M STANWAY**  
BROOKS BULLETIN

### 2024 service calls

Last year Brooks RCMP responded to 6,104 calls for service including 310 collisions, 94 impaired driving incidents and 444 thefts. They also held 401 people in custody.

The city's peace officers issued 1,868 tickets including 44 for driving without insurance, 507 speeding tickets in school and playground zones and 290 Class 7 tickets as well as issuing 614 warnings for traffic violations.

### New Year's Eve patrol leads to drug-related charges

During a routine patrol on Dec. 31 at 2:17 a.m an RCMP officer conducted a traffic stop on a sedan during which time the

officer observed multiple indicators of controlled substance activity.

The driver and passenger were arrested and during the vehicle search 45g of meth, 113g of illegal cannabis, several scales and six cellphones were seized.

The driver was arrested for possession with intent to traffic and is scheduled to appear in court on Feb. 25.

### Drugs seized during vehicle stop

Brooks RCMP arrested a driver after finding 18.5g of meth and two grams of cocaine inside a stopped vehicle.

On Jan. 8 at 1:40 a.m. police pulled over a vehicle that had a burnt-out license plate light.

While speaking with the driver the officer developed reasonable grounds to believe that the driver and

the passenger were involved in "illicit activity".

The driver and passenger were arrested and police conducted a search of the vehicle during which time they found the drugs and drug paraphernalia.

The driver was released from custody and is scheduled to appear in court on March 5.

### Police issue speeding tickets in school zone

Within a two hour period a speed zone blitz in the Eastbrook area on Jan. 7 police issued five speeding tickets and one seatbelt violation during.

"Speeding in this area remains a significant issue and with the current slippery road conditions, it poses an even greater risk to pedestrians and children," states a police report.



The U13 Tier 3 Brooks Jr. Bandits won the gold medal in the Blackfalds Minor Hockey tournament over the weekend. | ALLISON HICKEY PHOTO

## Tilley Telegram

ANITA CHAPPELL



TILLEY - Bethany Lutheran Church offers regular worship services at 11:00 am each Sunday. All are welcome to attend.

Tilley & District Public Library hours are Mondays 9:00 am to 12:30 pm and 4:00 to 7:30 pm; Wednesdays 9:00 am to 12:30 pm and 4:00 to 7:30 pm; Saturdays 9:00 am to 12:30 pm.

Tilley Seniors Society luncheon is the last Thursday of each month at 12:00 pm for all members and invited guests.

Faith Lutheran Church in Rolling Hills will offer worship service at 10:00 am on Sunday, January 26 with Reverend John Theiss. All are welcome.

Rolling Hills Ag Society will host a Valentine's Prime Rib Supper on Saturday, February 15, at the Rolling Hills Community Hall. This will be a formal event with a live band playing for the dance following dinner. Tickets are available at rollinghills.ca, the Rolling Hills Post Office or at Cordon Electric in Brooks. Call or text Michele at 403-793-4130 for more information.

Bob was talking to his young nephew. The nephew asked him, "Uncle, what is it like to be old?" "Well," answered Bob, "I hurt all over from the arthritis, I have a dozen medications to take every day, can't see more'n a few feet in front of me, can't hear so good, sometimes I get dizzy spells and fall right over... but thank goodness I still have my driver's license!" (paraphrased, but another Ken Green classic! Thanks, Ken!)

To submit news items, please email goombaw@eidnet.org or phone 377-2259. Please contact me by or before 8:00 pm on Sunday

evenings to have your news included for the week. On long weekends, news is due Thursday morning before the holiday.

**Brooks & District Fish & Game**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
Tues., Jan. 21, 2025  
7:00 pm • at JBS Centre

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Please RSVP by phone (403-362-4955) or email (brksfdr@telus.net) before January 14th, 2025.

## Scandia Sketch

KARLYN TAKEDA



SCANDIA - Rolling Hills Ag Society will be having a Valentines Prime Rib Supper on Saturday, February 15th beginning at the Rolling Hills Community Hall. Doors open at 5:30 with supper served at 6:30 and live band Chevelle SS 396 playing from 8:30-12:30. Tickets are available for purchase online at www.rollinghills.ca (under general store) or from Rolling Hills Post Office or Cordon Electric in Brooks. No tickets will be available at the doors. For more info call Michele at 403-793-4130

Save the date for the Scandia Community Hall Pancake Supper & Pie Auction- March 4th.

