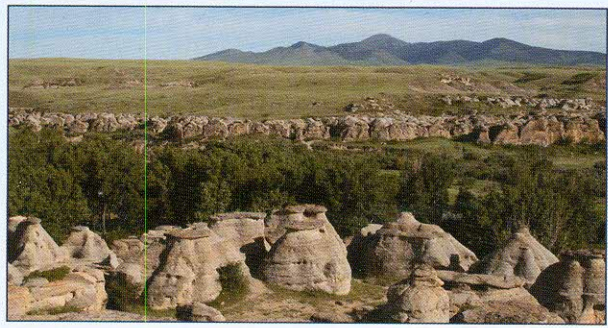
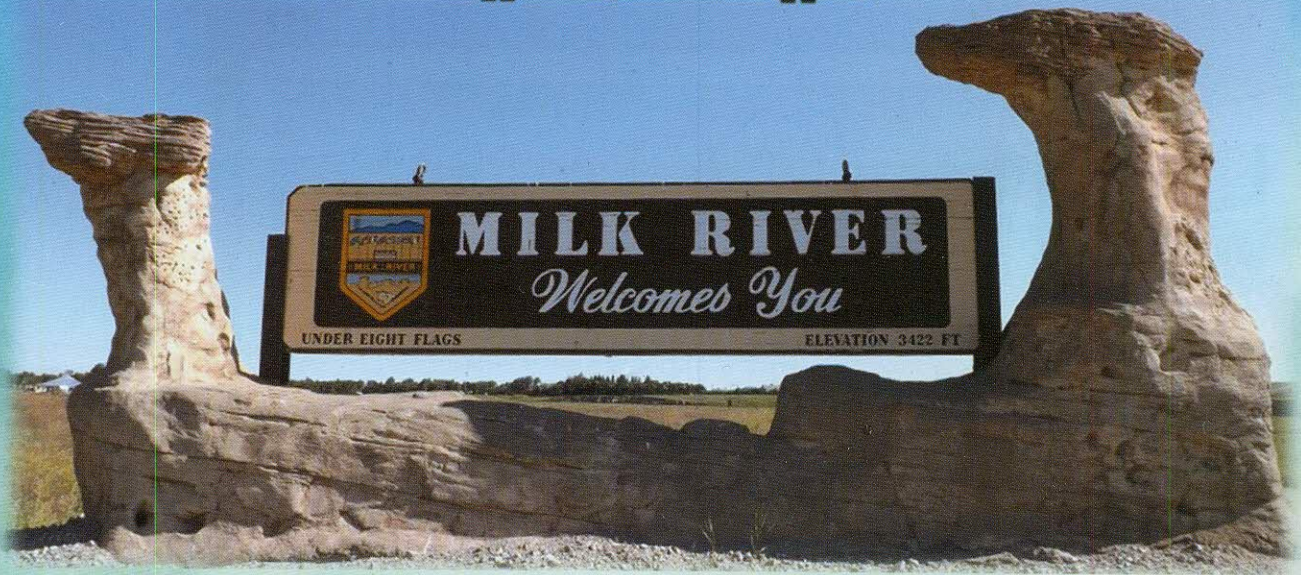


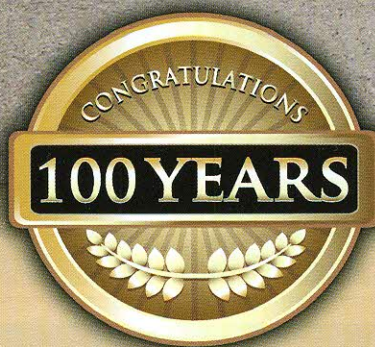
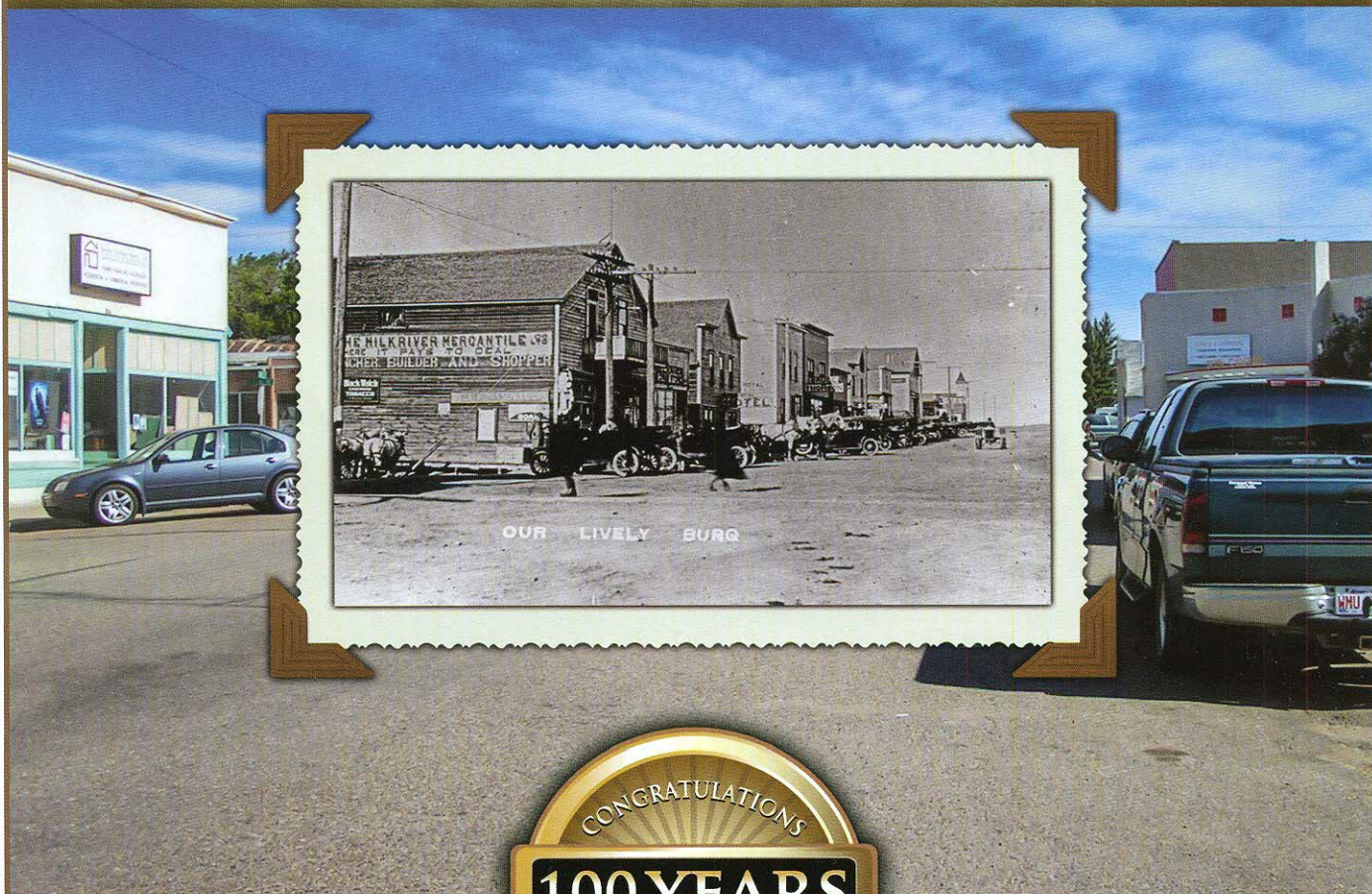
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Milk River ready to celebrate a century

By **STEPHANIE LABBE**

Milk River will celebrate its 100th anniversary with a weekend of events scheduled for July 29 to August 1.

Planning has been ongoing for the last 18 months and things are starting to come together.

"Planning is going well and everything is starting to gel. All the committee heads have done a fantastic job of organizing the events they're responsible for and now it's coming down to the logistics of ... ensuring all the loose ends are sewn up and each event is well co-ordinated within the guidelines of our timeline," says Gail Matlock, co-chair for the event.

People will enjoy live music on main street, cake cutting, a baseball tournament, a parade, a farmers' market, children's activities, free swimming, threshing demonstrations, a quilt show, a car show, duck races, a golf tournament, a rodeo performance and a children's and family drive-in-movie.

These are just some of the many activities that will be going on throughout the weekend.

Trevor Panczak will also be there for the Saturday night from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m. providing entertainment for the adults.

People will be able to enjoy the activities going on around town and will get the chance to mingle with other members of the community and visitors.

"Visiting and reminiscing with all current and previous Milk Riverites — celebrating 100 years of Milk River history. We hope the event (is) successful. The weekend events ... have been made possible by many hours of volunteer work by many ... enthusiastic participants. Our reward will be your attendance and your enjoyment of the planned activities," adds Matlock.

She says current and past Milk River community members should attend the centennial weekend celebrations to help celebrate their past and present connections to the town of Milk River.

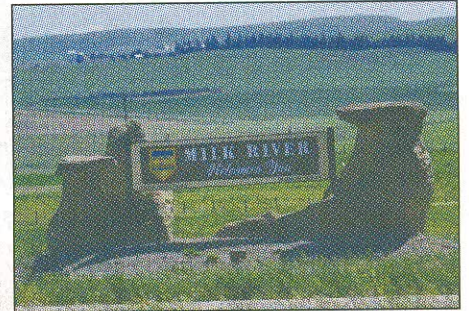
There has been generous corporate sponsorship given to help hold this celebration.

"We held a successful fundraiser featuring the Great Canadian Barn Dance Band (and) we are selling merchandise that (has the logo on it) with the centennial emblem," adds Matlock.

As well, there will be a banquet dinner on the Saturday night for which people must pre-register. People can register for the banquet by visiting the Milk River town website. Tickets are \$25 per adult for the supper.

Tickets for the Trevor Panczak Saturday dance for anyone 18 years old or older are \$10 each if bought in advance. They will be \$20 at the door.

There is also going to be a Milk River sports team provincial winners and grad class reunion going on for the celebration. Coaches, friends,



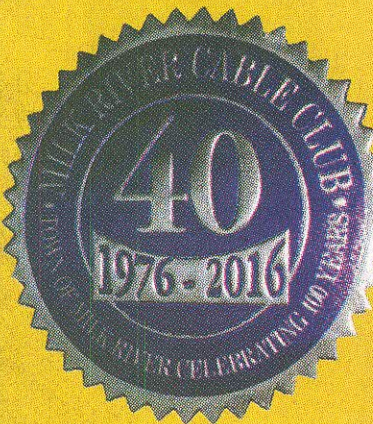
players, classmates, parents, educators and everyone who is or was involved with sports or grad are invited to attend to get together and reminisce.

The sports team provincial winners reunions will be held at the Erle Rivers High School in the gym from 3-5 p.m. on Saturday, July 30.

The school grad class reunions will be held at the Erle Rivers High School in the atrium area on Saturday and Sunday, July 30 and 31 from noon until 5 p.m. on Saturday and from 1-3 p.m. on the Sunday.

For details on which grad class and provincial winners reunion is happening at what time, visit the town of Milk River website, under the 100th anniversary tab and Reunion Info PDF.

Continued on Page 3



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A BRIEF MAYORAL HISTORY

Milk River first gained the status of Village in 1916 after a Petition for Formation of a Village was signed by several residents. This petition, dated January 1, 1916, was signed by men and women, as this was the first year that Alberta women were granted the right to vote. Dan Deery was elected the first Mayor of the Village of Milk River at the August 8, 1916 elections.

Women even served as Mayors with Mrs. C. (Lena) Hunt serving from 1922-24 and Julia Fischer in 1952. Milk River was, as it is now a very progressive place to live.

On February 7, 1956, Milk River voters gave a mandate to become a town and a new council was elected. Woodrow Stringham was elected as the First Mayor of the Town of Milk River in March of 1956.

