



News and Views

Sorry for the delay in this publication. Hope to be back on track for February!!

JANUARY, 2012

Town Of Milk River

Councillor's Corner

Submitted by Councillor R. Smith



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Special points of interest:

- * When the plan you are on is late, the plane you want to transfer to is on time!
- * No one is listening until you "fluff"!!
- * Nothing is as frustrating as arguing with someone who knows what he is talking about.

Contracts Awarded

Contracts for the janitorial services at Town Hall and for the operation of the Under 8 Flags Campground were awarded at the December 12th Council meeting. Both contracts are for 3 year periods. Kari Putzi retains the Janitorial contract while the Riverside Community Golf Society was successful with their bid to operate the campground.

Planning for the regional water line supplying water to Coutts is in the final stages. Two additional reservoirs will be built on the North side of the existing ones. The addition of the new reservoirs will increase our fresh water holding capacities. These reservoirs will include a 7.5 million gallon settling basin and a smaller 3.6 million gallon filter basin. Construction is set to begin in May 2012.

Bylaw 961 dealing with the Elected Officials remuneration and expenses was passed. The Mayor and Councillors honorariums were increased by \$500.00 per year. The \$25.00 payment for meetings of less than 1 hour was eliminated. All meetings less than 4 hours will be \$50.00 per meeting, 2 meetings running consecutively for less than 4 hours will also be \$50.00.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those of you who made the effort to recycle and compost this past year. The Chief Mountain landfill facility at Spring Coulee is only allowed to accept 10,000 tonnes of garbage per year. In 2011 we will not exceed that tonnage for the first time in several years. When the limit is exceeded and Chief Mountain has to haul the excess to Lethbridge they are charged \$55.50 per tonne. The Town, being a member of the Chief Mountain Waste Authority, would have to contribute a share of the overage charges based on a per capita formula. **Please consider recycling and composting.**

Best wishes to all for a safe, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Mark your Calendars:

- Jan 9th, 2012 – Regular January Council Meeting
- Jan 23rd, 2012 – Committee of the Whole Meeting

Riverside Community Golf Society

2012 Board of Directors:

David Hawco, President
 John Rotheisler, Vice President
 Rick Touchette, Secretary
 Russell Dobrocane
 Dennis Hoytos
 Wayne Kapler
 Lee McTaggart
 Dave Racz
 Ed Sloboda
 Chuck Whipple
 Bill Chamber, Town Representative

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As President it is my intent to work with all golf members, re-establish golf leagues, and have a close working relationship with the Town of Milk River to build an environment that is inviting, growing and a vibrant place to meet friends, neighbors and newcomers to enjoy a game of golf.

David Hawco
 President
 Riverside Community
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Parking Concerns

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R.C.M.P. have been advised of this situation and enforcement will be taken; this could range anywhere from a warning to having the vehicle removed.



With this in mind, we would also like to ask our residents to be respectful and not to park in handicapped parking spots unless you have a handicap permit. Thank you to everyone for your attention in these matters.

Town of Milk River
 Public Works.



Christmas Food Hamper and Angel Tree Program

We would like to thank everyone that participated in making the Christmas Food Hamper Program and Angel Tree Program the enormous success they were this year.

Your generosity and overwhelming thoughtfulness helped make Christmas a joyous time for many families in the Milk River and Coutts areas.

From:

Christmas Food Hamper and Angel Tree Programs

THANK YOU

LTC Silent Auction - Thank You

Thanks to everyone who donated to and bid on our Silent Auction! Also, thanks to all who purchased items from our fund raising event. All of your combined generosity made our Silent Auction the most successful one we have had. Again, on behalf of all the residents of the Continuing Care Facility, thanks and God Bless you in 2012.



