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Chestermere's Birth Forest Applications Open Now

Cherishing Chestermere's New Beginnings Through Tree Planting

by Stephen Jeffrey



The City of Chestermere is thrilled to announce that applications are now open for the 2024 Birth Forest planting event—a heartwarming tradition that celebrates the city’s newest residents. Families in Chestermere who welcomed a child in 2024 are invited to participate in this special occasion by planting a tree in honour of their little one. This unique event not only symbolizes growth and new beginnings but also contributes to the beautification and environmental health of our community.

Organized by the City’s Parks Department, the Birth Forest initiative is fully subsidized, ensuring that every family can join in without financial barriers. This thoughtful program reflects Chestermere’s commitment to supporting its residents and fostering a greener, more sustainable future for all. Interested families must register to participate; the registration process is straightforward, and the subsidized cost covers all necessary tree planting supplies.

This year’s event is scheduled to take place on May 8th,

2025, at the Westmere Environmental Reserve, located at 117A Springmere Drive. The festivities will be conducted in a drop-in style from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, with families encouraged to arrive anytime between 1:00 PM and 3:30 PM. Convenient parking is available along Springmere Drive, making it easy for families to attend and enjoy this memorable day outdoors.

Residents are encouraged to submit their applications promptly, as registration closes on April 30th. To apply, simply follow the provided link and complete the online application form. This initiative not only marks a joyful milestone for new families but also strengthens our community bond and commitment to nature. Join us in celebrating life, growth, and the bright future of Chestermere—one tree at a time.

[The application is available here](#)



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Chestermere Firefighters Boost Capabilities with Enhanced Life Support Training

New equipment and advanced skills set to improve emergency response in our community

by Stephen Jeffrey Photo Courtwsey of the City of Chestermere



Chestermere's commitment to public safety received a significant boost this March, as local firefighters began receiving advanced Basic Life Support (BLS) training and state-of-the-art equipment upgrades. The initiative, championed by the Chestermere Professional Firefighters Association (CPFA), is designed to ensure that emergency services can provide critical care right on scene, a vital improvement that reflects the city's dedication to upscaling its emergency response capabilities.

"In 2023, the city decided to up our level of service," said firefighter Matthew Relf, a key proponent of the

program. "It means that we now operate to a primary care paramedic level of training." The new training regimen equips firefighters with essential skills typically reserved for advanced emergency medical personnel. This development is part of a broader effort in Alberta to integrate more comprehensive emergency care into first response, a trend seen in various communities across the province.

A core component of the initiative is high-performance CPR, a program developed by Alberta Health Services (AHS) that is already proving successful in other regions. In addition to CPR, Chestermere firefighters are now

trained in cardiac monitoring, advanced airway management, and intravenous therapy. These skills are critical when dealing with emergencies that require immediate intervention before the arrival of additional medical support. “We have about ten medications we can administer on scene,” Relf explained, “and we’ve added advanced trauma and drowning emergency training tailored to our local needs, especially given our proximity to the lake.”

This comprehensive training is further supported by new equipment on Chestermere fire engines. Each vehicle is now outfitted with primary care paramedic kits, complete with life-saving supplies such as EpiPens. “What we wanted to do was give our citizens the ability to receive critical interventions promptly,” stated firefighter Josh Sather. Previously, some BLS interventions had to await the arrival of an AHS unit, potentially costing valuable time in emergencies.

The enhancements do not stop at medical interventions. The City of Chestermere has also upgraded its fire trucks with carboxyhemoglobin sensors. These devices are essential in assessing victims of carbon monoxide poisoning, a serious hazard in residential and industrial fires. With these sensors, firefighters can quickly determine exposure levels and provide appropriate treatment, thereby improving outcomes in potentially life-threatening situations.

Training remains an ongoing process for the CPFA. “In the last couple of years, we’ve continuously built on our training programs, ensuring that every team member is up to speed,” Relf remarked. This collaborative approach has fostered a sense of unity and confidence among the firefighters, ensuring that every call is met with a well-coordinated and skilled response. Sather summed it up by saying, “A rising tide lifts all boats. Even those with only standard first aid training are becoming more proficient, which translates into better care for the people of this city.”

This proactive approach to emergency response not only enhances the safety of Chestermere residents but also reinforces the city’s reputation as a community that invests in its first responders. With these advancements, Chestermere firefighters are better equipped than ever to face emergencies head-on, providing a critical lifeline to the community when every second counts.



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FREE ADMISSION

Chestermere Man Faces Fraud Charges in RV Park Lot Scam

Dozens of investors defrauded in unauthorized lot sales near Sundre

by Stephen Jeffrey

A Chestermere man is now in the spotlight as authorities charge him with orchestrating a multi-million-dollar fraud scheme involving the sale of undeveloped RV park lots near Sundre. Craig Douglas McMorran, 64, is accused of misrepresenting the potential of an RV campground project to defraud investors from both Alberta and British Columbia.

In August 2017, McMorran, operating under the company Clearwater Cottages Ltd., purchased approximately 94.22 acres of land southeast of Sundre with plans to develop a state-of-the-art RV campground. Instead of following proper procedures, he began marketing and selling lots under 99-year lease terms to unsuspecting buyers. According to police reports, lot prices ranged from \$39,900 to \$69,900, while some buyers were enticed by a combined lot and cottage package offered at \$169,000. Between August 2017 and September 2020, 26 lots were sold to individuals who believed they were purchasing legitimate, development-ready parcels of land.

Authorities revealed that McMorran never secured the required development permits, yet he pressed ahead with construction. Clearwater County officials issued cease and desist orders to halt the unauthorized building activities, but McMorran allegedly continued work regardless of these warnings. The situation escalated when, in January 2022, a court imposed a permanent injunction on the project, forcing all lot owners to vacate the premises by June 30, 2022.

The fraudulent sales have resulted in a combined loss of approximately \$1.5 million for the victims, many of whom reside in Calgary. The Calgary Police Service Economic Crimes Unit launched an investigation after receiving numerous complaints from buyers who began questioning the legitimacy of their transactions. "Finding out you are a victim of fraud can be devastating and have lasting emotional and financial impacts," said Staff Sgt. Geoff Gawlinski from the economic crimes unit.

This case is not an isolated incident for McMorran. He was previously charged, along with business partner Gus Kalabalikis, in connection with a similar fraud scheme involving RV sites near Lake Koocanusa close to Fernie, B.C. That case, which involved the sale of RV lots between 2014 and 2017, saw Kalabalikis convicted on multiple charges while McMorran's sentencing was delayed pending further legal proceedings. In the current matter, McMorran faces charges of fraud over \$5,000, money laundering, and theft over \$5,000. While he was acquitted on one count of fraud in the



previous case, he was found guilty of theft and dealing in property as proceeds of crime.

Local authorities continue to urge potential investors to exercise caution when purchasing undeveloped land. Prospective buyers are reminded to verify zoning, permits, and development plans to avoid falling victim to such sophisticated scams. The ongoing investigation underscores the need for heightened consumer awareness and stricter oversight of property development projects.

McMorran is scheduled to appear in court on May 6. As the case unfolds, law enforcement officials remain committed to recovering losses for the victims and ensuring that those responsible are held fully accountable for their actions. Chestermere residents and investors alike are closely watching the proceedings, hoping for a resolution that prevents further exploitation in the real estate market.

Two New Schools Approved for Chestermere

Construction funding granted for K-9 school in Dawson’s Landing; planning funds secured for Chelsea high school

By Stephen Jeffrey with files from the City of Chestermere

Chestermere’s rapid growth continues to shape its future, with Rocky View Schools (RVS) and the Government of Alberta jointly announcing funding for two new public schools within city limits. The news marks the first new school openings in Chestermere since 2014 and underscores local leaders’ commitment to ensuring accessible education for all families.

The first project, a Kindergarten to Grade 9 school in Dawson’s Landing, has received full construction funding from RVS. The new facility will relieve overcrowding at nearby elementary and middle schools, which have operated beyond capacity as Chestermere’s population surged. According to the City’s 2024 municipal census, Chestermere’s population reached 28,129—a 34 percent increase since 2021—and shows no signs of slowing

Site preparation is already underway, with city administration finalizing road access and utility servicing to facilitate a smooth build. Mayor Shannon Dean praised the collaborative efforts, noting, “It is amazing what can happen when we all work together for the betterment of our community.”

The second announcement secures planning funding for a new high school in the Chelsea neighbourhood, approved under Alberta’s School Accelerator Program as part of Budget 2025. This initiative aims to fast-track design and

planning for urgently needed schools in growing communities

Once built, the high school will provide local youth with the opportunity to attend classes closer to home, reducing travel times to Calgary and other surrounding districts.

Local MLA Chantelle de Jonge, elected in 2023 to represent Chestermere-Strathmore, and Education Minister Demetrios Nicolaides were both thanked by Mayor Dean for championing Chestermere’s needs at the provincial level

With Chestermere part of the Calgary census metropolitan area—one of the fastest-growing regions in Canada, adding over 28,000 residents between July 2023 and July 2024—the new schools are a timely investment in the city’s future.

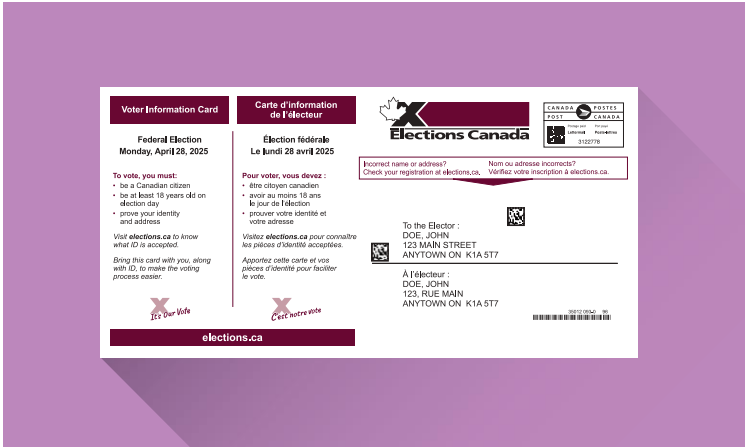
Opening dates have yet to be confirmed by RVS; updates will be shared as plans progress.



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Wheatland Resident Honoured with King’s Coronation Medal

Dexter Nelson celebrated for lifetime of community impact and dedication

by Stephen Jeffrey Photo Submitted by Dexter Nelson

From not too far east of Chestermere, Wheatland County resident Dexter Nelson was honoured on March 28 with a prestigious King Charles III Coronation Medal, recognizing his remarkable contributions and lasting impacts within local communities. Chestermere-Strathmore MLA Chantelle de Jonge nominated Nelson for this significant award, presenting it personally at a special ceremony held at The Vault Cultural Collective. The commemorative medal was created specifically to mark the historic coronation of King Charles III, with around 30,000 recipients selected across Canada for their extraordinary achievements.

MLA de Jonge praised Nelson’s dedication, saying, “When I read about the kind of individuals this medal honours, I immediately knew Dexter deserved recognition. He has consistently brought pride and distinction to both his community and Wheatland County.”