Alcoma School News-ECS registration is now open, please stop in at the school or visit the website to register your little one. There will be Hot Breakfast for all students on Thursday. Alcoma Kids Club will

take place on Friday from 12-1:30. Skip forms and information have come home and are due back by January 24th.

It's always great to hear about our neighbors and the exciting things happening in

the community. If you have any news or interesting Scandia trivia you'd like submitted in the sketch, please contact me at Karlyn. takeda@hotmail.com or 403-501-3618.

**BSSA BOW SLOPE SHIPPING ASSOCIATION**

**Annual Meeting** Wednesday, January 29th at 2 pm at BSSA

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# Puzzles



## CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to skating.  
Each number corresponds to cooking.  
(Hint: 24 = E)

**A. 13 15 18 20 24**

Clue: Thin metal on skate

**B. 2 9 24 24 15 1**

Clue: Rolling devices

**C. 15 18 22 24 1**

Clue: Tie up shoes

**D. 1 25 24 24 20**

Clue: Fast pace

Answers: A: blade B: wheels C: laces D: speed

## WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to skating.

RLLREO

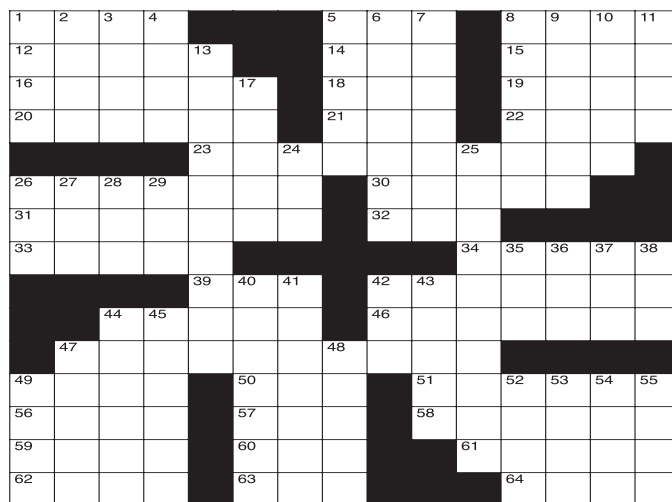
--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Roller

## GUESS WHO?

I am an actor born in Australia on January 13, 1990. Before becoming an actor, I worked in the construction industry. I am best known for a prominent role in "The Hunger Games" series, as well as my high-profile marriage to a pop singer.

