

FREE
Take one



Photo courtesy Nexen Inc.

\$150 million start to coal bed methane gas recovery in area. Story on page 24.

RE/MAX
Outstanding Agents.
Outstanding Results.
Each office independently owned and operated



WHITECOURT Advisor

FEBRUARY 2006 — VOL. 4 NO. 2 — CIRCULATION 5,250

www.whitecourtweb.com

To Ottawa and beyond

By Dan Parker
With the new Conservative government in place there is a good chance Canada will travel further along the freedom trail towards more democracy. Fixed term limits, moves towards a Triple E Senate and extensive free votes in the House of Commons are all

possibilities under the new government. As always, there will be two strong centres of inertia regarding positive democratic change.

The first is government bureaucracy, which like all human institutions is resistant to change. This in itself is not a bad thing in that it gives

(Cont. page 27)



Town Schools in the 1950's and 1960's



Old photo, where Central School is barely visible on placard.

Father Tellier had come to Whitecourt in 1958 and pitched in with volunteer labour to help build a new Catholic church, down by the present day firehall. Before he left in 1962, he was instrumental in getting the Separate School well underway as well. Mr. and Mrs. McQuitty, along with

(Continued on page 4)

This Month

Stay warm with our new

Whitecourt Girl of the Month!

In full colour on page 31

School Days

50's & 60's history.....p. 1

21st Century Economics

Looking at new ideas about money and wealth.....p. 2

Downtown Revitalization

It's time to get doing more for downtown.....p. 5

February Events

This and that of happenings and events in town.....p. 21

And the usual bad jokes, Kid's Page, Recipes etc.



FUNK PROFESSIONAL COUNSELLING SERVICES

Donald Funk, M.Sc., C. Psyc.
Chartered Psychologist

- Clients may access employer or insurance health plans for services. Reduced rates are available for those without coverage.
- Evening appointments available.
- Confidentiality assured.

(780) 706-1340 - 4907 52 Ave.
www.funkproserve.ca

Happy Valentine's Day Need ideas?

- wine baskets
- gift sets for men and women
- engraveable wine & champagne buckets
- custom orders always welcome



778-8989

ICE COLD BEER

Open 10 am to 11 pm, daily
Mountain Shopping Strip



**Hundreds of meal ideas.
One aisle.**

Located in Dynamic Plaza
Mon - Sat 10 - 8
Sun - Holidays 12 - 6
(780) 778-2599
www.mmmeatshops.com



Help is Close to Home Whitecourt

Every kind of shed imaginable – hobby, garden or tool – is available and can be custom-finished to match your home or garage.

WHY WAIT UNTIL SPRING?
LARGE SELECTION
GARDEN SHEDS
*No Interest,
 No Payment
 for 6 Months!**

NEW ARRIVALS

*OAC. Some conditions apply. See store for details.

778-4404 • 3501 35 Street • Hilltop Industrial Area

WHITECOURT
Advisor

Publisher & Janitorial Services: Dan Parker
 Office: Carol Wakefield
 Billing: Rita Thomas
 Music: Judy Davio
 Fish: Denise Steeves

WHITECOURT Advisor
 4907 52 Ave. Box 861
 Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N8
Phone: 778-5577
Fax: 778-6666
 Advisor@WhitecourtWeb.com
 Website:
WhitecourtWeb.com
 Circulation: **5,250**
Published Monthly

Just Third Way & 21st century economics

by Norman G. Kurland, Dawn K. Brohawn and Dan Parker.

Canada has crossed the threshold into the 21st century as one of the most prosperous nations on the planet. Gazing toward the vast frontier of the global economy, we see a rapidly changing landscape shaped by forces beyond the control of any individual or nation. Space Age technology, global finance, global markets and transnational corporations are impelling us toward an uncertain future.

We as a nation have benefited from modern technology. It has contributed to our economic success in the world. It has lengthened

our life spans and shrunk to fractions of a second the transmission of a message or billions of dollars across the planet. The global economy has brought the Canadian

putting unimaginably powerful tools of information and communication in the hands of the average citizen. Choice abounds.

But Canadians, particularly outside Alberta, have also seen harbingers of troubles to come: the disappearance of entire sectors of labor as robots, artificial intelligence, and advanced office machines enter the work place. Car manufacturers in Ontario are struggling, Nortel

has huge layoffs, while more and more jobs lack security, good pay and benefits. Last year the indebtedness of the average Canadian family rose to 100% of after tax income

(Continued on page 12)



consumer a year-round cornucopia of goods from every corner of the world. Competitive forces continue to drive down the price of personal computers, video recorders, and cellular phone systems,



WHITECOURT
YAMAHA
 YOUR EDGE



2006 Apex Mountain 2006 Grizzly 660

SLEDS REDUCED TO CLEAR!

- CLOTHING
- ACCESSORIES
- HELMETS
- LICENSED MECHANIC

MAGELLAN
 GPS SYSTEMS

Hilltop Industrial
 3363-34 Ave Whitecourt
 706-3306 or 1-866-706-3306
 www.whitecourtyamaha.com

YAMAHA

Honouring Thy Father

A clergyman walking down a country lane sees a young farmer struggling to load hay back onto a cart after it had fallen off.

"You look hot, my son," said the cleric. "why don't you rest a moment, and I'll give you a hand."

"No thanks," said the young man. "My father wouldn't like it."

"Don't be silly," the minister said. "Everyone is entitled to a break. Come and have a drink of water."

Again the young man protested that his father would be upset. Losing his patience, the clergyman said, "Your father must be a real slave driver. Tell me where I can find him and I'll give him a piece of my mind!"

"Well," replied the young farmer, "he's under the load of hay."

Country Classics

Don't forget your sweetheart on Valentine's Day.

We offer Free giftwrapping and can make a special basket for that someone special.



(Free delivery on baskets within Town of Whitecourt)
778-6023 - Fax: 706-2739 Midtown Mall

Dog-Eared Days

I went to the cinema the other day and in the front row was an old man and with him was his dog. It was a sad funny kind of film, you know the type.

In the sad part, the dog would whine, and in the funny part, the dog would wag its tail heartily and sometimes give a small bark.

This happened all the way through the film. After the film had ended, I decided to go and speak to the man.

"That's the most amazing thing I've seen," I said. "That dog really seemed to enjoy the film."

The man turned to me and said, "Yes, it is. He absolutely hated the book."

PRIMEAU TRUCKING

Oilfield Hauling

Serving the oilfield for over 30 years.



Call: (780) 778-6220

Jumping For Joy

John Smith lived on an island and worked on the mainland. He had to take the ferryboat home every night. One evening, he got down to the ferry and found there was a wait for the next boat, so John decided to stop at a nearby tavern. Before long he was feeling no pain.

When he got back to the ferry slip, the ferryboat was just eight feet from the dock. Smith, afraid of missing this one and being late for dinner, took a running leap and landed right on the deck of the boat.

"How did you like that jump, buddy?" said a proud John to a deck hand.

"It was great," said the sailor. "But why didn't you wait? We were just pulling in!"

Kanadu Studio



Diamond Heart Pendant & Chain with the purchase of any engagement ring over \$500.⁰⁰ White and yellow gold available.

4907 - 51 Ave, Whitecourt - 778-6097

Nervous at the Job Interview

An executive was interviewing a young woman for a position in his company. He wanted to learn something about her personality, so he asked, "if you could have a conversation with anyone, living or dead, who would it be?"

She quickly responded, "The living one."



Certified Reflexologist

**Stressed Out?
Need to Relax?**

Sheila (Pat) Dunham

- Ear Candling
- Reiki Master
- Workshops Available

(780) 778-3140

Crazy George's Audio & Installs

- > Home Theatre
- > Great Car Audio
- > Command Start



5112 - 50 Ave. - (Across from 7 - 11) - 778-4554

Angel's
DRYCLEANERS
Same Day Service

- ▶ Industrial Cleaning
- ▶ Linen Rentals
- ▶ Alterations

778-6781



Valley Centre Mall

LOUNGE OPEN FROM 2:30 P.M.

Mark Your Calendar for good times at the Legion
ALL EVENTS START AT 7:00 P.M.

Feb 11 - *Valentine's Day Dance*
Feb 18 - *Men's Country Music Showcase*
Feb 25 - *North Country Idol* - Professional singers, amateur singers - open to all 18 years and older. Contact Linda at 778-3532. Deadline for entry is Feb 24, 8:00 p.m. All singers must bring Food Bank donation

March 4 - Mixed Country Showcase



Travelodge

Lunch Buffet
Mon. to Fri. 11 - 2
Sunday Brunch
10:30 - 2

Renovated Rooms

(780) 778-2216
5003 - 50 St.
Sparwood - Drayton Valley - Whitecourt

(Continued from page 1)

Father Tellier, traveled to Edmonton many times to determine plans, grants, mortgages and all the necessary preliminaries for such a project. Land was acquired on the hilltop and construction began in 1962. Once again, volunteer labour was recruited, with the citizens often working until after dark.

Mrs. McQuitty tells of one night when, "I thought the work gang was acting rather silly when they came in for a late supper. I found out from Father Tellier that they had purchased some beer. He said that it was the best way he knew to

get extra volunteers' — Bribery maybe. but at times there just weren't enough of us."

In the fall of 1962 the Separate School was started in the church basement. This served the purpose until October when classes were able to transfer to the new school. The classes went from Grades 1 to 9. The school had four classrooms and a small office and washroom facilities. In the fall of 1963 the Oblate

Sisters came to take charge. Sister Louise was the Principal and taught Grades 7 to 9. Sister Helen Chaput took over in 1964 due to ill health on the part of Sister Louise, and she

“ In the fall of 1962 the Separate School was started in the church basement. ”

(Continued on page 6)



A Central School Class around 1960.


Words to live by

Everything should be made as simple as possible, but no simpler.

Good judgment comes from bad experience and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.

Serving Individual Investors

Stocks	Provincial Bonds
Mutual Funds	GICs
Corporate Bonds	Money-market funds
Government of Canada Bonds	RRSPs
	...and much more!




EDWARD JONES LUNCH & LEARN Outlook 2006
Making sense of Canada's Headlines

At Edward Jones, we understand the importance of staying informed.

Join us for coffee and an informal discussion on various companies and the stock market in general.

☀ Thursday, February 9th ☀
12 Noon in our downtown Conference Room



Randy Charko, CFP
5023-50 Avenue, Unit 3
Whitecourt, AB T7S 1P6
(780) 706-3305
www.edwardjones.com
Member CIPF

Edward Jones
Serving Individual Investors



PIZZA SHACK
 Phone 778-5151
 5115 - 50 Avenue
 (Beside Royal Bank)
 Free In-Town Delivery (orders \$10+)

**TASTE THE DIFFERENCE
 QUALITY MAKES!**

Sun - Thurs. 4:00 pm to Midnight
 Fri. & Sat. 4:00 pm to 1:00 am
 Last call 1/2 hour before closing

Also pasta, subs, donairs, chicken,
 shrimp, fish & chips, fries w/gravy,
 poutine & more.

A Step In Time



ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

"The Lil' Store With Everything"

Downtown revitalization, once more

Despite years of talk around the issue, little in the way of an overarching downtown revitalization process has taken place. There have been many bright spots from individual business efforts. Three that come to mind on Main Street are the Travlodge Hotel upgrade, Common Wealth Credit Union renovation and The Party Store paint job and window displays. As well, the town has contributed such things as hanging planters and a very attractive Friendship Park. However, to pull such efforts together, to make a vibrant and viable downtown, there must be some larger coordinated effort to supplement what individual businesses and organizations can do.