Mayors could not have accomplished all that needed to be done without the help of town councils. In the early days town councils may have had one or two members plus the Mayor. Now the Town has four councilors and a Chief Administrative Officer. Committees are formed to carry out the many tasks required to govern and that takes volunteers as well as council members to complete. The Town of Milk River has a rich history of volunteerism. Many people have stepped up to the plate over the years and used their expertise and knowledge to help create the town of today- and we thank them!



Dan Deery

Mayor Village of Milk River 1916



Woodrow Stringham

First Mayor Town of Milk River 1956



David Hawco

Current Mayor Town of Milk River

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

I would like to invite you to Milk River AB July 29, 30, 31st 2016 to help us celebrate our 100 year birthday. It is a great feat to reach such a milestone and it is a result of countless people in the past. Our forefathers were able to start a living here and their descendants continued the mission to build a strong, healthy community and they succeeded. Milk River today is a great place with great people and very strong roots. Our strength is in its people and working together is a necessity. We have come a long ways in 100 years and we still have a long journey ahead with many challenges, but together we are strong and together we will succeed.

So, Mayor and Council hope you come for a visit, see old friends, make some new ones, enjoy the numerous events and when you leave you have a strong desire to come back. I hope to see you for our Centennial Weekend and remember to play safe and stay safe.

David Hawco

Projects on the go for community of Milk River

BY STEPHANIE LABBE

The town of Milk River has been a busy little community with several projects in the works over the last while.

Recently, David Hawco, mayor of Milk River says they completed a regional water line to Coutts, at a cost of more than \$8 million.

"This is so we can supply (Coutts) with treated water ... from our source, the Milk River," says Hawco.

As well, the town just finished a sewage lift station upgrade in town for a cost of more than \$750,000.

A smaller project completed includes adding a new deck for the swimming pool at a cost of more than \$60,000.

The Town is also focusing on different ways to attract new people to the community.

"We have increased our advertising in brochures, pamphlets, magazines, etc. The Business Association ... has just completed a full map of the town with the businesses shown and a map of the area and most of southern Alberta on

the back page," explains Hawco.

He says they've improved the webpage and have begun to hand out a community 'welcome bag' to all people who come in and inquire about the town.

Being mayor since October 2013, Hawco has loved every minute of it. He loves the town, the people and is proud to be the mayor of the community.

"I really enjoy the people, the safety of the town, the amenities here, the ability of being able to go out at almost anytime and walking on the golf course and playing ... my wife says I am a fanatic for golf and the low cost of living here," adds Hawco.

He and his wife have been in Milk River for 10 years. He used to be the principal of the high school for the first five years. When he retired, they decided they had enjoyed the town so much they would stay.

Milk River is a nice small town for those people who want to live in a small centre, but still with great amenities.

"I believe that the town has much to offer ... but it is very important to say that you have to make it work. Any place is only as good as you make it. It is always a two-way situation. We have ... always lived in smaller communities and have enjoyed them all," he says.

Moving to Milk River from the city has much to offer, but it is smaller. He says there are some things you have to overcome, but yet there may

be some you can't.

"It is quite inexpensive to live here. Houses are cheaper, you are closer to the border — if you are a snowbird. It does have a pool, a curling rink, a golf course, two schools, a hospital, seniors' living, a long-term care facility and much more," adds Hawco.

A new garbage truck has also been ordered for the town that will be larger and fully automated. This new truck will be used to pick up garbage in Coutts, Warner and Milk River.

There have also been decisions made to freshen up the look of the downtown.

"We are installing new plant hangers, flower pots and new banners. The banners ... have been painted by our local students and will showcase their artistic ability. The main reason is to make our town more inviting and pleasing to the eye," adds Hawco.

The largest project the town is hoping to get started is going to help secure the water of the Milk River for the future.

"The biggest idea we are working on is to secure our water for the future. We have had a meeting with Minister Mason, Transportation Minister, to start the possible process of ... building a dam on the Milk River. This project would benefit the town, the rural people and also the state of Montana. It's a very large project ... that will take time and a lot of money, but I always say that the glass is half full and not half empty," explains Hawco.

Ready to celebrate

Continued from Page 1

David Hawco, the mayor of Milk River says there is also a time capsule that will be unearthed on the Friday evening during the opening ceremonies.

"The contents were put in there 25 years ago by the citizens of the town and area, but mainly the students in the elementary school. We do not have plans yet to put a new one in the ground and will discuss that at a later date," explains Hawco.

He adds they hope to have more than 1,500 people attend the weekend celebrations.

There is always room for more volunteers to help out during the event as well. As the event comes closer, they're still in need of people to help with set up and take down at the venue sites. As well, they could use volunteers for registration and parade judges.

If people want to help out, for even a couple of hours, contact Barb Hoytos at 403-647-2447 or Gail Matlock at 403-647-3642.



Photo by Stephanie Labbe

The Town of Milk River is in a solid position.

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EDITOR'S NOTE:

In the history book for the Milk River area called *Under Eight Flags, Milk River and District History Book*, the editor of the biographies Irene Welsh shared what made the area great. It was the people. That's why we felt it was important to include some profiles of interesting people and organizations from the Milk River area in this special Centennial edition.

Here is Welsh's excerpt from *Under Eight Flags* as she introduced the biographies section of that history book. We couldn't have said it any better so thanks for the words:

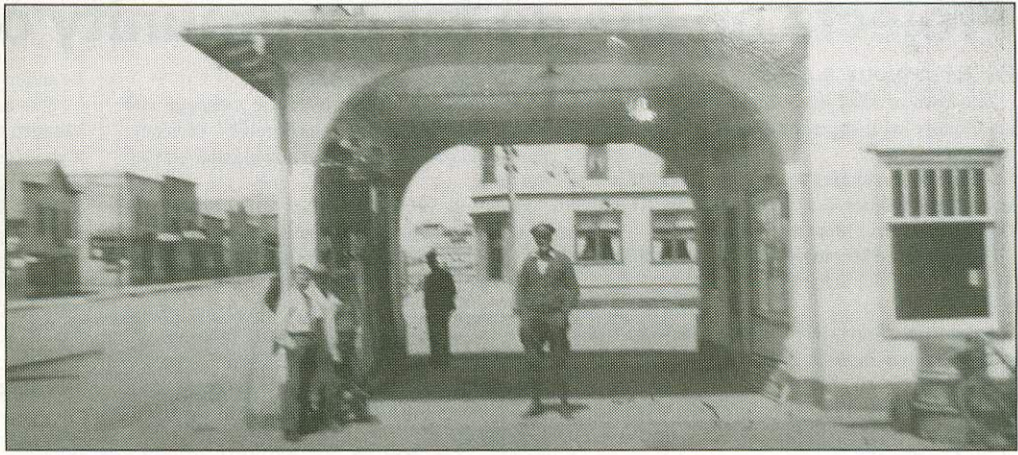
"People made our area what it is: the explorers and traders, the surveyors, the ranchers, homesteaders and settlers, or those who came to provide services.

Whether they came to a new country to make a living, to at last own their own land, for adventure or freedom, the result was a mixture of backgrounds, languages and customs. This created a broad spectrum of attitudes heightened by the hardships endured, leavened with much neighborliness, fun and good times. A strong feeling of community evolved, which still endures.

Many of our young people left to make their way in the world. Their memories and appreciation of their childhood, together with their parents stories, depict the heart and soul of a people.

Our pioneers left us with a precious heritage; our hope is that we, our present and future generations, live up to their expectations.

May you enjoy reading the following biographies. They are the history of our people."



Photos contributed

Where the current Tees n' Jeans is today in Milk River was once a garage.

Some buildings have long history in Milk River

CONTRIBUTED

The building where Tees n' Jeans is today was built in or around the late 1930s and was originally the McColl-Frontenac garage and would later become the Texaco station.

George Koller operated the Texaco from 1936 to 1952. His grandson Robert Kuhl and Robert's family still reside in Milk River.

A few years lapsed and then George Oswald and his son Bill moved to Milk River in 1959 to operate the station.

Following the passing of George, Bill continued to operate the business until the fall of 1966 when he sold to Ted McTaggart. Ted operated the Texaco until May of 1980.

Besides the service station Ted also ran a Motor Vehicle Licensing Office. His wife Mary and Barb Collins opened a clothing store in 1980. They sold mostly tee shirts and jeans thus the name tees'n jeans was born.



In 1982, Robert and Gail Matlock purchased the business and have served the community for 34 years. During that time they have stocked tee shirts and jeans, infant wear, youth clothing, teen fashions, a full line of men's and ladies wear, running shoes, jewelry and gift wear.

A few years after opening, Gail and Bob decided to change the name of the store and held a contest to come up with a new name. The suggestion of 80 per cent of the

people who entered the contest was to keep it the same. The Matlocks felt, "if it ain't broke don't fix it" and so for 34 years the name has remained.

The clothing store has evolved over the years and at present the store features women's casual wear, accessories and gift wear. As well as the clothing store, Gail continues to be an Alberta Registries office and a Sears Catalogue Outlet.

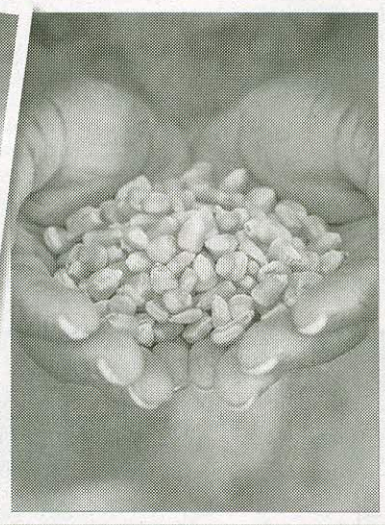
The Matlocks are proud to be a part of the Milk River community.

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Milk River Farm Supply Ltd. in business for 55 years

By ROSE SANCHEZ

While the community of Milk River celebrates a centennial in 2016, one community business is celebrating its own milestone.

Milk River Farm Supply Ltd. has been a family-owned and operated business by the Ostenbergs for 55 years in 2016.

Ralph Ostenberg, who says he has lived in many places, found himself in Milk River in 1960 as he knew some people who called the small town home.

Only a year after his arrival he,

along with other business partners, started Milk River Farm Supply in 1961. Then Ralph chose to buy out his partners' shares in 1969 becoming the sole owner of the farm equipment operation.

In 55 years, the Ostenbergs, Ralph and Karen, have enjoyed success.

"We're pretty well known throughout southern Alberta and northern Montana," says Ralph about the business. "We have a lot of customers from both sides of the border."

With five grown children now,

Ralph's and Karen's sons have bought into the family business, and it will be eventually they who continue on the family-owned business. Ralph still enjoys going to work every day for now.

He has also seen a lot of changes in the farm equipment business in 55 years of operation. One big change has been to agriculture as farming and ranching operations become larger. Small family-run agricultural operations are disappearing as generations age and decide to sell off the farm if there is no family

interested in continuing on with the work.

The Ostenbergs are proud to have been in business "for quite a spell" and support the Milk River community. Over the years, they have sponsored numerous sports initiatives and events. They have no plans to leave the area they call home.

"We like the people and the community," says Ralph, about the best part about being in Milk River. "We have good relationships with people."

Milk River and District Agricultural Society important to the community

CONTRIBUTED

The Milk River Agricultural Society was incorporated in 1973.

In the late 1960s and early 1970s Milk River experienced a rather severe recession. A few progressive residents decided it was time to revitalize the town. One avenue was to create a recreational complex and the Agricultural Society was formed.

The Ag Society was able to apply for various provincial and federal grants. The first project was the construction of a swimming pool.

In 1974 sights were set higher and the old unused skating rink that had originally been built as a grain storage facility in 1956 became the Milk River Civic Centre.

Many community events were held in the Civic Centre, but the

income from these activities did not raise enough money to support the debts of the Civic Centre.

A meeting was held in 1982 to discuss the debt of the Milk River Civic Centre which was approximately \$117,000.

A presentation by Dallas Schmidt, Minister of Agricultural, informed the gathering that the Milk River and District Agricultural Society should be revitalized so it could sponsor a wide variety of activities and qualify for provincial funding.