News from the Milk River Senior's Society

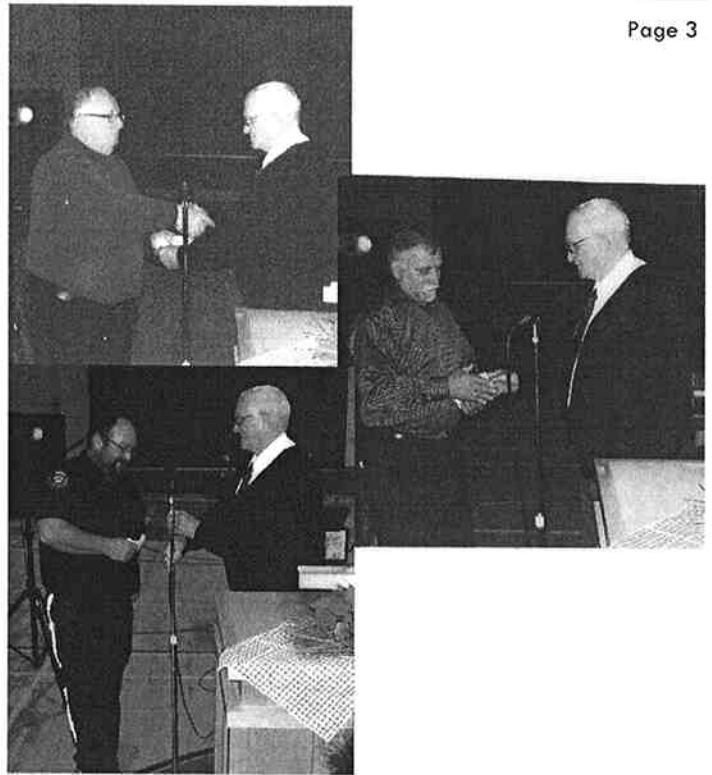
The Annual Milk River and District Senior's held their Christmas Party at the Milk River Civic Centre on Thursday, December 8th with 137 in attendance. A delicious turkey dinner was served by Laurie's Creative Catering.

Donations from the Senior's Society were distributed to the following organizations by President Don McCoy:

- 1) Milk River Fire Department \$3,000.00
for the purchase of a stand by power plant
- 2) Milk River Ag Society \$2,000.00
for renovations to the halls washrooms
- 3) Riverside Golf Course \$2,000.00
to help in the purchase of a green's mower

Roger Kunkel & wife Heather from Raymond provided the entertainment. We would like to thank everyone who helped to make this event a success.

We wish everyone a MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY & HEALTHY NEW YEAR.



Milk River Library Corner

Check it Out!

At this festive time of the year, the Board and Staff of Milk River Library would like to take time to thank all the good citizens of Milk River and surrounding area that have helped make our library such a success.

Thanks to the volunteers who help weekly in the day to day running of the library.

Thanks to all who volunteered to run the summer reading program. /we had an excellent turnout this last summer.

Thanks to all who contributed to the

Christmas Story Time and Craft hour. The children had a wonderful time.

Thanks to all who helped run the Don Livingston Author Book Signing day in November.

Thanks to the people and artists who brought works in to display for Alberta Arts Days.

Thanks to Shirley Kalau who is running a monthly count the beads and win the jar contest in the library.

Thanks to all of you who donate books, movies and magazines so others in our community can enjoy them or that we add to our book sales to raise money to

buy new books for the library.

Thanks to those patrons who use the library and all its varied resources. You are the people who keep our library active and open. January is Family Literacy Month. Come to the library and pick up an entry form to fill out to win a basket of goodies including books, magazines, a game, candy and popcorn. There is a limit of one entry per family. Don't forget February is the annual Library Board Meeting. Contact the library for more information. Volunteers are always need and wanted. The Library is open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 11:00 am - 6:00 p.m.

Happenings in and around Milk River

Winners of the Milk River Money - Town Customer Appreciation Day:

\$200 - George Russell

\$100 - Jan Baron

\$50 - Nancy Johnson

Congratulations to all the lucky winners!

Step Aerobic Classes:

Classes will be starting on Thursday, January 12th at 6:00 p.m. at the Civic Center. Session will run until the end of March! Come on out for the fun and health of it! For more information call 403-421-0120

Quilt Club:

The first meeting for the Quilt Club will be January 23rd at 6:30 p.m. at the Heritage Hall. If you are the creative type or want to explore that part of your personality, this is the place for you. Come on out and see what we are all about! Fore more information call Peggy at 403-647-3627.

Town Of Milk River



Warner Midget Hockey Games

Fri. Jan. 13 @ Warner vs Bow Island 8:15 pm
Sun. Jan. 15 @ Warner vs Fort Macleod 5:15 pm
Fri. Jan. 27 @ Warner vs Red Cliff 8:15 pm
Sat. Feb. 11 @ Warner vs Great Falls 12:30 pm



THANK YOU!!

I wish to express my thanks to the Milk River Businessmen's Association for the 200 Milk River Dollars I won on their Customer Appreciation Day, December 2011. Also thanks to the UFA for their coffee mug and to M & R for their serving tray and plates. All in all a very good day!!

It pays to shop locally!!

George H. Russell

Bits 'n Pieces From the Prairie Rose Lodge

Joyce Vornbrock

Well, Christmas 2011, long anticipated has come and gone like every other year.