Answer: Liam Hemsworth

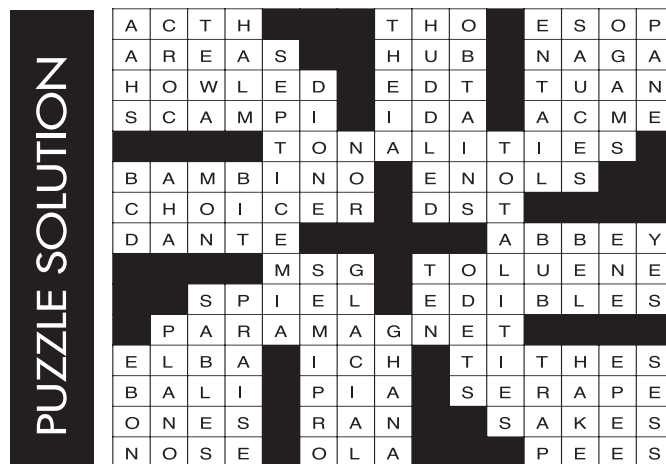


### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. This regulates cortisol production (abbr.)
- 5. People of northern Vietnam
- 8. Employee stock ownership plan
- 12. Regions
- 14. The center of a city
- 15. Hindu serpentine deity
- 16. Roared
- 18. Sun up in New York
- 19. "Sir" in Malaysian
- 20. Shrimp dish
- 21. Muckraker Tarbell
- 22. Apex
- 23. Harmonic effects
- 26. One of Babe Ruth's nicknames
- 30. Groups in organic chemistry
- 31. More pleasant-tasting
- 32. Spring forward
- 33. Noted writer
- 34. Building occupied by monks
- 39. "The world's most famous arena"
- 42. Colorless liquid hydrocarbon
- 44. Long or fast speech
- 46. Things you can eat
- 47. Substance in which magnetic moments are not aligned
- 49. Actor Idris
- 50. I (German)
- 51. Taxes
- 56. Indonesian island
- 57. Nuisance (slang)
- 58. Shawl
- 59. Digits
- 60. Moved on foot quickly
- 61. "For goodness \_\_\_"
- 62. Facial body part
- 63. Russian river
- 64. Urinates

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Partner to "oohs"
- 2. Scaly water dweller
- 3. Pueblo people of New Mexico
- 4. Music producer Teo
- 5. Greek mythological goddess
- 6. Got together to discuss
- 7. Acquires
- 8. Involve
- 9. Some are tomato-based
- 10. Old Irish alphabets
- 11. A sheet of glass in a window or door
- 13. Blood poisoning
- 17. A moon of Saturn
- 24. Neither
- 25. Sums
- 26. They follow "A"
- 27. Satisfaction
- 28. People of southeastern Burma
- 29. Small amount
- 35. Guy (slang)
- 36. Sound unit
- 37. Midway between northeast and east
- 38. Affirmative
- 40. Almost at the top
- 41. Extremely slow
- 42. Pearl Jam's debut album
- 43. Influential mid-century playwright
- 44. Martens
- 45. Approval
- 47. Dallas-adjacent Texas city
- 48. African nation
- 49. Dark brown or black
- 52. A place to get caught
- 53. Large-headed, elongated fish
- 54. Type of sword
- 55. Scottish tax or levy



PUZZLE SOLUTION

### AT THE RINK

### WORD SEARCH



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

### WORDS

- AXEL
- BLADE
- BREAKAWAY
- CHECK
- COAST
- COMPETITION
- DISCIPLINE
- EDGE
- FLIP
- HOCKEY
- ICE
- JUMP
- LIFT
- NOVICE
- PROGRAM
- RINK
- ROLLER
- SEASON
- SINGLES
- SKATING
- SPEED
- SPIN
- WARMUP
- ZAMBONI

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

## Sudoku

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

### ANSWERS

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

Level: Intermediate



time to yourself, Virgo. This may include taking a trip or booking a relaxing day at a nearby spa.

**LIBRA** - Sept 23/Oct 23  
 Libra, allow some time to pass by before offering an assessment. Responding too quickly might produce a knee-jerk reaction that could prove regrettable down the road.

**SCORPIO** - Oct 24/Nov 22  
 Take extra care dealing with a sticky situation at work, Scorpio. You may need to be very careful about checking for mistakes in detail-oriented tasks without stepping on any toes.

**SAGITTARIUS** - Nov 23/Dec 21  
 You might need to bargain to get something you want this week, Sagittarius. Figure out what you are willing to give up and then identify a person you can work with.

**CAPRICORN** - Dec 22/Jan 20  
 Clear communication is needed right now, Capricorn; otherwise, you may fall victim to hearsay or crossed signals. Get the facts before sharing your opinion.

**AQUARIUS** - Jan 21/Feb 18  
 Start contemplating big changes pertaining to your employment situation, Aquarius. An opportunity might come along that proves too good to pass up.

**PISCES** - Feb 19/Mar 20  
 The feelings you have for someone will help you overlook any imperfections you have noticed, Pisces. Keep your relationship strong by focusing on this person's good points.

**ARIES** - Mar 21/Apr 20  
 Aries, charm is one of your strongest attributes. This week your magnetism is magnified and can work to your advantage. You might attract people who can help with a situation.

**TAURUS** - Apr 21/May 21  
 Taurus, it is never easy to reevaluate finances and cut back. However, this is the week when you likely have to keep your credit card in your wallet; otherwise, the bills add up.

**GEMINI** - May 22/June 21  
 Gemini, now is the time to turn great opportunities into big ideas. Make a plan of action and spell out the steps necessary to see an opportunity come to fruition. Ask for help, if needed.

