There’s Oil in Them Thar Hills! - The Kaybob Gas Field

Compiled by Linda Horyn

The gas field was originally a prehistoric reef, made up from growing marine organisms with calcareous or rock like shells living in shallow water, about 380 million years ago. Over eons of time, the reef became buried by layer upon layer of (Continued page 8)
Have your Winter service and inspection performed anytime before February 29, 2008 and

Enter to WIN an XBOX 360 Pro

Over 75 systems will be awarded!

Fully loaded, the XBOX 360 PRO FORZA 2 Motorsport bundle is unsurpassed gaming entertainment right out of the box! Includes:
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Call for your appointment.

Winter Service Special ends February 29, 2008

$79.95*

*excludes tax, environmental charges and shop supplies.
Tanks for the Holiday

An Israeli soldier who just enlisted asked the Commanding Officer for a three-day pass.

The CO says “Are you crazy? You just join the Israeli army, and you already want a 3-day pass? You must do something spectacular for that sort of recognition!”

So the soldier comes back a day later in an Arab tank! The CO was very impressed and gave the man his 3-day pass with the promise of an official report on the soldier’s return.

After the leave was over, the CO asked the soldier if he could tell him, in brief, how he managed the feat, before submitting the report.

“Well,” the soldier began “I jumped in one of our tanks, and went toward the border with the Arabs. As I approached I notice an Arab tank, and that the hatch cover was open. I jumped off my vehicle and rushed up the side of the Arab tank and shouted inside.

“Yes, yes” said the CO, “what did you say?”

The soldier paused for moment, and then said “I asked the Arab ‘do you want to get a three-day pass?’”

Testing Time

Krusty and Scruffy applied for a single position at a scaffolding company. They both had the same qualifications. In order to determine which individual to hire, the applicants were asked to take a test by the supervisor.

Upon completion of the test, both men had each missed only one of the questions.

The supervisor went to Scruffy and said, “thank you for your interest, but we’ve decided to give the job to the other applicant.”

“And why would you be doing that? We both got nine questions correct,” muttered Scruffy.

“We have based our decision not on the correct answers, but on the question you missed,” said the supervisor.

“And just how could one incorrect answer be better than the other?” Scruffy demanded.

“Well,” said the supervisor, “your fellow applicant answered question 5 with ‘I don’t know.’ You put down, ‘Neither do I.’”
Empty monasteries, severed telecommunications, and a sullen, beaten silence that seems to envelop the whole country. It doesn’t just feel like a defeat for the Burmese people; it feels like the end of an era. It was an era that began at the other end of South-East Asia two decades ago, with the non-violent overthrow of the Marcos regime in the Philippines by “people power” in 1986.

For a while, non-violent revolutions seemed almost unstoppable: Bangladesh, South Korea, Thailand and Indonesia all followed the Filipino example, overthrowing military rule and moving to open democratic systems after decades of oppression. China itself almost managed to follow their example in the Tienanmen episode of 1989, and then the contagion spread to Europe.

The Berlin Wall came down in late 1989, the Communist regimes of Eastern Europe melted away with scarcely a shot fired, and by 1991 the Soviet Union itself had gone into liquidation. It was the threat of similar non-violent action that finally brought the apartheid regime in South Africa to the negotiating table in the early 1990s. Right into the 21st century the trend continued, with undemocratic regimes being forced to yield power by unarmed protestors from Serbia to Georgia to Nepal. But there were always the exceptions, and exceptions are always instructive.

The greatest exception, in the early days, was Burma itself. Entranced by the seeming ease with which their South-East Asian neighbours were dumping their dictators and emboldened by the transfer of power from General Ne Win (who had been in power for a quarter-century) to a junta of lesser generals, Burmese civilians ventured out on the streets to demand democracy. The army slaughtered three thousand of them in the streets of Rangoon, whisking the bodies away to be burned, and the protestors went very quiet.

It was this success for repression in Burma that gave the Chinese Communist regime the confidence to do the same thing on Tienanmen Square the following year, and it worked there too. People went very quiet after the massacre on the Square, and the regime is still firmly in power eighteen years later. Non-violent protest is a powerful tactic, but no tactic (Continued on page 12)
Town of Whitecourt - Month in Review

October 11, 2007 - Town Council heard a presentation last night from the 2007 Japanese Exchange Group from Hilltop High School. A group of students, adults and teacher chaperones, including Councillor McAree, visited Japan in July of this year and presented Council with highlights of their tour. The Town of Whitecourt thanks the 2007 Japanese Exchange Group for being exemplary ambassadors for our community on the trip.

Whitecourt received 4 out of 5 Blooms in our second year as a member of the Provincial Communities In Bloom Competition. This is a great improvement from last year, at which time we were awarded 3 Blooms. Congratulations Whitecourt! The Communities In Bloom Committee will continue to build on its success, and have begun planning various initiatives and programs for Whitecourt’s participation in 2008.

October 16, 2007 - Town of Whitecourt 2007 – Unofficial Municipal Election Results
Office: Candidates: Votes Received:
Mayor:
Thain, Trevor 1,274
McConnell, Larry 911
Councilor:
Hodgson, Norman 1,414
McAree, Bill 1,343
Guenette, Don 1,303
Walker, Bob 1,125
Strebchuk, Williard 1,081
World, Neta 999
Chartrand, Darlene 886
Kyle, Shannon 817
MacMillan, Jeanne 806
32.5% of eligible voters participated in the municipal election.