Life within the Lodge has been more active in December. The Lodge Annual Craft Fair was fairly well attended with baking, handi-crafts, Avon and Watkins tables. Tea and cookies, visiting and door prizes were enjoyed by the visitors. The Lodge Christmas Party had a full house with a wonderful turkey dinner, music, Santa and gifts. Thanks to the Lodge cooks & serves, Clark & Gordon for entertaining us and Richard Wright, alias Santa. A special thanks to Bonnie & Dennis Taylor for taking down and setting up and taking down again! They are always a big help. December is always a big Birthday Party Month with 8 birthdays being celebrated every year. This year we had

Lee Blust, Angus Erickson, Peggy Miller, Mabel Fleming, Jack Shaw, John Griffith, Minnie Mellafont and Carol Larson. Entertainment was supplied by "The Hales" and 8 Birthday Cakes were served.

4-H Light Horse members with leaders Charlene Price and Joanne Bevans visited the Lodge on Saturday afternoon December 17th to make a craft with the Residents

Christmas movies haven been shown every Tuesday and Christmas stories have been read every Wednesday. Decorating the Lodge took place with our beautiful tree being decorated by Serge Roy for the second year in a row. Thanks Serge!!

"Between Friends" from the School paid their last visit of 2011 by doing a craft and visiting with their partners. Cindy Chisholm will be back as their

leader for the next semester.

Dee Brown recently donated several very interesting books to the Library which had belonged to her Mother and various "old timers." My favorite kind of stories!! Thanks Dee!

Norman and I had a lovely Christmas Eve visit from our 2 Great Grand-daughters, Zoe & Madilyn. Now we patiently await the arrival of our newest one due on January 9th or thereabouts. Oh the joys of getting older! Priceless!!

Talk to you again in 2012. Wishing all of you a Happy & Healthy New Year from Joyce - alias "The Golden Dragonfly" which is my Native American name. Oh, the wealth of information on Facebook!!



Holiday Garbage Collection Schedule:

To Our Residents:

With the delay in garbage collection during the week of December 26th, I would like to thank you for your cooperation and patience. It is important that residents are given ample notice of any rescheduling of garbage collection due to holidays.

To better help limit this reoccurrence in the future, re-scheduling of garbage collection will be posted on the Community Board (located on 2nd Ave. N. next to the Post Office), Milk River Cable Community Classified and on our website at www.milkriver.ca

My apology for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Mario Berthiaume
CAO, Town of Milk River

3rd Annual

FAMILY DANCE

Feb 04 7-11PM

Alcatraz

Frank Barrows Tyler Maggrah Riley Smith Mason Oswald

Borderbound

Randy Kukucska Gill Harrison Gord Kopp Ted Swanson

Fragment

Jessie Tollestrup Mike Tollestrup Randy Kukucska
Ted Swanson Diana Snow Ann Tollestrup

Only Option

Austin Hubley Mike Tollestrup Lloyd Tollestrup
Kaho Wantanabe Nathan Lambert Nick Swanson

Proceeds to

**Milk River
Ag Society**

Held at:
Milk River
Civic Centre

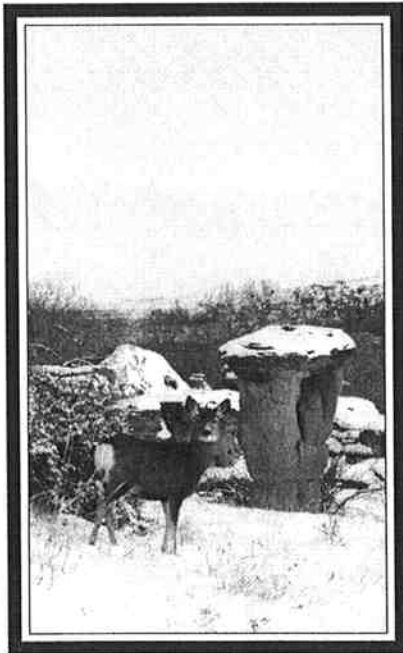
Admission single \$10. family \$20.

EVENTS



Winter at WOS

Come join staff at the
Writing-on-Stone Provincial Park Visitor Centre
for the annual "Winter at WOS" celebration!



Saturday February 4, 2012
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
(scheduled activities @ 2:00 and 3:00 pm)

Weather dependent, we will be offering
short snowshoe excursions or a Nature Hike.

So bundle up the family and enjoy the
outdoors, hiking, snowshoeing, bird watching,
and sipping hot cocoa around a blazing bonfire.

Family fun and crafts will be offered at the Visitor
Centre for those who wish to take a break and
look around at the many displays celebrating this
unique area. Mark your calendar!

(No fee. Donations accepted for craft costs.)

(Please dress for the weather including
boots for snowshoeing and an extra set of
indoor shoes or slippers!)