Some see a dying downtown core as a natural progression in the scheme of things. Downtowns decay to a certain point, and then are reborn as gentrified neighbourhoods, artist districts and so on. However, downtown is much like any property. It is much less expensive to keep a structure maintained, and improve it gradually, than to let it fall into disrepair before extensive renovations are done. In the meantime, residents and visitors alike can have enjoyable experiences in the unique atmosphere that only a healthy downtown can provide.

If using the word 'decay' sounds a little dire regarding the current Whitecourt downtown, please keep in mind that we are currently enjoying a boom economy. Even so, there are signs of decline. Many examples of what can happen to a downtown when an economy returns to normal can be found south of the border. Now is the time, when there are record provincial surpluses, to kick the downtown revitalization efforts into overdrive. Instead of falling into the old trap of either/or regarding big box shopping and a healthy downtown, Whitecourt can choose to have both.

One possible avenue to jump-starting a downtown revitalization is to form a downtown business association, that can liaise with the resources the Whitecourt Chamber of Commerce has to offer. This idea is currently being explored. Such a leveraged lobby group can then approach the various governing bodies to see how their tax dollars can best be used to protect their interests, while at the same time enhancing the town as a whole.

(Continued on page 26)

♥ Unique Valentine's Gifts ♥
New & Pre-Owned, One-of-a-Kind
New Items Arriving Weekly!
 5020 50th Avenue, Whitecourt
 Tel: 780-778-3285 Email: steptme@telus.net
"Layaway Available on All Items"



FURNITURE DEN AT PLAZA 51
CLEARANCE CENTRE
Great Savings Storewide

Open 10 am to 5 pm Mon. - Sat.
 4911- 51 Ave • (780) 778-3470

(Continued from page 4)

remained with the school for the next six years.

After 1953, continuous additions were added to Whitecourt Central School. In 1955 a two room addition, was put on the east side, making seven rooms in total. By 1957 washroom facilities and the gymnasium were added. In 1958 construction was being done on yet another addition so that there would be twelve classrooms in all. The growth was fantastic.

In 1955 there had been 187 students and seven teachers. Two years later when school opened in September, 1960, there were 380 pupils and a staff of thirteen teachers. And growth did not stop then. Matt Tabashniuk who became principal in 1961 recalls that there were eighteen teachers by the end of that year.

The Central School encompassed twelve grades but there were several grades which could not be contained in a single classroom. Consequently, construction and

changes were almost continuous over the next six years. Matt remembers a home economics room and a library being added along with the classrooms creating an east wing. However the home economics room was put to use immediately as a science room and classroom and the small library too, had to be used as a classroom. For

“The additions couldn't keep up to the increase in the students so the United Church basement was pressed into classroom service for at least one year.”

a short period in the 60's, the east entrance was turned into an office area and the main entrance was moved to a doorway on the south. The gymnasium was expanded and more washrooms added during this time as well.

The additions couldn't keep up to the increase in the students so the United Church basement was pressed into classroom service for at least one year. Prefabs were brought in one at a time during this period to help relieve the situation. This growth would not seem extraordinary for a “boom” town were

(Continued on page 7)

The evolution of the school downtown



Last group of students in original school, built in 1912. It is 1921, with the 'new' central school opening the next year.



Above and below, the original Central School, which grew dramatically over the decades through additions.



Head Quarters

Come on in and see **Lacie & Celia**

Call 778-3717
Open Mon. to Sat.
Walk-ins Welcome
CHAIR RENTAL AVAILABLE

5111 - 50 St. (Next to Timio's)

CLOTHING CO. LTD.

Winter Wipeout
Savings up to 70%!!!
Clothing & Footwear

778-4111 - 5108 50 St. (Main Street)

RAGE'IN Enterprises

- Sanding
- Snow Removal
- Parking Lot Maintenance
- Skid-Steer Services

(780) 706-9673 (cell)
(780) 706-3190



Mary Browns
Famous Chicken & Taters!

Transfat Free
Drive Thru - Eat In
Catering - Take Out

3742 Kepler St.
778-MARY (6279)

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL PERSONABLE ETHICAL

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

Since 1989



Phone 778-6898

Gail Marie Code, R.M.T.
RELAXATION & MEDICAL MASSAGE THERAPY

EXPERIENCE IS THE DIFFERENCE

SPA-LIKE SETTING ALLOW YOURSELF TO UNWIND GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE



Much like the current plan for the pool and arenas, Central School grew by adding on to the original.



(Continued from page 6)

it not for the fact that the Separate School came into existence in this time period and the Hilltop Elementary School was also operating in 1962.

An increase in students had been foreseen, especially in lower grades, and when the town had annexed the hilltop land in 1961, a school area was designated and construction began immediately. When the Hilltop Elementary School opened in 1962, only four of its seven rooms were used as classrooms. Grades one and two each had a separate classroom but Grades three and four were combined, as were Grades five and six.

Mrs. Ella Schamahorn, who taught Grade two, recalls that the principal of the

(Continued on page 27)

Bad day at work

An enthusiastic door-to-door vacuum salesman goes to the first house in his new territory. He knocks, a real mean and tough looking lady opens the door, and before she has a chance to say anything, he runs inside and dumps some dirt all over the carpet.

He says, "Lady, if this vacuum cleaner don't do wonders cleaning this up, I'll eat every bit of it."

She turns to him with a menacing look and says, "You want ketchup on that?"

The salesman says, "Why do you ask?"

She says, "We just moved in and we haven't got the electricity turned on yet."



Kanadu Studio Jewellery

Selected rings up to **50% OFF**

- Mystic topaz jewellery
- Sterling silver
- Titanium watches & rings

20% OFF

FREE

Diamond Heart Pendant & Chain with the purchase of any engagement ring over \$500.00 White and yellow gold available.

4907 - 51 Ave, Whitecourt - 778-6097



BEAVER CREEK
MAKE YOUR OWN
WINE, BEER & LIQUEURS
Have Fun and Save Money
You can have a nice bottle of
wine for as low as \$2.00
778-3636 • 5007 49 ST.



DESTINATIONS UNLIMITED
ADVANTAGE TRAVEL
KIDS FLY FREE
OFFER TO
Southern California!
 • Valid for travel Jan 03 - Jun 28/06
 • Booking dates until Mar 19/06
 • Restrictions apply. Black out dates apply
5020 - 51 Avenue (780) 778-4114 destina@telus.net

The origin and history of Valentine's Day cards

(NC) - Every year on Feb. 14th, people in Canada, the U.S., Mexico, Australia, Great Britain and France exchange cards and gifts in honor of St. Valentine. This holiday, and the traditions associated with it, date back over 1,700 years to the third century A.D.

According to Roman legend, Valentinus was imprisoned for his religious beliefs and sentenced to death. Legend has it that Valentinus actually sent the first 'valentine' greeting—a letter signed 'From your Valentine' that he wrote to a young girl with whom he'd fallen in love.

"The valentine has become the universal symbol for love over the centuries," says Denise Darragh of Hallmark Canada. "But Valentine's Day celebrations and traditions, including cards, are constantly evolving to reflect everyday attitudes towards romance."

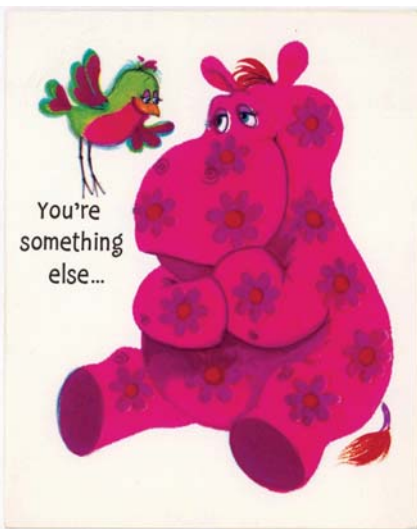
Early valentine greetings were spoken or sung by lovers during the Middle Ages. Written valentines didn't become popular until after 1400. The oldest known Valentine's Day card is currently on display at the British Museum in London, England. It was written by Charles, Duke of Orleans to his wife during his imprisonment in the Tower of London in 1415.

Paper valentines made with coloured paper, watercolours and coloured inks eventually became popular in England. There were many different handmade valentines including Acrostic valentines (verses in which the first lines spelled out your lover's name), Pinprick valentines (made by pricking small holes in paper to create the look of lace) and Rebus valentines (where pictures took the place of words such as a tiny heart to replace the word love).

Commercial valentines first appeared around 1800 and have featured a variety of themes reflective of each era. Norman Rockwell inspired Valentine's Day cards in the roaring twenties while the influence of Mickey Mouse and World War II can be seen in cards from the thirties and forties. In the 1960's, a new greeting card language emerged featuring irreverent humor that appealed to "Laugh In" and Beatles fans.

Today, Valentine's Day cards are available for everyone. While over half of all valentines are romantic, there are cards for friends, teachers, children and other family members.

More than 1,200 different Valentine's Day cards are available at Hallmark Gold Crown stores across Canada. To find the nearest store, call 1-800-268-3230. - *News Canada*




The Open Door Café & Office Lounge
— Check Out Our New Menu —
Your Downtown Meeting Place
8 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Weekdays
Breakfast \$4.95
Lunch from \$6.00
— Restaurant 778-4648 - Midtown Mall - 778-5535 Lounge —

Great Food - Pool - Music - VLTS
Whitecourt's Premier Karaoke
Karaoke Now
On Thursdays,
Fridays &
Saturday Nights

Add some sparkle to your relationship

(NC) - Valentine's Day is the perfect time to rekindle your feelings or risk losing the connection that keeps you content and in tune. Here are great suggestions that don't involve overblown romantic gestures.

Touchy-Feely

When you wake up, kiss each other. Pass each other in the hallway? Share a big hug.

Mealtime Magic

Mealtimes provide plenty of opportunities to connect. Instead of sitting across the table from each other, sit on the same side. Indulge in meals that encourage sharing. Pour yourselves a glass of wine, put on some music and make dinnertime a collaborative effort.

Lights Out

Depending on the age of your children set a time each evening when family time is officially over. Younger children should be bathed and in bed. Teenagers should be in the family room or their bedrooms doing their own thing and leaving the two of you alone to unwind and share a romantic moment together.

Grab a Flick

Grab the movie listings, pick a flick, load up on popcorn and licorice and enjoy a mid-week movie without a balcony full of kids to distract you.

Raise a Toast

Visit a local micro-brewery or winery and learn about your favourite wheat beers or pinot noirs. Bring a few home to enjoy on a winter's eve.

Reaching out and touching someone is a way of saying you care, and the effects are immediate for both the hugger and the person being hugged.



Bug flew into a barn

A farmer was milking his cow. He was just starting to get a good rhythm going when a bug flew into the barn and started circling his head.

Suddenly, the bug flew into the cow's ear.

The farmer didn't think much about it, until the bug squirted out into his bucket.

It went in one ear and out the udder.



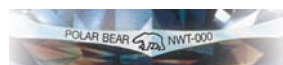
The diamond that captures the spirit of the Northern Lights.

GOVERNMENT CERTIFIED POLAR BEAR DIAMONDS™



**Sean David
Jewellers**

**(780) 778-3302
5012 50th Avenue,
Whitecourt, AB T7S 1P8**



Ask to see the Polar Bear engraved on the diamond.



www.polarbeardiamond.com

Government Certified Polar Bear Diamonds™ are **mined, cut and polished in Canada**, and laser engraved with the Northwest Territories certificate number of authenticity.