Teacher: What do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested?
Smart aleck Pupils: A teacher.
Do you like to have fun at Work?
Do you want to be part of an exciting new Team?

The Eagle River Casino and Travel Plaza is opening soon!

We are seeking candidates for the following positions:

- ♦ Dealers
- ♦ Slot Attendants
- ♦ Cashiers
- ♦ Guest Service Agents
- ♦ Bartenders
- ♦ Restaurant & Lounge Servers
- ♦ Cooks
- ♦ Surveillance Operators
- ♦ Property Operations Supervisor
- ♦ Gas Bar Attendants
- ♦ Pit Boss & Slot Supervisor
- ♦ Maintenance
- ♦ Senior Accountant

Drop in to our Recruitment Centre, we are open:
Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm
5112 – 50th Street, Whitecourt, Alberta

Bring a resume and be prepared for a brief interview

You may also apply online at:
www.myeagleriverjobs.com
Or Fax your resume to:
780-778-6978

New options for greener vehicles

(FC)-Spend a little more, save a lot of greenhouse gas emissions. A lot of new vehicles now offer environmentally-friendly options. Look for these hot new options to go green behind the wheel:

- Real time fuel consumption gauges that show you exactly what your fuel consumption is as you drive.
- Tire pressure monitors that tell you when your tires are running low. However, Natural Resources Canada still recommends that you measure your tire pressure at least once a month
- Run-flat tires, or zero pressure tires, can be driven at normal speeds, for some distance, without any change in air pressure despite cuts or punctures.
- Air conditioning and cruise control with fuel economy settings. Some cruise control settings actually tell the driver when they’re speeding, when to slow down or even when they’re driving too close.
- The flex fuel option uses a combination of conventional gasoline and an alternative such as ethanol, up to 85 percent. Ethanol is a greener fuel because it’s a by-product of renewable resources such as feedstock and plant life.

Transportation is a leading cause of greenhouse gas emissions. It’s worth it to do a little homework on how to make your next major purchase a green one. Visit ecoaction.gc.ca/vehicles for more information on buying fuel-efficient vehicles.

- News Canada
The following was written before the municipal election.

In the recent, hard-fought mayoral election campaign, many citizens of Whitecourt took a public stand on which candidate they supported. Even though the election is over, it is human nature for the opposing camps to feel loyalty towards supporters and disquiet with opponents. Sometimes those whose candidates were not elected choose to withdraw from the projects that they held near and dear during the election. Being a smaller community, this loss of participation can slow down or sub-optimize needed improvements for such things as daycare and healthcare.

It is, of course, good to be able to proceed on each issue based on the merits of the case rather than on the personalities of the participants. In systems theory this is known as putting the ‘what’ over the ‘who’. However, it is unrealistic to expect previously warring factions to easily co-operate on many issues once the election is over. How to best encourage all parties interested in community affairs to continue to contribute to the issues that are important to them could be a challenge.

(See Co-operation on page 19)

Candidates for Co-operation?

By Dan Parker

"If you want to be incrementally better: Be competitive. If you want to be exponentially better: Be cooperative."

— Unknown

"Let’s face it. In most of life we really are interdependent. We need each other. Staunch independence is an illusion, but heavy dependence isn’t healthy, either. The only position of long-term strength is interdependence: win/win."

— Greg Anderson
In 1947 the news of the Imperial Oil Leduc Oil Well No. 1 started the post war oil boom in Alberta. Oil was discovered in the D-3 field, in the Sturgeon Lake area in 1955. In early 1957, oil was discovered in the Virginia Hills field of the Swan Hills formation by Home Oil Co. Ltd., sparking a flurry of oil and gas exploration in the area. In June 1957, Phillips Petroleum Company completed the drilling of their very significant discovery well, No. A-7-22, located at Jerry Lake in 7-22-64-19-W5M. The discovery well was named Phillips Kaybob. The Kaybob Field is part of the Devonian Beaverhill Lake, a limestone formation, part of the large Swan Hills formation. Half of the major discoveries made between the years 1957 to 1959 occurred in an area just 70 miles in diameter, in the Beaverhill Lake formation. Prior to 1962, the Beaverhill Lake, Leduc and Pembina oil fields contained more than three quarters of the known crude oil reserves in Canada. By 1967 more than 1,800 wells had been drilled in the Beaver Lake formation resulting in the discovery of 12 oil fields and two gas fields.

(Continued on page 28)
Ho! Ho! Ho!
Let it Snow!

If it snows 7.5 cm (approx. 3”) or more on January 1st, 2008 at the Whitecourt Airport, all purchases are FREE!

That’s right...all purchases paid in full between November 1st and December 24th 2007

100% refunded
(GST EXCLUDED)

Easy as 1-2-3
2. Save your receipts
3. Pray for snow

Sean David Jewellers
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• Gel Toes
• Manicures
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• White & Pink Powder
• Paraffin Wax
Nail Polish for Sale

Appointment or Walk-ins Welcome

Susan Gover and Eileen Blennan volunteer at the Midtown Mall’s Operation Christmas Child booth.