A board of directors was selected and the work of retiring the accumulated debt and improving the building were set in action.

Over the next several years the heating system was improved, a suspended ceiling was installed in the entrance and the Agora room. The acoustical qualities of the building were improved. Tiles were laid on the kitchen and entrance hall floors, painting was completed and carpet installed. The brick portion of the building was turned over to the library doubling their capacity. A suitable ventilation plan

was approved and an updated heating plan was incorporated in the plan. A stage was built, dressing rooms and bathrooms were added adjacent to the stage and a bar facility was also built.

Basketball was always a popular sport in Milk River. The Milk River Kinsmen installed a backboard, assisted in the purchase of a score clock and with the installation of two rows of lights a first-class basketball court was realized. This facility was now used by the schools for practices and the men's basketball team for practice, games and tournaments.

Over the years many additional improvements have been made to the building. The Civic Centre continues to be utilized in the community for many activities including banquets and dances, weddings, funerals, meetings, basketball and volleyball practices and tournaments, roller-skating, exercise classes, church suppers, school programs, youth programs, agricultural, craft fairs, dinner theatre, two visits from Elvis and much more.

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Hospital a boon to Milk River, but not immune from cuts

PRAIRIE POST

Health care has gone through some changes in Milk River over the years.

In a September 1961 *Lethbridge Herald*, was a story about seeking government approval for a new Milk River Hospital.

It read that a hospital for Milk River has been approved as far as the district is concerned, G.D. Minion told the board meeting of the Lethbridge Municipal Hospital.

He said a provisional board has been set up subject to the approval of provincial minister of health Donovan Ross.

He said as plans now stand there will be five wards in the hospital district. The Lethbridge hospital district would lose 28 townships in the County of Warner, he said, in order to make up the required population for the 25-bed hospital.

The site of the Milk River hospital has been picked and will cost \$10,000, Mr. Minion told the board.

There will be three wards in the 28 townships in Warner County, one for Milk River and one for 16

townships in the County of Forty-Mile. There will be 10 or 11 townships in Warner County still in the Lethbridge hospital district, he said.

Coaldale, he anticipated, may have a larger hospital assessment as a result of the new deal.

All that is needed, he said, is the minister's approval.

Board members expressed regret that Mr. Minion and J.H. Otto would have to leave the board of the LMH when the new hospital district was opened.

In a July *Lethbridge Herald* article from 1994, cost-cutting measures caused officials with the Milk River Hospital to look outside the box for solutions.

The headline read "Milk River hospital looks to St. Mike's for administration."

The story read:

"Predictions about fewer boards and few administrators in Alberta's regionalized health system are beginning to come true.

Border Counties Hospital in Milk River plans to begin purchasing

administrative services from St. Michael's Health Centre in Lethbridge.

The 27-acute care hospital laid off its long-time administrator in January. The acting administrator since then is a representative of Western Health Planning Services, an Edmonton-based consulting firm.

Jean Schmill, hospital board chairman, said she hopes the transition of administration to St. Michael's personnel could occur by mid-August.

Milk River is one of three southern Alberta hospitals now running without a permanent CEO.

Wayne Petersen, chairman of St. Michael's board, said St. Michael's has already signed its part of the agreement with Border Counties, and it wouldn't take long for the Lethbridge-based facility to incorporate the rural hospital into its administrative services.

Once the new agreement is in place, personnel from St. Michael's would spend a certain amount of time each week at Border Counties.

As is, the acting CEO from Edmonton devotes about two days a week to the Milk River hospital, Schmill said.

Petersen said although the deal may evolve into the provision of services beyond administration and finances, for now, the arrangement wouldn't require any additional staff being hired. ...

Although both hospitals have agreed to the fee-for-service approach to administration, ultimately the agreement will need approval from the Chinook Regional Health Authority.

The authority, which met for the first time just a month ago, is working on a three-year business plan for health care service and delivery across southwestern Alberta. By next April, the authority will replace virtually every existing hospital and health unit board in the region. ...

Petersen said the authority decides it will take a hands-on approach to administration, the agreement between Milk River and St. Michael's could be scrapped."

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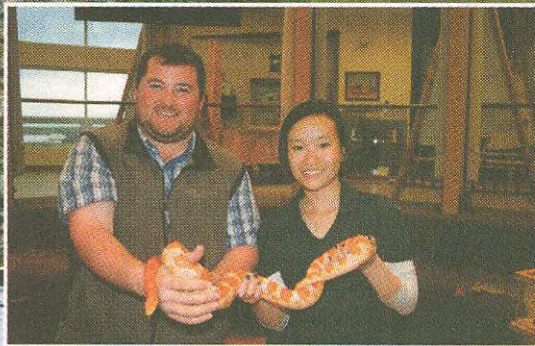
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Milk River elevators destroyed by fire said the headlines

PRAIRIE POST

\$2 Million damage at Milk River: Fire Destroys Elevators read the headlines in the Friday, May 9, 1969 front page of the Lethbridge Herald. Following is the story from that issue.

The largest grain elevator fire in the history of western Canada Friday reduced three grain elevators here to a pile of burning rubble.

The elevators contained at least 538,000 bushels of wheat. Damage is estimated at up to \$2 million.

The fire broke out at 6 a.m. in the United Grain Growers elevator which stands in the middle of elevator row. A wind from the northeast blew burning embers south to two other elevators owned by Federal Grain Pool.

Of the 538,000 bushels of grain, 265,000 belonged to the UGG elevator, 150,000 were in the Federal elevator with the other 123,000 in the Pool No. 1.

Stanley (Jiggs) Hagg, manager of Wheat Pool No. 1, said he thought most of the records were saved.

Five County of Warner fire trucks, two from Milk River and one from Lethbridge, were brought in to fight the blaze which for several hours raged out of control. A pumper from Coaldale turned back when it was determined the fire was under control.

"As soon as we got here we could see it was out of control," a firefighter said, "and all we could do was fight a holding action."

The chief of the Warner fire department, Jerry Witbeck said, "If this wind had been coming from any other direction we would have had our hands full saving the town."

"This way the wind is carrying burning embers into stubble fields where they can't do much harm."

"Had the wind been from the west the embers would have landed on buildings all over town."

Pumpers are sucking water out of the mains at such a rate that no water pressure is left in the rest of the town. The town has two reservoirs which are being emptied. Further supplies can be pumped



Photo contributed

This photo shows the elevators' fire in the 1960s.

from the Milk River.

Power for the riverside pumps is being supplied from a line that runs along the burning elevators. There is a fear heat from the fire may cause the line to short out.

Firefighters at press time were still cooling down a bulk fuel station which included stocks of ammonium fertilizer. The station, about 200 yards south of the last of the burning elevators has been under a stream of hoses since shortly after the fire broke out. Serious explosions could result if the fertilizer ignited.

The rubble is expected to smoulder for about three weeks.

The town had six elevators, all with annexes.

While wheat is the principal crop in the area, the Milk River district has produced three Barley Kings. Besides wheat and barley, the area also produces oats, rye, flax and mustard.



In 1965-66 a total of 925 cars of grain were shipped from Milk River. Of the 1,825,900 bushels of grain handled that season, 1,668,500 bushels were wheat. ...

The district is known as one of the finest diversified farm areas in Alberta and it is said there is no better wheat than that around Milk River. ...

Happy Birthday Milk River!

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Doctor has a heart for Milk River

BY ROSE SANCHEZ

When Dr. Liesl Lewke-Bogle first came to Milk River, she didn't expect it would turn into a 40-year career in the community, but she doesn't regret that being the end result.

Dr. Lewke-Bogle came to Milk River in January of 1976 as a doctor. She had trained in Edmonton and done a one-year internship in eastern Canada. Then spent three years working overseas in Botswana.

"I wanted to be a general practitioner surgeon and I knew I could do my training in Britain," explains Dr. Lewke-Bogle. "I had a classmate in Milk River at the time. I planned to come for six months and I stayed."

In 1977 she married, after having met her husband in the community, and they have made deep roots in the area.

"There was a need that I could fulfil," she says about continuing to practise in Milk River.

Until 1986, Dr. Lewke-Bogle would work in Milk River three or four times a year for a couple of weeks at a time. Her husband was working in Edmonton and they lived in that city the rest of the time. Then in 1986, they decided to return to Milk River permanently.

"I had a loyal following. My patients said they would wait for their annual checkups," pointed out Dr. Lewke-Bogle about what worked with her practise in those early years.

She faithfully served the community for many years after that, coming in and out of retirement twice when there were no doctors. In 2005 Dr. Lewke-Bogle retired for the first time. She came back in 2010 and retired again in 2011. In 2012 she found herself again being called to return to



DOCTOR LIESL LEWKE-BOGLE

practising medicine in the community. She officially retired again this year at the end of June, now that two doctors have come to replace her.

"I will be retiring for sure this time," she says with a chuckle. "My license expires at the end of December. There are two good doctors

here now."

When Dr. Lewke-Bogle first came out of retirement in 2010, she said she would work for six months. That was the year that H1N1 influenza made its appearance. A doctor was recruited at that time, but unfortunately he and his wife were more urban people and didn't feel quite at home in the community. He left a short time later, and that's when Dr. Lewke-Bogle came back out of retirement.

"I said I would come back and I could commit for two years," she

adds. "I know how hard it is to recruit physicians to rural areas."

It ended up taking longer than she anticipated, but there are now two doctors to serve the community and patients have the option of a female or male physician.

For Dr. Lewke-Bogle, retirement will be all about family. She will spend time with grandchildren, who mainly live in Calgary, as well as time in her garden and yard.

"We'll also do some travelling. We love to travel," she adds, about herself and her husband.

The pair will continue to call Milk River home though, on their farm just outside of the community.

They rent the land to others to work, but enjoy their large yard and garden.

Over her long medical career, probably what has struck Dr. Lewke-Bogle the most is the amount of downsizing that has taken place in health care, especially in Milk River.

Continued on Page 11

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Writing On Stone Riding Association
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 Sunday, July 31 & Monday, Aug. 1

Milk River Physician looking forward to final retirement

Continued from Page 10

The health facility used to be a small rural hospital with 30 beds, an operating room and labour and deliveries were done on a regular basis.

In the early 1990s that was downsized to only eight active treatment beds, but deliveries were still undertaken. A decade later, three rural hospitals were targeted for cuts, including Milk River. The other two were Picture Butte and Fort Macleod, recalls Dr. Lewke-Bogle.

"We lost our acute care beds and got three community support beds. We also have a long-term care wing," she explains. "They promised we would always have a 24-hour Emergency Room."

In 2009, when doctors were leaving the community, the ER was temporarily closed for six months. A visiting doctor would serve the community, but only during the weekday and there would be no evening or weekend coverage. At that time, Dr. Lewke-Bogle was

"In German, (there is a saying) 'as you call into the forest, so the echo comes back'. The people have been wonderful to me and it feels good to return that to the community." — Dr. Lewke-Bogle

doing locums part-time in the Vulcan area and she was offered an opportunity to cover in Milk River.

Dr. Lewke-Bogle remembers her husband asking her what was more important, the ER or a clinic.

"It was a no brainer. If we lost the ER we're never going to get it back. I live in this community and I wanted to maintain the emergency department."

That's what helped her make the decision to stay for two years and come back out of retirement in 2010.

Dr. Lewke-Bogle has high praise for the work of the Rural Physician Action Plan and the local physician recruitment committee. It can be difficult to find a physician with the

right fit to work in a rural area. Dr. Lewke-Bogle has always felt like she was a good fit. Before they decided to purchase the farm they now own, her husband asked her if she was sure Milk River was the place she wanted to stay.

"This is my home and these people are my friends and extended family," she remembers telling him.

Now she has seen the benefits of serving an entire generation of patients. Some of the people she helped bring into this world, are now having babies of their own. The ER continues to remain open and the community fundraisers to ensure its equipment is as up to date as it can be.