*Wishes You a
Happy Valentine's Day*

10% OFF all Products
with your
colour/perm/straightening
service for
the month of February

778-5007 • Valley Centre Mall

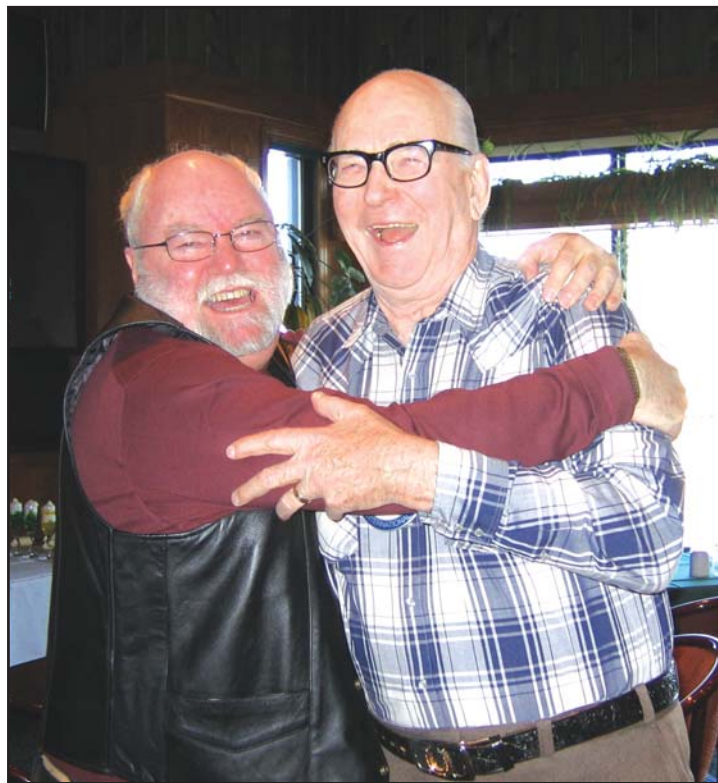
Taxes go to help heating costs again

For the fifth consecutive month, Albertans will receive a provincial natural gas rebate on their heating bills. This automatic rebate will save the average household about \$27 for February.

A natural gas rebate of \$1.50 per gigajoule (GJ) was triggered for February as the price of natural gas has exceeded \$5.50/GJ.

Under the Alberta Natural Gas Rebate Program, all eligible Albertans will receive rebates if the majority of Albertans

are being charged more than \$5.50/GJ on their gas bills for that month during the winter period (October-March). See www.gov.ab.ca for more information on where rebates can apply.



Rotarians Larry McConnell and John Dahl share a laugh at the weekly meeting. Oil and Gas company Nexen Inc. was in town to give a presentation to the club. Story is on page 24.

In the eye of the beholder

A man came home from work after a horrible day at the office. His wife has complained to him over and over that he never notices her anymore, and he denied it. When he comes through the door his wife greets him and says,

- “Hi, Honey. Notice anything different about me today?”
- “Oh, I don’t know. You got your hair done.”
- “Nope, try again.”
- “Oh, uh, you bought a new dress.”
- “Nope, keep trying.”
- “You got your nails done.”
- “Nope, try again.”
- “I give up, I’m too tired to play 20 questions.”
- “I’m wearing a gas mask!”



WHITECOURT STATIONERY



Canadian Independent Stationers
Your Full Service Office Supplier
XEROX
North American Agent Operations
778-6303 • 4915 – 51 Ave.



Crown & Anchor Pub
“Whitecourt’s most happening place”
VALLEY CENTRE MALL 778-1900

Renovated & Expanded with Fireplace, 2 Big Screen TV’s & Games Room
Featuring **Virtual Golf**



VIRTUAL GOLF - BUCK HUNTER - DARTS - POOL - VLTS

Sunshine & Faith
Massage Therapy

Angele Laplante R.M.T.

1 hour \$50
1½ hour \$75
2 hours \$85

Call 706 9672 or 706 3190

Valentine advice from the young

- *From the Internet*

Concerning the origins of love

“Cupid kissed God and that got the ball rollin’.” - Julio, age 9

“One of the Greek lady gods got a crush on one of the Greek man gods. He tried to hit her with lightning and thunderbolts, but he just couldn’t get her away from him ... After a while, they became the first married gods. - Robbie, age 8

Concerning why love happens between two particular people

“One of the people has freckles and so he finds somebody else who has freckles too.” - Andrew, age 6

“No one is sure why it happens, but I heard it has something to do with how you smell ... That’s why perfume and deodorant are so popular. - Mae, age 9

“I think you’re supposed to get shot with an arrow or something, but the rest of it isn’t supposed to be so painful.” - Manuel, age 8

On what falling in love is like

“Like an avalanche where you have to run for your life.” - John, age 9

“If falling in love is anything like learning how to spell, I don’t want to do it. It takes too long.” - Glenn, age 7

On the role of handsomeness in love

“If you want to be loved by somebody who isn’t already in your family, it doesn’t hurt to be beautiful.” - Anita C., age 8

“It isn’t always just how you look. Look at me. I’m handsome like anything and I haven’t got anybody to marry me yet.” - Brian, age 7

“Beauty is skin deep. But how rich you are can last a long time.” - Christine, age 9

Reflections on the nature of love

“Love is the most important thing in the world, but baseball is pretty good too.” - Greg, age 8

How do people in love typically behave?

“Mooshy ... like puppy dogs ... except puppy dogs don’t

wag their tails nearly as much.” - Arnold, age 10

“When a person gets kissed for the first time, they fall down and they don’t get up for at least an hour.” - Wendy, age 8

“All of a sudden, the people get movie fever so they can sit together in the dark.” - Sherm, age 8

Concerning why lovers often hold hands

“They want to make sure their rings don’t fall off because they paid good money for them.” - Gavin, age 8

“They are just practicing for when they might have to walk down the aisle someday and do the holy matrimony thing” - John, age 9

Confidential opinions about love

“I’m in favor of love as long as it doesn’t happen when ‘Dinosaurs’ is on television.” - Jill, age 6

“Love is foolish ... but I still might try it sometime.” - Floyd, age 9

“Love will find you, even if you are trying to hide from it. I’ve been trying to hide from it since I was five, but the girls keep finding me.” - Dave, age 8

“I’m not rushing into being in love. I’m finding fourth grade hard enough.” - Regina, age 10

The personal qualities you need to have in order to be a good lover

“Sensitivity don’t hurt.” - Robbie, age 8

“One of you should know how to write a check. Because, even if you have tons of love, there is still going to be a lot of bills.” - Ava, age 8

How to make a person fall in love with you

“Tell them that you own a whole bunch of candy stores.” - Del, age 6

“Shake your hips and hope for the best.” - Camille, age 9

“Yell out that you love them at the top of your lungs and don’t worry if their parents are right there.” - Manuel, age 8

“Don’t do things like have smelly, green sneakers. You might get attention, but attention ain’t the same thing as love.” - Alonzo, age 9

“One way is to take the girl out to eat. Make sure it’s something she likes to eat. French fries usually works for me. - Bart age 9





SCHAFFER'S
Custom Welding Ltd.

“For All Your Steel Needs Delivered”

C.O.R. Certified

(780) 778-5611
FAX (780) 778-3784
3423 34 Ave.

Shop Hours:
Mon - Fri: 6 am - 6 pm
Sat: 7 am - Noon

- ▶ B Pressure Welding
- ▶ General Repairs
- ▶ Portable Welders
- ▶ Equipment Fabrication
- ▶ Rig Tanks & Flares
- ▶ Burners & Incinerators

www.schafferswelding.ca

**BEAVER CREEK
WATER
DEPOT**

18.9 LITRE WATER
FILL FOR AS LOW AS \$ **3.00**

COOLERS, SOFTENERS,
R. O. SYSTEMS,
CHLORINE FILTERS & MORE

778-3636 ♦ 5007 49 ST.



(Continued from page 2)

for the first time in history.

Globalization has encouraged the flight of jobs and capital to lower-wage regions of the world. Blue-collar workers and middle management alike have become targets for corporate downsizing. Today, five Ph.D. computer scientists from India can be hired over the Internet for the price of a comparable Canadian. Thousands of jobs have been lost to a computer chip. Even in the midst of our prosperity many of us feel powerless to control our own futures or unable to find meaning in our current condition.

There is an economic fault line running throughout Canada and the world which today's economic gurus seem unable to explain or remedy: the widening wealth and income gap between the well off and an increasingly besieged middle class, not to mention the poor people in every country. Despite the promises of freer international trade, disparities between developed and developing nations are also widening. Although Alberta is currently insulated from much of the malaise by record high energy prices, it would be short-

sighted of the province to not begin to create solutions for the problems now; when resources are plentiful.

Surrounded by global communications, the global economy, and our global environment, we cannot help but feel the tremors inside and outside our borders. With the growing economic imbalances come bloody conflicts, widespread starvation, international crime and corruption, depletion of the planet's non-renewable resources, unconscionable destruction of the environment and systematic suppression of human potential and life-enhancing technology. Yet the primary impetus against the terrorism committed by the dispossessed is not to alleviate the poverty or dispossession, but to impose policies that restrict and in some cases overturn basic Canadian rights.

Seeing through the chaos of our rapidly changing world, one post-scarcity visionary of the 20th Century, lawyer-economist Louis Kelso, understood the power of technology either to liberate

or dehumanize people. Popularly known as the inventor of the employee stock ownership plan (ESOP), Kelso observed that modern capital tools and their phenomenal power to "do more with less" have offered people an escape from scarcity to shared abundance.

As a lawyer Kelso also saw that the design of our "invisible" institutional environment and social tools determines the quality of people's relationship to technology. Intangibles, such as our laws and financial systems, determine which people will be included or excluded from sharing of access to equal economic opportunity, power and capital incomes.

Access to capital ownership, asserted Kelso, is as fundamental a human right as the right to the fruits of one's labor. Much of our technology today is the result of inventions and innovations that are the culmination of literally centuries of work. The original inventors and innovators passed on long ago.

This technology is a cultural heritage that belongs to each and every one of us.

Kelso made the case that the democratization of capital credit is the "social key" to universalizing access to future ownership of productive wealth, so that every person, as an owner, could eventually gain income independence through the profits from one's capital.

Kelso's Economics of Ownership and Justice

At the heart of what Kelso called "binary economics" is a simple but revolutionary proposition. Kelso stated that people could legitimately create economic value through two (thus binary) factors of production:

The first was labour, which Kelso defined as all forms of economic work by people, including manual, intellectual, creative, and entrepreneurial work.

The second was capital, defined by Kelso as anything non-human contributing to the production of marketable goods and services, including tools, machines, land, structures, system improvements, and patents.

(Continued on page 14)



Golden Harvest
BULK & NATURAL FOODS

Owner Moving
 Turn Key
 Business for
 Sale
 778-6678

Biofeedback Testing
 Test your body's nutrient levels
 and much more.
 Body Talks Sessions Too!
 Call us for more information.

5034-51 Avenue (780) 778-3876

BACK BASICS FAMILY MASSAGE
Specializing in Corrective Treatment
 Beyond relaxation and therapeutic massage. Advanced training to provide effective, longer term relief for pain and dysfunction. My goal is to use my expertise to make you well enough that you don't need me anymore. 15 yrs experience and practice.

DVA Service Provider
 Veterans receive treatments paid for by Veterans Affairs.

Working evenings to accomodate you better. Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays.
 4923-51st Ave. Whitecourt
 706-8040 wk or 780-785-3787 to book appointments.
Because..... Relief is Everything!!!!

The Canadian Connection

— Adapted from *A Piece of the Action* by Stuart Speider

The first person to advocate Kelso's capital homesteading concept in Canada was James O'Dell, an Alberta farmer from Barrhead. He started publishing pamphlets in 1959 about universal capitalism and arranged for Louis Kelso's and Norm Kurlands meeting with the Alberta Social Credit government of the day. In 1964, a vice-president of Du Pont of Canada, Frank Capon, read Kelso's *The Capitalist Manifesto* and was convinced of the soundness of the concept. He in turn raised the idea with renaissance man Winnett Boyd.