Operation Christmas Child
For those new to the program, a shoe box is filled with gifts for children in poorer countries and, with an accompanying donation to cover shipping and administration, is dropped off at a collection centre. Schools and the Baptist church are also participating in this endeavour put on by Samaritan’s Purse International Relief. For more instructions please see www.samaritanspurse.org.

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• Bridal Wear • Reflective Tape for Coveralls

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Thurs, Fri 9:30 to 7:30 • Sat. 10 to 4
Midtown Mall • (780) 706-7092

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Whitecourt’s Only Indoor Mall

Check out our extensive renos

New stores and shops.

One Store Bay & Office Space For Rent

Contact Carl: (780) 778-1459
Be careful what you pray for

A man was sick and tired of going to work every day while his wife stayed at home. He wanted her to see what he went through each day, so he prayed “Dear Lord, I go to work every day and put in 8 hours of hard work, while my wife merely stays at home. I want her to know what I go through, so please create a trade in our bodies”. God, in His infinite wisdom, granted the man’s wish.

The next morning, sure enough, the man awoke as a woman. He arose, cooked breakfast for his mate, awakened the kids, set out their school clothes, fed them breakfast, packed their lunches, drove them to school, came home … picked up the dry cleaning, took it to the cleaners and stopped at the bank to draw money to pay the electricity and telephone bills.

He drove to the electricity company and the phone company and paid the bills, went grocery shopping, came home and put away the groceries. He cleaned the cat’s litter box and bathed the dog. By then it was already 1:00 pm, so he hurried to make the beds, do the laundry, vacuum, dust, and sweep and mop the kitchen floor.

He rushed to the school to pick up the kids and got into an argument with them on the way home which he had to sort out in a gentle ‘motherly’ fashion. He set out cookies and milk and got the kids organized to do their homework, then set up the ironing board and was able to watch a bit of TV while he did the ironing. By then it was 4:30 pm, so he began peeling potatoes and washed greens for salads. He prepared the chops and fresh vegetables and got everything ready in time for an early dinner.

After supper, he cleaned the kitchen, ran the dishwasher, folded laundry, bathed the kids, and put them to bed. At 9:00 pm he was exhausted and although his chores weren’t finished for the day, he went to bed where he was expected to make love, which he managed to get through without complaining. The next morning he awoke and immediately knelt by the bed and said “Lord, I don’t know what I was thinking. I was so wrong to envy my wife’s being able to stay home all day. Please, O please, let us trade back!”

The Lord, in his infinite wisdom, replied, “My son, I feel you have learned your lesson and I will be happy to change things back to the way they were. You’ll just have to wait 9 months though, because you got pregnant last night”.

Whitecourt

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• Stress Incontinence Rehabilitation
• Individual Physiotherapy Assessment and Treatment
• Work related injury Assessment and Treatment / Work reconditioning Program.
• Pre-Employment Screening.
• Motor Vehicle Accident Rehabilitation
• Physical conditioning program
• Manual & Manipulative therapy
• Sports Injury management
• Fully equipped gymnasium

Referrals accepted from:

• Employers / Safety coordinators
• WCB
• Physicians
• Walk in patients
• Insurance Companies
• Other Professionals

Fees covered by:

• WCB (Workers Compensation Board)
• Independent Contracts with Employers
• Extended Health Insurance Plans
• Casualty Insurers (motor vehicle accidents)
• Personal Payment (receipts will be provided)
works in every contingency. To be specific, non-violent protest does not work against a regime that is willing to commit a massacre, and can persuade its troops to carry out its orders.

The emotion that non-violence works on is shame. Most people feel that murdering large numbers of their fellow citizens on the streets in broad daylight is a shameful action, and even if the privileged people at the top of a regime can smother that emotion, their soldiers, who have to do the actual killing, may not be able to.

If you cannot be sure your soldiers will obey that order, then it is wise not to give it, since you present them with a dilemma that can only be resolved by turning their weapons against the regime. Better to negotiate a peaceful withdrawal from power. So non-violent revolution often succeeds — but not if the army is sufficiently isolated from the public.

The isolation can be achieved by indoctrination, but physical separation helps too. Before the Chinese regime ordered the attack on Tienanmen Square, it withdrew the entire Beijing garrison (which it believed to be contaminated by close contact with the public), and replaced it with divisions brought in from the deep interior of the country. The killing was carried out by country boys to whom the sophisticated residents of Beijing looked like alien beings, people about whom almost any lie seemed credible.

The Burmese army is profoundly isolated from the civilian public. Its officers, over the decades of military rule, have become a separate, self-recruiting caste that enjoys great privileges, and its soldiers are country boys — not one in a hundred is from Rangoon or Mandalay. The regime has even moved the capital from Rangoon to the preposterous jungle “city” of Naypyidaw, a newly built place whose only business is government, in order to increase the social isolation of its soldiers and servants.

So when the protestors came out on the streets again in the bigger Burmese cities after nineteen years, led this time by monks whose prestige made many believe the army would not dare touch them, the regime simply started killing again. The death toll this time is probably no more than a tenth of that in 1988, for people got the message very quickly: nobody who defies the regime is safe. Not even monks.

The Burmese are now pinning their hopes on foreign intervention, but that was never going to happen.