It's easy for Dr. Lewke-Bogle to not regret her decision to come out of retirement to serve the community. She is hopeful the community in the future could see some success in having some acute care beds returned to the hospital. Currently patients can only stay in the hospital for 24 hours and then have to be transferred elsewhere to recuperate for a week to 10 days.

"People get better when they have the support here. People in this community are very faithful. It's rare when people aren't visited on a daily basis and it's those kinds of things that make a difference."

For Dr. Lewke-Bogle, it's always been about the people of Milk River that have ensured her roots in the community have grown deeper over time.

"It's the people," she says about Milk River's greatest asset. "In German, (there is a saying) 'as you call into the forest, so the echo comes back'. The people have been wonderful to me and it feels good to return that to the community."

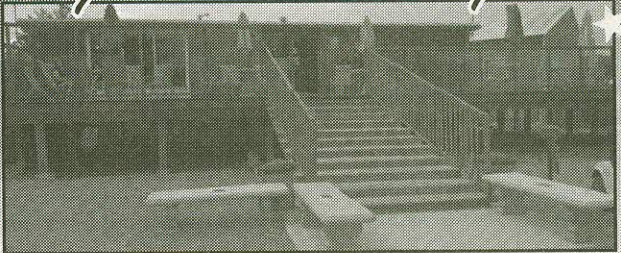
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Milk River resident celebrates his own centennial

BY STEPHANIE LABBE

After serving in the army during the Second World War for five years, Peter Schamber moved to Milk River in 1946 where he didn't know anybody.

Schamber, now 100 years old, began working for a man he had gone to Olds Agriculture School with in 1937.

Schamber was born in Eye Hill, Saskatchewan.

Originally, he had gone to Milk River to visit his friend and he decided to stay after getting a job on the farm his friend owned.

Schamber met his wife of 64 years in Milk River as they were working together. As well, Peter and his wife Helen used to go to dances and he would always dance with Helen.

Helen grew up in Milk River and she says Peter got established farming in Milk River, so they decided to make it their home.

He still lives in his home in Milk River with Helen.

She explains when Peter returned from the war, he had a job guarding SS German Soldiers at a military base until he got his job with his friend on the ranch.

"Jobs were hard and he didn't have a choice," adds Helen.

When the men came back from the war, Helen says there wasn't much for work or for them to return home to.

Peter had taken an agriculture course in Olds. He was also a welder and had learned mechanics in the army.

"They called me in, because I was very important," jokes Peter about why he joined the army.

He was called to the army when he was living in Altario, Alberta.

"I liked the army. I was the driver

and I drove the officers around and this around and that around," he explains.

There weren't a lot of options for jobs in the war, and being a driver was a new job opening, so Peter decided to give it a try.

Peter was also a dispatcher on a Harley Davidson motor bike and he took a lot of spills with it. Helen says luckily he didn't get shot.

Then, Peter was a driver mechanic where he drove the officers around.

When he went to Milk River after being done serving in the army, he didn't know anybody and says he wasn't sure what to do.

He and his wife Helen have four children, one girl and three boys, who live in different areas including Lethbridge, Camrose and Airdrie.

At the age of 100, Peter isn't quite sure how he's lived as long as he has. He prays every day and just keeps on living.

"I don't know, you've got to ask the good Lord about that. He's keeping me here and I don't know why," says Peter about his secret to his longevity.

Helen says Peter had some rough times in the war. He went to Vancouver Island when the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbour and they were in touch with some Japanese in Vancouver and on the island.

Officers had been sent to check out the Japanese that were in Vancouver and they never came back. The officers were later found in box cars.

After Pearl Harbour, Helen says the government decided to move the soldiers out.

Helen explains when the war ended and Germany surrendered, the Americans cleaned out Hitler's



house. Peter was with the Calgary Highlanders at that time. He says he was part of the group that went into Hitler's house to look it over.

Helen explains that when Peter landed in Harlem, most of his friends were killed there and that's why he doesn't like to talk about that time in the war.

"The war was not pleasant," adds Helen.

Peter concurs. He doesn't like talking about the war. He says it's in the past and he wants to talk about the future.

Over the years, Peter has seen many changes in every aspect of life and he's loved seeing all the changes.

"I think it's great. I think they've made ... great strides," he adds.

Peter and Helen are proud of their children and what they've accomplished. Helen says two of their sons are engineers and a grandson is an engineer.

Helen says Peter remarkably came out of the war without any health issues. She says God saved him.

Peter lit up when talking about his childhood and growing up on the farm.

"I liked that," he adds. "Doing chores and living farm life and going to school, walking to school."

Peter lived two miles from the school and he enjoyed the walk every day.

Helen says there were 13 children

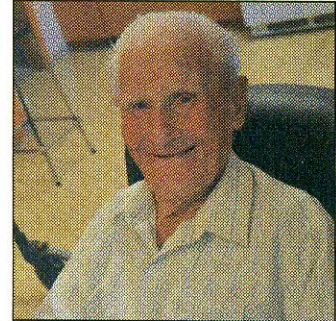


Photo by Stephanie Labbe
Peter Schamber still lives at his home in Milk River at age 100. At left, Peter Schamber stands with his grandson Travis in uniform. Travis is a geomantic engineer.

in total in Peter's family, but she says a couple of them died quite young as there wasn't the medicine back then that there is now.

Peter grew up in Denzil, Saskatchewan until he was 16 years old. At that time, his family moved to Alberta where he lived in Altario.

He can remember farming with just thrashers. They didn't have combines back in the day.

Over the years, new tools, techniques and equipment have come out to make life easier when it comes to work and farming and Peter enjoyed seeing the new equipment.

"Whenever something came out that made life easier and the job better, yes, I liked it," he adds.

Now, Peter has macular degeneration, so he is blind and falls quite often, especially at night.

Peter will be 101 in December of this year and he says the good Lord is keeping him around.

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Milk River resident has a mind for business

By ROSE SANCHEZ

For 90 years Paul Madge has called Milk River home. He was born in the community on June 17, 1926.

His influence on the community can't be underestimated. Madge, along with a business partner Aime Croteau, were responsible for bringing natural gas to the homes in Milk River in 1955.

"We built the pipeline from the U.S. and Coutts to Milk River," explains Madge. "We put gas in all the homes in town."

Some of the farms along the route also benefitted by tapping into the line.

Madge was mayor of Milk River at the time. He served two to three years on council in the position of Mayor. He says when he served as an elected official, he was at the time the youngest mayor in Canada. He had to step down from the position of mayor when he started up the gas company. There was a rule that an elected official couldn't have a contract to own more than 25 per cent of a business, but Madge was 50 per cent owner. Eventually, the gas company was sold to Canadian Western Natural Gas.

Business is what Madge has always known, especially sales. Madge can remember selling things when he was a young boy in the area where his family has deep roots.

His mother came to Milk River in 1902 with her family from Idaho and they settled in the Writing On Stone Park area. Her maiden name was Coffin, and the Coffin Bridge is named after that family.



Paul Madge celebrated his 90th birthday in June.

His father arrived in 1910 and farmed east of Milk River, raising mainly cattle and sheep. In 1923, he started up a business selling International Harvester and Ford vehicles.

Growing up in the business had an effect on the impressionable Madge.

"In 1945, on July 1, I bought the business from my dad," says Paul.

He said he finished his last day of high school, and walked down to the garage to see his father. His father asked him if he passed and what Paul intended to do.

"Do you want to buy the garage or should I send you away to be a doctor? Do you want to buy a farm? Make up your mind," recalls Paul about what his father told him.

"I went and had a bottle of pop. Then I walked back over and asked him how much he wanted for the garage. We made a deal and the next day it was mine."

Paul owned the business for 30 years, but it remains in the family as he sold it to his nephews, the Hummel family, which are still running it today.

When Paul owned the business, he also sold refrigerators and deep freezes, as International Harvester made a line of these products.

"I sold gobs of them in the fifties," adds Paul.

Over the years, he always had business deals in the works. He purchased and sold several farms or rented the land to others. He also has built houses in Lethbridge, as well as in Arizona.

When he sold his business to his nephews, he was also approached to serve government. The local MLA at the time, who worked for Paul in the summer months, got him a position on the Alberta Development Corporation board of directors. Paul sat on that board for 13 years, helping farmers get loans.

Paul also gave back to the community when he could, volunteering in various areas including as the president of the Lions Club for a few years.

He was also responsible for building the West Village Mall in Lethbridge, which is still partly owned and operated by his own children. He has a daughter in Quebec, a son in Lethbridge and a son who lives in Waterton. His wife Nola passed away 13 years ago, and had battled multiple sclerosis for 52 years prior.



Photos contributed
Paul Madge still likes to drive his International truck from 1913 in local parades. He plans to drive it in the parade for the Centennial celebration weekend.

Paul still lives in his own home in Milk River. He owns an International truck from 1913 that he likes to drive and put on display. He plans to drive it in the parade that will take place as part of Milk River's centennial celebrations.

One of Paul's favourite memories is from the 1950s. He had a pilot's licence and was responsible for flying Santa Claus into town at Christmas so he could visit with the children.

"I would land on Main Street (in Milk River)," he says. "I would taxi with the plane in front of the theatre. Santa would get out of the plane and distribute presents to the children."

Although his experiences have been memorable over the past 90 years, what really stands out for Paul, is the people of the Milk River community and those he has worked with in his business dealings.

"I loved every minute of it and dealing with people," he says about being in business. "It was always tremendous dealing with people."

Some of his favourite people have been his business partners.

"I really enjoyed by business enterprises that I had with partners. I enjoyed every one of them."

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Hummel family records a long history in Milk River

By ROSE SANCHEZ

The Hummel family has been in Milk River for a century.

Joanne Rolfe nee Hummel, says her grandparents Frank and Mabel Hummel settled in the Milk River area in 1917, but actually put money down on land the year prior in 1916.

"They were from Nebraska," she says. "There were land agents around. They thought they would come up here and farm, get rich quick and go back again."

The getting rich part never happened. At one point, the couple were packed and ready to return to their home state of Nebraska, but a neighbour told them life was no better in Nebraska, so they decided to stay in the small southern Alberta community.

When the Hummels first settled on the homestead near Milk River, which is still in the family, they ordered a home from the T. Eaton catalogue. It arrived by train to Milk

River in many pieces and had to be assembled. The family still has the original blueprints and the home still stands today.

The couple arrived in Milk River with four children and two more were born after they settled. One of those latecomers was Rolfe's father Bob Hummel.

Her mother, Beth, and her family came to the area in 1902 and settled in the area. They have left their mark as the Coffin Bridge is named after that side of the family.

"My mom and dad married and had 10 children," explains Rolfe. There were two sets of twins in the family, one of which being Rolfe and her identical sister. Nine siblings of the 10 are still living. Five reside in Milk River, three in Lethbridge and one lives in North Dakota in the U.S.

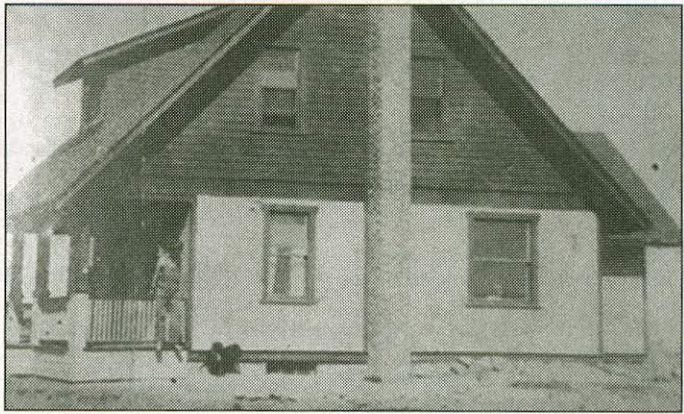
Both of Rolfe's parents passed away in 2015 at the age of 94. Both still lived in Milk River at the time.

Rolfe was a business owner for many years, owning and operating Rolfe Insurance Brokers. Four years ago, she and her husband Gordon decided to sell the business. Gordon ended up passing away, and Joanne decided to proceed with selling.