Nelson’s extensive career includes roles as an educator at the University of Calgary and Mount Royal College. Notably,



he founded the Canadian Pro Rodeo Sport Medicine Team, the Alberta Athletic Therapists Association, and the Sport Medicine Council of Alberta. His influential leadership extended internationally, chairing a global task force on athletic therapy and serving as Chief Therapist for the Canadian Medical Team at the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary. Nelson also contributed his expertise to teams such as the Edmonton Eskimos and Canada’s National Men’s Basketball Team.

Reflecting on his recognition, Nelson described the honour as deeply meaningful. “It’s prestigious and special,” Nelson said. “Having someone acknowledge your life’s efforts by saying, ‘You did a good job,’ truly resonates with me. I credit my parents, particularly my mother, for instilling in me the ambition to positively impact others.”

Moving forward, Nelson looks forward to enjoying time with his grandchildren, hoping to pass down valuable lessons and experiences, just as his own grandparents once did for him.



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Chantelle de Jonge, MLA

Provincial News

Budget 2025

Last month, Alberta's government introduced Budget 2025 – a plan that meets the challenges of today and delivers real tax relief for hardworking Albertans. With these tax cuts, our government is keeping an election promise to reduce the tax burden on Albertans and make life more affordable. The last thing families need is a government that raises taxes, erodes our competitive advantage, and drives up the cost of living.

Recently, an NDP opposition MLA during a meeting of the Resource Stewardship Committee, questioned the value of cutting taxes for hardworking Albertans and dismissed the annual savings made possible by tax cuts in Budget 2025. While another NDP MLA floated the idea of bringing British Columbia-style taxation to Alberta — a plan that would add more than \$20 billion in new taxes, including steep hikes to income taxes and a 7 per cent Provincial Sales Tax.

Albertans are proud to live in the only province without a sales tax and under a government that will not change that. Any attempt to impose a provincial sales tax would undermine a foundational economic advantage. These reckless proposals demonstrate how the NDP Opposition remains completely disconnected from the concerns of everyday Albertans.

During their time in government, the NDP introduced a \$1.4 billion carbon tax, which raised taxes on everything while imposing an additional \$1,500 burden on Albertan families each year—the same amount that families will save from the Budget 2025 tax cuts. Their refusal to recognize the benefits of tax relief and failure to acknowledge how higher taxes impact families, proves they would rather make life more difficult and take more money from Albertans than support real affordability measures.

Our government understands that every dollar left in the hands of Albertans helps us build a stronger future. We will always fight for Albertans and strive to lower costs, putting money back into Albertan's pockets and supporting the delivery of vital services. Budget 2025 tax cuts will save families up to \$1,500 per year, and individuals up to \$750, helping them plan for the future and manage rising costs driven by federal policies and trade uncertainty.

We are also meeting the challenge of families by increasing financial support for caregivers who offer their homes for children and youth in care. To help ease cost-of-living challenges, Budget 2025 invests \$3.1 million to increase

rates by two per cent for foster and kinship caregivers.

The increase will help cover day-to-day expenses such as food and clothing as well as provide additional support for caregivers who care for children with more complex needs.

Alberta's government continues to make investments that enhance caregiver well-being, address cost-of-living and recruitment challenges, and increase stability for children and youth in care. These investments include funding to make counselling supports more accessible for foster caregivers, the refer-a-foster-caregiver program to grow Alberta's pool of licensed foster families, and new supports to help foster caregivers provide care, stability and connection for young adults aging out of care.

As always, please feel free to reach out to my office with your feedback and questions at Chestermere.Strathmore@assembly.ab.ca



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CN only uses herbicides that have been approved for use in Canada and in the province within which they are applied.

The program is expected to take place from May to October 2025.

Visit www.cn.ca/vegetation for more information or to make an inquiry, contact the CN Public Inquiry Line at contact@cn.ca

CN.CA



Chestermere Students Explore Their Passions Through Fine Arts Academy

Submitted by Benjamin Sherick, Communications Officer Rocky View Schools

Producing Chestermere High School's annual spring musical takes many hands. That hard work is made a little easier by the fine arts academy model the school has adopted for the past three years. With the support of teachers in several disciplines, students in the fine arts academy have been rehearsing and building their upcoming production of the musical *Grease!*, which they will present at the end of May. This model allows students to connect to their passions and interests while working together to mount a large-scale musical production.

Led by drama teacher Christine Fulthorpe and music teacher Jessica Ploughman – who serve as director and musical director, respectively – the fine arts academy consists of three main classes: performing arts, where student performers perfect their dramatic skills; pit band, where student musicians rehearse the music that accompanies the production; and technical theatre, which comprises many roles including set builders, stage management, stagehands, lighting and sound designers. Other programs at the school are also connected with the academy: costumes are designed by fashion students, and cosmetology students provide theatrical makeup.

Students who enter the academy with a personal area of interest as their focus. This allows them to gain experience in an area they are passionate about. Grade 12 student Danica Bec is a member of this year's pit band and is a skilled saxophonist who plans to continue playing after high school. She says her time playing with the pit band

gives her an extra opportunity to practice and perfect her instrument, leading her to more musical success in both the high school's concert band and in her own personal playing. She's also learned to innovate and improvise as she plays and to depend on her fellow performers as they work together to accompany the production.

Apart from developing their dramatic, musical or technical skills, students in the fine arts academy also develop several skills that will equip them for life both during and after high school, including collaboration, leadership, problem-solving and more. Grade 12 student Ashveen Toor, whose focus in technical theatre has her working with others to build sets for the upcoming production, says she's developed significant leadership skills through the academy. She expects those skills will serve her well after she graduates high school and enters university.

The academy also emphasizes inclusion for every student. Grade 12 student Natalia Davis, who is a performer in the drama, called the academy one of the most welcoming communities a person can be part of at Chestermere High School. A diverse group of students work side-by-side on this monumental undertaking, and everyone works together to also make sure it is a safe space regardless of different backgrounds and learning styles.

Together, this group of students and staff will continue to work very hard to prepare their production of *Grease!* in the coming months. Chestermere High School will present *Grease!* from May 26 – June 1.



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Garden oasis

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The benefits of installing a stone garden wall

Weeping willows: what gardeners should know

The weeping willow has long, cascading branches and makes an attractive addition to most gardens. Although native to China, this species now grows all around the world. However, it's not your average tree. Here are three things to consider before planting a weeping willow on your property.

THEY GROW QUICKLY

Weeping willows can grow more than a



metre (three feet) every year in height and width. A full-grown tree can be up to 15 metres (50 feet) high and 12 metres (40 feet) across. The root system also grows quickly and extensively. This type of tree must therefore be planted far from buildings, septic tanks and sidewalks, as well as underground sewer, water and power lines.

THEY NEED A LOT OF WATER

Weeping willows thrive in moist locations. The best place to plant one is near a body of fresh water, such as a pond or river, where it can drink as much as it needs.

THEY'RE MESSY

Weeping willows frequently shed their leaves, twigs and branches, so if you plant one on your property, you'll need to regularly tidy up after it. For this reason, you should plant it away from your home, pool and driveway to prevent damage caused by falling branches.

In short, a weeping willow tree makes a beautiful addition to a large property with a body of fresh water. Otherwise, it may become be a hazard or an inconvenience.

A low stone wall can be a practical and attractive addition to your garden. Here's why you should consider including one in your landscaping.

TO PREVENT EROSION

If your property slopes or has different levels, a stone garden wall can act as a retaining wall and ensure soil retention. Keep in mind that the structure needs to provide adequate drainage.

TO CREATE ZONES

A stone wall is a classic way to delineate areas of your yard such as the garden, patio or pool. It also helps create a designated space for a flowerbed or stairs.

A stone garden wall can be either dry or

mortared. A dry stone wall is built by stacking flat stones in an overlapping pattern to create friction and provide stability. The mortared variety, on the other hand, uses mortar to hold the pieces together.



4 backyard shade solutions

If your property doesn't provide you with enough shade, here are four stylish structures that can give you a break from the sun.

1. AN AWNING

This type of device can be rolled out over a patio or deck when you need shade and is easily retracted when not in use. However, it needs to be secured to an exterior wall first. Although typically controlled by a hand crank, some newer models open and close with the press of a button.

2. A FREESTANDING GAZEBO

This sturdy structure consists of a metal frame with four pillars and a canvas roof. Some models include curtains that can be closed for privacy or to block the sun.

3. AN ARBOUR

This classic garden feature is often used to create an entryway. However, since its arches are typically lined with vines and other climbing plants, it can also offer respite from the sun.

4. A FOLDING CANOPY

This temporary structure can be unfolded and set up within minutes. It's a practical solution for backyard parties and picnics when you need to accommodate a number of guests.

All of these structures can provide you with ample shade and a comfortable place to lounge in your backyard. This summer, minimize the risk of getting sunburned by installing one or more of these devices.



The advantages of permeable paving

Permeable pavers, such as interlocking stones, can be used to build driveways, walkways and patios. Here's why they're a great choice.

THEY REDUCE RUNOFF

Permeable paving allows water to seep into the ground. This means runoff is less likely to pool on the surface or end up in the sewer system. Consequently, you'll have fewer puddles when it rains and less ice buildup when it's cold. Permeable pavers also reduce the risk of flooding and erosion.

THEY KEEP CITIES COOLER

Permeable pavers remain cooler than asphalt because they're paler and absorb less

sunlight. This makes them particularly suited for cities where large amounts of asphalt create urban heat islands. In fact, some cities are beginning to make permeable paving a requirement for certain projects.

THEY'RE A GOOD INVESTMENT

Permeable pavers are easy to install because they don't require the ground to be compacted beforehand. They're also more durable than asphalt so they cost less in the long run. Plus, they can increase the value of your home.

Lastly, permeable pavers can help filter out pollutants and replenish the water table with clean water. This makes them a particularly great choice for eco-conscious consumers.



How to prevent soil erosion



Installing runoff barriers made of brick, stone or other materials around plants and shrubs is one way to reduce soil erosion and runoff.

Homeowners who spend time tending to their landscape are increasingly looking eco-friendly ways to maintain their lawns and gardens. Homeowners who once relied on potentially harmful pesticides to craft a lush lawn now prefer ways that don't leave such a significant carbon footprint.

Preventing soil erosion is one way to incorporate conservation into lawn and garden care. Conservation is one of many environmental practices aimed at preserving the planet's natural resources, which include soil. Preventing soil erosion is easy and can be accomplished in a number of ways.

Don't overwater. Some may assume that keeping soil as damp as possible keeps it healthy. However, overwatering the soil can cause runoff that washes the soil away. In addition, overwatering the soil can degrade it and contribute to erosion. Instead of overwatering, keep the soil moist but don't overdo it. If you're having trouble keeping soil moist, consider laying down some mulch, which helps retain moisture and deliver nutrients to the soil that keep it healthy.

Plant trees and shrubs. Trees and shrubs are friends to soil, providing shelter while their roots keep the soil in place and prevent it

from easily blowing away on a windy day. It also helps soil from washing away when warm weather arrives and the landscape must be watered on a daily basis.

Create runoff barriers. Runoff barriers are edges that can be made of brick, stone or other materials that help reduce runoff. Many homeowners install runoff barriers along sidewalks and driveways to ensure the soil does not spill out onto the pavement, but these also help the soil as much as they help to keep walkways and other areas free of soil and looking tidy.