**CANCER** - June 22/July 22  
 Cancer, others are supportive of a new project you recently proposed. Maintain that support by staying focused on the tasks at hand. It's time to move things along.

**LEO** - July 23/Aug 23  
 You are open to new activities and friendships, Leo. Luckily, you may not have to work too hard to make these things happen. Bring new members into existing friend groups.

**VIRGO** - Aug 24/Sept 22  
 Do whatever it takes to have some quality

# Classifieds

**Deadline for Classifieds word ads is Monday - 3 PM**  
**Call 403-362-5571**

## obituaries



**In Loving Memory of**  
**CLARA MYRTLE MAY SHARPE**  
 July 24, 1937 –  
 December 30, 2024

It is with heavy hearts and deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Clara Sharpe a remarkable woman whose strength, love, and wisdom left an indelible mark on all who knew her. Surrounded by family Clara peacefully passed away on December 30, 2024, after a short but courageous battle with cancer. True to her character, in her final days, she reflected on her life with gratitude, proclaiming that she lived an amazing life and had no regrets.

Born on July 24, 1937, in Smithville, Ontario, to George and Marjorie Adams, Clara grew up with a strong sense of family and an unshakable determination that would define her life. She was predeceased by her loving husband and best friend of 47 years, Gordon Sharpe with whom she shared a lifetime of love, partnership, and adventure. Together, they built a beautiful family and a legacy of hard work and resilience.

Clara was also predeceased by her beloved children, Candy Hamm and Douglas Sharpe as well as her grandsons BJ and Tyler Sharpe. Clara is also predeceased by several siblings, in-laws, and dear friends who were part of her incredible journey. She now joins them in eternal peace.

Clara's surviving children carry forward her legacy: Lori (Mike) Ferner of Calgary, AB; David Sharpe of Toronto, ON; Darrell Tanner of Edmonton, AB; Bob (Debbie) Sharpe of Beaverlodge, AB; Sherry (Max) Desjardins of Warren, ON; Ken (Arlane) Sharpe of Brooks, AB, and Dave Hamm (son in law) of Munson, Ab. Her heart overflowed with pride and love for her numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and her precious great-great-grandchild. They were her greatest joy and the source of her brightest smiles. As well as her sisters, Donna and Sharon Robbins of Ontario, and many cherished nieces, nephews, and extended family.

She was a woman of immense strength, independence, and honesty. She never hesitated to speak her mind, offering advice that was as direct as it was full of love. She was the heart of her family, the steady voice of reason, and the unwavering source of support. Her love for her family knew no bounds, and her presence brought warmth and wisdom to all who gathered around her.

Clara's life was a testament to resilience, love, and living fully. Though her absence leaves an ache in our hearts, her spirit lives on in the countless memories she created and the lessons she imparted. As she would want us to remember, she lived a life filled with love, purpose, and no regrets, a life well-lived and deeply loved.

We will miss her fiercely but find comfort in knowing she is reunited with her loved ones, watching over us with pride and love. Until we meet again, may you rest in eternal peace.

A family graveside celebration of Clara's life will be held a later date to honor her incredible journey and the many lives she touched.



**CHRISTIANSON**  
 Obituary for Elizabeth Enid Christianson "Beth" (née Debenham) (April 11, 1951 – January 6, 2025)

It is with deep sadness that the family of Beth Christianson announces her passing on January 6, 2025, at the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital. Born