New owners Allan and Debbie Garber purchased the business changing the name to Garber Agencies. They remained in the same building for a couple of years, owned by Joanne, but then built their own building.

Joanne now uses the empty building which is 103 years old for storage. She plans to set up a mini-museum in the space for the Centennial celebrations weekend in Milk River, including sprucing up the garden area in the back which she has created as a memorial to her late husband.

That building, when it first opened



Photos contributed

Hummel's T. Eaton Catalogue house from 1917.

in 1913, was the pool hall and barbershop. At one point, it was also the Elks Hall and also used for dances.

"The floor is so uneven, my father used to say 'you could dance uphill one side and downhill the other'," remembers Joanne.

Now retired, Joanne enjoys spending time with her two children, a daughter in Coumts and a son who spends time between Coumts and in B.C. She also has one grown granddaughter in Vegreville.

"The extended family gets together as much as possible," she adds.

One of the reasons why Joanne enjoys living in the community still is because of the people. At one time she knew almost everyone, but with new residents now, she can't say that is true.

"I like the peacefulness," she adds. "The quietness and it's still relatively safe."

She also likes that a bigger centre such as Lethbridge is only an hour's drive away and the beauty of a place such as Waterton Lakes National

Park is only a short two-hour drive from Milk River.

Some of Joanne's favourite memories over the years have involved experiences. She was in the marching band in town when it was first in the Calgary Stampede parade for bands from communities with fewer than 10,000 residents. The band won that honour a few times under the direction of both Frank Hofek senior and Frank Hofek junior.

"We always did lots of activities when we were young," she adds. "There were picnics at Coffin Bridge and floating down the river on air mattresses. We also played at Writing On Stone."

Joanne is also proud of her family's agricultural past. Her father's claim to fame was being the World Barley King from 1955-1957 and her oldest brother Wally earned the same honour in 1958 and 1959.

She is looking forward to reminiscing with old friends during the Centennial celebrations and will be taking in her class reunion with others from the class of 1961.



Bob and Beth Hummel family. Bob and Beth both passed away in 2015 after 74 years of marriage.

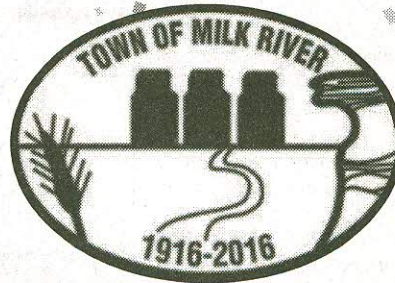
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CENTENNIAL
Celebrate
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Join the
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JULY 29, 30 & 31, 2016

FRIDAY, JULY 29

12:00PM - 7:00PM Registration
Town Hall

1:00PM - 4:00PM 40th Anniversary
Prairie Rose Lodge

1:00PM - 7:00PM Museum
Rolfe Building

4:00PM - 7:00PM Quilt Show
Town Hall

5:00PM Baseball Tournament

5:00PM - 7:00PM Live Music On Main Street

6:00PM Beer Gardens
Curling Rink

7:00PM - 8:30PM Opening Ceremonies,
Time Capsule
Opening, & Cake Cutting and Coffee
Town Hall/Heritage Hall

7:30-9:30pm Youth Dance
by the swimming pool

9:00PM - 1:00AM Music By Border Bound
Curling Rink

10:00PM Beard Judging Contest
Curling Rink

SATURDAY, JULY 30

7:00AM - 10:00 AM Pancake Breakfast
Civic Centre
All Day Baseball Tournament

8:00AM Road Race Runners
tees 'n jean

10:00am-2:00pm Registration at Town Hall

9:15 Assemble for parade
Elementary School

10:00AM parade entry judging

11:00AM Parade

12:00PM - 3:00PM Ag Displays
Civic Centre

12:00PM - 4:00PM Centennial Market
Heritage Hall

1:00PM - 5:00PM Kid's Activities
Elementary School/Interpretive Centre

12:00PM - 5:00PM Free Swim
Swimming Pool

12:30PM - 2:00PM
Threshing Demonstration
North of football field of Elementary School

12:30PM - 4:00PM Quilt Show
Town Hall

12:30PM - Beer Gardens
Curling Rink

1:00PM Pet Show Bring Your Pet

1:00pm-4:00pm Petting Zoo
Elementary School

1:00PM - 7:00PM Museum
Rolfe Building

1:00PM - 5:00PM Car Show
Football Field ERHS

1:00PM - 3:00PM
School Reunion '61 '62 & '63
ERHS

2:00PM Duck Races
Under 8 Flags Campground

2:00PM - 5:00PM Free Stage
ERHS

3:00PM - 5:00PM
School Reunion '64 '65 & '66
ERHS

3:00PM Provincial Basketball Champs
ERHS Gym

5:00PM - 8:00PM Dinner
Civic Centre

9:00PM - 1:00AM
Trevor Panczak Dance (Adult Only)
Civic Centre

10:30PM Fireworks

SUNDAY, JULY 31

All Day Baseball Tournament

10:00AM Golf Tournament
Riverside Golf Course

10:30AM Centennial Band Performance
Civic Centre

11:00AM Interdenominational
Church Service
Civic Centre

11:00AM Poker Run
ERHS in front of School

12:00PM Coffee, Muffins, & Juice
Civic Centre

1:00PM - 5:00PM Kids Activities
Interpretive Centre

1:00PM - 2:00PM Centennial Band, Cards,
Visiting & Video Presentation
Civic Centre

1:00PM - 5:00PM Free Swim
Swimming Pool

1:00PM - 5:00PM Museum
Rolfe Building

1:00PM - 5:00PM Community Yard Sale
Maps Available

5:00PM Rodeo Performance
Writing on Stone Rodeo Grounds

6:00PM - 7:30 PM Kids Drive-In Movie
North Side Elementary School

8:00PM - 10:00PM Family Drive-In Movie
North Side Elementary School

10:30PM Fireworks

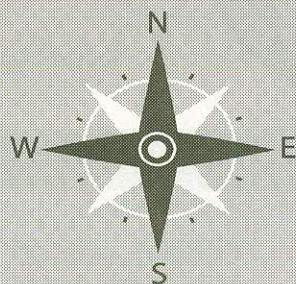
MONDAY, AUG 1

9:00AM Slack Rodeo

1:00PM Performance Rodeo
Writing on Stone Rodeo Grounds

For More Information check out:
<http://www.milkriver.ca/100thanniversary/>

Information/Registration
For More Information: Barb Hoytos - 403-647-2447
For Registration: Christa Runka - 403-647-4354



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Clinic- 403-647-3599

Hospital- 403-647-3500

Pharmacy- 403-647-3687

Town Hall- 403-647-3773

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(Open May- October) 403-647-3938

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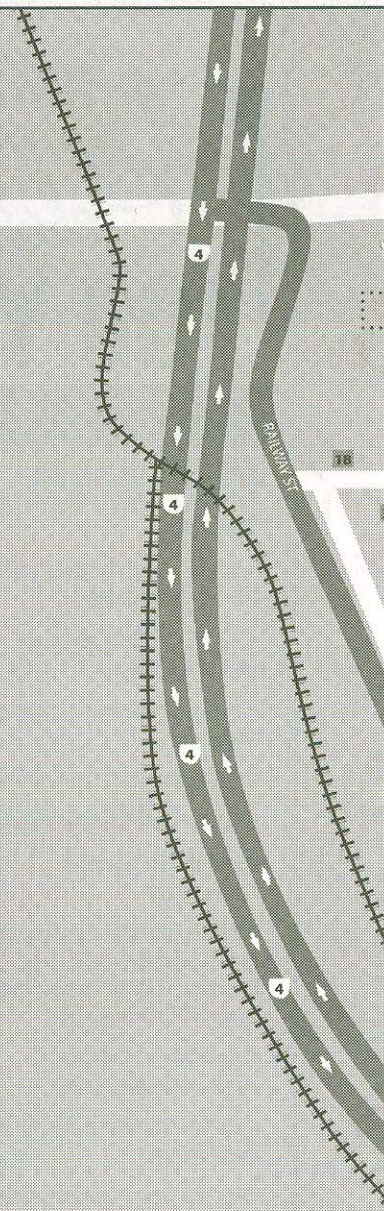
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| 5 - tee's n jeans | 21 - Town Hall | 37 - Lavonne's Hair Nook |
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| 6 - Milk River Raft Tours | 23 - River of Life Church | 39 - KAL Tire |
| 7 - Silver River Restaurant | 24 - Lutheran Church | 40 - Milk River Inn |
| 8 - Truck RV Car Wash | 25 - United Church | 41 - Fire Hall |
| 9 - Bordertown Auto body | 26 - Prairie Rose Lodge | 42 - South View Electric Ltd. |
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| 11 - Riverside Market | 28 - Canda Post | 44 - Milk River Watershed |
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| 13 - Milk River Dental Centre | 30 - Bottle Depot/Eco Centre | 46 - North & Company LLP |
| 14 - DC Swanson Computing | 31 - Rocky Mtn. Equipment | 47 - Don Hornford PC CA |
| 15 - ATB Financial | 32 - Gas Plus | 48 - Young Parkyn McNab LLP |
| 16 - Quilt Shop | | |

MILK RIVER COMMUNITY

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Milk River Centennial



1916-2016

2016 Culinary Exhibition

All entries will be judged and ribbons for 1st, 2nd & 3rd will be awarded. There will be two "Judges Choice Awards". One for the Under 19 categories and one for the adult categories.

- Entries will be received Saturday at the Civic Centre between 9:00am - 9:30am
- Baked items should be on sturdy cardboard or paper plates and covered with plastic wrap
- Please tag your entry with the Category and Item Number and your Name & Address on the reverse

For Kids Only Category (5yr and Under)

- #21 Cookies, Squares
- #22 Cakes, Muffins
- #23 Bonanza Day Theme Entries
- #24 Creativity & Imagination (any type of baking)

Junior Chef Category (6-11 yrs)

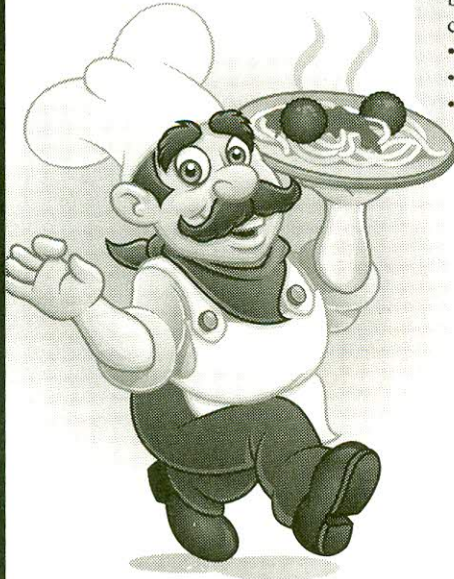
- #31 Cookies, Squares
- #32 Cakes, Muffins
- #33 Bonanza Day Theme Entries
- #34 Creativity & Imagination (any type of baking)

Teen Zone Category (12-19 yrs)

- #41 Cookies, Squares
- #42 Cake, Muffins
- #43 Bonanza Day Theme Entry
- #44 Creativity & Imagination (any type of baking)

Adult Division Category

- #101 Cookies, Squares
- #102 Cake, Muffins
- #103 Breads, Buns, etc
- #104 Pastries
- #105 Preserves
- #106 Bonanza Day Theme Items
- #107 Creativity & Imagination (any type of baking)



Mammoth Parade

Starts at 11:00am. Assemble at the Milk River Elementary School at 9:15am. Judging will begin at 10:00am. Children's entries to the East of the school. We are not responsible for any accidents in or at the parade route, see addendum for details.