Consider leaving some grass around the garden. Tillage is the process of preparing land to grow crops. While many homeowners don't view their weekend gardening as growing crops, similar principles apply whether you're growing crops on a farm or just a few vegetables in the backyard. One such principle is conservation tillage, which means leaving a portion of vegetation in the ground instead of stripping everything away before planting. For home gardeners, consider leaving a small amount of grass around the garden to keep the soil within the garden's boundaries. It's a principle similar to installing runoff barriers, and it can be just as effective at preventing soil erosion.



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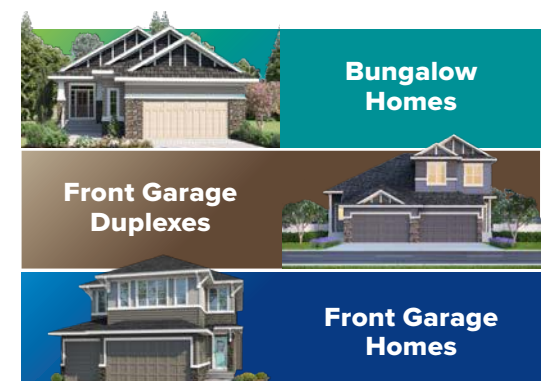
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April 7, 2025

RE: RVS students test literary knowledge at Battle of the Books

Elementary and middle school students in Rocky View Schools (RVS) will go head-to-head this spring as they test their knowledge of several books during the division's signature literacy event, Battle of the Books.

On April 11, teams of elementary school students will participate in a virtual event using an online platform. Following that, on May 7, middle school students will compete in an in-person Battle of the Books at RVS' Education Centre in Airdrie. This year marks the eighth iteration of the middle school event and the fifth elementary battle.

"Battle of the Books is a great event that helps advance students' literacy skills while having fun with their reading," said Superintendent of Schools, Greg Luterbach. "This annual event builds a culture of reading both within our schools and division-wide, as students connect with other readers across our many communities."

This year's elementary battle features 12 teams from Airdrie, Cochrane, Chestermere, Springbank and rural Rocky View County. Ten middle schools from Airdrie, Cochrane and Chestermere have teams preparing for the event in May.

During the battle of books, participating schools form teams of up to six participants in a mix of grades – Grades 3-5 for elementary schools and Grades 5-8 for middle schools. To prepare for the event, students read a selection of books in a range of genres, reading levels and media formats including fiction, nonfiction, picture books, graphic novels, audiobooks and ebooks. This encourages students to adventure beyond their reading comfort zone, as they pick up books they might not normally choose for themselves.

At the battles, teams are quizzed to display their knowledge of the books they read. The format for Battle of the Books is different for each age group. During the virtual elementary event, teams will face-off using an online trivia platform that awards points to teams for both answering correctly and with speed. After three rounds of true/false and multiple-choice comprehension questions, the team with the most points is named the winner.

During the in-person event, middle school teams will battle one-on-one, each competing in three matchups. Teams take turns answering questions for points, but if they are unable to correctly answer, the opposing school can earn points by providing the correct answer. The students will be asked both "in the book..." and "in which book..." questions and must provide both the author and the title to earn points. The top three teams will be determined based on the points they accumulate.

"One of the great things about Battle of the Books is that it provides students an opportunity to participate in a team-based activity that is not a sport," said teacher and Battle of the Books Committee Chair, Kerry Kindermann. "By showing students that reading can be associated with fun, Battle of the Books also helps create life-long readers who find joy in reading. When kids find joy in reading, they will continue to do it for the rest of their lives."

In addition to winning funds from RVS to purchase books for their learning commons, the winning teams also receive an athletics-style banner that they proudly display in their schools.

SPRING HOME & GARDEN 2025



2024

The Chestermere Anchor Community Magazine

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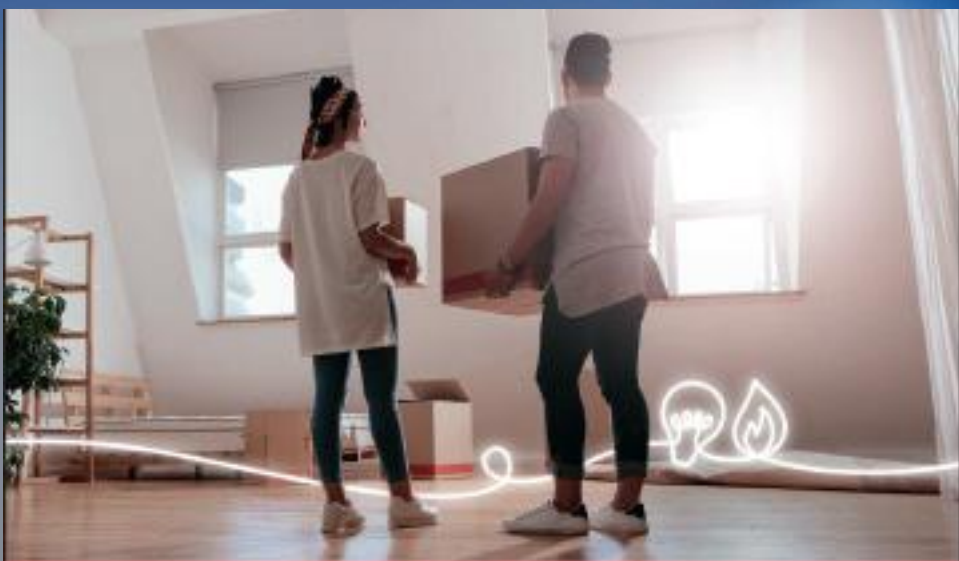
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- **Check your shingles.** You may be tempted to wait until fall for this task, but it's better to act now. If winter weather has compromised your roofing, the hot summer sun will only worsen any problems. Checking now can prevent more expensive repairs in the fall.
- **Clean and inspect your gutters.** Remove debris and check the gutters for cracks and leaks. Ensure all downspouts point away from your home's foundation. If you don't have gutter screens, now is an excellent time to install them.
- **Give your attic a once over.** Check for animal nests that may have been built during the cooler months. Look for signs of leaks and remove anything that might obstruct your vents.
- **Reinforce your windows.** Ensure your windows open and close readily and that all screens are in good condition. Take the opportunity to re-caulk and replace the weatherstrip to better control heat and humidity through the warmer months.
- **Tune up your air conditioner.** Have a professional inspect your AC unit to replace the filters, clean the coils and correct any issues. Annual servicing will ensure your AC operates at peak efficiency to minimize energy costs.



- **Test the outdoor faucets.** Frost may have damaged your home's pipework over the winter. To check, turn on the water and attempt to stop the flow by putting your thumb over the opening. If you can stop the water with your thumb, you may have a leaky pipe inside your home.
- **Repair damaged concrete.** Cracks in your home's foundation are a structural concern. They can also give pests access to your home's interior. Inspect the concrete foundation, plus any outdoor steps and walkways, for heaving or breakage.
- **Inspect lawn care equipment.** Get your lawnmower and hedge trimmers in tip-top shape before the grass gets too high. Sharpen the blades, check the oil and inspect the batteries to make your summer lawn work a breeze.
- **Tidy up your outdoor space.** Check trees for breakage or stress, especially those that hang over your home and other structures. Clear away perennial foliage left over from last year and rake away mulch. Once winter's over, store your firewood at least 60 centimetres away from your home and 45 centimetres off the ground.

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Crow's Feet



THE “BUTCHER BIRD” & THE FOX

As April begins, the heart beats more quickly in each and every bird watcher. Chiropractors know business will increase with all of those upward looking twitchers, sky scanning for spring arrivals. There are times though the best of opportunities are no higher than eye level. This past week, a combination of Lake Chestermere sightings, that of a predatory songbird and the most intelligent *vulpes vulpes*, added to the joy of being outdoors.

Seen on its migratory path to the Arctic, the Northern Shrike is an impressive looking songbird. Sporting a black mask and having a stout, hooked bill, this burly bird enjoys the dead, low “shrubs”, dotting the west shore of the northern side of Lake Chestermere. The vantage points provided by these knotty perches near the wooden bridge and up near “Dog Beach” are choice scouting locations for the shrike. Gifted with tooth like spikes on either side of the upper bill and corresponding notches on the lower mandible, these “tomial” teeth enable the shrike to kill prey with a quick bite to the neck. Woe to the sparrows, mice and voles the shrike pursues. Northern Shrikes will skulk through the dense grasses and bullrushes and bush, watching mouse holes and mouse pathways, waiting for a quick kill. Known for killing more than it needs immediately, the shrike will store the extra meal by impaling the corpse on spines or barbed wire, earning its nickname. In watching a shrike up near “Dog Beach” a few days ago, I learned something new about this songbird. Over the course of a few seconds, the shrike opened its bill. Slowly but surely a dark looking object was ejected from its bill. Amazed, I truly was! The shrike cannot digest all parts of the mice, voles and birds it eats. Every now and then, a pellet of the indigestible material returns to the earth!

Twice this past week, I’ve been fortunate enough to see *vulpes vulpes*, the red fox. While walking the paved trail



Birding with Elaine & Don

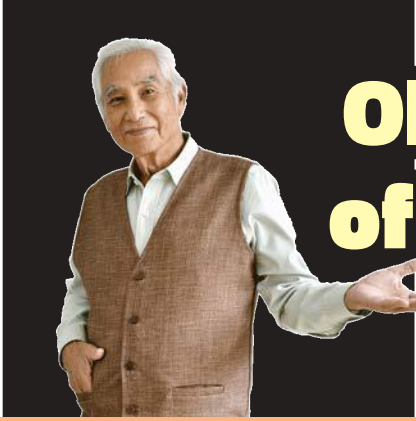


in The Cove, the fox made its first appearance heading up Cove Road. Sadly with no camera in hand and a mere fifteen feet away, all I could do was appreciate its presence. Armed with a camera the next day, and walking across the 17th Avenue bridge, my furry friend crossed the avenue by going beneath the bridge and then appeared on the lake ice on the south side. Sniffing and foraging as it headed west, then stopping for a drink of water from a puddle, the fox crossed West Chestermere Drive, checking out the base of the bushes as it proceeded to the golf course.

Sharing a diet similar to the shrike, mice, voles, wildfowl,

bird eggs and birds too, comprise much of a red fox dinner plate. Adapting easily to “city living” the fox is predominantly a nocturnal creature. However, with young to feed, the fox will move about during the day, looking for sustenance to raise the family.

It’s spring. It’s April. Our world reveals new energy as migrating birds and nature’s Red Fox, continue to ensure the next generation has an opportunity to continue into the future. It’s a world and time where we can truly appreciate the presence of those with whom we share the planet.



Older Adults Coalition of Chestermere (OACC)



April 2025



OLDER ADULTS' COALITION OF CHESTERMERE (OACC)

Well, here we are, in another election. Regardless of the political leanings you have or the party you choose to support, it is important to get out and vote to ensure your voice is heard. It is equally important to be kind to each other.

OACC NEWS & COMMUNITY EVENTS

Income taxes are due to be filed by the end of April. The Chestermere Community Wellness Services Team is offering a community volunteer Income Tax Program again this year. If you need help preparing your tax return, there will be volunteers trained to assist you. Program eligibility requires that you must have a modest income and a simple tax situation. Please book an appointment with the Chestermere Community Wellness Services Team at 403-207-7079 or email hmangat@chestermere.ca.