in Wolseley, Saskatchewan, Beth grew up in a close-knit family with three sisters and four brothers. Her childhood was shaped by the warmth of rural life and the structure of a devout religious upbringing, where church and family worship were central. While these experiences profoundly influenced her, Beth later found her own path and maintained meaningful friendships with many from the church community. Beth's early years were filled with imagination and adventure. Before moving to Regina at age seven, she and her siblings created countless playful quests—cowpie fights, cemetery picnics, and fort-building in junkyards. In Regina, life took on a new rhythm, with Beth excelling in school, earning the admiration of her teachers, and fostering her lifelong love of reading. Weekends involved chores, followed by bike rides and outdoor play with neighborhood kids. Summers spent on relatives' farms brought hard work, camaraderie, and carefree days of sunshine-filled antics. As a young adult, Beth moved to Edmonton to pursue drafting at NAIT. She later relocated to Calgary, where she worked at Christianson Surveys and met her husband, Cam, in 1977. The couple married, moved to Brooks in 1985, and raised two daughters, Raye and Alexi. In 1995, Beth's dream home—designed by her and built by her brothers—was completed at Lake Newell Resort. A devoted mother and wife, Beth cherished her family deeply and maintained strong connections with extended family and friends. She loved learning, music (especially classical, Paul Simon, and Billy Joel), home renovation projects, and storytelling. Her imagination and wit brought laughter, even when her jokes amused her most of all. Beth faced significant challenges, including mental health struggles and health issues in her later years. Despite these difficulties, her strength, intelligence, and kindness left a lasting impression on everyone who knew her. Her husband, Cam, stood steadfastly by her side, and her legacy of love and devotion will be remembered by all. She leaves to mourn, her husband, Cam, daughter Raye (grandchildren Owen and Olivia) of Red Deer, and daughter Alexi (spouse Jeff, grandchildren Tyson and Luella) of Rosemary, sisters Beverley Debenham (Jim), Bonny Debenham (Mike), brothers Scott Broad (Karen), Gerry Debenham (Eunice) and Robert Debenham (Karen); nieces Terra Vaughan, special niece Jory Debenham, Jennifer Scherer, Laura Debenham, Kathe Debenham, Hannah Debenham, Esprit Farmer, Leanne Christianson and nephews Alex Barkley, Mica Barkley, Jeff Christianson, uncles Lorne Debenham, George Debenham, and aunts Jean Pady and Margaret Quesenbury, brothers-in-law Tom Christianson (Alma), and Bill Christianson of Brooks, and numerous cousins and extended family. The family extends heartfelt thanks to the ICU staff at Medicine Hat Regional Hospital for their exceptional care. Donations in Beth's memory may be made to the Brooks Animal Protection Society (BAPS), a cause close to her heart. A celebration of Beth's life will be held in April 2025, with details to follow. For further information or to leave a message of sympathy, please visit [www.thomfuneralhome.com](http://www.thomfuneralhome.com) or call (403-501-1010).

*Thom's*  
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## feed & seed

**HAY FOR SALE** - Round bales, mesh wrap - 1st cut alfalfa or 2nd cut alfalfa. No rain, semi-loads, loading available. Tom Adams 403-633-0445, Duchess, Alberta. 03-18p

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 170 square 3x4, 2nd cut, \$160/ton.  
 200 square 3x4, 3rd cut, \$190/ton.  
 380 round straw, \$48 per bale.  
 430 square, 3x4 straw, \$90/ton.

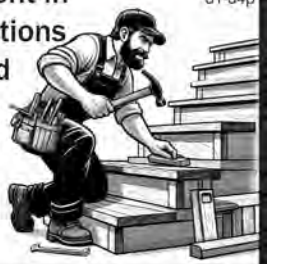
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## business announcements

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If interested call **SCOTT MARTIN**  
**403-376-8721**

## employment

### CRAWLING VALLEY RECREATION SOCIETY

WE ARE LOOKING FOR OUR 2025 STAFF FOR THE UPCOMING SEASON

Then Managers would start the middle of April to the end of September

Grounds Manager is responsible for the campground maintenance for all areas. Operating and maintaining small equipment, supervising staff, and a good knowledge of underground sprinklers. Must be willing to work weekends

Office Manager is responsible for registering campers, ordering and picking up supply's, schedule staff, supervising staff, processing transaction's, banking. Computer experience is required. Willing to work most weekends

Grounds staff are to assist the managers, operate small equipment and maintenance of the campground, clean bathrooms. Must be willing to work weekends

Office staff are to assist the managers, registering campers, cleaning bathrooms, selling product, serving ice cream. Must be willing to work days, evenings and weekends

Security person is responsible to enforce the campground rules, deliver fire wood. Must be able to work evenings and nights

All staff have to have a drivers license

If interested please send a resume to Crawling Valley, Box 567 Bassano AB, T0J0B0. You can email your resume to [crawlingvalley@gmail.com](mailto:crawlingvalley@gmail.com)

Cut off is February 7/2025. Only those considered for a position will be notified.