Parade Marshall: RICHARD WRIGHT - Please be on time for Judging

Parade Rules for Participants and Spectators

- No noisy undecorated ATVs, Go-Carts, or Motorcycles
- No water guns or water balloons on the floats or along the parade route
- Obey the Parade Marshall, respect the horses
- Do not crowd those next to you

Please Keep the Parade Route Clear of Cars

Parade Theme - Celebrating 100 years

Parade Route - East of the Elementary School, South to the Hospital corner, turn right onto Hwy. 501, right on Main St., right on 3rd Ave. NE to Civic Centre

Cash & Ribbons for Prizes-Three Grand Ribbons for Best

Floats: 1st 2nd 3rd place will be awarded

Ribbon for best Theme Float

Children's Section: Decorated Motorcycle (16ys & Under), Children's Costume, Decorated Children's Misc, Decorated Bicycles



Open Section: Church Floats, Family Floats, Commercial Floats, Decorated Vehicles, Community Clubs, Youth Organizations, Decorated Golf Carts, Antique Machinery; Antique Cars & Trucks, Customized Cars, Town Floats & Misc

Horse Section:

(Entries limited to 1 Class Only) Glamour Novelty Class-Adult, Western Class-Adult, Family Groups-3 or more, Children's Novelty-under 14yrs, Children's Western-Under 14 yrs, Light Horse Drawn Outfit-1 horse, Heavy Horse Drawn Outfit, Riding Club

Photography Contest



Theme:

CELEBRATE THE CENTURY- CAPTURE THE PAST

Judged by Jackie LePage

Ages 17 & Under, 18yrs and Older

- a) Abstract b) Still Life c) Scenic d) Open
 e) Sports/Recreation (team sports to fishing, hunting, kite flying, skating, cycling etc)
 f) Creative Alterations (using photo editing, software hand coloring, mixed media, etc)

- Print size:
5x7 minimum up to 8 1/2 X11 maximum.
- On back of each print:
Name, Address, Title of Print, Age and Phone Number
- One Photo may be Submitted per person per category
- Prizes: 1st-\$25, 2nd & 3rd receive ribbons,
for each category

Time & Deadlines:
 Prints will be accepted up to 8:00 pm
 Friday July 29 at the Civic Centre.
 Judging will be that night..
 Prints must be picked up by
 4:00pm Saturday July 30

8th Annual Quilt Display-Sponsored by the Milk River Quilt Club. If you have a quilt that you have made or was given to you or you purchased along the way that you would like to display, please drop off with your name, phone number and brief description of the item at Stitch in Time or Garber Agencies. **No Later Than July 22nd at 4pm.** We welcome submissions from all folks-you needn't be a Quilt Club Member to contribute to the display! Quilt Display in Town Hall Council Chamber

Grain Show Competition

Entry Information:

1. Sheaves should be 2" across, at the neck where tied
2. The Sheaves neatly in three places
3. Stems should be even-no roots
4. Exhibitors: please tag you entries with Class, Number, Name & Address
5. For more information, contact Chairman Mike Hierath 403-647-2347

Class 10-Grain Categories

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Grass Sheaves | 5. Oat Sheaves |
| 2. Winter Wheat Sheaves | 6. Barley Sheaves |
| 3. Spring Wheat Sheaves | 7. Flax Sheaves |
| 4. Durum Sheaves | 8. Rye Sheaves |
| | 9. Canola Sheaves |

Lego Building Contest

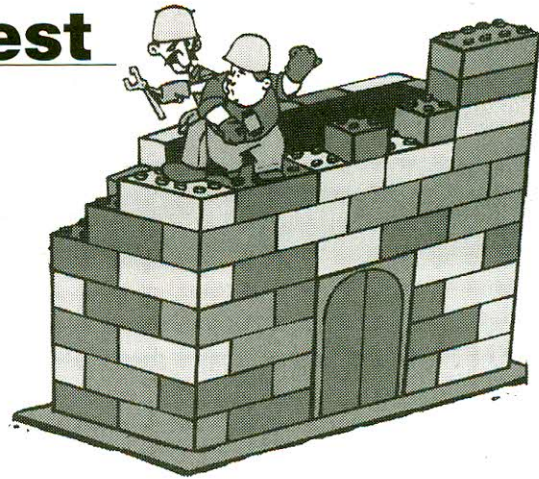
Have your children enter their original LEGO creation of Parade theme **"Celebrating 100 Years"**
No Pre-Designed Kits (*may use lego from kits*).

Age groups: 4-6 years, 7-9 years, 10-13 years.

Designs will be accepted only on
Friday, July 29 from 7-9 pm
in the Civic Centre. Judging will be that night.

Prizes for contest will be donated by
Milk River Bonanza Day Committee.

For more information contact
Elyse Walker: 403-647-7904



Flower Show

The Committee member to contact regarding the flower show is
Bob Bogle **403.647.5598**. Entries will be taken from 8:00 am-9:30
am in the Civic Centre. Please make your own tags, 3"x5", with
class, number, name and address. Attach with tape or straight pin.

CLASS1 - Annual and Perennials

- 101- Asters - 6
- 102- Bachelor Buttons - 6
- 103- Cosmos - 6
- 104- Daisies - 6
- 105- Geraniums - 1 stem
- 106- Delphinium - 1 stock
- 107- Lily, any type, one spike
- 108- Marigolds - 6
- 109- Monkshoods - 3
- 110- Pansies - 6
- 111- Petunias - 6
- 112- Rudbeckia - 3
- 113- Sweet Peas - 6
- 114- Zinnias - 6
- 115- Any other flower not listed

Display pansies and petunias in solid pie plate, covered
with saran or foil, poke holes in covering to display.

CLASS 2- HOUSE PLANTS IN POTS

- 201- Flowering Plant
- 202- Non-flowering plant, any variety

CLASS 3- ARRANGEMENTS

- 301- All foliage arrangements
- 302- Container of mixed flowers
- 303- Table centerpiece

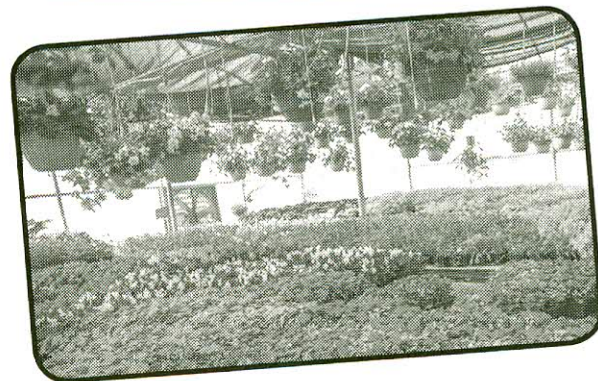
CLASS 5- ROSES 1

Pick in bud stage, name if possible

- 501- Floribunda
- 502- Shrub, 1 stem
- 503- Rose, 1 in bowl with leaves turned under so rose sits on water

CLASS 6- GLADIOLAS

- 601-3 spikes, can be mixed color



FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SHOW -sponsored by Milk River CWL

All entries to be in by 9:30 am

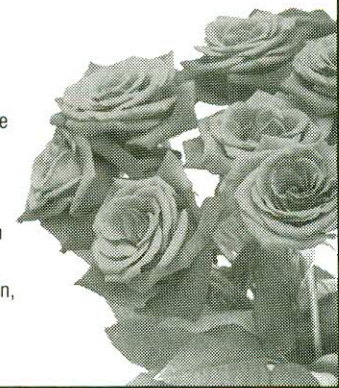
1. When bringing in entries, please leave at head table for member-in-charge to place in proper section.
2. Please ensure that your entries are tagged with your name and address.
3. All exhibits of fruit and vegetables must be composed of the correct number per variety, as specified

CLASS 8- VEGETABLES

- 801- Beets - 3
- 802 - Beans, Green or yellow-6 pods
- 803 - Carrots - 6, try for uniformity of size and length
- 804 - Broccoli - 1 head
- 805 - Cabbage - 1 head
- 806 - Cucumbers - 3
- 807 - Onions - 3
- 808 - Peas - 6 pods
- 809 - Potatoes - 3, all one color
- 810 - Tomatoes - 3
- 811- Zucchini - 2, try not uniformity in size
- 812- Other vegetable not named

CLASS 9- FRUITS

- 901 - Raspberries - 10 to a plate, stem on
(this keeps them looking fresh longer)
- 902 - Strawberries - 10 to a plate, stem on,
as this keeps them fresh looking longer)
- 903 - Any other fruit.



Tour the
Elementary School,
1-4pm,
Saturday July 30th

Kid Zone!

Check out Kids
Centennial Artwork at
the Elementary School,
1-4pm, Saturday
July 30th

Kids Carnival Games

Between J-T Wine & Spirits and Milk River Fire Hall

Saturday, July 30th from 1 to 4

Bumper Balls 1-5pm • Football Field

• Face Paintings • Petting Zoo • Bouncy House

Attention Kids & Pet Lovers!

BRING YOUR OWN PET SHOW

1pm Saturday July 30th at the Elementary School

6 Pet Classes: Biggest Pet • Smallest Pet • Furriest Pet
Most Unique Pet • Obstacle Course • Costume Class
Hosts: Coutts 49er's Club

Youth Dance

Hawaiian Tiki theme Friday July 29th 7:30-9:30pm

Parking Lot at the Civic Centre by the pool. Kids of all ages welcome!

Children under 8 require adult supervision.

Refreshments and snacks available for purchase. Call Sherry for more information 403.647.8089

Teen Amazing Race Photo Scavenger Hunt!

Ages 13 to 17 • Teams of 3 to 5 teens

Sunday July 31 from 2 to 4pm

Pre-register with Karen Ellert Garber at KEG1867@gmail.com or 421-0347
or just show up! Last minute entries welcome!

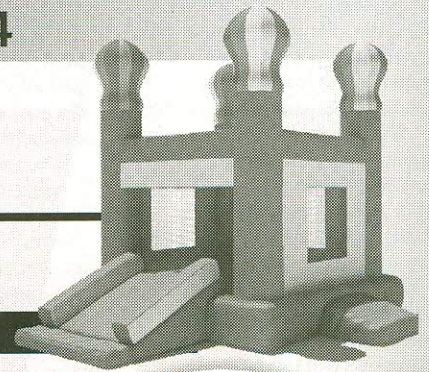
No team? Show up and we'll build a team for you.

Fast-Paced, Fun, For teens only!

Challenge: Meet in parking lot between ERHS and pool before 2 pm Your team will be given a list of photos to be captured on your own smartphone. No vehicles or hitching a ride: that's cheating. You have to RUN or walk to each place to take the photo. No using stock photos off the internet.

1. Take picture with our identification mini whiteboard (Team A, photo #7)
2. Email or text photo directly and instantly from your phone to me
3. Complete all challenges and return to ERHS east doors for a "time done"
4. I will compile each team's photos and we will meet back at ERHS east door at 5pm and we will watch the results on the screen in my classroom
5. Prizes will be awarded! Prizes will be fun, foolish, fabulous and frivolous!
You need to supply your own smartphone (one per team)
I will supply the mini whiteboards and marker
You must have excellent manners when approaching people and requesting if you may please take their picture. Follow traffic safety rules. Absolutely no use of drugs or alcohol. Be creative!

For more information or to register a team,
call Karen 403-421-0347 or email KEG1867@gmail.com



Pancake Breakfast Sponsored by Western Tractor
Saturday July 30th 7am-10am Civic Centre

Burger Booth Sponsored by LDS Church Saturday July 30th Civic Centre lot. Open after the parade.

Rory Russell Memorial Mixed Slow Pitch Tournament
Saturday July 30th & Sunday July 31st
3 Ladies, 7 Men mixed teams \$400.00 entry fee.
Guaranteed 4 games, Cash & Prizes available to win
For more information contact
Lance Schamber 403-647-4399

5KM & 10KM Road Race Saturday July 30th
Participants should meet at Tees 'n Jeans prepared to start the race at 8am. Entry fee \$20.00
(Payable to Milk River Bonanza Day Committee)
Categories Male/Female 10 & under; 11-14yrs;
15-19yrs; 20-29yrs; 30-45yrs; 46-55yrs; 66& older.
Contact Ken & Wendy Brown 403.647.3586

River Duck Race Saturday July 30th 2pm
Milk River Firefighters Society(6y333) Proceeds go to the Milk River Swimming Pool Facility
1st place \$500 2nd place \$300 3rd place \$100

Fireworks Friday- sponsored by the Town of Milk River
Saturday - sponsored by Milk River Businessmen's Assn.