Winn Boyd designed Canada's first two jet engines, with the second called the Avro Orenda being rated among the most powerful and reliable in the world. It set world speed records. During the 1960s, he was chief designer of the nuclear reactor at Chalk River, Ontario before going on to the presidency of the Canadian arm of Arthur D. Little, which serves 75% of the firms on the Fortune 100 list. He has devoted himself to the betterment of mankind and was a delegate to the Pugwash conferences and a leader of the Canadian Association for the Club of Rome.

Boyd was a member of the Liberal party until Pierre Trudeau's socialistic policies caused him to jump to the Progressive Conservative party. He spent much time and effort working to persuade the Progressive Conservative party to offer universal capitalism as a platform against the socialistic "redistributive welfare state" offered by the Liberal party.

In 1972 he ran for Parliament in a riding that had gone to the Liberals by a margin of 22,000 votes in the preceding election. He lost out by only 1,847 votes. His platform was the universal capitalism propagated by Louis Kelso. In the 1976 Progressive Conservative leadership race, Boyd convinced seven of the twelve leadership candidates to support the broadening of capital ownership. The winner, Joe

Clark, was not one of them.

Boyd also co-authored a book in 1975 entitled *The National Dilemma and the Way Out*. In it, he laid out in some detail a draft plan for implementing widespread capital ownership in Canada. It is not as complete or as far reaching as the 2004 book *Capital Homesteading for Every Citizen* by Norman G. Kurland, Dawn K. Brohawn and Michael D. Greaney. This work



Winnett Boyd, jet engine designer, nuclear reactor designer, binary economist

“ Boyd was a member of the Liberal party until Pierre Trudeau's socialistic policies caused him to jump to the Progressive Conservative party. ”

includes a Negative Income Tax, which essentially functions as a guaranteed income for the basic necessities of life. In short, their plan would take the empty rhetoric of the 'Make Poverty History' campaign and turn into a reality by dint of hard work on hammering out the economic and legal framework necessary.

Boyd predicted the collapse of socialism and hoped that Kelso's ideas would be adopted at that time. Unfortunately, what happened as the shortcomings of socialism became more and more obvious was that the Chicago school of economics came up with the current economic policies. Like the Keynesian economics they replaced, the Chicago policies do not deal with the root mathematical problems caused by compound interest.

Now that poverty is increasing in the midst of plenty, even in rich countries like Canada, it is time to move to a modern money system. The current system was formalized over three hundred years ago, before the industrial revolution had really got underway. With the mounting pension and other problems, Boyd's anti-communist, yet humanist, vision for Canada is needed more than ever.

**LICENSED MECHANIC
NOW ON SITE**

**WHITECOURT
YAMAHA**
YOUR EDGE

Hilltop Industrial - 3363-34 Ave Whitecourt
706-3306 or 1-866-706-3306
www.whitecourtyamaha.com



MECHANICAL CONSULTANTS LTD.

TRUCK REPAIRS - MACHINE SHOP - WELDING
FIELD MECHANICS - FORESTRY & OILFIELD
24 HR. SERVICE - APPROVED INSPECTION STATION
(780) 778-3184 or 1-800-665-0864

(Continued from page 12)

Capital, in these terms, does not merely “enhance” labor’s ability to produce economic goods. It wasn’t Bill Gates’ labor that accounted for the increase in his wealth in one year’s time from \$50 billion to \$90 billion; his capital would have kept producing even if Bill Gates were in a coma. According to Kelso, capital, which is increasingly the source of economic growth, should increasingly become the source of added property incomes for every person.

Kelso based his ideal market system on the three basic principles of economic justice:

Participation, the input principle. If both labor and capital are responsible for production, then equality of opportunity demands that the right to property and access to the means of acquiring and possessing property must, in justice, be extended to all.

Distribution, the out-take principle. Property rights require that income be distributed based on what one contributes to production—one’s labour, one’s capital, or both. Assuming that capital

ownership is spread broadly, the free and open market under Kelso’s system becomes the most democratic and efficient means for determining just prices, just wages and just profits.

Limitation, the feedback principle This principle restores balance between “participation” (input) and “distribution” (out-take) and puts limits on monopolistic accumulations of capital and other abuses of property.

Binary Economic Macro-economic Reforms

Democratized access to money, capital credit and credit insurance would become instruments of inclusion, not exclusion, and the means for “procreative” financing of whatever capital the economy needs to move toward prosperous lives for all members of society. Kelso’s monetary, tax and

other “Capital Homesteading” reforms would allow us to finance sustainable growth through techniques that offer more universal access to future ownership.

The financial mechanics to start a widespread ownership policy are already in place in North America. In Canada, the same procedure of money creation could be used whereby the Bank of Canada financed WWII, even though the country was in the depths of the Great Depression at the time. In the U.S. there is legislation in place in section 13 of the Federal Reserve Act to accomplish the same democratic goal.

An important point to consider in the design is that there would be no more money issued than in the normal course of events. The difference is that the new money would be used for individual capital ownership, rather than more big government spending and more concentrated

wealth.

Binary Economic Microeconomic Reforms

Justice-Based Management (JBM) is a system for building and sustaining an ownership culture within the enterprise. Applying principles of economic justice, the philosophy of servant leadership and binary economic financing techniques, JBM was conceived as the new management system for the 21st century.

JBM systematically anchors capital and builds ownership into successive generations of employees. JBM also re-orientes the operational and governance systems of today’s enterprises from the present top-down, risk-averse and conflict-prone patterns of the wage system, to a system of participatory ownership where risk, rewards and responsibilities are shared among many co-owners. JBM would enable all workers to become reconciled with the realities of global competition. With their labor incomes supplemented by capital incomes, workers could shift a growing portion of their incomes from auto-


(Continued on page 15)



Understand Your Health

Nutritional Blood Analysis


Electronic Detoxification (Foot Bath)



Midtown Mall — Call 778-6994

WHITECOURT AUTO SALES

Come see Wayne for a deal on a used vehicle you can trust.



Financing & Warranty Available
Consignments & Trades Welcome

778-8808
5801 Hwy St.
Corner of Hwy 43
And 32 South

Help your vehicle keep its value with an interior steam cleaning
Book Today!

(Continued from page 14)

matic fixed wage increases (which also increase cost pressures on their company) to more equitable sharing of bottom-line profits.

The role of the labor unions will also evolve as unions move from the economics of conflict to the economics of co-ownership. Unions will regain their original role as a democratic

society's most important institution for advancing economic justice by organizing all non-owners, not just workers, to help get them their fair share of the growing capital pie.

A Dominion Capital Act for Canada

The Dominion Lands Act was an 1872 Canadian law that aimed to encourage the settlement of Canada's prairie provinces. It was closely based on the United States Homestead Act, which was enacted in 1862.

The act sold 160 acres for the extremely low price

of \$10 to any farmer who agreed to cultivate at least 30 acres and build a permanent dwelling within three years. This condition was instituted to prevent speculators from gaining control of the land.

The act also launched the Dominion Lands Survey, which laid the framework for the layout of the prairie provinces that persists to this day.

The Dominion Lands Act in Canada, and the Homestead Act in the U.S. led to widespread ownership of land in the west. This is turn led to a relatively strong democratic tradition and formed the base of our prosperous society. One only has to regard the economies of less democratic, and more centralized, societies such as communist Russia and Maoist China to see the difference.

How can we realize Louis Kelso's vision for Canada and the rest of the world? A 21st century counterpart to the Dominion Lands Act and

(Continued on page 16)

“ The Capital Homestead Act is a comprehensive legislative program of tax, monetary, and fiscal reforms to make every citizen a stakeholder in the unlimited technological frontier. ”

River's Pub

Thursday - **Wing** Night
 Friday - Easy Peel **Shrimp** Night
 Both Thursday & Friday Nights
Karaoke with prizes
 Every Sunday - **FREE Pool**



Comedian featured every second **Saturday** of the month
Steak & Fries \$6.95 - 7 days a week
Big Screen TV & VLT's

Located at the Quality Inn

VCS Introduces
Accelerated
Dial-up
5x to 7x
Faster
 Ideal for
Acreages
 Call for Details
 1-877-838-8448
www.vennercs.com

The Cash Store
 CASH ADVANCE CENTERS
 YOUR PAYDAY
 LOAN CENTER
 5023-50th Ave
 778-8667
 Mon. - Fri. 9 to 8
 Sat. 9 to 5, Sun. 11 to 4

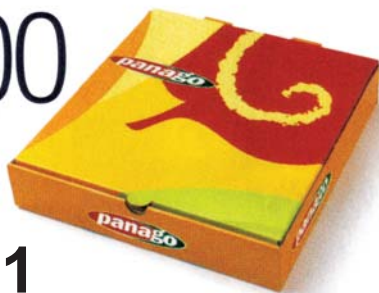
For the Whole Family

Two 12" Medium, 3-favourite topping pizzas, a Caesar salad & 4 Torizoné breadsticks only... *Open for Lunch*

\$25⁰⁰

or make 'em
 Larges for \$30.

310-0001



EXIT
 EXIT REALTY RESULTS
 4919 - 51 Ave. (780) 779-0090
NOW IS THE TIME TO LIST
 Come see Elva at Exit Realty
 Call for Your Free Evaluation
LIST TODAY - EXIT TOMORROW



Elva Roche
 Realtor
 Cell: 706-1502
 Res: 778-3797
www.mls.ca



Plaza 51 - 4911 51 Ave. 706-8882
Skateboards, Snowboards & More

Up to 50% OFF large selection of winter apparel!
Check out the latest in fashion.
New spring clothing and footwear arriving weekly!

Mon. - Fri. 10 to 7, Sat. 12 to 6



Majestic Framing & Furnishings

Sports Memorabilia - We frame jerseys, coats, jackets, hats, bats, golf clubs & more. A great way to decorate your office or rec room.



778-4645 4920 - 51st Avenue

(Continued from page 15)

Abraham Lincoln's Homestead Act would provide every citizen and family with access to future capital and profits in a frontier without boundaries. The Capital Homestead Act is a comprehensive legislative program of tax, monetary, and fiscal reforms to make every citizen a stakeholder in the unlimited technological frontier. A Dominion Capital Act could use this as a blueprint, much like the U.S. Homestead Act was used to create the Dominion Land Act.

Facilitated by capital credit and loan default insurance available under "Capital Homesteading" reforms, each citizen will begin to accumulate dividend-yielding shares in (1) the company he works for through an ESOP, (2) the companies he regularly buys from through consumer stock ownership plans (CSOP), (3) a community investment corporation (CIC) to link him to the profits from local land planning and development, and (4) a diversified portfolio of blue-chip growth and other companies he invests in through a Capital Homestead Account (CHA) or Dominion Capital Account (DCA).

In each case, the citizen would not have to use savings or income to buy the shares. Instead, the new money that naturally enters the economy for such technological progress would be available to all as an interest-

free loan. The loan would be paid back through the profits on the dividends. The genius behind the concept is that this would make it possible to bring everyone up without bringing anyone down. There would be no redistribution of the wealth currently held by the very rich.

A Glimpse of the Future

Envisioning a Kelsonian future where every Canadian has a viable capital ownership stake in a growing economy, we predict:

- Canada's moral leadership will be restored as we set an example for the rest of the



world on how to achieve genuine economic democracy and justice for all.

- Wealth, economic power and income gaps between the rich and poor will shrink, without present owners being deprived

of their property rights.

- Sharing profits and control of technology, all people will become empowered, not victimized, by technological change.

- Market gluts and "over-production" will be eliminated, as overall supply is matched by the simultaneous creation of mass purchasing power.