CRAWLING VALLEY RECREATION SOCIETY is looking for **GARBAGE REMOVAL** for 2025 season. If interested please send a quote to [crawlingvalley@gmail.com](mailto:crawlingvalley@gmail.com) or mail it to Box 567, Bassano, AB. T0J 0B0. The cut off is February 7, 2025.

## crematorium

**SMITH FUNERAL HOME LTD. AND CREMATORIUM**

In November of 2015, Smith Funeral Home Ltd. purchased our own crematorium, conveniently located in the City of Brooks, alleviating the unnecessary need to transport your loved one out of the local area and allowing cremations to be conducted as soon as possible.

Our deep roots in the community are a source of pride, as we grow side by side with the families we serve. We hope you will consider us your source for compassionate care and exemplary service. Our pledge is to help you honor your loved one in a meaningful way, offering thoughtful guidance and personal attention to every detail.

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FOUND - Cell phone found. Owner can claim at Brooks Bulletin office. Must identify. 50tfn

**lost & found**

FOUND - Man's driver's license dropped off at Brooks Bulletin. Can claim at office.

**click on**

www.brooksbulletin.com

**coming events**

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS**

**Mon & Sat**  
8:00 pm Brooks United Church, 507 - 3rd Ave. W., Brooks  
**Tues. & Thurs.**  
8:00 pm Trinity Lutheran Church  
**Wednesday**  
8:00 pm Bassano Health Centre  
608 - 5th Ave. Bassano

811 Cassils Rd. W., Brooks  
**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL 403-793-4796**

01-52p

**employment**

**FARM WORKERS REQUIRED**  
12 POSITIONS AVAILABLE

LOOKING FOR **SPECIALIZED LABOURER.** Duties include potato grading inspection. Wages are \$17.70 per hour with housing available. Monday - Saturday with some Sundays 60+ hours a week. Job start date: March 1, 2025 to October 31, 2025  
**Fax resume to: 1-403-328-1559**

02-03p

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**employment**

**employment**

**Eastern Irrigation District We Are Hiring!**



The Eastern Irrigation District (EID), Brooks, Alberta, seeks a full time **WEED CONTROL - ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNICIAN** to join our Operations Team.

The Weed Control - Environmental Technician, reporting to the Divisional Superintendent, is responsible for controlling undesirable vegetation on and in the District's waterways, right-of-ways, and grounds. This position involves maintaining application equipment, managing records, ensuring safety compliance, and performing general construction and maintenance tasks during the winter season.

The individual must have a broad set of qualifications and skills, including, but not limited to:

- Ability to obtain and maintain Aquatic and Industrial Applicators Licenses.
- Knowledge of safe chemical handling and vegetation control methods.
- Strong organizational skills with the ability to manage and prioritize multiple tasks and demonstrated attention to detail.
- Self-motivated with the ability and willingness to work independently as well as productively and cooperatively in a team environment.
- Valid Alberta Class 5 driver's license.

For a complete job description please visit our website at www.eid.ca. The EID offers a competitive salary, a comprehensive benefits package including a defined benefit pension plan, along with learning and development opportunities. Interested applicants are invited to submit a resume to humanresources@eid.ca by January 31, 2025.

We thank all applicants for your interest in the EID; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

03-04c

eid@eid.ca

www.eid.ca

403-362-1400

**Eastern Irrigation District We Are Hiring!**



The Eastern Irrigation District (EID), Brooks, Alberta, seeks energetic, well organized individuals to fill student seasonal positions (April 28 to August 29, 2025) within the EID. Applicants should be well motivated and able to perform his/her duties with limited supervision. A valid Alberta Driver's License is required.

**Any student wishing to return please forward a letter of intent to secure your employment.**

Student seasonal positions offered are:

- Seasonal Habitat Development Aides
- Seasonal Aquatic Invasive Species Aides
- Rolling Hills Reservoir Campground Staff
- Bassano Dam Tenders
- Mower Operators
- Labourers

Interested applicants are invited to submit a resume to humanresources@eid.ca, stating their experience and qualifications, along with three recent relevant work-related references. Deadline for applications will be end of day February 7, 2025.