Whitecappers membership renewals are open as of April 1, 2025. Annual memberships run from May 1 – April 30 every year. The cost to renew is \$40 per person. Your membership gives you free access to the Whitecappers entire schedule (supper costs will apply for dinners). Whether you participate in chair yoga, bridge, exercise classes, Saturday coffee, or Friday Pub Night, the cost is free with a membership.

2025 Seniors' Week is June 2 – 7th so mark your calendar. The Seniors' Week Committee is hard at work planning a great week of events to celebrate and recognize the contributions of Seniors within our community. Watch this article for more updates!

The Chestermere Public Library has issued their Winter Session Program Guide for March & April 2025. It is available online at <https://www.chestermerepubliclibrary.com/Programs-Events/Program-Guide> and select the Winter 2025 (March-April) edition. The next Self-Run Book club: Chapter Chatters meeting is on Wednesday, April 30th. It is open to all adults. They meet monthly and select a diverse range of books. Contact the library directly for more details on how to join.

Did you know that the Chestermere Public Library runs

a "Test Drive a Hobby" program. This is a program that allows you to borrow a hobby starter kit to see if you like it before diving in with both feet. There is a wide variety of kits. From acrylic painting, bird watching, crocheting, meditation, pickleball and even ukulele. Absolutely something for everyone! Stop by the library to check it out.

April is the transition month for the city run Winter Neighbour & Family Connection Program. It will be replaced in the summer by the Block Party program for the winter season. The main idea is to gather with neighbours and your family to create a pot of soup or chili and for you all to enjoy yourself together as a group and/or family. Or host a neighbour or family pizza party and make a pizza together. Such get-togethers strengthen relationships and builds closer bonds within the family or with friends by doing something fun together." Registration forms are found on the City website at: <https://thecityofchestermere.ca/residentialservices/winter-connections-program/> or by contacting Craig McLeod at 403-207-7050 ext. 7094 or email him at cmcleod@chestermere.ca.

NEWS & VIEWS ON HEALTH

Nutrition and access to fresh fruits and vegetables is key to healthy living. With the cost of fresh foods on the rise, it might be a great time to check out the Good Food Box Program that is run by the Chestermere Food Bank. This is a program offered to all residents that provides top-quality, fresh food to the entire community. This program is open to everyone. Simply place your order by the deadline, e-transfer your payment and pick up at the Food Bank on the delivery date. Whether you order a small, medium or large box, the selection of fresh food is amazing. Check out <https://chestermerefoodbank.ca/good-food-box-program/> for more information.

A reminder about the Chestermere Conversation Café. This group supports caregivers and family members of those working with Dementia or memory loss. Regardless of where you or your family member is in the dementia journey, it is a casual conversation setting offering peer support. Family members and dementia patients are

welcome to join in. Meetings are on the 4th Monday of every month from 2:00pm – 4:00pm at Lakeshore Manor (200 Marina Drive, Chestermere). Remember you can check out the link for more information: <https://dementianetworkcalgary.ca/event/new-chestermere-conversation-cafe-in-person/>

JOIN THE OLDER ADULTS’ COALITION OF CHESTERMERE

OACC – Upcoming Meeting Dates – Wednesday, April 16, 2025, and May 21, 2025, at 1:30PM – 3:30PM Lakeshore Manor (200 Marina Drive, Chestermere). While walk-ins are welcome to our meetings, RSVPs are appreciated. Please email Betty at betty.dagg@shaw.ca . We kindly ask that you park at the rear of the building in visitor parking. The OACC also welcomes community businesses, organizations, and service providers to join our meetings as a guest speaker. If you are interested, please reach out to Ellen or Dawn.

RESOURCES

The Chestermere Older Adults’ Resource Handbooks (2023) are now out of stock. There may be copies still at the Chestermere Library, Whitecappers Association, Lakeshore Manor, and Synergy as well as medical offices and pharmacies throughout the city. Digital copy are available at the City of Chestermere website: <https://thecityofchestermere.ca/residentialservices/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2023/03/chestermere-older-adults-resource-handbook-2023.pdf>

Chestermere Community Services – CSS offers programs and services to enhance the well-being of individuals and



families in Chestermere. They provide free and confidential services related to social support, information, and referrals to local resources provided by not-for-profit organization. They can be reached by email: cssinfo@chestermere.ca, or you can call 403-207-7050 or text 403-826-2611.

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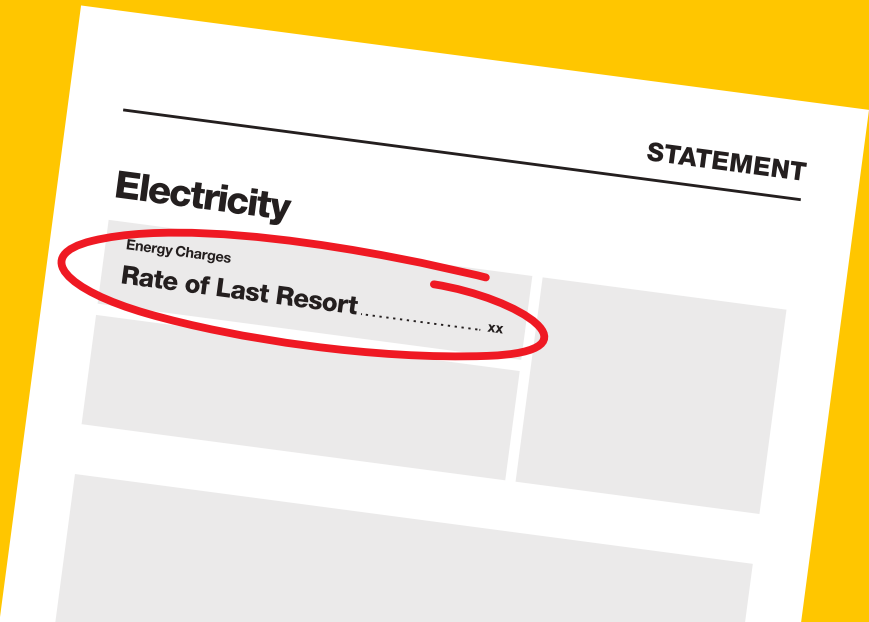
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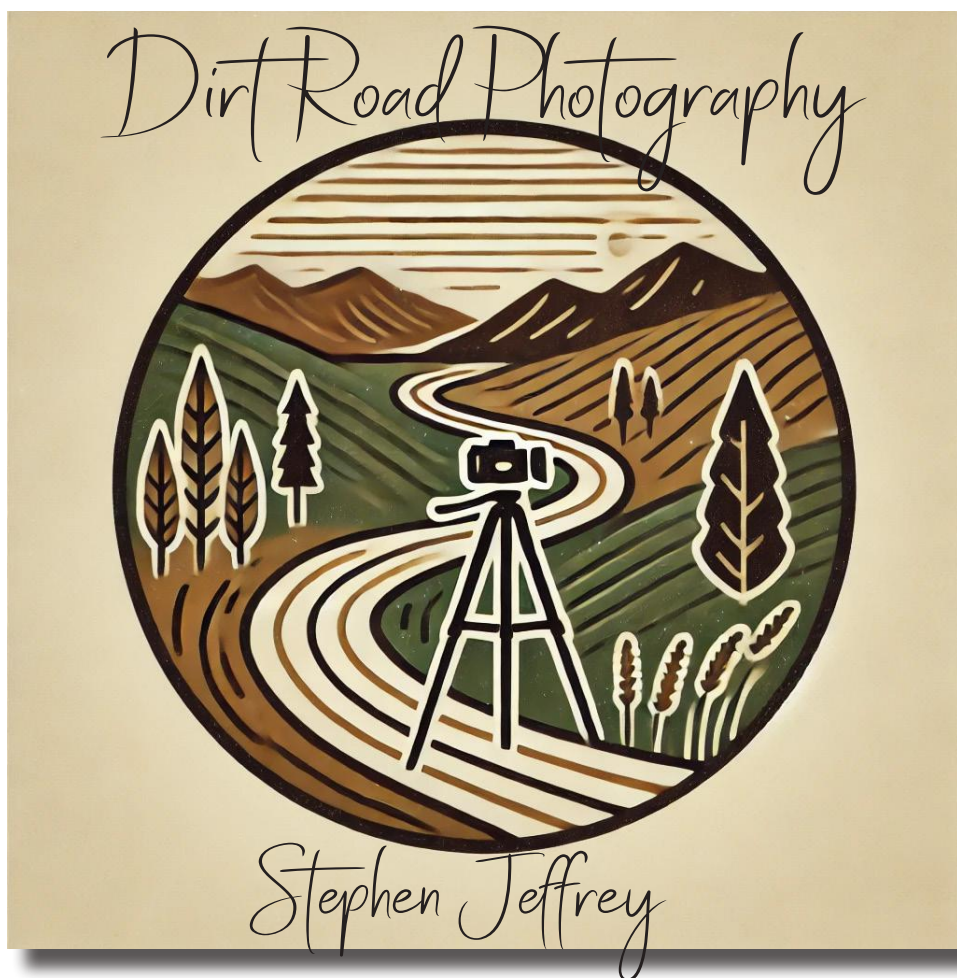
A photograph showing a female caregiver in blue scrubs and a stethoscope around her neck, smiling as she assists an elderly man in a wheelchair. The man is also smiling and holding a small white object. They are in a bright, modern home setting with shelves in the background. A circular logo for 'NORTH CALGARY HOME CARE LTD.' is overlaid on the image.

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For many photographers, the journey to mastering their camera and capturing the perfect image begins with the comfort of auto mode. It's simple, convenient, and effective in a variety of settings, but auto mode doesn't allow you to harness the full creative potential of your camera. If you want to take your photography to the next level, it's time to venture into the manual settings. While it can seem intimidating at first, learning to control your camera's exposure settings—aperture, shutter speed, and ISO—will provide you with more creative freedom, control over the final image, and ultimately, a deeper understanding of the art of photography.

In this issue, we'll walk through the essential manual settings you need to understand, how they work together, and how to get started using them to make your images stand out.

1. Understanding the Exposure Triangle

At the heart of manual photography are the three fundamental elements that control exposure: aperture, shutter speed, and ISO. These three settings work together in what is known as the Exposure Triangle. Understanding how they interact is key to taking full control over your images.

Aperture: Controlling Depth of Field

The aperture refers to the opening in your camera's lens through which light passes into the sensor. Aperture is measured in f-stops, such as f/2.8, f/5.6, or f/16. The size of the aperture affects two things:

Light intake: A larger aperture (smaller f-number) allows more light to hit the sensor, which is useful in low-light situations.

How to Get Your Camera Off Auto Mode and Take Advantage of the Manual Settings

By Stephen Jeffrey

Depth of field: A wide aperture (like f/2.8) creates a shallow depth of field, which blurs the background and makes the subject stand out (perfect for portraits). A smaller aperture (like f/16) gives you a larger depth of field, keeping more of the image in focus (great for landscape photography).

Shutter Speed: Capturing Motion

Shutter speed controls how long the camera's sensor is exposed to light. It is measured in seconds or fractions of a second (e.g., 1/500, 1/60, 1", 2"). The faster the shutter speed, the less light enters, and the shorter the exposure time.