- Enthusiastic and productive worker-owners will produce goods and services of the highest quality at lower cost within corporations operating with more democratic accountability, efficiency and

(Continued on page 17)

(Continued from page 16)

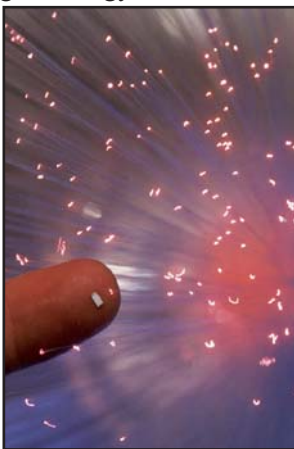
equity.

• Politicians will become more accountable to more economically empowered and independent citizens, who will be less dependent economically on government welfare, subsidies and income redistribution.

• Personal, family and community life will strengthen as more people gain greater control over their economic destinies.

• The environment will become healthier as "Capital Homesteading" enables Canadians to fund green technologies and non-polluting, "hydrogen age" energy sources that in the past lacked financing for their commercialization.

• The quality of education and work will radically improve, as technology reduces the need for economic toil, and as more



people gain the time and means to engage in lifetime learning and non-paid "leisure work," enabling them to work creatively for their personal, as well as the common, good and the advance of civilization.

• A flourishing and peaceful world society will be built upon the decentralization of economic power, and the power of government will subordinate itself to the sovereignty of each human person.

In the 20th century, many lived lives of quiet desperation, struggling from paycheck-to-paycheck, or from

hand-to-mouth, with no ownership stake in society's wealth-producing assets. Most 20th century Canadians were limited to a choice between the wage-systems of capitalism and the wage-systems of socialism. Many lost hope that they and their descendants would ever enjoy the freedom and relative prosperity that are made possible by modern technology.

Just as The Dominion Land Act provided opportunities for propertyless people in 19th and 20th century Canada to gain a piece of the world's shrinking land frontier, 21st century Canadians will gain their ownership share in the limitless technological growth frontier. In the 21st century, Canadians will be given a new choice, a "just third way" opened up by Louis Kelso. It is an alternative model of development that transcends both Bay Street and Wall Street capitalism and all forms of socialism. Choosing this road will lead Canada back to its promise of a more participatory, unified and empowering nation.

For more information, visit www.globaljusticemovement.org and www.cesj.org.

Economics 101

AT&T fired President John Walter after nine months saying he lacked intellectual leadership. He received a \$26 million severance package.

FURNITURE DEN

778-2016 • 4807 50 Ave.

STORE HOURS - Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat: 9:30 am - 6 pm
Friday: 10 am - 8 pm * Sunday: 12 pm - 4 pm

ONE STOP SHOPPING

We have great prices and the selection to meet any budget!



And Much, Much More!!!

FIGHT BREAST CANCER WHILE YOU SLEEP!

Serta WE MAKE THE WORLD'S BEST MATTRESS™

The Serta Counting Sheep Want You to Join in the Cause

And so does Serta. That's why we're making a plush "Limited Edition" Pink Perfect Sleeper mattress set and donating \$250,000 to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Buy any Perfect Sleeper (pink or otherwise) and get a free "Collector's Edition" Pink Serta Counting Sheep.

Together we can make a difference!

Counting Sheep for the Cure!

ALL YOU CAN EAT!!!

*Tues. - Fish & Chips
Saturdays - Shrimp*



3722 Kepler St. • 779-9988

MONEY STOP

CHEQUES CASHED

PAYROLL LOANS

WESTERN UNION | MONEY TRANSFER™

**BILL PAYMENT
MONEY ORDERS**

**OPEN
MON. - SAT.
9 AM - 11 PM
SUN. 12 - 7**

MOUNTAIN SHOPPING STRIP



reconnect your phone with us

778-8013

No Bull

A big-city lawyer was representing the railroad in a lawsuit filed by an old rancher. The rancher's prize bull was missing from the section through which the railroad passed. The rancher only wanted to be paid the fair value of the bull.

The case was scheduled to be tried before the justice of the peace in the back room of the general store.

The attorney for the railroad immediately cornered the rancher and tried to get him to settle out of court. The lawyer did his best selling job, and finally the rancher agreed to take half of what he was asking.

After the rancher had signed the release and took the check, the young lawyer couldn't resist gloating a little over his success, telling the rancher, "You know, I hate to tell you this, old man, but I put one over on you in there. I couldn't have won the case. The engineer was asleep and the fireman was in the caboose when the train went through your ranch that morning. I didn't have one witness to put on the stand. I bluffed you!"

The old rancher replied, "Well, I'll tell you, young feller, I was a little worried about winning that case myself, because that durned bull came home this morning."

Communities in Bloom this spring



The Town of Whitecourt will be participating in Communities in Bloom this year! If you are interested in taking part in this initiative, please join us at the Communities in Bloom Information Open House on Saturday, February 25 at 1:00 p.m. at the Forest Interpretive Centre. For more information, call Rachel at 778-6610.

Communities in Bloom promotes involvement and action by citizens of all ages, the municipal government, local organizations and businesses. The program strives to improve the tidiness, appearance and visual appeal of Canada's neighbourhoods, parks, open spaces and streets through the imaginative use of flowers, plants and trees.

A focus on environmental awareness and preservation of heritage and culture is also an integral part of its success resulting in an improved quality of life.

Trained volunteer judges travel across Canada during July and August to evaluate communities on eight key criteria Turf and Ground Cover Areas; Tidiness; Environmental Awareness; Urban Forestry; Community Involvement; Landscaped Areas; Heritage Conservation and Floral Displays.

Heart & Health Fair 2006 "A Fair of the Heart". Thursday, February 16 12:00 Noon to 8:00 PM at the Community Centre. For more info, please call Gail Hadfield at 778-6300.



AMERISPEC®
HOME INSPECTION SERVICE

Number One in North America

Ian Rae: Inspector

Residential, Commercial, Industrial

► Inspections since 1994 ◀

New Construction & Renovations

(780) 778-3383 • grissol@telusplanet.net

Don't let a rock chip ruin your road trip!



**Windshield repairs
Windshield replacement
Rock chip repairs
Certified Technicians
Mobile Service
Motorhomes and RV's
Fleets & heavy equipment**

All-West Glass Whitecourt
778-5809
whitecourt@all-westglass.com

Also serving: Fox Creek, Mayerthorpe, Sangudo, Swan Hills and Blue Ridge

aeroplan Aeroplan Miles are earned on approved automotive and residential purchases only. Aeroplan is a registered trademark of Aeroplan LP. ANA NORTHERN ASSOCIATES - 35 LOCATIONS

*nourish your
mind body
spirit*

706-3966
5032 51 Ave.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kids indoor playground needs institutional support

It was recently announced that KidsTown will be closing the doors to their store and play program on January 31, 2006. On December 20, 2005, the board motioned to suspend operations of the store/play program and refund current members on a pro rated basis. The board cited, "severe volunteer burn-out, lack of man power, lack of Town support and lack of affordable space" as reasons for their decision.

KidsTown (formerly known as CHIPS) has provided local pre-school children and their families with a place to meet and play for over twenty years. Operated and administered by volunteers, the program has grown and changed over time. Unfortunately, the task of running this quality program has become too much for volunteers.

Regarding the decision to close, board vice-president Lindsay Waters states, "it is not realistic to expect volunteers, who are all parents of pre-school children, to run and maintain this type of initiative. Having an indoor playground, in a community that experiences winter for 6 months of the year, is as important as having outdoor parks and playgrounds for summer use. Other communities are fortunate that their municipal governments support such programs by providing manpower and funding."

Waters stresses the fact that indoor playgrounds benefit not only children but parents as well. "The program offers great support to parents. It allows parents of young children, who often feel isolated and alone, to meet and build their own support networks. This benefits the entire community."

Over the past three years, KidsTown volunteers have actively explored different avenues in hopes of creating a self-sustaining program and center for families. Unfortunately, they have not been able to secure the institutional backing required to operate such a venture.

KidsTown wants the community to know that they are very grateful to the many local businesses and individuals who have provided funds, in kind donations and volunteer support throughout the years.

The board will remain intact and is hopeful that it may be able to secure support and space, thus enabling the society to re-establish programming in the future.

For more information about KidsTown please call 778-5164. - Shannon Rosnau

CyberVision Computers



- LCDs
- Speaker Sets
- Printers
- Cameras
- Logitech Keyboard w/ cordless mouse

Midtown Mall 778-5665 www.whitecourtonline.com



February

Rainbow Sale

Each week this month

Save **30%** on
Selected Colours of
Cotton Fabrics

"SEW it RIGHT from the Heart"

Whitecourt

WORK WEAR

Great Service For over
17 years

Great Selection

Open Sunday
12 to 4 pm *Great Prices*

Main Street - Next to CIBC - 778-4781

Boss: You should have been here at 9:30 a.m.
Employee: Why what happened?

Summary of Council News

Town Press Release - The Town of Whitecourt is proud to announce that it will be participating in Communities In Bloom. Participation in the program was discussed at the January 23 Regular Meeting, and Whitecourt Town Council approved the application for membership. Communities In Bloom is a national program that enhances civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification through community participation and provincial and national competitions. Council also approved the formation of a Communities in Bloom Committee that will be comprised of local citizens and representatives from Town Council, the Community Services Department and other community organizations. Councillor World and Councillor Schlosser were appointed to represent Town Council on the committee. Advertisements for public involvement will be published in the near future. Keep an eye out for more information regarding the Communities In Bloom Program and the committee's development on the Town's website at www.whitecourt.ca.

Whitecourt Town Council reviewed daily report summaries from RH Services Inc. regarding the abatement program recently completed at the Whitecourt Twin Arenas and RCMP Century Swimming Pool. RH Services Inc. indicated that aggressive air quality testing and close visual inspections had been completed, and that the affected "spaces are now available for reoccupancy" and public use. The final report from RH Services Inc. is expected within the next two weeks, and a RH Services company representative will be attending the next regular meeting to present the report and answer any questions. Whitecourt Town Council also approved a final en-

vironmental test of specific areas in the Athabasca Arena.

The petition to Save the Trees west of the Whitecourt Curling Rink was presented to the Town Manager on January 9, 2006. Since that time, the petition has been reviewed, with the assistance of the Town Solicitors, and has been determined insufficient. Council accepted the report on the petition as information.

The Whitecourt and Family Violence Stakeholders Group presented information to Council regarding family violence issues. As a result of the presentation, Councillor McConnell was appointed as the Council representative on the Stakeholders Group. If you would like more information on the Whitecourt Comprehensive Family Violence Initiative, please contact Gail Hadfield at 778-6300.

Town Council met January 24 for an educational seminar facilitated by Mr. George Cuff. The seminar, "Council as Policy-Makers, Employers and an Effective Team", reviewed roles and responsibilities of Council and administration, tools of governance and key principles of effective government.

Whitecourt Town Council attended a Council Retreat on the weekend of January 20 and 21 to review the community's vision, mission, and objectives. This session was valuable to all members, and the information discussed will be incorporated in to the Town's Business Plan.

The Whitecourt Leisure Campus Information Package has been sent to Whitecourt and Woodlands County residents. The information package, and conceptual drawings and floor plans are available on the Town's website at www.whitecourt.ca. If you have any questions, please call the Whitecourt Community Services Department at 778-6300.