(Continued on page 13)
It never played a decisive role in the non-violent revolu-
tions that succeeded, either. Sooner or later the extreme
corruption of the army’s senior officers will destroy its disci-
pline, but meanwhile it is probably more years of tyranny for
Burma, with only Aung San Suu Kyi, the heroic symbol of Bur-
man democracy who lives under semi-permanent house arrest, to bear witness against it.

It is not the end of an era, however. In other places, against other repressive regimes, non-violence still has a reasonable chance of suc-
cceeding. It never did work in Burma.

GWYNNE DYER has worked as a freelance journal-
ist, columnist, broadcaster and lecturer on inter-
national affairs for more than 20 years. Hereceived degrees from Ca-
nadian, American and British universities, finishing with a Ph.D. in Military and Middle Eastern History from the University of
London. His articles are published in over 45 countries.

“"The Burmese are now pinning their hopes on foreign intervention, but that was never going to happen."”

“We have actively sought and are actively seeking to make the United Nations an effective instrument of international coop-
eration” - Dean Acheson

UN Rapid Reaction Force
Includes excerpts from Internet - A U.N. Rapid Reaction Force is an idea that has been around since the formation of the U.N. after WWII. With each atrocity committed by gov-
ernment forces around the world, the idea receives new cur-
rency. The Rwandan massacre was one such event.

Polling has shown that a majority of citizens from developed nations support such a force.

In 2006, a group of academics, former officials and se-
curity experts tabled a proposal they hope will change wide-
spread human rights abuses by creating an international rapid reaction force that could be deployed within 48 hours of a green light from the United Nations.

Composed of up to 15,000 military, police and civilian staff, including medics and conflict transformation experts, it would be recruited from professionals hired by the UN from many countries, and based at designated UN sites. Its actions would be authorized by the UN Security Council.

“"It’s not a new idea, but it has now come into its own,"” says Peter Langille of University of Western Ontario, an expert in conflict resolution, and one of the major contributors to the book entitled, A United Nations Emergency Peace Ser-
vice: To Prevent Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity. Mr. Langille stated that “with countries moving away from UN peacekeeping, and troops overstretched in countries like Afghanistan and Iraq, (the rapid reaction force) has new ap-
peal.” You can vote on this idea at CommunityAdvisor.NET
Above, dedication of original cenotaph in 1962, right unpacking new cenotaph in 2000.

REMEmBRANCE DAY PARADE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2007
PARADE MEMBERS GATHER AT
LEGION AT 10:15 A.M.
MARCH TO CENTRAL SCHOOL
SERVICE STARTS AT 10:30 A.M.
MARCH PAST CENOTAPH
FELLOWSHIP AT LEGION AFTER
THE CEREMONIES.
ALL PUBLIC WELCOME!

“In only a century and a quarter since Confederation, Canadians have shaped out of the North American wilderness one of the most privileged societies on the face of the earth. Ranking among the seven most prosperous nations in the world, Canada is rich not only in the abundance of our resources and the magnificence of our land, but also in the diversity and the character of our people. We have long been known as one of the most tolerant, progressive, innovative, caring and peaceful societies in existence.” - The Will of a Nation: Awakening the Canadian Spirit by George Radwanski & Julia Luttrell
Old Army Songs Never Die

The late Lorraine Hall, who passed on this year, missed the Whitecourt Honour Roll by virtue of signing up for service in Mayerthorpe. This did not stop her from becoming a stalwart supporter of the local legion. At left is Lorraine as she appeared while in service between 1940 and 1944. - Photo Town of Mayerthorpe

Whitecourt Honour Roll

World War I

Anderson, D.
Chaisson, L. A.
* Cornell, A.
Craig, W. R. S.
Fraser, D. A.
Frazier, O. D.
Hardy, P.I.
Harrington, W.
Hedin, E. I.
Hedrick, A. H.
Hinkelman, J.
Hinkelman, W.
Kallbom, O.
Kimsey, A. R.
*Loban, E.
Marvin, R.
Metheun, A. P.
Moore, I. C.
*McDowell B.
*McDowell R.
Presthlien, A.
Skogman, S.
Snellie D.
Smith, C. R.
Stephens, C. A.
Steward, H. Y.
Tekset, O. O.
Torgerson, J. H.
Torgerson, J. S.
Underwood, D.
*Ward, A.
Weir, A. H.
Wellwood, J. A.

White, A. H.
White, G. H.
Wright, W.

World War II

Austin, D.
Bain, D.
Bain, G. N.
Bain, K. H.
Bain, R.
Baxter, P. L.
Beshell, J. S.
Beshell, F.V.T.
Brewer, T.
*Brewer, M. J.
Briggs, S. M.
Brown, D. G.
Burch, J.
Chaisson, T. A.
Cymbala, J.
Cymbala, S.
Cymbala, W.
Dalton, C.
Dahl, G.
*Deatherage, G.
Druar, L.
Dubois, K. A.
Fry, R. M.
Galloway, J.
Gibbs, G. E.
Gibson, R.
Harrop, C. V.
Johnson, H. N.
Johnson, H. S.
Jackson, G. E.
Jackson, R. W.
Josephson, C.
King, G.
King, S.
Klymok, R. S.
Kobasiuk, E. A.
Maxwell, F. B.
Mellwaine, C.
Mellwanine F.
McIntryre, D. P.
McIntyre, H. J.
Merrills, G. M.
Merrifield, H. C.
Miller, C. C.
Moffat, K.
Olson, J.
Otte, F. J.
Otte, F. W. E.
Otterholm, G.
Pederson, H.
Smith, Don
Thompson, R.
Powers, Ruth

Korean War

*Ivans, David D.
LaRivierre, Jack
Smith, Don

*Killed or missing in action. Many who served were wounded.