Fast shutter speed (1/500s, 1/1000s): Freezes fast-moving subjects like athletes, animals, or cars.

Slow shutter speed (1/30s, 1s, 10s): Allows more light in, which can create motion blur. This is great for capturing things like flowing water, light trails, or evening cityscapes.

ISO: Sensitivity to Light

ISO controls the sensitivity of your camera's sensor to light. The lower the ISO, the less sensitive your camera is, and the finer the detail in bright conditions. However, a higher ISO makes the sensor more sensitive, allowing you to capture images in lower light.

Low ISO (100-400): Ideal for bright conditions or when using a tripod.

High ISO (800-3200): Useful in low-light situations but can introduce noise or grain into your image. However, many modern cameras perform well at higher ISOs.

When you understand how these three elements interact, you can start adjusting them manually to achieve the exposure you desire.

2. Breaking Free from Auto Mode

The first step in taking your camera off auto mode is gaining confidence in adjusting the three exposure settings manually. Most cameras allow you to change aperture, shutter speed, and ISO directly via the camera body, the menu, or dials on your lens. Here's how to start:

Step 1: Switch to Manual Mode

On your camera's mode dial, you'll see options like Auto (A), Aperture Priority (A or Av), Shutter Priority (S or Tv), and Manual (M). To take full control, select Manual (M) mode. This means your camera won't automatically adjust

any settings for you, giving you complete control over the exposure triangle.

Step 2: Start with One Setting

If you're overwhelmed by the idea of adjusting all three settings at once, start by focusing on just one. A good place to start is with aperture, as it has a significant impact on the look and feel of your image. Choose an aperture that matches the style you want—wide for shallow depth of field (portrait) or narrow for more focus throughout the frame (landscape).

Once you've set your aperture, you'll notice your image may become overexposed or underexposed. That's when you can adjust your shutter speed and ISO to balance things out.

Step 3: Use Your Camera's Metering System

Modern cameras come with an exposure meter that helps you evaluate the exposure in manual mode. The meter is usually represented by a scale with a "0" in the middle, indicating a proper exposure. If the meter shows a negative value, your image is underexposed; if it shows a positive value, your image is overexposed. Aim for the "0" mark on the scale to achieve a well-balanced exposure.

Step 4: Experiment with Exposure Settings

Once you feel comfortable with one setting, experiment with the others. Try adjusting your shutter speed to change how motion is captured. Use ISO to compensate for lighting changes in different environments, but be mindful of noise at higher ISOs.

As you experiment, keep an eye on the exposure meter. Adjusting any of the three settings will affect the others, so continue making small adjustments until the image is properly exposed.

3. Mastering Aperture, Shutter Speed, and ISO Together

Once you've understood how each individual setting affects your image, it's time to master how they work together. Here are some tips to help you make adjustments in real-world situations:

Balancing Aperture and Shutter Speed

In most cases, aperture and shutter speed are the two settings you'll need to balance to get the right exposure. For example, if you're photographing a fast-moving subject, you'll need to use a faster shutter speed to freeze the action. This will limit how much light enters the camera, so you may need to open your aperture wider (lower f-stop) to compensate.

Conversely, if you're shooting in low light or trying to capture motion blur (like in a landscape with flowing water), you'll use a slower shutter speed, which might require you to reduce your aperture size (higher f-stop) to prevent overexposure.

Using ISO for Low-Light Situations

ISO is typically the last setting you adjust. If you're shooting in dim light, you might increase your ISO to allow the camera to capture more light. However, higher ISO values can result in grainy images, so try to keep it as low as

possible while still maintaining a well-exposed image.

For example, if you're shooting in low light and you've already slowed down your shutter speed and opened your aperture wide, increasing your ISO might be the final step to avoid underexposing your image.

Understanding the Trade-Offs

Each setting you adjust in manual mode involves a trade-off. For instance, increasing the aperture (f/2.8) will let more light in but reduce your depth of field, meaning less of the image will be in focus. If you want to freeze motion but are shooting in a low-light situation, you'll need to increase the shutter speed, but this may require adjusting your ISO, which could introduce noise. Learning to balance these trade-offs is key to mastering manual mode.

4. Practical Tips for Getting Comfortable with Manual Mode

Practice, Practice, Practice: The best way to get comfortable with manual mode is to practice. Start in controlled environments with good lighting (like indoors during the day) and gradually work your way into more challenging situations.

Use the Histogram: Most cameras offer a histogram display, which is a visual representation of your image's exposure. It can help you spot underexposure or overexposure before you even take the shot.

Take Control of the Creative Process: One of the greatest advantages of manual mode is that it lets you be the artist. Experiment with settings like aperture to create different effects—whether you want a dreamy bokeh in portraits or a sharp landscape shot with everything in focus.

Don't Be Afraid to Make Mistakes: In manual mode, mistakes can be great learning experiences. Take multiple shots, review them, and adjust your settings to get the perfect exposure.

Moving beyond auto mode and taking full control of your camera settings might seem intimidating at first, but with practice, it will become second nature. The key is to understand how aperture, shutter speed, and ISO work together to affect exposure and be willing to experiment to achieve the effect you want. By mastering manual mode, you'll have the power to transform your photography and create images that are not only well-exposed but also creatively expressive. So, take a deep breath, set your camera to manual, and start experimenting—your creativity is the only limit.

Whitecappers Activity Schedule
April 2025 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		01 Line Dancing with Tarnia 10:30 am	02 OFFICE OPEN 11:00 am -1:00 pm Walk Fit 11:00 am Chair Yoga with Vicky 11:30 am Carpet Bowling 12:45 pm Cards/Crib 1 - 4:00 pm	03 OFFICE OPEN 11:00 am -1:00 pm Quilting 9:30am Chestermere Artisans 1:00 pm Bridge 1:00 pm	04 Exercise Class with Julie 10:30 am Chair Yoga 11:45 am Friday Pub Night 6:00 pm	05  Coffee at Whitecappers 10:00 - 11:15am Cards/Crib 1:00 – 4:00 pm
06	07 OFFICE OPEN 1:00 pm – 3:00pm Walk Fit 11:00 am Chair Yoga with Vicky 11:30 am Carpet Bowling 12:45 pm	08 Line Dancing with Tarnia 10:30 am	09 OFFICE OPEN 11:00 am -1:00 pm Walk Fit 11:00 am Chair Yoga with Vicky 11:30 am Carpet Bowling 12:45 pm Cards/Crib 1 - 4:00 pm Board Mtg 7:00 pm	10 OFFICE OPEN 11:00 am -1:00 pm Quilting 9:30am Chestermere Artisans 1:00 pm Bridge 1:00 pm	11 Exercise Class with Julie 10:30 am Chair Yoga 11:45 am Friday Pub Night 6:00 pm	12  Coffee at Whitecappers 10:00 - 11:15am Cards/Crib 1:00 – 4:00 pm
13	14 OFFICE OPEN 1:00 pm – 3:00pm Walk Fit 11:00 am Chair Yoga with Vicky 11:30 am Carpet Bowling 12:45 pm	15 Line Dancing with Tarnia 10:30 am Historical Foundation Meeting 1:00 pm	16 OFFICE OPEN 11:00 am -1:00 pm Walk Fit 11:00 am Chair Yoga with Vicky 11:30 am Carpet Bowling 12:45 pm Cards/Crib 1 - 4:00 pm	17 OFFICE OPEN 11:00 am -1:00 pm Quilting 9:30am Chestermere Artisans 1:00 pm Bridge 1:00 pm	18 COMPLEX AND WHITECAPPERS CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY	19  Coffee at Whitecappers 10:00 - 11:15am Cards/Crib 1:00 – 4:00 pm
20 HAPPY EASTER 	21 OFFICE OPEN 1:00 pm – 3:00pm Walk Fit 11:00 am Chair Yoga with Vicky 11:30 am Carpet Bowling 12:45 pm	22 Line Dancing with Tarnia 10:30 am	23 OFFICE OPEN 11:00 am -1:00 pm Walk Fit 11:00 am Chair Yoga with Vicky 11:30 am Carpet Bowling 12:45 pm Cards/Crib 1 - 4:00 pm	24 OFFICE OPEN 11:00 am -1:00 pm Quilting 9:30am Chestermere Artisans 1:00 pm Bridge 1:00 pm	25 Exercise Class with Julie 10:30 am Chair Yoga 11:45 am Friday Pub Night 6:00 pm	26  Coffee at Whitecappers 10:00 - 11:15am Cards/Crib 1:00 – 4:00 pm
27	28 OFFICE OPEN 1:00 pm – 3:00pm Walk Fit 11:00 am Chair Yoga with Vicky 11:30 am Carpet Bowling 12:45 pm	29 Line Dancing with Tarnia 10:30 am Monthly dinner Doors open 4:30 pm Dinner at 5:30 pm	30 OFFICE OPEN 11:00 am -1:00 pm Walk Fit 11:00 am Chair Yoga with Vicky 11:30 am Carpet Bowling 12:45 pm Cards/Crib 1 - 4:00 pm	31 OFFICE OPEN 11:00 am -1:00 pm Quilting 9:30am Chestermere Artisans 1:00 pm Bridge 1:00 pm		

MONDAYS and WEDNESDAYS

Walk Fit	11:00 am
Chair Yoga	11:30 am
Carpet Bowling	12:45 pm
Cards/Crib	1:00 pm

TUESDAYS

Line Dancing	10:30 am
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THURSDAYS

Quilters	9:30 am
Artisans of Chestermere	1:00 pm
Bridge	1:00 pm

FRIDAYS

Drop-in. No charge for members. \$3/non-members.
Mondays and Wednesdays with instructor Vicky. Drop-in. No charge for members. \$3/non-members.
Everyone welcome. Come and meet the players already enjoying the games. Room for many more!
Wednesdays only. Everyone welcome. Come and enjoy your favorite card game or crib.

Drop-in. No charge for members. \$3/non-members. Classes with instructor Tarnia.

Come in and see what they do, or just chat and have coffee with them. All levels of skill welcome.
Try out our painting group. All levels of skill welcome.
Join us for a good game of bridge. New players are always welcomed!

— HOW TO —

SPOT

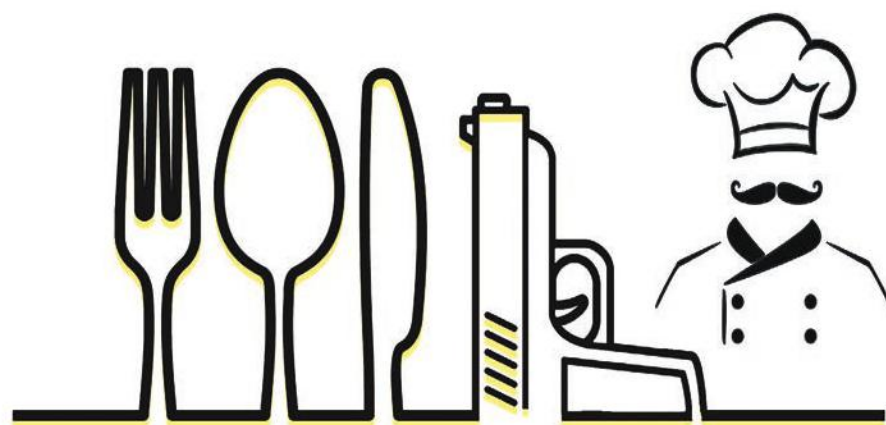
FAKE NEWS ONLINE

- 1 Is this a credible **Source**?
- 2 Is the **Perspective** biased?
- 3 Are **Other** sources reporting the same story?
- 4 Is the story **Timely**?

www.SPOTfakenews.ca

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Lakeside

Libations



Nick Jeffrey

libations@theanchor.ca

As the month of March gave way to the warmer days of April, I enjoyed the last few cans of Märzenbier that I was hoarding in the cellar. For those in the audience that do not speak German, that translates directly to March beer.