Excerpt from information package mailed out by the Town of Whitecourt on Leisure Campus

OTHER INFORMATION POINTS

1. Approximate costs to build an entirely new complex:

Twin Arenas: \$12 million,

Fieldhouse: \$9.2 million

Pool: \$8 million

Total: \$29.2 million plus site and servicing costs

2. Finance

- Current total of revenue of approved project:

\$10,125,717

- Town's current borrowing limit: 18,112,110

- Town's existing debt load: \$4,811,831

- Current debenture required of approved project: \$4,101,324

- Remaining borrowing limit for all other future Town infrastructure needs is \$9,198,955

3. Future Facility Needs/Timing

- Arenas have not been in the horizon in any recent Recreation Master Plan reviews. The current project started with a fieldhouse and added updates to the arenas and pool as information was developed. (Cont. on page 21)

Factors	North of Provincial Building	Rodeo Grounds	Graham Acres	Sunset Boulevard
Site Cost	\$1,205,500	\$980,000	\$465,000	\$125,000
Access	Poor - Central School Congestion	Poor - Central School Congestion	Moderate	Excellent
Expandability	Excellent	Moderate	Excellent	Moderate
Dwellings within a 10 min. Walk	500	500	500	1000
Average Drive Time to Location	5 min.	>5 min.	>5 min.	<4 min.
Other Issues	Purchase of Private Land	Within Floodplain		Synergy
		Adjacent to log deck		



I Can Sing Karaoke

Angie Millard
(780) 778-5881



(Continued from page 20)

- The Town is many years away from requiring a third rink. Towns typically reach 2 arenas at about the size that Whitecourt is: Edson, Hinton, Slave Lake, Rocky Mtn. House, etc. all built a second rink at about the same rate as Whitecourt. However, a third rink is typically developed much more slowly – a review of small cities across the Province shows that 3 rinks are at a ratio of 1 arena/10,000 people. At a 3% growth rate, a 3rd rink is 40 years away. Local issues do dictate development, but as a discussion point, a third arena is well into the future.

- Pools are statistically built to provide one pool / 20,000 people. A second indoor pool is equally far into the future.

4. Community Fundraising

- A high rate of construction inflation can quickly eat up any fund raising. For example, if the approved \$14 million dollar project is delayed to allow time for additional fund raising, a year's inflation at 12% (the current Alberta Infrastructure figure) adds \$1,680,000 to the cost. This amount would have to be raised per year just to stay even.

5. Existing \$401,959 CanAlta Infrastructure Grant:

- This grant was applied for in 2003 when it was anticipated that repair money will have to go towards the existing pool and arenas. The application was based upon results received from the building analysis done by Cockburn and Associates.

- The grant program guidelines have been very clear – the money must be spent on the projects applied for, with invoices paid prior to March 31, 2006. Project delays have put this funding in jeopardy.

6. Comparisons – Per Capita Spending - Approximates

- Strathcona County: \$400 per capita on Millennium Place
- Spruce Grove/Stony Plain/Parkland County: \$679 per capita on the Tri Leisure Centre.
- St. Albert: \$733 per capita on a new multi-plex.
- Whitecourt/Woodlands: \$1,285 per capita on the approved project.

The entire report is available at www.Whitecourt.ca (click on Current Happenings, then Whitecourt's Hot Topics, Then Whitecourt Leisure Campus).

By the time Kojo arrived at the football game, the first half was almost over.

"Why are you so late?" his friend asked.

"I had to toss a coin to decide between going to church and coming to the game."

"How long could that have taken you?"

"Well, I had to toss it 14 times."



Printing
Graphic Design
Advertising
Web Design
Computers

**Whitecourt
Events
February 2006**

(780) 778-5577 - 4907 52 Ave - KCGraphics@WhitecourtWeb.com

Free Public Skating

December 2, 2005 to March 31, 2006

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Whitecourt during the following times: Tuesdays/Thursdays: 3:30 - 4:15 PM, Fridays: 7:00 - 8:00 PM, Sundays: 4:15 - 5:15 PM Whitecourt Twin Arenas. Call 778-6610 for more info.

Heart & Health Fair 2005

Thursday, February 16 - Time: 12:00 Noon - 8:00 PM

Whitecourt Community Centre (Gymnasium at Central School) Cost: Free of charge. Contact Name/Number: Gail Bablitz at 778-5555 or Gail Hadfield at 778-6300

Event Description: Join us to learn about the risks associated with heart disease as well as resources available within our community. There will be heart health stations where participants have blood pressure checks, healthy eating advice, active lifestyles, clean air, etc.

Whitecourt Trailblazer Poker Rally

Saturday & Sunday February 18 & 19

Call 778-5363 for details.

What Every Babysitter Should Know

February 18 & 19 - 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Location: Firehall. Cost: \$36.00

Contact Name/Number: Community Services, 778-6610

Event Description: For those 11 years of age or older, this St. John Ambulance course provides participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to provide proper babysitting services. Participants will learn: how to care for infants, toddlers and older kids; what questions to ask parents; what to do in an emergency; how to give treatment to burns; poisoning, wounds and bleeding. Participants who successfully complete this course will receive a certificate from St. John Ambulance.

Family Day Celebrations

Monday, February 20 - Various Times

Magician, - Whitecourt Community Centre - 1 p.m. Escape artist and quick thinker—Ron Pearson was awarded the Order of Houdini in 1998. Admission is a food bank donation.

Family Movie - Vista Theatre 1:00 p.m. & 3:00 p.m. Admission is \$1.00 plus a food bank donation.

Family Bowling - Millside Place- 12:00 Noon to 10:00 p.m. Admission is \$3.75 per person plus a food bank donation. Call 778-2917 for reservations.

Guided Horse Rides - Rotary Park - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. This is a free event sponsored by Poplar Ridge Academy

Outdoor Skating same time, sponsored by the Rotary Club

Family Swimming - Swimming Pool - 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission is a food bank donation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Municipal consultant seminar impressive.

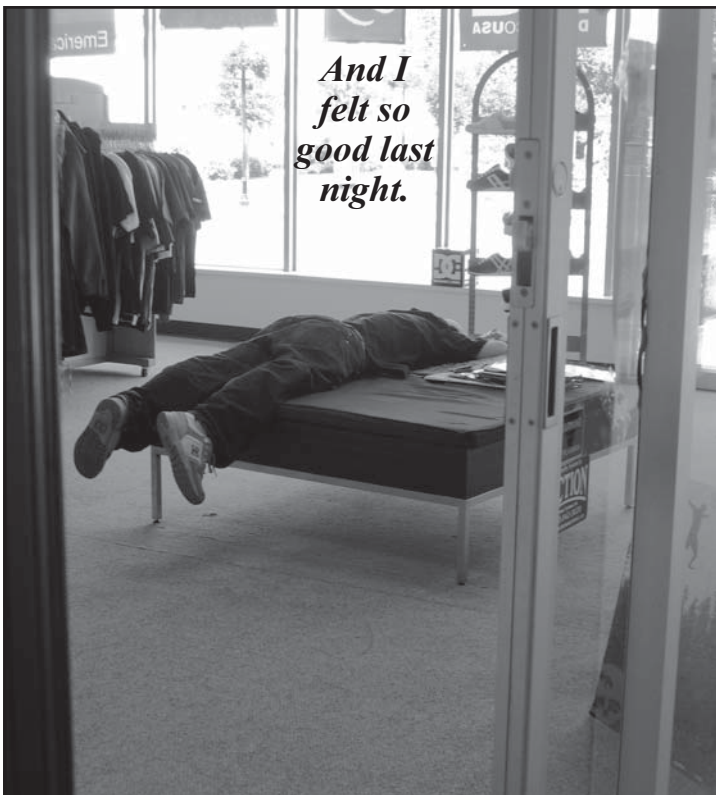
On Tuesday, January 24, 2006, The Town of Whitecourt sponsored an Educational Seminar facilitated by George B. Cuff, CMC. With over 500 Corporate Reviews and 400 Seminars to his credit, Mr. Cuff is a leading expert in Municipal Governance and Corporate Reviews. Mr. Cuff is a phenomenal speaker and his presentation was superb and in my opinion, worth every minute.

He skillfully explained the distinct roles of both Council and Management, set out the necessary attributes for persons holding public office such as; desire to serve, skills in accessing the public, leadership skills, an ability to relate, desire to communicate and a willingness to resolve conflict. He continued on with identifying the responsibilities of the Chief Administrative Office (CAO) and the Administrative staff.

He stressed that Council needs to be fair to one another in terms of their willingness to listen and respond thoughtfully to opposing points of view. He cautioned that in order for Council to be effective and to avoid an unhealthy situation where Council is consistently voting 4-3 that Council had to be willing to be flexible on issues and keep an open mind. He also emphasized on the importance of engaging the public, promoting public participation and listening to the public respectfully while maintaining leadership. He explained that there are various options available to Council to include public input at Council Meetings in addition to Visitor Delegations. He advised that many Municipalities have an agenda item where a specific time is set aside for the public at large to speak to council on various issues without the necessity of specifically being on the agenda. Some Municipalities have adopted this policy at every meeting, while some only allow public input at every other meeting. He also suggested that Council should incorporate a policy to hold Community Round Table meetings at least once every three years. He strongly believes that Council has a duty to listen to the public throughout their term at office and not just on election day.

He made other suggestions such as designing the agenda be top end loaded with the most important issues first, along with the public input and placing the more mundane business of the meeting at the tail end when everyone is less attentive and ready to wrap things up. He proposed other simple changes such as Council rotating their assigned seats annually by selecting numbers and he stressed the importance of Council respecting each other, being unpredictable and feeling comfortable in disagreeing.

When questioned about a Corporate Review, Mr. Cuff explained in great detail exactly what a Corporate Review was, the process followed and the necessity of having a full Corporate Review. In my opinion, all of Council and the public that attended, were extremely impressed with the presentation. I believe that Council now fully understands the purpose of a Corporate Review and that Council will be in favor of voting for a Corporate Review so that we can effectively serve the citizens of Whitecourt. - Larry E. McConnell



*And I
felt so
good last
night.*

NEW LOCATION

**Rejuvenation
Massage & Spa**

has moved to Earthway Massage Therapy Centre

779-1331 •Therapeutic & Relaxation Massage
•Hot Stone Massage • Body Wraps
Annette Brunet, RMT •Steam Sauna • Salt Glow

778-6898
Gail Code, RMT

"We've joined forces to serve you better."

CrystalGlass™
CANADA LTD.

**Auto Glass Repairs & Replacements
Off Road & Industrial Equipment**

**Residential Glass & Mirror Cut to Size
Insulated Glass, Mirrored Closet Doors**

4110 41 Ave. ♦ 778-3269 ♦ www.crystalglass.ca

More Selection, More Value and a lot More Shopping FUN!



- Party •Electronics •Toys •Stationery •Hair •Pets
- Housewares •Glass •Plastics •Sewing •Crafts
- Cleaning •Giftware •Baby •Pets •Candles
- Hardware •Health & Beauty •Paper •Frames
- Greeting Cards •Seasonal Items •Glo Sticks

Your **Dollar Store** With More
706-8833 • 5004B Dahl Drive

Have you made the heart-healthy commitment? Pat Quinn's recipe for success



Gaétan Boucher, Rod Black, Sandra Post and Pat Quinn encourage all Canadians to make the heart-healthy commitment.

(NC)-According to an Ipsos-Reid survey* of more than 1,772 Canadians, almost all respondents (97 per cent) with high cholesterol also have at least one additional risk factor for heart disease (i.e., a family history of heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, high body mass index, smokes cigarettes or cigars), increasing their chance of developing heart disease or having a stroke. What these Canadians need to know is some risk factors for heart disease, like high cholesterol, can be managed. Maintaining a healthy diet and daily ex-

ercise are the first steps to healthier cholesterol levels.

Hockey coach Pat Quinn, along with the Making the Connection partnership, encourages all Canadians to take action to protect their heart health. Since developing high cholesterol and heart disease himself, Pat has made the commitment to lower his cholesterol. Today he enjoys a heart-healthy diet and regular exercise. But, like many Canadians, Pat also needs the help of medication, prescribed by his doctor, to help keep his cholesterol at target levels.