11 Windfall Drive - Recently renovated hilltop bungalow • 3 bedrooms main level • wood burning fireplace • extra large yard • beautifully landscaped, fenced.

37 Davio Place - $129,900.00 • 1999 • 2 bedroom 2 baths, walk in closet, 5 appliances and shed, great location.

Park Drive Bi-level - 1,294 sq. ft. • totally finished up and down • jetted tub on each level.

Woodland Estates - $399,900 • 2006 home finished up and down on five acres just out of town. It is 1,640 square feet and offers immediate possession.

Turn Key Business - Call Troudy for details.

New With Great Location & Great Price for a Great Deal on 37 Davio Place!
Chamber finishes year in style

The Whitecourt Chamber of Commerce finished off its year in style, hosting the U.S. Ambassador at a well attended luncheon. This was the latest in a series of high profile events put on under the tenure of president Leo Zelinski.

In the photo are, left to right, Ken Kowalski, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, U.S. Ambassador David Wilkins, local MP Rob Merrifield and Chamber President Leo Zelinski.

A new chamber was elected October 17 with an executive comprised of Deb Edney President, Darlene Chartrand Treasurer and VP Marc Chayer. There was a full slate for the rest of the director positions.

New Price - This newer bungalow features a lovely open floor plan with maple kitchen cabinets and a gas fireplace. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, great family room and a double car garage complete this package. Finished up and down. An ample deck with a gas BBQ overlooks the large fenced-in backyard and the bordering green area. Close to recreation and schools. Priced to sell at $349,900. For more information or a viewing, please call Dan at 779-6568

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www.royallepagefoxcreek.com
Maria Sharapova and LeBron James team up against poverty

*GN4 - Maria Sharapova, United Nations Development Programme Goodwill Ambassador, has invited NBA star LeBron James to “Team Up Against Poverty” on a new UNDP advertisement to garner support for achieving the eight Millennium Development Goals.*

Sharapova’s work with UNDP includes promoting international efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Adopted by 189 countries in 2000, the Goals are clear, time-bound targets for achieving measurable improvements in the lives of the world’s poorest people. They aim at eradicating poverty, putting children in schools, promoting women’s rights, fighting killer diseases, and providing access to safe drinking water. UNDP coordinates global and national efforts to reach these Goals.

This ad campaign revolves around the concept of “Teaming Up Against Poverty” to achieve the MDG’s. Fifty celebrities, including UNDP Goodwill Ambassadors and soccer greats Ronaldo and Zidane, have agreed to participate in the initiative to promote the MDG’s and are undertaking specific anti-poverty activities.

The advertisements have been produced thanks to photographers, celebrities and advertising agencies who are donating their time and talent for the fight against poverty. Hundreds of newspapers and magazines have already published these advertisements worldwide.

Ed - This is great, but mainstream publications could also mention that poor countries pay more in compound interest charges than they get in foreign aid.
good post-election exercise. One method to do this has been termed co-opetition.

In the business world, the concept is much in vogue. Resurgence in the idea was stimulated by a business best seller entitled Co-opetition: A Revolution Mindset That Combines Competition and Cooperation. Authors Adam Brandenburger and Barry Nalebuff explain that: “co-opetition offers a theory of value. It’s a book about creating value and capturing value. There’s a fundamental duality here: whereas creating value is an inherently cooperative process, capturing value is inherently competitive. To create value, people can’t act in isolation. They have to recognize their interdependence. That’s the way to develop new markets and expand existing ones. But along with creating a pie, there’s the issue of dividing it up. This is competition.”

Executive coach Karlin Sloan writes: “If we think of business as a game, how do we know how best to win? We’re used to competition—from the sports we play as kids to competition in the marketplace. At the risk of offending all of you who keep a copy of The Art of War in your back pocket, science now tells us that fighting and competing for business don’t always work to our advantage.

When we use only that mode of thinking, we’re cheating ourselves of some excellent opportunities to innovate, collaborate and focus not on who we need to beat, but on our own unique value to our consumers.

The traditional view of business is that our competition is everywhere—we compete for rank inside of our organization, and we compete in the marketplace with other providers of the same product or service. We are at war. That idea is changing. We need to start focusing less on fighting for the small slice, and more on creating a bigger pie. In this new era of shared information, running an organization is about collaboration, cooperation and co-opetition.

There are some great thinkers out there coming up with new ways to play the game of business, and their ideas are firmly linked to a new branch of mathematics: game theory.

Game theory enables us to model complex social interactions—like markets and capitalist-based businesses—through computer simulation. What game theorists have found about behavior is that cooperation is often the backbone of a well-played game.