The history of this beer goes all the way back to the noble Bavarian court in the year 1553, when a royal proclamation declared that beer could only be brewed between the days of Saint Michael and Saint George, which is September 29 through April 23 for the secular readers in the audience.

Worry not, gentle reader, for this was not some sort of attempt at Medieval Prohibition. Rather, the Bavarian nobility thought so highly of beer, that they didn't want substandard batches to be brewed in the summer months, when the warm temperatures and wild airborne yeasts would spoil the beer during fermentation. Think of it as tough love for beer.

Knowing that the brewing season would be ending as the

Marz Attacks!

snow thawed, the brewmasters would make an extra effort for the last big batch of the season, with plenty of malted barley to drive up the alcohol content, which helped to minimize spoilage.

The wooden barrels of beer were stored in cool cellars or caves over the summer, and had to be stretched to last until the fall, when brewing could begin again.

Any remaining barrels at the end of the summer would be served up at the raucous Oktoberfest celebration, making Märzen the official beer of Oktoberfest, which is pretty much the highest honour that any beer can achieve.

Since this style of beer was originally brewed to withstand long storage in the pre-refrigeration era, it is more robust than many other beer styles, as higher levels of alcohol and hops were the only tools the brewers had to keep bacteria at bay.



For this reason, you will find Märzen beers to have a rich and malty flavour, often with hints of caramel malts, and just enough hops to balance the malt without becoming overly bitter.

Hale and hearty in flavour, this is a beer that goes well with bratwurst or salted pretzels. Buxom barmaids spilling out of their dirndls are optional, but highly recommended while enjoying this type of beer.

Now that we have fancy newfangled technologies like refrigeration, beer can be made all year round, but the Märzen style is still most commonly seen around Oktoberfest. Fortunately, some of our local craft brewers produce a Märzen all year round.

In a tragic turn of events, the Homestead Märzen Lager from Origin Malting & Brewing in Strathmore has recently been pulled from the regular rotation. This was my favourite local Märzen for the past several years, with its rich coppery colour pouring into my glass with a firm and lacy off-white head. A hefty malt bill provided notes of fresh bread and toasted caramel, while the noble German hop varieties brought notes of fresh cut grass, and the clean lager yeast providing a crisp finish. While it has disappeared from the regular tap rotation, I hope to see it make one-off appearances now and again.

While it is a bit further away than Strathmore, looking west all the way to Canmore, Grizzly Paw Brewing has a Mountaneer Märzen that I sipped on their covered patio recently, surprisingly rich and malty for only 5% ABV, and perfect on a patio as the winter turns to spring.

And north up the QE2, Manual Labour Brewing recently opened in Sherwood Park, just a bit west of Edmonton's so-called refinery row. I visited the tiny taproom attached to the brewery on a recent trip to Edmonton, and their Manual Labour Every Time Märzen was fresh from the tanks to the taps, so I was lucky enough to enjoy the inaugural batch, boasting a caramel malt base and exceptionally smooth finish that I hope to see on the shelves here in southern Alberta soon!

A bit closer to home, Calgary's Cold Garden Brewing has a unique spin on the Märzen style, adding vanilla beans to the brewing process, resulting in a malty beer with hints of birthday cake on the finish. I enjoyed a single glass in the taproom on a recent visit, but as a Märzen traditionalist, I probably wouldn't pound these all night.

Look for these and other Märzen styles at your local taproom or bottle shop and try them yourself!

Chestermere

PUBLIC LIBRARY

105B Marina Road Chestermere



Winter Program Session 2

We have a variety of programs for all ages for FREE at the Library!

Please check out our website for the full program guide.
www.chestermerepubliclibrary.com

Upcoming Library Closure

Please note: the Library will be closed from April 18th to April 21st for Easter Long Weekend.

Adult Creative Club: Crafternoon

Drop in for casual self-led Crafternoons on April 13th from 1:00PM to 3:00PM and connect with fellow craft lovers in the community. We provide the space, and you bring any non-messy art or craft projects you have on the go, have been meaning to try, or would like to continue

from our regular Adult Creative Club classes. No registration required. Bring your own supplies.

Online Safety: Practical Strategies For Preventing Youth Exploitation

Join us and a special guest from Synergy for an informative presentation focused on the risks and challenges our youth currently face online and on social media on April 9th at 6:30PM. Designed for parents / caregivers, educators, and community members, this presentation empowers attendees to help create safer online environments for youth. Participants will gain practical strategies for protecting personal information, recognizing the warning signs of online exploitation, fostering open communication and promoting safe digital behavior. The presentation will be followed by a Q&A session. Registration required.

Sow, Save & Sustain: Seed Saving Basics

Learn how to save your own seeds, save money, promote sustainability and become more self-sufficient with a guest from the Rocky View Agricultural Society on Wednesday, April 16th at 6:00PM. Explore the basics of seed saving, learn about sustainable seed saving methods, selecting the best plants and more. Registration

required.

Global Cinema Movie Night

Through our monthly Global Cinema series, we showcase films produced and filmed outside of North America. Join us on Thursday, April 17th at 5:00PM for a showing of "Made in Bangladesh". No registration required.

Earth Day Clean Up

Let's take some time together to help clean up Chestermere for our third annual Earth Day Clean Up on Sunday, April 27th at 1:00PM! Our goal is to clean from outside the Library all the way to the end of John Peake Park! Gloves and garbage bags will be provided. Please dress for the weather. No registration required.

Afterschool @ CPL

Join us Monday through Thursday and Saturdays for after-school activities for kids. Registration is required for each program.

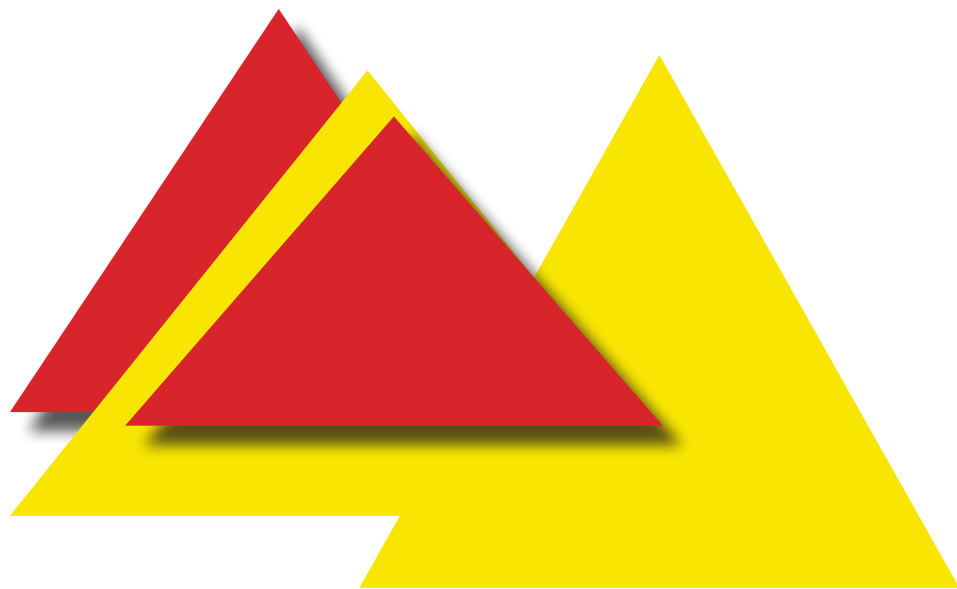
Mondays at 4:15PM – Mystery Mondays. Ages 6-12.

Tuesdays at 4:15PM – Reading Buddies. Ages 6-12.

Wednesday at 4:15PM – Wonder Wednesdays. Ages 6-12.

Thursdays at 4:15PM – Feel & Flow With Chestermere Parent & Caregiver Support Services. Ages 6-12.

Family Fun Fridays



403.272.9025

chestermerepubliclibrary.com





Join us every Friday at 3:00PM for a fun activity for the whole family. Registration required.
April 11th – Scavenger Hunt

Storytime
Join us on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:15AM for songs, rhymes and stories. No registration required.
We also have a Baby Storytime on Friday at 10:15AM for parents and babies between the ages of 0-23 months.

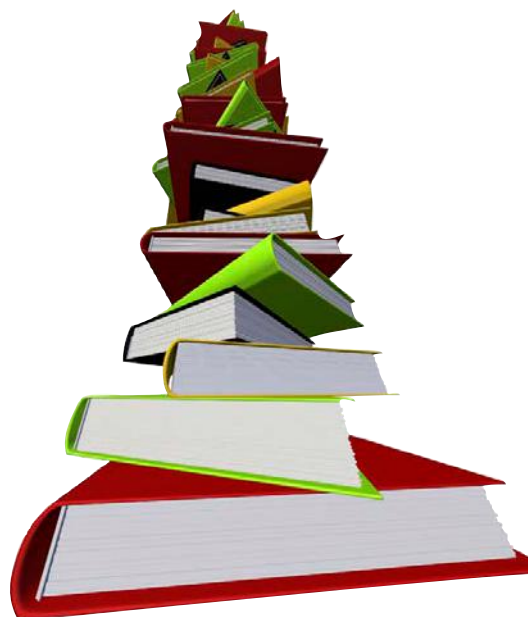
Spring Into Fun at the Library
Join us for Spring Break fun at the Library!
Tuesday, April 22nd and Friday, April 25th we will have drop-in LEGO fun from 1:00PM to 3:00PM.
Thursday, April 24th at 1:00PM Mad Science of Southern Alberta will be here with their discover detection program for ages 6-12. Registration required.

YouTube Storytimes
Find us on YouTube by going to <https://www.youtube.com/@TheChestermerePublicLibrary> for a variety of storytimes available anytime!

Graphic Novel and Manga Clubs
This month, our Graphic Novel and

Manga club are looking at Tournament Comics. Try something new and let us know what you chose. Join our Discord on our website to discuss this month's theme.

Self Run Book Club
Want to host your own book club at the library? We will help you get everything you need and provide a space for your group to get together. We provide copies of your chosen book, library space, and cookies and coffee for your meeting!
Contact us at info@chestermererepubliclibrary.com to arrange your meeting.



For more information about what is happening at the Library, check our website. Don't forget to follow and like us on our Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages.