UTILITY PREPAYMENTS

Prepayments on all utility accounts will be accepted again this year during the month of January.

Commercial/Residential Customers

Prepayment of Commercial/Residential utilities will be calculated on the base rate for water, which is \$24.00 per month. Charges for consumption will be accumulated throughout the year and can be paid bi-monthly or before December 31, 2012. If your prepayment credit is used up due to overages, penalties *will not* be levied on your account. Single family residences can prepay \$456.50 for the base rates for water, sewer and garbage. Commercial customers are asked to contact the office to determine their prepayment amount.

All Utility Customers

If you wish to make monthly payments on your utility account please contact the office to make arrangements.

Moving?

Utility customers must notify the Town Hall if you are moving. Failure to do so will result in you being responsible for utility charges that accumulate on the account.

WASTE TRANSFER STATION

The Milk River/Coutts Transfer Station is open for use on Tuesday, Friday and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Anyone wishing to dispose of any appliance containing freon should contact the Town Office. A \$10.00 charge is required for the removal of the freon. If you have already had the freon removed, please show the certificate to the attendant at the transfer station.

When taking large loads of debris to the transfer station please tarp your loads. Debris falling from your vehicle is a hazard to other motorists and you may be liable to a fine for failure to secure your load. Please help keep our countryside clean. Thank you.

Statutory Holidays: The Transfer Station is closed on Statutory Holidays. Ask the operator what days he will be open if one is approaching. Otherwise please watch for notices.

CHRISTMAS TREES

Christmas Trees can be dropped off at the Town Shop north of the side door in the north east corner by the fence or you may take your tree to the transfer station.

BUILDING, ELECTRICAL, GAS, PLUMBING AND DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

Just a reminder, before you start that new construction, addition to the house or renovations, stop by the Town Office or give us a call to see if you require a building permit and/or development permit. We also provide electrical, gas and plumbing permits now. We have all the application forms at the office. **Park Enterprises**, of Lethbridge, provides the compliance monitoring for the Town for all permits.

Why are permits necessary?

1. You are ensuring any construction you do complies with the Building Code. Inspections are conducted.
2. Neighbors are ensured enjoyment of their property is not interfered with.
3. You reduce problems with compliance issues when you sell your property.

RECYCLING

The Town of Milk River would like to thank those of you who are recycling and encourage more to do so as every little bit helps in reducing garbage at the Transfer Station destined for the landfill.

Cardboard seems to be one of the major concerns. **PLEASE BREAK DOWN YOUR CARDBOARD BOXES AND FLATTEN THEM** and place in the cardboard trailer provided.

Please place your recycling in the designated bins. Contamination occurs when a bin contains items that should not be in that bin or when the items are not clean. When a load is contaminated, it can be refused. Please remember, we get paid for good, clean loads, thereby saving you, the taxpayer, money. It's okay to reach in and move items to the correct bin if someone before you has put them in the wrong bin but use care when doing so.

Thanks for your help in making recycling as enjoyable as any waste reduction project can be.

BUSINESS LICENSES

A friendly reminder to businesses and home based businesses that 2012 business Licenses are due and payable in January. Notices will be going out to those who purchased licenses last year. If you are planning on starting a home based business or opening a business in the commercial/industrial districts, please contact the office to see if you require a license. Call the office or stop in to find out about a license if you did not have one last year or are new to Town. Thank you.

TAX PAYMENT PLANS

The Town of Milk River has the following tax payment plans for taxpayers:

TAX PREPAYMENT PLAN:

You may prepay up to the previous year's tax levy and receive interest on the prepayment. Rates for prepayments are as follows:

Payments received between January 1 and January 31, 2012	5%
Payments received between February 1 and February 28, 2012	4%
Payments received between March 1 and March 31, 2012	3%

Interest will be credited to your account. Please note interest is not refundable, it remains on your account as credit.

MONTHLY TAX INSTALLMENT PLAN:

The monthly tax installment plan is still gaining popularity and will be offered again in 2012.

Under the plan you make 12 monthly payments commencing in January. Prepayments do not receive interest, but any amount left owing after the August 31 tax payment deadline is not penalized. Adjustments to the monthly payments are made in July. You may choose to pay on the first, fifteenth or last day of the month. Payments missed are penalized at the rate of 1.5% per month up to two months, after which the plan is cancelled.

Further information on the plans may be obtained from the Town by phoning 647-3773 or by stopping at the Town Hall.

DOG CONTROL AND ANIMAL LICENSING

2012 Animal Licensing Fees are as follows:

	UNNEUTERED/ UNSPAYED	NEUTERED/ SPAYED
DOGS	\$20.00	\$10.00
CATS	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00

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