The Making the Connection Heart-Healthy Recipe Book, which you can download free at www.makingtheconnection.ca, features Pat's favourite Marinated Steak

recipe as well as many other heart-healthy recipe favorites from Sandra Post, Rod Black, Gaétan Boucher and the Making the Connection partners.

It's time Canadians make the commitment and take charge of their heart health. If you have high cholesterol, make sure it's properly managed to reduce the risk of developing heart disease or stroke.

For many Canadians, a healthy diet and regular exercise are not enough to reach target cholesterol levels. Ask your doctor about your target, and then take action to reach it.

For more information about cholesterol and how it affects your heart, visit www.makingtheconnection.ca.

Making the Connection is a program dedicated to the ongoing education of Canadians about the dangers of high cholesterol, and to encouraging Canadians to take action to control high cholesterol to reduce the risk of heart attack and stroke.

*Survey conducted by Ipsos-Reid with 1,772 Canadian men (aged 40 plus) and women (aged 50 plus).
 - News Canada

Sporting Quotes

Shelby Metcalf, basketball coach at Texas A&M, recounting what he told a player who received four F's and one D: "Son, looks to me like you're spending too much time on one subject."



WHITECOURT
 News from the radical middle
Advisor

5,250 copies of your Ad delivered from as low as \$21.95 per month!!!

Mailed each month to every household in Whitecourt, Fox Creek and Blue Ridge. Issues distributed to restaurants, waiting rooms etc. in Whitecourt and in selected locations in Mayerthorpe and Swan Hills.

Call (780) 778-5577



Production Testing
Swab Testing
Electronic Reporting

Production Services

1-866-542-5966
 www.selectproductionservices.com



www.altatechenv.com

Site Assessment Phases 1 - 2 & 3

ENGINEERING & CONSULTING SERVICES

Environmental ♦ Water Resources Evaluation
 Contaminated Site Characterization

Call (780) 706-2696 ♦ Unit #2 5023-50 Ave.



Unconventional gas recovery wave of the future for Whitecourt

Mike Simpson and Bill Gourley of Nexen Inc. gave a presentation to the Whitecourt Rotary Club on January 19 regarding Alberta's unconventional gas reserves, including the Whitecourt area. Nexen is an independent global energy company formed in 1972. The firm was originally known as Canadian Occidental Petroleum Ltd.

The presenters focused on potential reserves and recovery methods for coal bed methane (CBM), along with the attendant environmental problems and solutions. CBM is commonly referred to as an unconventional form of natural gas because it is primarily stored through adsorption by coal in coal deposits rather than in the pore space of the rock like most conventional

gas. The gas is released in response to a drop in reservoir pressure. If the coal deposit is water saturated, water generally needs to be extracted to reduce the pressure and allow gas production to occur. If the coal does not produce water and is "dry", gas will be produced from initial development.

The potential of coal bed methane (CBM) in Alberta, including the Whitecourt, Swan Hills and Fort Assiniboine area, is significant. Nexen will continue to develop the Upper Mannville CBM in the Fort Assiniboine area of Alberta. In 2006, they plan to invest approximately \$150 million to develop 63 sections using single and multiple-leg horizontal wells and construct gas gather-



Bill Gourley, Senior Advisor, Community Affairs, Nexen Inc. outlines coalbed methane recovery methods.

ing and processing facilities. Coal bed methane production will be modest in 2006, with plans to grow substantially in 2007.

Charlie Fischer, president and CEO of Nexen, stated "we are focused primarily on Upper Mannville coals which have high gas-in-place and large aerial extent. We currently have almost 600 net sections of CBM lands containing an estimated 3 trillion cubic feet (tcf) of gas-in-place. We are targeting to add approximately 150 million cubic feet of daily CBM production by 2011."

In contrast to surface disposal of coal bed water that led to problems with CBM

extraction in the U.S., Alberta companies inject the saline water back underground. In essence, we learned from the mistakes south of the border. The coal bed produced water from the Mannville coals produced in Alberta is typically 2-3 times saltier than ocean water.

In October 2004, Nexen won an environmental award from Ethics in Action. This is a Vancouver-based awards program that recognizes corporate responsibility initiatives, and tries to inspire and educate companies to 'do the right thing'. The award recognized Nexen's reclamation project at a former plant

(Continued on page 25)



All photos courtesy of Nexen Inc.



Written Repair Guarantees
778-2171 • 3855 38th Ave
(One Block North of Kal Tire)

(Continued from page 24)
 in Squamish, B.C. They invested \$42 million over five years to restore the Squamish waterfront to an environmentally healthy state, exceeding B.C. government and legal requirements. Nexen was also the recipient of CAPP's Stewardship of Excellence Award for its social performance in the Fort Assiniboine region.

As conventional gas supplies decline, it is encouraging to know that Whitecourt is well positioned to take advantage of the burgeoning production of unconventional gas. §

The psychiatrists were attending their first seminar on emotional extremes.

"Just to establish some parameters," said the leader, "Mr. Nichols, what is the opposite of joy?"

"Sadness," said the student.

"And the opposite of depression, Ms. Biggs?"

"Elation."

"And you sir, from Alberta, how about the opposite of woe?"

Bob replied, "I believe that would be giddyup."

Husqvarna CONRAD'S SHOP

3709 38 Ave (Beside Halliburton) • 778-2770



Full Line Accessories from Husqvarna
Chain Saws, ATVs
Maps & XL Laminator
Tires - Ramps - Helmets
Pumps & Generators



WE REPAIR MOST BRANDS OF SLEDS, SNOW BLOWERS, ATVS, CHAINSAWS



K & C Graphics
4907 52 Avenue
(780) 778-5577
WhitecourtWeb.com

Large Format Printing. Up to 36" wide. Great for Blue Prints, Maps, etc.



Digital Archiving Now Available!!!
Back up your important paperwork on CD or DVD.

For All Your Printing Needs



Yet another fire along the hilltop highway has A & W looking to rebuild. The Tags next door was unharmed.

STORE FIXTURES

True Value®

Hardware

- FILE CABINETS
- DESKS
- DISPLAYS
- RACKING & MORE



We are still available for key cutting & paint mixing.

Thank you for your patronage

Midtown Mall - 778-2755

(Continued from page 5)

One idea along these lines would be to extend Main Street into a winding park drive through Rotary Park, to connect up with 57 Avenue. This road is already about 90% done, with only a small connector length missing at each end. There is no need to immediately pave the road, making this potentially an inexpensive second route to the downtown from a large residential area. Additionally, it will make it easier for residents to enjoy the features of Rotary Park, which will soon include an innovative water feature for tubing and sliding. Other ideas for revitalizing downtown are promoting the construction of restaurant and lounge patios for the summertime, a music fest, an expanded farmer's market and building up the riverboat races into a major tourism event. In the final analysis, it will be up to the downtown merchants themselves to cooperate at the level that is necessary to create an effective lobby group. §



We have the technology

At the United Nations Millennium Summit in 2000, 189 Heads of State and Governments, promised to work together to make a better world for all by 2015. On behalf of their people, they signed the Millennium Declaration, promising to "free men, women and children from the dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty". 8 Millennium Development Goals were adopted, committing rich and poor countries to work together in a global partnership to end extreme poverty and hunger, ensure that all boys and girls complete primary school, promote gender equality, improve the health of mothers and children, reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS, and protect the environment.

With all the money, technology and know-how the world has at its disposal, this should not be a problem, should it? So why are still today 1.2 billion people surviving on less than one dollar a day, over 11 million children under the age of five dying each year from preventable diseases, and 7,000 young people contracting HIV/AIDS every single day? Quite simple: a lack of political will to make the goals a reality.

For more information: www.millenniumcampaign.org/

TOTALLY COVERED CLOTHING

SPRING STOCK ARRIVING DAILY

LOVE IS IN THE AIR!

Lingerie 40% OFF

"Sparkly" TSUNAMI JEWELLRY 40% OFF

New Arrivals Guess Purses

VALENTINE SPECIAL LACY RED PANTIES IN A BOX

MIDTOWN MALL ♥ 706-3547

Mira Massage Therapy

Relaxation and Therapeutic Massage

Lise Laplante R.M.T. - (780) 706-0608
By Appointment Only

(School History from page 7)

new school. Miss O'Dwyer, was unable to find suitable living accommodations — so one of the empty classrooms was converted into an apartment for her! Of the remaining two classrooms, one was used as a gym and the other as a combination storage-principal's office.

Miss O'Dwyer left at the end of one year and Mrs. Barant was principal in 1963/64. The school "apartment" had to be reconverted into classroom space that year. In 1964/65 Mr. Fade became principal. A grade seven class, which he taught, was introduced into the school that year. The following year a second grade seven class was added. By 1965 the School Committee of the County of Lac Ste. Anne was studying the feasibility of incorporating all the high schools in the county into one centralized high school to be built at Mayerthorpe.

The rapid increase in

Whitecourt's school population, however, indicated that it would be more sensible to build a high school for Whitecourt only within that town. Consequently the Hilltop Elementary was re-created the Hilltop Junior-Senior High, and with the addition of a wing including more classrooms, a gymnasium auditorium and administration offices, opened as such in September, 1967. In 1971 an additional wing was built giving home economics and industrial arts facilities and a large "open-area" and library space.

Next month, recreational groups and activities during original oil boom will be covered.

The preceding is from the book *Sagittawah Saga*. This book, with many photographs of early Whitecourt, is available at the Forest Interpretive Centre just west of the Royal Oak Inn or the Once Upon a Time book store next to the Vista Theatre. §

Before and After

With an election just over, it might be a good time to review the time honoured art of spindoctoring.

Before

"Remus Starr: Horse thief, sent to Montana Territorial Prison, 1885. Escaped 1887, robbed the Montana Flyer six times. Caught by Pinkerton detectives, convicted and hanged, 1889."

After the Spin doctoring

"Remus Starr was a famous cowboy in the Montana Territory. His business empire grew to include acquisition of valuable equestrian assets and intimate dealings with the Montana railroad. Beginning in 1885, he devoted several years of his life to service at a government facility, finally taking leave to resume his dealings with the railroad. In 1887, he was a key player in a vital investigation run by the renowned Pinkerton Detective Agency. In 1889, Remus passed away during an important civic function held in his honour, when the platform upon which he was standing collapsed." - *From the Internet*

AUTO SHOP

4224 42 Avenue (Beside Westburne Electric)

- **AUTO DETAILING**
- **AUTO GLASS**
- **ASK US ABOUT OUR CORPORATE RATES.**



CALL 778-0942 FOR QUOTE

(On to Ottawa from page 1)

organizations some stability, so that they aren't as likely to fly off in every direction, dependent on the fad of the day. However, bureaucracies can, and do, take this resistance to unproductive levels. Still, a determined leadership, along with some change in personnel, can move things forward.

More difficult to deal with is what is sometimes referred to as the permanent government. Harper's magazine editor Lewis Lapham first coined this term a few years ago. It refers to those who have a very strong influence over government policy. Generally these individuals sit on several of the boards of the most powerful corporations. They do not act in lockstep, as would be the case in a conspiracy, but

instead have the same interests and often perspectives shaped by those interests.

When we marvel at the frequency with which politicians break promises, it is often because the permanent government has perceived the promise as being wrong headed.

The most powerful instrument of the permanent government is the banking system. Economist and lawyer Norm Kurland of the Center of Economic and Social Justice writes: 'How important is money? Meyer Amschel Rothschild, the founding father of one of the world's most powerful financial dynasties, has been quoted, perhaps apocryphally, as having said: "Let me issue and control a nation's money and I care not who writes the

(Continued on page 28)



(Continued from page 27)
laws.”