We thank all applicants for your interest in the EID; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

02-05c

eid@eid.ca

www.eid.ca

403-362-1400

**Eastern Irrigation District We Are Hiring!**



The Eastern Irrigation District (EID), Brooks, Alberta, seeks an energetic, well organized individual to serve as **CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE FOREMAN** for the District's Rolling Hills Reservoir Campground located 20 km south of Brooks.

The Campground Maintenance Foreman is responsible for overseeing and performing the maintenance and repair of all campground facilities, grounds, and equipment. This role will ensure the campground operates efficiently and safely while maintaining high standards of cleanliness and functionality. The ideal candidate will have hands-on technical skills, strong leadership abilities, and a commitment to providing a safe and well-maintained environment for campers and visitors. This seasonal position will be from May - September 2025.

The individual must have a broad set of qualifications and skills, including, but not limited to:

- Previous experience in maintenance, construction, or a related field, with supervisory experience preferred.
- Prior experience with small engine repair and maintenance, as well as servicing landscaping equipment like zero-turn mowers and weed whackers, is preferred.
- Strong organizational skills with the ability to manage and prioritize multiple tasks.
- Effective interpersonal communication skills.
- Valid Alberta Class 5 Driver's License that is insurable under the District's coverage.

Interested applicants are invited to submit a resume to humanresources@eid.ca, stating their experience, qualifications, and salary expectations along with three recent work-related references.

We thank all applicants for your interest in the EID; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. This competition will remain open until end of day Friday, February 7, 2025.

02-05c

eid@eid.ca

www.eid.ca

403-362-1400

**Eastern Irrigation District We Are Hiring!**



The Eastern Irrigation District (EID), Brooks, Alberta, seeks an energetic, well organized individual to serve as **CAMPGROUND MANAGER** for the District's Rolling Hills Reservoir Campground located 20 km south of Brooks.

The Campground Manager is responsible for the overall operation and management of the campground. This role involves ensuring excellent customer service, maintaining the facilities, and promoting a welcoming and enjoyable environment for all visitors. The Campground Manager oversees day-to-day operations, staff, and financial performance while ensuring compliance with local regulations and safety standards. This seasonal position will be from May - September 2025.

The individual must have a broad set of qualifications and skills, including, but not limited to:

- Previous experience in campground or hospitality management.
- Strong organizational skills with the ability to manage and prioritize multiple tasks.
- Proficient in reservation systems and basic financial software.
- Effective interpersonal communication skills.
- Valid Alberta Class 5 Driver's License that is insurable under the District's coverage.

Interested applicants are invited to submit a resume to humanresources@eid.ca, stating their experience, qualifications, and salary expectations along with three recent work-related references.

We thank all applicants for your interest in the EID; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. This competition will remain open until end of day Friday, February 7, 2025.

02-05c

eid@eid.ca

www.eid.ca

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## employment

### Eastern Irrigation District We Are Hiring!



The Eastern Irrigation District (EID), Brooks, Alberta, seeks an energetic, well organized individual to provide **CAMPGROUND SAFETY PATROL** for the District's Rolling Hills Reservoir Campground located 20 km south of Brooks.

Under the direction of the Campground Manager, the Campground Safety Patrol will be responsible for performing regular rounds of the entire campground and ensure all rules are being followed, ensure all gates are locked and outbuildings are secured nightly, and assisting campground management and staff when required. This seasonal position will be from May - September 2025.

The individual must have a broad set of qualifications and skills, including, but not limited to:

- Strong organizational skills with the ability to manage and prioritize multiple tasks.
- Self-motivated with the ability and willingness to work independently.
- Effective interpersonal communication skills.
- Valid Alberta Class 5 Driver's License that is insurable under the District's coverage.

Interested applicants are invited to submit a resume to [humanresources@eid.ca](mailto:humanresources@eid.ca), stating their experience, qualifications, and salary expectations along with three recent work-related references.

We thank all applicants for your interest in the EID; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. This competition will remain open until end of day Friday, February 7, 2025.

02-05c

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03-04c

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01-52p

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40-52c

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 Brooks, Alberta

01-52c

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03-52-10

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 Dr. Darren Wagner, OD

01-52c

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