Chestermere Public Library

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

Are you aware that the library is a Registered CHARITY? This means that we depend on donations from the public to support us. We are looking for corporate or personal sponsors for our Programs. Any donations help and allow us to improve all our programming. Contact info@chestermererepubliclibrary.com if you would like to donate.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Are you wondering what's happening at the library? Would you like to know? Sign up for our monthly newsletter for updates on programming, Reading Programs, Featured Displays, Community Outreach, Featured Artists, and more. Sign up by visiting our website at chestermererepubliclibrary.com

Library Hours:

Monday through Thursday – 10:00 am to 7:00 pm

Friday and Saturday – 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Sunday – 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm



chestermererepubliclibrary.com

403.272.9025

Lakeside Quilters' Guild

Meeting each month at the Chestermere Recreation Centre on the first Wednesday of each month. Sew days are on the third Wednesday of each month and a sew Saturday each month, **(Not including summer.)** Quilting experience not required, new members welcome. For more information please contact Melodie at 587-225-4395

The Chestermere Fine Art Guild

The Chestermere Fine Art Guild meets every Thursday at 1pm, in meeting room 1; and have classes on the first and third Monday at 6:30 pm. Come and explore your artistic potential. We welcome new members beginner to advanced.

Like us on Facebook and/or email chestermereartguild@gmail.com

SENIOR ADULTS COALITION OF CHESTERMERE MEETING

When: April 16th
1:30pm – 3:30pm

Where:
Lakeshore Manor
200 Marina Drive

RSVP:

- jumpmaster2@shaw.ca
- illingw8@telus.net

Walk-ins welcome,
RSVP appreciated

St. Gabriel's the Archangel Parish

Catholics in Chestermere: Weekend masses are now open for public celebration without seating restrictions at St. Gabriel's Catholic School (197 Invermere Dr.). There is no longer advanced registration required to attend mass (Saturday 5 pm, Sunday 9 am, and 10:30 am), but please stay home if you feel sick that day. For more information please call 403-455-0196.

Chestermere Lions Club

Meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm

Meetings are currently by zoom.
Checkout our facebook page for more information,

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Community Therapy Dogs Society

Annual General Meeting

When: **April 16 - 7pm to 9pm**

Where: **Lifepath Centre for Community Development**

101- 340 Merganser Dr W Chestermere T1X 0Z6

For Board nomination details contact Alan Dickie at BoardSecretary@ctds.ca

www.ctds

Community Therapy Dogs Society © 2022
CRA Charity No. 81093 3770 RR0001

Chestermere Christian Fellowship

Services: Sunday 10:00 am

Sunday School downstairs
for ages 3 to 12"

Pastor Vince VanderVeen 403-204-2079
1.6 km north of Hwy 1 on Conrich Road

Helping People, One Dog at a Time



WANT TO JOIN OUR TEAM?

You or someone you know may have a well-behaved dog that loves people.

Would you like to be part of an organization that brings comfort to people through their interaction with therapy dogs?

If you answered "yes", please go to www.ctds.ca and complete a Volunteer Application form



Community Therapy Dogs Society

The Rotary Club Of Chestermere

Rotary Chestermere meets virtually on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:00pm via Zoom and in-person on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:00pm at Lakeshore Manor to share a meal, fellowship and hear our Guest Speaker.

Guests are warmly welcomed to join our meetings. Please contact Bill Quinney at wtquinney@shaw.ca



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MONDAY APRIL 21 2025

6:30 TO 9 PM

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NON-MEMBERS SUPPLIES PROVIDED: \$10



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WWW.CHESTERMEREART.CA

EMAIL: CHESTERMEREARTGUILD@GMAIL.COM



Coffee break

HOROSCOPES WEEK OF April 06 TO April 13, 2025

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

This week you are going to take action on a project that has been on your mind for awhile, Aries. Trust your instincts, but make sure you are not moving too fast.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

This week brings an opportunity for intellectual pursuits, Taurus. You might think to enroll in a higher education class or take a course on a specific hobby that has been on your mind.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Partnerships are key right now, Gemini. You might want to pursue new professional relationships. Embrace your ability and willingness to adapt and facilitate change.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

You need to take care of your body and mind, Cancer. Now is as good a time as any to begin this pursuit. Even small adjustments can lead to long-term health benefits.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, this is your week to look into matters of self-expression and creativity. Pour your energy into anything that gets you excited. Your enthusiasm may draw others in as well.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, home life takes center stage this week, and you might feel a strong desire to nurture your space. Decluttering and organizing could bring more harmony to your home.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, you are able to express your thoughts with clarity and charm, which is why personal relationships often come easy to you. This week you may use this superpower to make friends.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

You may soon find yourself reevaluating how you spend your money or what you value most in life, Scorpio. This is a good time to check financial goals and adjust them.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

There is a sense of fresh energy surrounding you this week, Sagittarius. If you have been putting off something, now is the time to take the leap.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, focus on rest and relaxation in the days ahead. You have been putting in a lot of work lately and now is a time to focus on your inner self and recharge.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Collaborations with others could prove fruitful this week, Aquarius. Don't hesitate to lean on your social network when you need to get something done.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

You might be presented with a way to take your professional life to the next level, Pisces. Strategize about how to move forward in this regard, and think through all decisions.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

APRIL 6

Candace Cameron-Bure, Actress (49)

APRIL 7

Francis Ford Coppola, Director (86)

APRIL 8

Skai Jackson, Actress (23)

APRIL 9

Elle Fanning, Actress (27)

APRIL 10

Mandy Moore, Actress (41)

APRIL 11

Ken Carson, Rapper (25)

APRIL 12

Brandon Urie, Singer (38)

⊙ ** ☐ ☺ ✂ ~ ● ☯ ✧ ✱ ✨ ✖ ✱ ✚ ✼ ✱ ▲ ☾ ✱ ☿ ✨ ✨ ☯ ☯ ☯ ☯
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to sports safety.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 9 = S)

A. 18 24 18 18 15 22 9

Clue: Protective eyewear

B. 2 24 25 2 4 9 9 3 24 25

Clue: Brain injury

C. 9 13 24 20 14 9

Clue: Athletic endeavors

D. 9 10 17 22 14 19

Clue: Protection

Answers: A. goggles B. concussion C. sports D. safety

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to sports safety.

D H E A

--	--	--	--

Answer: Head

GUESS WHO ?

I am an actress born in California on April 9, 1990. My parents were both in the film industry and I made my acting debut in a Disney Channel film. I became known for playing a lead role in a saga about vampires and werewolves.

Answer: Kristen Stewart

SAFE SPORTS WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

ATHLETE
CONCUSSION
COOLDOWN
EXHAUSTION
EYEWEAR
FLEXIBILITY
GUARDS
HELMET
HYDRATION
INJURY
LIGAMENT
MOTION
PADS
PREVENT
PROPER
PROTECTION
REPETITIVE
REST
SEASON
SECURE
SORENESS
STRETCH
TENDON
WARMUP

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new stores and services in
their community.

38%

Say radio ads have prompted
them to search on the internet
for something.

20%

Have purchased a product
online after hearing a radio ad.

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SMALL BUSINESS FRIENDLY WE ROGUECAST TO YOUR CLIENTS!!!

CFTR the Rogue (chestermereradio.ca) is dedicated to working closely with small business owners who often cannot afford the advertising rates of commercial stations.

As a community centric station, our advertising rates are significantly lower and well within the reach of most small businesses. As a community radio station, the Rogue will also reach customers from Chestermere to Drumheller and beyond, thus providing small businesses with an alternative advertising opportunity to better reach and serve their customer base.

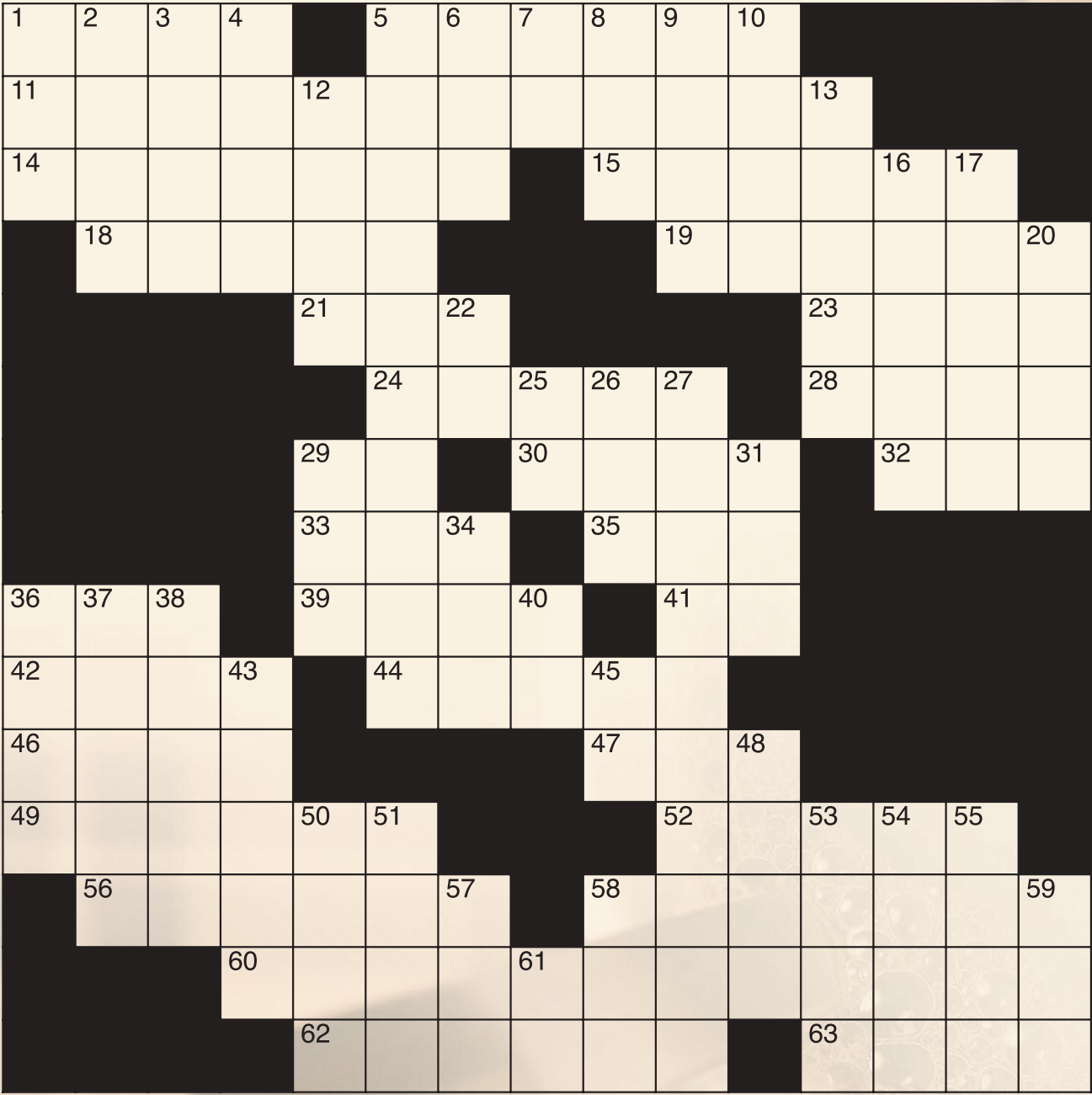
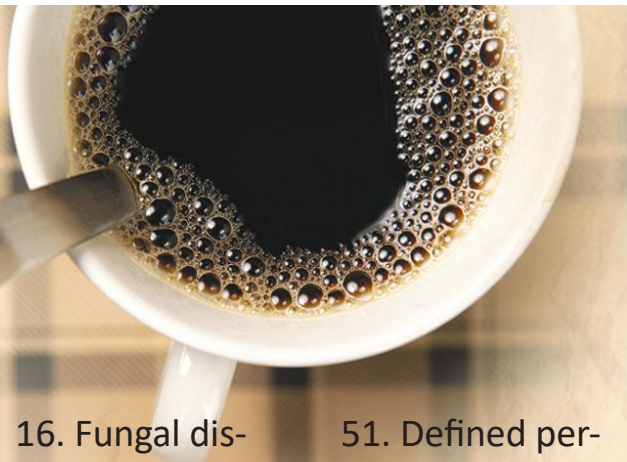
For more information on advertising, contact us:
sales@anchormedia.ca