Here’s an example. In a tournament, computer pro-

(Continued on page 20)
grams were allowed to “interact” with each other as a simulated society. Upon each interaction, the programs would “decide” whether to cheat or cooperate. Each program would then get a score. The winning program was called “Tit for Tat,” and its strategy was very simple. On its first encounter with any program, it would cooperate. On any subsequent encounters, it would replicate what the other program had done on the previous occasion. Tit for Tat would reward cooperative behavior with its own cooperation, and would punish cheating with cheating. Finally, after many iterations of the game, Tit for Tat ended up creating the most stable, cooperative relationships in the computer “society.” Realistically, the most complex computer game says little about human interactions, with ego being but one missing part of the mix in the example given.

However, where the business and social models might align is in the attitudes of the people involved. People on one side of the election divide can very much view those on the other side in much the same way as a business regards a competitor. Whitecourt citizens will continue to compete with different processes and ideas. This is a good thing. ‘Diversity is strength’ is a cardinal rule for any complex system. As much as it peeves every one of us to be contradicted, the alternative of everyone thinking alike is unimaginably worse.

Co-operation doesn’t
come easily under such conditions, but it is not impossible, as competing businesses are showing. Like in the business example, all citizens or consumers will naturally capture the value of a better daycare or healthcare system.

One danger may be that the competition in the socio-sphere over the larger pie will boil down to who gets the most credit for the improvements; rather than market-share as in the business case. This could forestall further co-operation. There was a bit of a hangover in the current election from the Multi-Use debate, but to move things forward, some previous opponents on this matter have been co-operating in other areas for community improvement, not the least being the exciting new plans for Rotary Park.

If one were to follow game theory, the most successful of those both unelected and elected, could be those who follow game theory, and reward co-operative behaviour, regardless of where it comes from.

It would not be a bad goal for those elected in the municipal election to explore structures and processes that will enable relevant, continued participation from both factions of the recent election. There is a wealth of knowledge and, despite the differences, a sincere desire to contribute to the community on the part of all candidates for office.

Post Election - After the swearing in ceremony for the new town council, Mayor Thain stated that all candidates for election had a lot of objectives in common and that the projects are such that workers on the issues can use all the help they can get.

Despite some negativity, overall the last election was a positive experience, offering voters a real choice of candidates for their municipal government. This was a primary factor in driving voter participation to an all time high for Whitecourt. Albeit, there is still a ways to go, with a participation rate of only 32.5%, but the municipal democratic process is headed in the right direction in the opinion of this writer.
Métis Employment Services

Special to the Advisor - Many people have yet to discover the opportunities Métis Employment Services has to offer. Since 2003, the local office in Whitecourt has provided status blind service to people with job search, career decision making, resume/cover letter assistance, and access to computers, fax machine, and photocopy use.

For Métis people, there are funding programs to assist with safety tickets and post secondary education, among other training opportunities. Providing clients meet the criteria, there is a possibility of funding for 2 year programs or funding for the last year of a university program, which would include tuition and weekly income support. In addition, there are projects offered throughout the province which are geared to help individuals achieve their career goals and obtain long term employment.

The office in Whitecourt is currently recruiting Métis clients for an upcoming project to start in the fall. The Dreamcatchers Program, which prepares individuals to work in oil-field related occupations, will consist of seven oilfield safety tickets plus a two weeks life skills component.

Some of the programs the Métis Nation of Alberta has provided funding for Métis people in our area are: nursing diploma; mechanical engineering; office career training; EMR; truck driver training; veterinary receptionist; deaf/blind support services, as well as several Dreamcatcher Projects.

For employers who want to hire and train Métis Youth between the ages of 15 to 30 for six-16 consecutive weeks during the summer, there is a Summer Student Placement subsidy available to help with cost of wages. Other programs include Métis Youth Internship and Métis Wage Subsidy. For Métis Youth between the ages of 15 to 30 who want to attend a summer career camp, there are various camps throughout the province. Youth must have a social insurance number and need to meet with an employment counselor at Métis Employment Services.

For individuals wanting to get involved in any of these programs, please call Métis Employment Services at 706-2339 or drop in to check out the resources at Room 205, Midtown Mall.
Who needs to grow up?

Denise Steeves and Judy Davio show that just because summer’s over, it doesn’t mean you can’t have fun with the lawn furniture.
Community Advisor

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Doug Roszko 780-706-2685

Last days for outdoor golf 2007

Cheryl Hodgeson tees off out of the rough, courtesy of human obstruction Arnie Olexan. The beautiful fall weather is providing an opportunity to prolong summer sports enjoyment.

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**Don’t Forget Koats for Kids**

There are still a few days left to drop off your gently used coats, blankets, mittens and other winter apparel for re-use. The dropoff spots are Whitecourt Star, Royal Bank, Tiddlewinx Toys, McDonald’s, Angel’s Drycleaning, Whitecourt Drycleaners, Garden Market IGA, ATB Financial, Extra Foods and CIBC.

Coats will be given out on November the 3rd at the Whitecourt Legion from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For pickup, you can call Dan Parker at 778-5577 or Linda Mangnall at 778-3370.

**While driving along the back roads of a small town, Mike and Wayne came to an overpass with a sign that read CLEARANCE 11’3.”**

They got out and measured their rig, which was 12’4.”

“What do you think?” Mike asked Wayne.

Wayne looked around carefully, then shifted into first.