51st Annual Writing on Stone Rodeo
Sunday July 31st at 5pm Monday Aug.1st 9am Slack Rodeo 1pm Performance Rodeo
Writing on Stone Rodeo Grounds

Milk River resident helps record history

By ROSE SANCHEZ

Milk River area resident Craig Blackmer knows the importance of history. He is helping to preserve it with his video and photography business.

Blackmer is a fifth-generation farmer, who now earns a living with his photography and videography business. He lives on his great grandfather's original 1908 homestead with his wife Julie. The pair have been married for 21 years.

"We live in the house that my grandmother and my father were both born in, 20 miles southeast of Milk River," says Blackmer, the youngest of four siblings. He has two sisters and a brother.

Blackmer attended high school in Milk River. He is a paraplegic after being involved in a single-vehicle rollover 25 years ago.

"I farmed for 18 years after that accident, but then I started taking pictures," says Blackmer. "I still do a little farm work, but we rent most of our farmland out."

Blackmer, who owns a photo business under the name of Blackmer Photography and a video business named Black-Flash Productions, bought his first camcorder in 1988. He has been doing his photo business for about a decade.

"Shooting video was really just a hobby," he explains.

He had been doing well with his photography, enjoying taking scenic shots and capturing wildlife on film. People started asking him to shoot their family portraits and weddings.

"I ended up getting too busy," he says. "Weddings were tying up my whole summers."

He ended up saying no to many weddings, and instead focusing his work time on shooting families and graduates. He takes scenic shots for his own interests, as it is hard to make a living with this kind of art.

Blackmer has also developed an interest in videography, having done some video work for the Coutts School Homecoming a number of years ago. He is also doing some work for the Milk River Centennial, interviewing older residents of the community about their histories and favourite memories.

"I'm asking them about what they thought about significant events in Milk River and the things they remember they did," he explains.

While at the time of this interview he was still working out some of the details of the video production, Blackmer had hoped to see it become a generational project, where people from different generations could be interviewed. He also plans to incorporate some overhead video of the Town he has shot using a drone.

When working with drones first became popular a few years ago, Blackmer was interested enough to purchase his own unit. He has always had an interest in anything that is remote controlled, including model airplanes and RC vehicles.

That unit suffered an unfortunate accident when it went into auto-pilot mode during a flight and tried to land too quickly. The camera broke off.

With changes in technology and newer, better models of drones coming out all of the time, Blackmer used it as an opportunity to purchase a new drone, that can produce better quality video.

"The new one flies a mile and a half away and about 1,600 feet high. You can fly it by viewing your tablet or phone," he says. "It also has a higher definition picture. I use (the drone) as part of my photo business."

In his spare time, Blackmer also enjoys outdoor activities such as hunting, fishing, riding all-terrain vehicles, and curling. He also has an avid interest in both Canadian and local history.

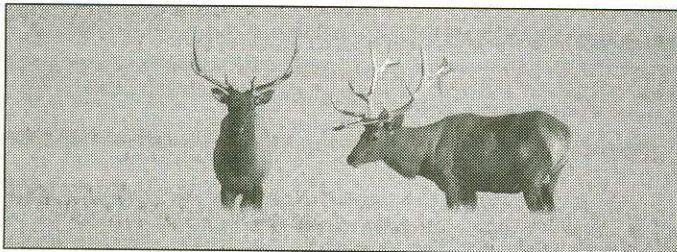
He also gives back to the community and is currently



Photos contributed
Craig Blackmer and his wife Julie work together in their photo business. Blackmer enjoys shooting family portraits and scenery. He has also done his share of weddings.

president of the Coutts Agricultural Society and past president of the Southern Alberta Outdoorsmen, Milk River Curling Club and Milk River Knights of Columbus.

To watch some of Blackmer's videos see: <https://www.youtube.com/user/MrCBlackmer/videos>. More about his photography is on his website at: blackmerphotography.com.



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Writing-On-Stone Rodeo a good time for more than 50 years

By ROSE SANCHEZ

For 51 years, the Writing-On-Stone Rodeo has been entertaining hundreds of rodeo enthusiasts every August long weekend.

Rodeo action takes place the Sunday and Monday of the long weekend, in rodeo grounds nestled in the hoodoos near the Writing-On-Stone Provincial Park in Southern Alberta.

The rodeo is co-approved, welcoming both the Chinook Rodeo Association and the Canadian Cowboys Association.

The Writing-On-Stone Rodeo Association is a non-profit organization, made up of a small, but mighty, group of volunteers. Vane Hughson is the president of the group.

"We used to get a lot of people out of Montana, but that's changed," says Hughson. "We get a few now, but more just Canadians."

The Writing-On-Stone Rodeo is where many young cowboys and cowgirls get their starts in the sport. Hughson is one of those people, who rode broncs and ended up doing well becoming a Canadian Novice champion. His brother has also competed at the Canadian Finals Rodeo a few times.

They continue the rodeo tradition in the area, so their own children can get a start in the sport or learn to appreciate what it has to offer.



Photos by Blackmer Photography

The scenic surroundings make attending the Writing-On-Stone Rodeo such a unique experience. The action is heart-stopping and the cowboys fierce at the rodeo, as can be seen by the photo below.

The rodeo grounds are well-used throughout the spring, summer and fall. There are trail rides through the area including the Competitive Trail Ride, the Sagebrush Trail Ride, and the Moose Mountain Adventures Trail Ride.

Barrel racing, pole bending, calf riding, roping, steer riding, ribbon roping and bronc riding events and practices also take place during the week and on weekends.

"It's a way for town kids to get their feet wet," points out Hughson, adding or a young girl who likes horses, can try out barrel racing and see if she has a natural inclination to competing in the sport.

"It feels like a good family thing," he adds about taking part in events offered through the Writing-On-Stone Rodeo Association.

A unique draw for the 500 to 600



spectators to the rodeo every year the August long weekend is the scenery of the area.

"It's the coolest spot you'll ever see in the world," says Hughson. "The river runs through it and there's just a lot of history there."

The Writing-On-Stone Rodeo is located about a half mile to the west of the Writing-On-Stone Provincial Park entrance. Look for signage to direct visitors to the rodeo grounds, which will appear before one gets to the park.

On the August long weekend for the rodeo, the Sunday performance usually starts at 5 p.m. while the

Monday show gets underway with slack starting at 9 a.m. and the performance at 1 p.m.

Along with the regular rodeo events most people expect, the weekend also includes mutton bustin' and a wild pony race, a beer gardens and food services are brought in. The cost to attend is only \$10 per person for the day or a weekend pass for both days is available.

More information about the Writing-On-Stone Rodeo Association is available on the website at: <http://writingonstone rodeo.com>.



Last year for the 50th anniversary a special buckle and spurs were handed out.

Congratulations on the 100th Anniversary!

If you need a cool place while celebrating, stop by and check out our supply of lawn chairs, coolers, hats, sunglasses and home decor,

Terry Russell • Kathy Russell

Milk River Home Hardware Building Centre

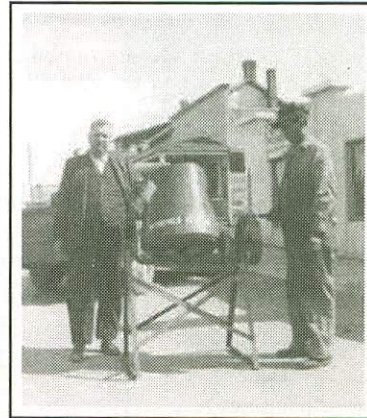
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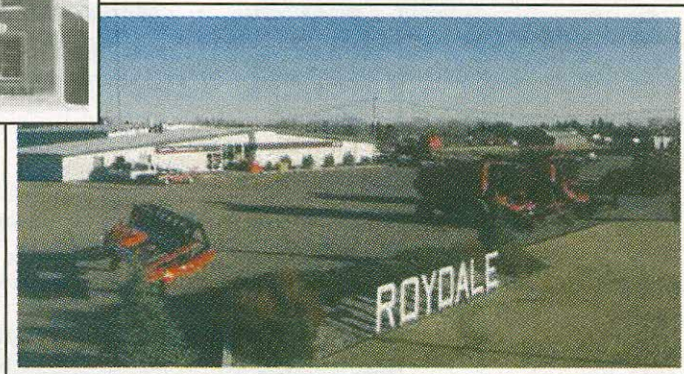


*Circa. 1938
Martin Madge & his son, Paul.*



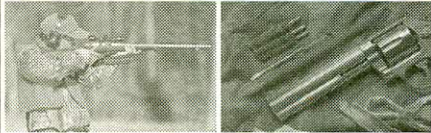
ROYDALE INTERNATIONAL LTD.

Martin Madge originally established Roydale International Ltd. in 1923. Originally known as W.M. Madge, the dealership sold IH machinery, Ford tractors and trucks. The name was changed to W. M. Madge & Son in 1945, when Martin's son Paul joined the business. Martin retired in 1949 and Paul took over the dealership. 1949 saw some changes as Ford said to drop IH. Paul dropped Ford instead and in 1958 changed the name of the dealership to Madge Equipment Ltd. In 1975, Martin's grandson Roy Hummel and his brother-in-law Dale Baldwin purchased the business from Paul. They changed the name of the dealership to Roydale International Ltd. From 1975 to 1980, they handled IH machinery and truck contracts, when in 1980 they dropped the trucks. From 1980 - 1990, they also had the Chev Olds contract. In 1982, they added Steiger 4WD to their lines handled. In 1985, Case & IH merged. This Case IH dealership located in Milk River, Alberta also handles Flexicoil and Kubota.



Happy 100th Anniversary!

Congratulations on 100 years!



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The Milk River Watershed Council Canada (MRWCC)

Wishes to congratulate the Milk River Community on its Centennial!
 Reaching this historic milestone is a tribute to the vision of the founding fathers of Milk River.

Please stop by and visit our display at the Civic Centre to view the MRWCC activities that promote a healthy watershed.

www.milkriverwatershedcouncil.ca
 Phone: 403-647-3808

Congratulations on your Centennial!



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Milk River!*

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- Granite Oil Corp
- Martin Brothers Funeral Chapels
- Milk River and District Agricultural Society
- Milk River Seniors Society
- Milk River Community Business Association
- Milk River Kinette Club
- Milk River Kinsmen Club
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lane.bellew@agent.ufa.com

Service clubs have given back

PRAIRIE POST

The Town of Milk River has a rich history of volunteerism and service clubs have played an integral part in creating a vibrant community.

Many of the groups of the past played an important role in the development of the Town of Milk River and no longer exist. However, as times change, so has the need for different types of groups — ones that meet the interests of today's residents.

There is a good mix of organizations who have weathered time and some new who now serve the community. Listed below is a brief history of some of them.

MILK RIVER LIONS CLUB

The Club was granted its charter in the fall of 1944 and met in the old Elk's Hall where the Rolfe building stands on Main Street today. The club was active during its tenure as they sponsored the junior boys' hockey and baseball teams. They also gave a scholarship to the Grade 9 girl and boy who scored the highest marks on the departmental exams; sponsored the local skating rink in the winter of 1947-48; contributed to the B.C Flood relief and the Milk River Municipal Library. They also cared for the cemetery.

The club eventually folded as they could not find a new president or someone to cater their dinner meetings.

SCOUTS

This well-known youth organization had an on-again off-again relationship in the area and was sponsored by the Elks Club from 1936-1956.

The scout troop's existence was totally dependent on the location of a troop leader. Records show Rev. Hauer was the leader from 1941-1943, when he left the area and Art Scarlett Jr. was Scoutmaster from 1945-1948.