Currently much financial policy for Canada and other nations is set through the Bank of International Settlements (BIS) in Basel Switzerland. On its website, the BIS describes itself as the central banks of central banks. Elected officials, Canadian or otherwise, are not allowed to attend BIS policy meetings. It’s a tricky situation, in that if elected officials had substantive control over monetary policy, they could abuse it to ensure their perpetual re-election. On the other hand, if there is no democratic control over monetary power, then the banking system itself can exercise dictatorial power.

Previous Canadian prime minister Mackenzie King caught one half of the conundrum when he went on record in 1936 to state: “Until the control of the issue of currency and credit is restored to government and recognized as its most conspicuous and sacred responsibility, all talks of the sovereignty of Parliament and of democracy is idle and futile. Once a nation parts with the control of its credit, it matters not who makes the laws.” Yet govern-

ments that have had substantial control over the monetary system, from Nazi Germany to Soviet Russia, have committed terrible abuses.

Confirming the relationship between money, access to property, and political power, is the clear-sighted observation of Benjamin Watkins Leigh in the 1820 Virginia debates on the U.S. Constitution. Leigh gave a bedrock analysis regarding political economy when he stated: “Power and property may be separated for a time, by force or fraud – but divorced, never. For, as soon as the pang of separation is felt ... property will purchase power, or power will take property.”

So what is the alternative to potential abuses by governments or private corporations? More control by the individual over money creation would seem to be the only way forward, if justice is to be served, and the human condition is to be improved. The Center for Eco-

nomical and Social Justice in Washington D.C. is one organization leading the charge for such an improvement. “Money power to the people” is one slogan adopted by the group, while another is “own or be owned”.

As Kurland writes: “On the one hand there is capitalism, an economic system governed by market forces but where economic power is concentrated in the hands of a few who own or control productive capital. On the other hand, socialism, in its many forms, is an economic system governed centrally by a political elite, with even more highly concentrated ownership and economic power.

Logically, a third way would be a free-market system that economically empowers all individuals and families through direct and effective ownership of the means of production — the best check against the potential for corruption and abuse.”

Inflationary tendencies

can be countered by constitutional requirements to only increase the money supply in approximate tandem with actual productivity increases. By the same token, a constitution can ensure there is no ‘tyranny of the majority’, whereby a plurality of voters can vote to take away any individual or minority rights. Indeed, a constitutional democracy is the official label for Canada’s political system. How democratic the country actually is and how much the constitution is respected are matters of debate. The view here is that both could use significant improvement, and that such improvement can only occur with significant reform of the monetary and banking system. For a more detailed description of a leading monetary reform design that helps put monetary creation in the hands of the people, and thereby helps advance the idea of constitutional democracy, please see page 2 of this issue. §

“Logically, a third way would be a free-market system that economically empowers all individuals and families through direct and effective ownership of the means of production.”

Q & A
Q. What do you call a person who goes on talking when nobody listens?
A. A teacher!
Q. What do you call skydiving lawyers?
A. Skeet

SHUCK STEEL
WELDING & FABRICATION
STEEL SALES *PIPE SALES*
PORTABLE WELDING TRUCKS, B PRESSURE
GENERAL REPAIRS & CUSTOM FABRICATION
PHONE: (780) 778-6663 ♦ 5809A - 53 Ave.

Fleet Air Electric
• Cab heaters
• Preheaters
• Espar
• Webasto
Industrial starter and alternator repairs & rebuilt exchange.
Gordon Jackman
Journeyman heavy duty mechanic
Journeyman motor vehicle mechanic
(780) 778-2573 • Fleetair.WhitecourtWeb.com

More pointers on quitting smoking

Photo courtesy of Metro Creative Graphics.(NC)
 - The big day has arrived. Today, by ditching cigarettes once and for all, your body starts to heal from the damage caused by smoking. You will probably feel both good and bad at different times. But your body heals quickly if you give it a chance.

If you are like most quitters for example, within eight hours of no smoking there will be more oxygen in your system and your blood pressure should begin to go down. After one day, your lungs should be working better so that with simple activities, you won't get so out of breath. After two days, you will likely be coughing to rid your lungs of mucus, but your senses of taste and smell will return. Within a few more days, the blood flow to your hands and feet improves and

after one year without smoking, your risk of dying from a heart attack will be cut in half.

But today, on your first day, here are some tips on how to cope with withdrawal symptoms as the nicotine drug subsides.

How Do I Handle:

- Irritability and Nervousness? Walk, get fresh air, do aerobic exercise every day, and keep busy with activities you like.
- Headaches and Dizziness? Take deep breaths, drink lots of water, and get lots of exercise.
- Fatigue? Take naps and develop a consistent sleeping schedule.
- Dry Mouth and Sore Throat? Keep your mouth hydrated by drinking cold water or juice, or chew gum.
- The Blues? Call a friend, a support group, or a

buddy who knows what it's like to quit. Talk to these people about your feelings and listen to their suggestions because they understand.

- Over-eating? If you don't want to gain weight, try to: eat regularly scheduled meals; choose fresh fruit and vegetable sticks in favour of candy and sweets; find out about low fat and calorie snacks; drink plenty of water and keep as active as possible.

Health care providers such as your doctor, pharmacist or dentist are a good source of advice and guidance. - *News Canada*

After divorce, most men realize that poker isn't the only game that starts with holding hands and ends with an astounding financial loss.

Wanted to Work
 4 experienced housekeepers
\$10.30/hr to start
\$12.00/hr
Front Desk Person
Experienced
Same wages as above
Pls apply in person
Western Budget Motel

Gamblers Anonymous
 8:00 pm every
 Tuesday
 United Church
 5201 50 Street
Call Sue
778-6230



Words of Wisdom

“The tyranny of a prince in an oligarchy is not so dangerous to public welfare as the apathy of a citizen in a democracy.”
 - Baron De Montesquieu

ARE YOU A SERVICE RIG HAND LOOKING FOR CHANGE?

We are looking for experienced

- Rig Managers
- Operators/Drillers
- Derrick Hands
- Floor Hands

At our company you will receive:

- Great Wages
- Full Benefits
- Great Hours

If you have a professional attitude, work ethic and look forward to getting ahead, then fax your résumé or name and phone number to

1-866-501-5228



Just Kidin'

Childcare Drop-In Centre
 Bring your kids by for minutes,
 or we can set up a regular
 monthly service
 778-5010 4752-51 Ave.

**Tiddlee Winx
 Toys n' Stuff**

"Classic Toys n'
 Treats for all Ages!"

778-5822 Midtown Mall

**TOTALLY
 COVERED**

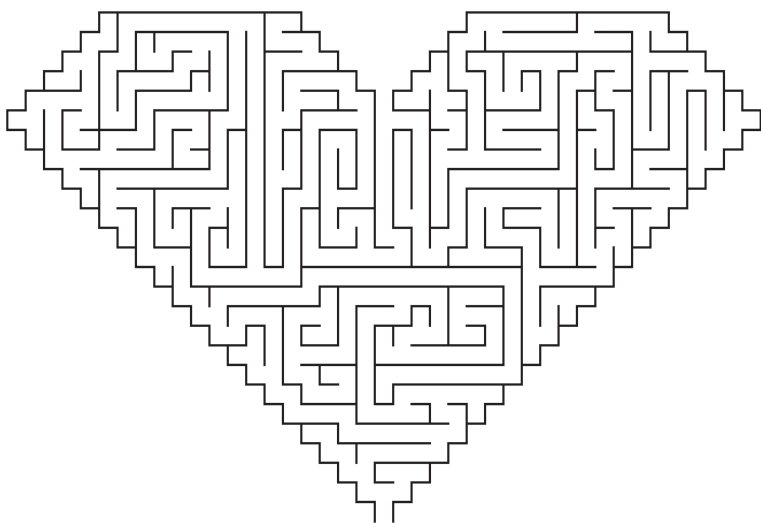
CLOTHING

**Stop by and see
 our Roxy and
 Quiksilver for
 Kids!**

Midtown Mall ♥ 706-3547

Content arranged by Tiddlee Winx Toys 'n' Stuff

Valentine's Day Maze



Valentine's Day Word Search

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

What did the judge say when a skunk wandered into the courtroom?
 Odor in the court!

cupid love kiss friend valentine

Who takes longer to get ready for a trip-an elephant or a rooster?

card secret chocolate heart flowers

The elephant. He has to pack a trunk while the rooster only takes his comb.

poem

**NOW
OPEN**

The Party Store
with more

KID'S PARTY ROOM

Room Rental - \$40.00 for 1st 2 hours, then \$10/hr
 Pkgs available - \$100 for 6 kids includes: 2
 tableclothes, 2 banners, 1 pkg balloons with helium,
 plates, cups napkins & clean-up. \$135 for 12 kids

**Valentine's
 Day
 Supply
 Centre**

778-6628 - 5112-50 St. (Main St.) Store hours: Mon. - Fri. 10 - 6, Sat 10 - 5

Flax Spaghettini in Roasted Pepper and Bocconcini Sauce

(NC)-Flax is one of the best plant sources of omega-3 fatty acids and this meal, by Healthy Harvest (wholegrainpasta.ca) is an excellent way to help us meet the recommended daily requirement of omega-3.

Ingredients

300 g Catelli Healthy (798 mL)
 Harvest Flax Spaghettini with Omega-3
 2 red bell peppers, roasted
 798 mL canned Italian tomatoes
 4 sun-dried tomatoes in oil
 10 mL sherry vinegar (2 tsp)
 30 mL olive oil (2 tbsp)
 1 onion, minced
 1 clove garlic, minced
 60 mL fresh basil, coarsely (1/4 cup) chopped
 8 bocconcini balls, cut into pieces

Instructions

Cook spaghettini according to package directions. In food processor bowl, place roasted peppers, well-drained Italian tomatoes, sun-dried tomatoes and vinegar; pulse a few seconds. Set aside. In a pot, heat olive oil and gently sauté onions until tender (around 5 minutes). Add garlic and continue cooking 1 minute. Pour in reserved tomato sauce and simmer gently 5-7 minutes. Add basil. Add pasta and bocconcini, mixing well to coat pasta and cheese.

Preparation

20 minutes, Cooking: 20 minutes,

Servings 4 - News Canada



Ms. February likes to frolic, with her boyfriend, in even the coldest weather.

K & C Computers will Clean Your Machine

Does your computer seem full of glitches?

You might have Spyware, Trojans, Worms or Viruses

Not only will we get your computer working smoothly again, but we will give you the tools and knowledge to keep it clean!



4907 - 52 Avenue - 778-5577 - Drop off Weekdays 9 to 5

CALL THE WHITECOURT ADVISOR AT 778-5577 FOR AFFORDABLE, EFFECTIVE ADVERTISING

give
your heart
a hug



Did you know?

You are doing one of the best things for your health by taking that first and important step toward losing weight. Weight loss reduces your risk of:

- diabetes
- cholesterol
- stroke
- hypertension
- heart disease

Visit us today for a healthy and happy lifestyle change.

778-8000
#2, 4911-51 Ave.
Plaza 51

www.herbalmagic.ca

Herbal Magic
WEIGHT LOSS & NUTRITION CENTRES



❖ HOME FURNISHINGS
❖ DECOR
❖ INTERIOR DESIGN CONSULTING

THEODORE'S DEN

Lunches Served
From 11:00 a.m.

February's Feature Dessert
"Cherry Cheese Tarts"
Buy them for your
♥ Sweetheart ♥

779-0095 • 5024 - 51st Avenue
(across from Vista Theatre)

Open Every Day Until 9



"Best Coffee in Town"