“Not a cop in sight. Let’s take a chance!”
Darrell and Brenda were out to dinner one night. The waiter tells them the night’s special is chicken almondine and fresh fish.

“The chicken sounds good; I’ll have that,” Brenda says.

The waiter nods. “And the vegetable?” he asks. “Oh, he’ll have the fish,” she replies.
Wellspring Family Resource & Crisis Centre - Silent Auction Fundraiser

Thursday, November 1
Time: 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Location: Whitecourt Seniors Circle
Contact Name/Number: For more information, contact

Wellspring Family Resource & Crisis Centre at 778-6209.

Event Description: Preventing Family Violence
Family violence is NOT someone else’s problem - it’s our problem. It affects us all...our communities...our children...YOU. Make it YOUR business. Support your local women’s shelter. Catered dinner available.

Remembrance Day

Sunday, November 11
Parade starts at 10:15 in front of the Legion. Services at 10:30 at Central School. March past the Cenotaph after the service and fellowship at the Legion. All welcome.

Pumpjack Players “The Foreigner

November 16, 17, 23 and 24
Time: To be announced
Location: Whitecourt Community Centre
Cost: Tickets $35 - $40
Contact Name/Number: Phone 778-6149 for more information.

Event Description: Enlishmen Froggy LeSuere and Charlie Baker are guests of a fishing lodge in rural Georgia. Charlie is so pathologically shy he is unable to speak. Froggy claims his companion is the native of an exotic country who doesn’t understand the language. Before long, Charlie finds himself privy to assorted secrets and scandals freely discussed in front of him by the other visitors. Comic mayhem ensues.

Calling all volunteers, actors and sound/stage crew! Call 778-6149 for more information.

Santa Claus Parade and Light-Up

Friday, November 30
Time: Parade begins at 6:30 p.m.
Location: Downtown streets of Whitecourt
Contact Name/Number: Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce at 778-5363.

Event Description: Local business participate with decorated floats and candy for the children. The Town “Food Bank Tree” will be lit up - until November 30, purchase a bulb for the cost of $10.00 each in support of the Food Bank.

Suburbia is where the developer bulldozes out the trees, then names the streets after them. - Bill Vaughan
Hewgley Drilling drilled the discovery well. Some of the other drilling rig companies which have worked in the Kaybob field are Brinkerhoff, Can-Tex, Commonwealth, Duke Drilling, Garnett, General Petroleum, Guthrie McLaren, Lohman and Johnson, Peter Bawden Drilling Ltd., Reading and Bates, Regent and Trident. Service rig companies such as Baldwin & Knoll, Widney-Oil and Pinewell Services have had a long history of working in the Fox Creek area.

Due to the expense and remote chance of discovering a producing well, oil companies formed partnerships in these exploration ventures. When reserves were discovered, the company with the largest holdings was usually responsible for operating the production facility.

“Set deep in the heart of Central Alberta in the remote and heavily forested foothills region of the province, Fox Creek was virtually unknown to the majority of people in Canada, and even in Alberta until 1961, when the Kaybob South Beaverhill Lake A Gas Field was discovered 30 miles to the south of the town by a group of oil companies. This discovery brought much interest and later, much development to the area. Naturally, people followed... and Fox Creek began to throb with activity.

In 1966 this small com-

Wolverines off to great start

Junior B hockey is off to a great start in Whitecourt. The Wolverines won their first 5 games, before heading on the road for a more challenging schedule. They are back in town to host the Fort St. John Huskies on Saturday, November 24 at 8:00 pm and Sunday, November 25 at the Whitecourt Arena at 3:00pm.

For all games, stats and more visit www.whitecourtwolverines.com.
The long narrow gas thrust into the limelight when luxuries of the 1960’s, it was mate, lacking in many of the natural beauty, rugged of cli-
out the province. Rich in villages to be found through-
was typical of many similar north of Edson, and boasting community situated 80 miles
largest gas processing plant (Continued from page 28)
was formed.”
(Reprinted with the permission of Chevron Canada Resources)
In 1961, Pacific Petro-
leum Ltd. built a plant in
the North Kaybob field. In
1967, Amoco Canada Petro-
leum Co. Ltd. built the Big-
stone Plant in the D-3 field,
located in 7-10-61-22 W5M.
In 1968, Hudson’s Bay Oil
and Gas Co. Ltd. began con-
struction of a gas processing
facility, the Kaybob #1 Plant
in the South Kaybob field.
The following year they built
Kaybob #2 plant. In 1972, the
$100 million Kaybob South
#3 Gas Plant was completed by
Chevron Standard Ltd. This facility was Canada’s
largest gas processing plant and the world’s largest sul-
phur recovery facility.

The plants produce gas, oil and by-products such as propane, butane, pentanes and sulphur, which are trans-
ported by tank truck, railway or pipeline. The oil and gas is transported from the produc-
ing fields to market sources via pipelines. Peace Pipe Line Ltd. is responsible for
transporting the liquids from northern Alberta to southern markets and Nova Corpora-
tion of Alberta, formerly Al-
berta Gas Trunk Line, trans-
ports the natural gas that is
produced in the Kaybob field.