anchormedia^{inc}

Get The Best Return On Your Investment

*Trust your ad dollars to us and watch them come
back to you – with friends!*

Coffee break



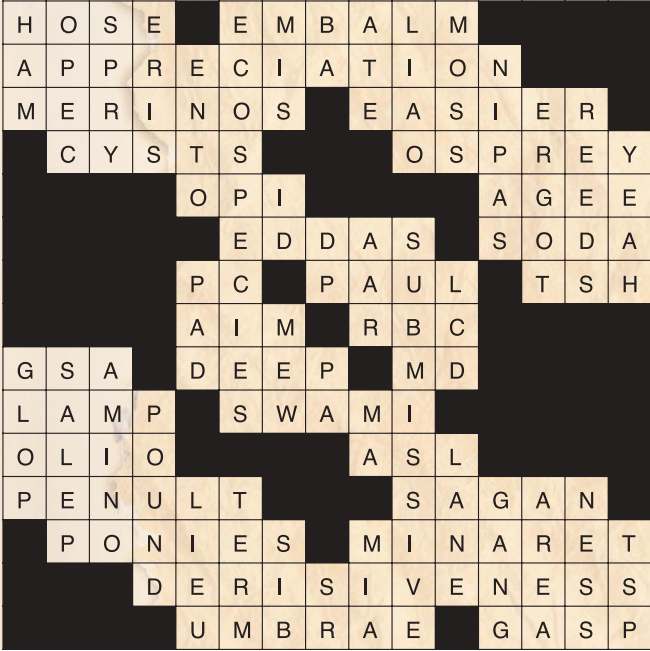
CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Garden tool
- 5. A way to preserve
- 11. Gratitude
- 14. Domestic sheep
- 15. Simpler
- 18. Cavities containing liquid
- 19. Large fish-eating bird
- 21. Ocular protection index
- 23. Phil __, former CIA
- 24. Icelandic poems
- 28. Pop
- 29. Device
- 30. Actor Rudd
- 32. A pituitary hormone
- 33. Focus on an object
- 35. Corpuscle count

- (abbr.)
- 36. Young women's association
- 39. Not shallow
- 41. Doctor
- 42. Furniture
- 44. Hindu male religious teacher
- 46. Highly spiced stew
- 47. A way to communicate
- 49. Almost last
- 52. Astronomer Carl
- 56. Small horses
- 58. A slender tower with balconies
- 60. A disrespectful quality
- 62. Fully shaded inner regions

- 63. Short convulsive intake of breath
- CLUES DOWN
- 1. Popular Sunday dinner option
 - 2. Oil cartel
 - 3. Agile
 - 4. Greek goddess of discord
 - 5. Genetically distinct variety
 - 6. Indicates badly
 - 7. Popular Mr. T character
 - 8. Consumed
 - 9. Chinese dynasty
 - 10. NFL great Randy
 - 12. Within
 - 13. Palm trees

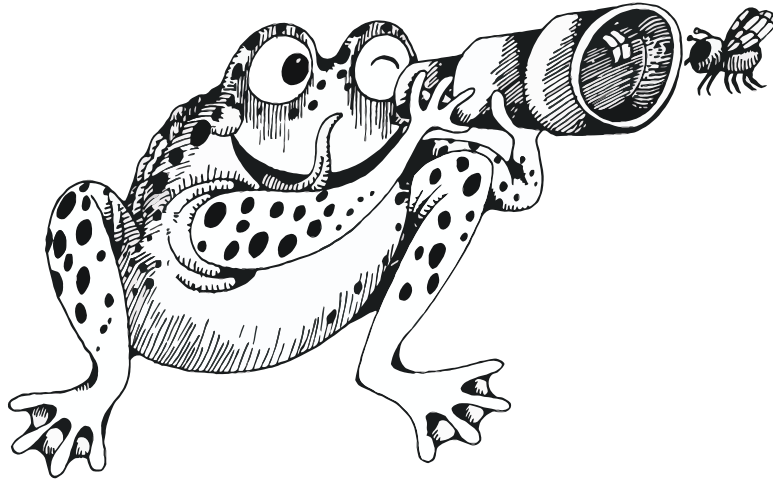
- 16. Fungal disease
- 17. Tall, slender-leaved plants
- 20. Affirmative! (slang)
- 22. A passport is one
- 25. Two outs in baseball (abbr.)
- 26. Swiss river
- 27. Differential
- 29. Where a bachelor lives
- 31. Portable computer screen material
- 34. A crying noise of a bird
- 36. Sticky, amorphous substance
- 37. Starchy dish of dried tubers
- 38. Type of acid
- 40. Partner to ÒMaÓ
- 43. 16 ounces
- 45. The Bay State
- 48. A well-defined track or path
- 50. Substitution
- 51. Defined period
- 53. Group of toughs
- 54. Region
- 55. Famed Scottish Loch
- 57. Blood relation
- 58. Not around
- 59. Recipe measurement
- 61. Father to Junior





Creative Colouring

Colour in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



CANADA

MONTH



HISTORY

1875

The Supreme Court of Canada is created. It is the highest court in the Canadian judicial system.

Animal FACT:



The bulging eyes of of these animals allow them to see in front, to the sides and partially behind them.

Answer: Frogs

Double Word Puzzle

Unscramble the words to reveal the sentence.

MUJP

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2 4

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6 2

Answer: Frogs hop to it

NEW WORD

LEAP

jump or spring a long way

How they say that in...

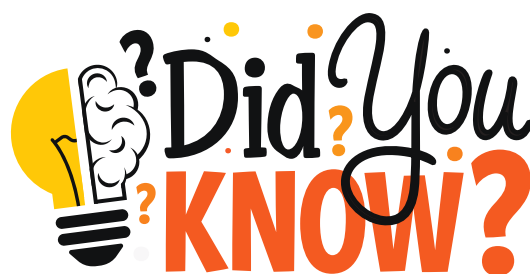
English: Frog

Spanish: Rana

Italian: Rana

French: Grenouille

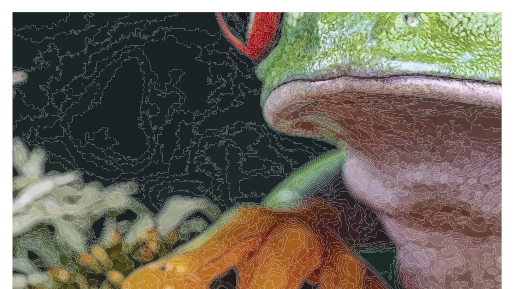
German: Frosch



Frogs are amphibians, which means they are cold-blooded. Their body temperatures change as the temperature of their surroundings changes.



Get the PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Frog

Classified Marketplace

Coming Events

FIREARMS WANTED FOR OUR 2025 AUCTION PROGRAM: Firearms, Ammunition, Accessories, or Militaria. Collections, Estates or single items. For Auction, or Possible Purchase: Contact us: 1-800-694-2609, Email: sales@switzersauction.com or Visit us @ www.switzersauction.com for Auction Dates & Details.

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BLANKET THE PROVINCE with a classified ad. Only \$269/wk (based on 25 words or less). Reach 75 weekly newspapers. Call NOW for details. 1-800-282-6903; www.awna.com; email classifieds@awna.com.

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BARLEY – *NEW-AB Standswell* Smooth Awn, High Yielding, Grain and Forage Great Lodging Resistance. 1st NITROGEN USE EFFICIENT CEREAL IN CANADA. Attracting Japanese Interest. OTHER BARLEY: Cerveza, CDC Austenson, CDC Maverick, Sundre. WHEAT – Pintail, Forage or Grain. OATS – AC Juniper, AC Morgan, AC Mustang, Derby, CDC S01 Super Oat. PEAS – Very Early Yellow Peas, Forage Peas. ALSO AVAIL-

ABLE: Polish Canola & Spring Triticale. mastinseeds.com; 403-556-2609.

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

Services

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

Wanted

APRIL SENIORS SPECIAL! 10% MORE ON ALL CASH PAYOUTS. SILVER Coins, Canadian Coins, GOLD coins, chains, rings...We buy them ALL! Silver flatware, tea sets, all things silver, Canadian Mint sets. We come to the privacy of your home, no fees! Call Joy or Ted 1-825-966-4373.



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ROYAL CANADIAN MINT COINS, OLD COINS, OLD PAPER MONEY, SILVER COINS, GOLD COINS, RARE COINS ETC

Also buying all Silver, Gold, Nuggets, Scrap, Coins, Old Jewelry, Bullion, Ingots, Sterling Silver, Old Quality Watches working or not, Rolex, Omega ++



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TURN WHAT'S IN YOUR CUPBOARDS, DRAWERS, JEWELRY BOXES AND SAFES INTO CASH!

**I MAKE HOUSE CALLS
ALL OVER ALBERTA!**

CALL ME NOW!

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or visit your community newspaper



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chains, rings, bangles, coins.

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Silver flatware, tea sets, all things silver. Canadian Mint sets.

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Bonded since 1967

Doing business in Alberta since 1986

Emergency "Go Bag" Essentials



- 3-day supply of nonperishable food (remember pets)
- 3 gallons of water per person
- Map with evacuation routes marked
- Change of clothing
- Eyeglasses or contacts
- First-aid kit and sanitation supplies
- Battery-operated radio and spare batteries
- Cash and credit cards
- Important documents
- Prescriptions or medications




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CharltonCattleCo@gmail.com
www.CharltonCattleCo.ca

direct energy

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They could win one of three \$5,000 donations to their nonprofit of choice.

Submit by March 31, 2025 at www.directenergy.ca/nominate or scan the QR code!



No purchase necessary. Nominees must be over the age of eighteen (18), legal Canadian residents, and reside or work in Alberta. To nominate an individual or group of individuals, a nomination form must be completed. For complete details and eligibility, see the Official Rules and Regulations at directenergy.ca/vcoy. Rules information provided will be processed in accordance with our Privacy Policy. All provincial, local and municipal laws and regulations apply. Void where prohibited. ©2025 Direct Energy. All rights reserved.

FOR SALE

145 Lakeside Greens
Place Chestermere



A2204226 | \$650,000

204 Viewpointe Terrace
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A2205576 | \$479,500

140 Copperpond Villas
SE Calgary



A2204945 | \$484,900

#107 390 Marina Drive
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A2202944 | \$319,900

#1208 111 Wolf Creek
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A2181049 | \$355,000

185 Prestwick Way
SE Calgary



A2196343 | \$579,900

473 Boulder Creek Way
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A2185397 | \$825,000

#101 300 Marina Drive
Chestermere



A2201848 | \$469,900

27 Wilson Rd NE
Langdon



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