ROYAL PURPLE

The Milk River branch of the Order of the Royal Purple held its first organizational meeting June 3, 1942, with its first slate of officers installed June 10, 1942. Meetings were scheduled the first and fourth Wednesday of the month.

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

These women were involved, as were other women's groups at the time, in providing support for the Red Cross and through various projects during the Second World War.

These women were also instrumental in supplying funding for furnishings of the Masonic Hall by catering banquets for the Lions Club once a month.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The Women's Institute was disbanded during the Second World War due to their commitment to the war effort. Once the war ended, they canvassed for the Red Cross, Cancer

Society, Canadian Institute for the Blind and other worthy causes. The Institute felt a need for a young women's group and in 1941 started the Klassy Lassies group.

C.G.I.T AND EXPLORERS

The main objectives of these groups, were to prepare young girls to be good Christian wives, mothers church and U.C.W members.

SEWING CLUB

This club began in 1942 and continued for 25 years. They met once a week and paid a dime each time they attended. At the end of the year they treated themselves to a dinner and show in Lethbridge or a steak dinner in Shelby, Montana.

SLEEPY HOLLOW COMMUNITY CLUB

Members took turns hosting the social club in their homes. At each meeting, they recited their creed and shared an item of interest. In 1941, each member paid \$.25 per year and five cents for tea money.

The price for membership increased to \$5 per year and a quarter each for tea money in the 1980s. In 1945, it was decided to call all members by their first names. Prior to 1945 all members were addressed as Mrs.

GRANDMOTHER'S CLUB

This club began in 1945 and membership was exclusive to those 70 years of age or older. Originally called the Birthday Club, this group of ladies had no rules or officers. Whoever had a birthday entertained the remaining members with a light lunch and a social afternoon.

Daughters of the founding members were invited to become associate members as the originals became too elderly to come alone. When none of the original members remained, the club disbanded.

LADIES AUXILIARY TO THE SUNSHINE BRANCH NO. 221

Affiliated with the Canadian Legion, this women's group received their charter on March 4, 1948.

The group was very active in their first few years as they raised funds to assist the Legion Branch No. 221 and add to their building fund and assisted in many community projects.

Today's clubs and service organizations include Kinsmen and Kinette Club; Milk River Businessmen's Association; Milk River Ag Society; Milk River Hospital Auxiliary; Weavers and Spinners; Men's and Women's Curling Leagues; Curtain Call Fire Department Society; Milk River 4-H Club; Writing on Stone Riding Association; many church and sports associations and clubs.

Information taken from Under Eight Flags Milk River and District Book 1

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Interesting bylaws for Milk River in 1935

BY PRAIRIE POST

Prairie Post staff had a fun time discovering what some of the bylaws were for Milk River in 1935 when it was at that time a village

Those bylaws governed everything from assessment of land values to traffic and animals at large.

Many of the more interesting ones are from the mid-1930s.

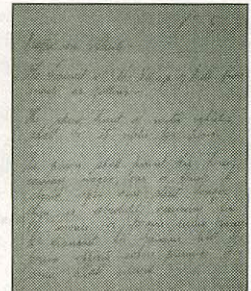
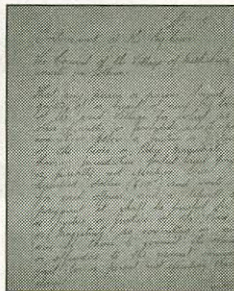
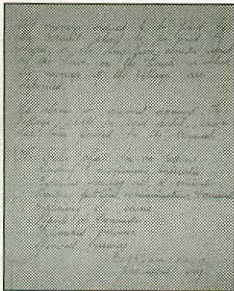
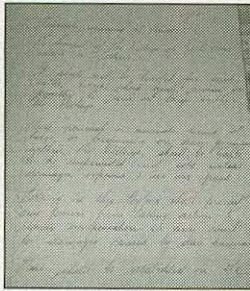
For example, Bylaw No. 8 governed traffic on the streets. It read that, "The Council of the Village of Milk River enacts as follows: The speed limit of motor vehicles shall be 15 miles per hour."

Not only that, but the small community even had its own version of a no loitering bylaw in the same document which read, "No person shall permit his horse, carriage, wagon, car or truck to stand upon any street longer than is absolutely necessary for the owners or person using same to transact his business with the person opposite whose premises the same shall stand."

Bylaw No. 10 governed animals running at large. It stated that it will not be lawful for any cattle, horses, sheep, goats, swine or poultry to run at large within the Village.

There were steep penalties to owners of animals found to be at large. The bylaw stated, "Any animal or animals found at large or trespassing on any premises within the Village, shall be liable to be impounded and sold, unless damages, expenses and fees are paid."

If the animal was unruly and caused a lot of damage, owners better be ready to face the wrath of angry neighbours as the bylaw



indicated, "Nothing in this bylaw shall prevent any person from taking action to recover compensation in any court for damages caused by any animal."

Bylaw No. 12 passed in March of 1935 appointed officers and offered up how much they were to be paid.

It read, The Council of the Village of Milk River enacts as follows:

1. That the following officers be appointed to assist in carrying on the affairs of the Village, such officers to hold office during the pleasure of the Council and that their salaries be as here in set forth or otherwise provided.

2. That Samuel A. Halle be and hereby is appointed Secretary-Treasurer and that a salary of Two Hundred fifty Dollars (\$250.00) per annum.

3. That T. L. Freeman be and hereby is appointed Pound keeper, remuneration to be by fees as provided for in Pound Keepers By-law.

Bylaw No. 6 was amended and it regulated closing hours of businesses within the village limits.

The Council of the Village of Milk River enacts as follows:

That By-Law No. 6 of the Village of Milk River be and hereby is Amended to read as

follows:

All places of business operating within the Limits of the Village, especially excepting Motor Vehicle Services Stations, Garages, Restaurants and Refreshment Parlors as hereinafter provided, shall be and remain closed, and not merchandise shall be vended therefrom, every Wednesday afternoon from the hour of ONE o'clock p.m., and on every other day of the week, except Saturday, from the hour of SIX o'clock p.m., during the period beginning with the Fifteenth day of May and ending on the Fifteenth day of August in each year.

Motor Vehicle Service Stations and Garages may remain open during this period for the ordinary servicing only of Motor Cars and Motor TRucks.

Restaurants and Refreshment Parlors may remain open during this period for service to the Public in those respective capacities, but shall not sell for removal from the premises, any staple article of foodstuff, such as canned goods, meats, bread, etc.

In Any week in which a Legal Holiday is observed the ONE o'clock closing provision for WEDNESDAY will be non-operative and the SIX o'clock

provision will apply.

All Legal Holidays shall be observed.

The Penalty for infraction of any of the provisions of this By-Law shall on Summary conviction, be a fine of not less than Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) and costs and not more than One Hundred Dollars and costs.

Done and passed in Council assembled at the Village of Milk River, this fourth day of June, 1935.

Of course all bylaws had to be enforced and that was done through Bylaw No. 5.

The Council of the Village of Milk River enacts as follows:

That any person or persons found guilty of a breach of any by-law of the said Village for which no other penalty is provided shall upon conviction before a justice or justice of the Peace or Police Magistrate having jurisdiction forfeit and pay a penalty not exceeding One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) and costs for each offence and in default of payment it shall be lawful for a justice or Justice of the Peace or Magistrate so convicting or any one of them to commit the offender or offenders to the nearest common jail for a period not exceeding thirty days.

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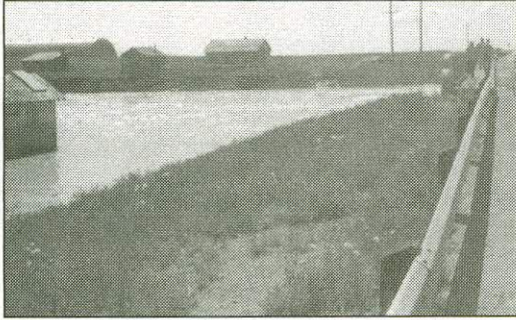
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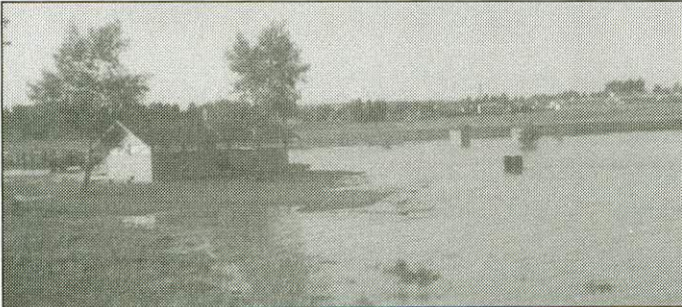
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Some historical images from Milk River



At left is the Milk River during one of the floods. Below is the camp kitchen which flooded in 1964.



This photo shows the RR Station flood of spring runoff in the possibly the late 1940s. It was caused by an ice jam on the curves of the river southwest of the Kuhl farm.



At left and below, are the Texaco and gas pumps as they were in the 1950s. At right, is a photo from the 1967 Canadian Centennial Parade in Milk River. Below right, a church went up in flames in 1993.



Milk River & District Agricultural Society
congratulates the
 Town of Milk River on their Centennial.

We have been proud to serve the Town and District since 1973

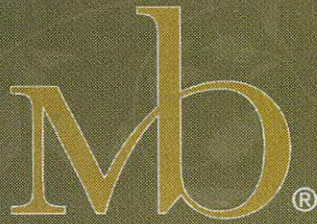
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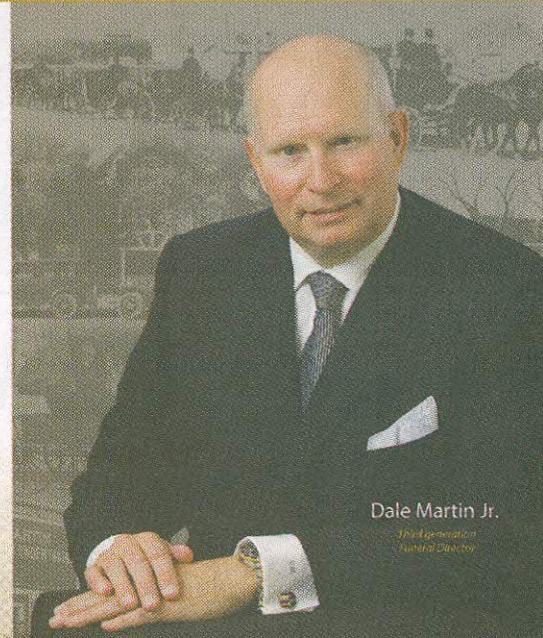
Sandy Regier
Funeral Director

Centennial
Celebrate
100 Years
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2016



Over a 100 years ago the Village of Milk River was incorporated and Martin Brothers was founded in Lethbridge. As Milk River grew so did Martin Brothers, and we were always there to help families from both communities.

On behalf of our families and staff I would like to extend our congratulations to the residents of Milk River on its 100 year anniversary.



Dale Martin Jr.
3rd Generation
Funeral Director



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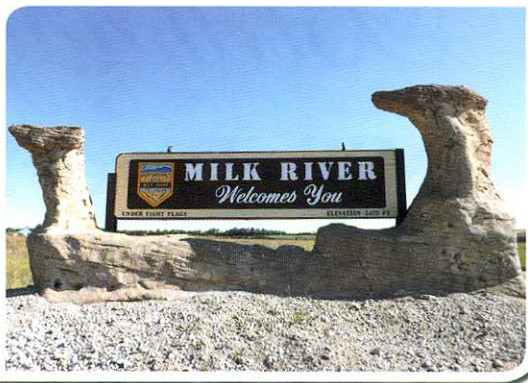
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We are 100 years young and looking forward to the next 100 years.



*Come and join us at 7:00 p.m.
on Friday July 29th for The Opening Ceremonies
and the Opening of the Time Capsule
that was buried 25 years ago on the Town's 75th Anniversary
Please check the Town website www.milkriver.ca for a list of events.*

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