The development of the oil and gas industry in unsettled areas of Alberta resulted in the creation of new towns. Fox Creek, one such
town, sprang up in the wilderness and had to prepare quickly for a rapid population growth. Other
boom towns were Devon, Drayton Valley, High Level, Rainbow Lake, Redwater and Swan Hills. The majority
of Fox Creek’s population is employed in the Oil and Gas Industry. The Kaybob Field has and will continue to play an important role in the history of Fox Creek.

The preceding is from Iosegun Reflections, pub. 1992. Reprinted with permission of the The Fox Creek Historical Association. You can get the book at the Fox Creek Medicine Bottle or the Museum.

Dear Whitecourt,

My gratitude to everyone for coming out to vote in yesterday’s election. My most heartfelt thanks to the eight hundred and seventeen people who entrusted one vote to me. I hope you don’t feel as though I’ve let you down.

I am still committed to the social change I ran for and know that Council is not the only medium for change. I know that people in this community hope for a rehabilitation centre, affordable housing, a shelter, daycare for their children, a voice for youth, and a community that cares for all who live here. We can still have the things we need in Whitecourt. It might just take a little more work and a little more time but we can accomplish anything when we really care for one an-
other.

Thank you again for the trust you placed with me. I sincerely hope you we can continue towards these goals together.

Yours with gratitude,

Shannon Kyle

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Going Green
By Shannon Kusch, the Tipping Point Project

How can we ordinary citizens make a significant difference in the ongoing battle to help make our planet Earth cleaner and healthier when we are bombarded on a daily basis with advertisements which entice us to buy more, bigger, better, faster? We live in a thriving economy which affords many of us the ability to purchase practically anything which we desire. We are told we ‘deserve it’, and we believe it. Sadly, we live in a disposable society where products are not made to last like they used to. Manufacturers have essentially assured future sales by creating products which only last consumers just long enough to develop dependence on them and then those products falls apart. Pretty darn business smart you say, but there is a drastic downside to this way of thinking.

It costs time, money, raw natural resources, and energy to produce anything. More and more industry creates substandard products for consumer use which quickly break down and get tossed straight into the garbage dump, bypassing the recycling programs. Several important things start to happen at this point. Once an object is thrown into a landfill it consumes valuable land space which could have contributed to either a viable food source or to forested growth which helps reduce greenhouse gas (GHS) emissions. Secondly, all of the energy and resources involved in making these products becomes a complete waste, buried underneath mounds of dirty diapers, broken toys, and kitchen table scraps. Adding to the mix is contamination of our soil and water from toxic waste. Finally, we as the consumer become obsessed with replacing our expired objects. Thus the waste cycle of energy and resources continues.

Our greed as consumers comes with a huge price tag. We rape and pillage our resources, because we feel it is ‘our right’, then we have the audacity to whine when we are told that we are harming our environment and that it will cost us money to help clean it up. We complain over the cost of gas at the pumps yet we allow our vehicles to idle unnecessarily and we demand more and more products which are made from petroleum. We must expect that in the end, we will have to pay dearly for our gross excesses in life. How many of us have more than one television, computer, refrigerator, or car? How many of us have several techno gadgets that we ‘just cannot live without’. Many of us live in a perpetual state of debt because we feel the need to ‘keep up to the Jones’. We have become dissatisfied with living comfortably within our means and have bought into the propaganda that our success in life is measured by the size of our homes, the model of our vehicles or the outrageously priced designer clothes we wear on our backs. Our values have become sadly distorted and who gets to pay the price; our planet Earth.

We are seeing a movement, a paradigm shift like no other. Our planet cries out to us to slow down, to stop the abuse, because she knows that she cannot sustain our greed forever. Citizens around the world have heard these cries and are scrambling, indeed pleading with us to see the need for conservation, the need for cleaner, greener, safer sustainable energies which do not leave behind toxic legacies for hundreds of generations to come. This planet earth that we live on is growing smaller and unhealthier every day. We all need to stand up and take note that there is so much that we can all do to help this urgent matter, starting right now. We do not have the luxury of waiting for someone else to take the reins; we must mobilize en mass to effect an immediate change. It is safe to say that none of the so-called experts have the exact answer as to when we will tip the scales so far as to do irreparable damage to this planet. Therefore, let us err on the side of caution and do our fair share to help the cause today.

Watch for future articles where I will share with you some of the many creative and inexpensive ideas that people from around the world are implementing to make a positive difference in cleaning up their environment and reducing energy consumption. Until then remember, there is enormous validity in the Three-R concept of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

Ed - No advertisers, no communicating environmental problems in this case. The irony here should point out that there are deep systemic economic problems at play. The Advisor has carried many articles on how compound interest in our money system, and make-work activities, cause great environmental damage, while creating no wealth. Until more environmentalists become concerned with this dynamic, there is a very real danger that repression, rather than enlightenment, will be a significant outcome of the environmental movement.

Once again it should be pointed out that reform of our money system is a necessary, but not sufficient condition, for environmental sustainability. It won’t fix the problem by itself, but it is impossible to proceed in a rational way with the current debt money/compound interest system. For more please see www.socialcredit.com/subpages_resources/environment.htm

“In our haste to deal with the things that are wrong, let us not up-set the things that are right.”

### Vehicles for Sale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Make</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Engine Type</th>
<th>Transmission</th>
<th>Any Additional Features</th>
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<td>Auto, 4x4</td>
<td>Mint</td>
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<td>V6</td>
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</table>

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