



Queens Jubilee Medal:

Left: Reeve William Lee accepts the Queens' Jubilee medal from MP Rob Merrifield honoring his years of public service with the County of Barrhead.

Rural Beautification & Farm Family Awards

Below: Winners from the 2012 ASB Annual Appreciation Supper.



Community Infrastructure Funding

Left: MP Rob Merrifield presents Community Infrastructure Improvement Funds (CIIF) to Glenreagh Hall representative Guido VanLoon and Summerdale Hall representatives Dale Greig and Gene Schmaus.

GROWTH ALBERTA - WHO ARE WE?

GROWTH Alberta is the Regional Economic Development Alliance serving more than 30,000 people in your area. The Alliance was established so that the partners (Town and County of Barrhead, Town and County of Westlock, Village of Clyde, Lac Ste Anne and Woodlands County, the Town of Swan Hills, Pembina Hills School Division, and Evergreen Catholic School Division) could work collectively to address regional issues.

Through projects like the Annual Business Awards, School Expo, and WILD Alberta Tourism, GROWTH Alberta is continually striving to support sustainable regional growth. The **deadline for nominations for the Annual Business Awards** is coming up shortly, **May 1st**. So if you have a business who treats you well, please get your nomination in! Forms can be found online at www.growthalberta.com.

Also, check out **WILD Alberta** for upcoming events and things to do in the region... it's **YOUR** Adventure Playground! www.wildalberta.com



COUNTY OFFICE CONTACTS: Main Office: 780-674-3331 Public Works: 780-674-2619

5306- 49 Street, Barrhead, AB T7N 1N5 www.countybarrhead.ab.ca

County News & Views



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County of Barrhead No.11
 5306-49 Street
 Barrhead, AB T7N 1N5
 P: 780.674.3331
 F: 780.674.2777

www.countybarrhead.ab.ca

Resource & Gravel Extraction in the County

The County of Barrhead recognizes that there are many facets to the puzzle surrounding gravel extraction, including environmental & reclamation planning, noise and traffic operations that impact residents, transportation and infrastructure burdens, industry needs and rights, and more. It will require a diplomacy in meeting everyone's unique needs while allowing for this industry to move forward in our community.

The County of Barrhead No. 11 is working on a Resource Extraction Plan for the anticipated gravel extraction activities in the coming years. It is establishing a Resource Extraction Steering Committee (RESC) to provide policy advice to County Council and Administration regarding these matters.

The purpose of the committee will be to ensure that the County, local community, provincial and industry stakeholders are all represented, and work together to find a plan that will serve each interest. The committee will consist of 2 members of County Council, 2 Alberta Environment & Sustainable Resource Development representatives, 1 representative from Alberta Transportation, 2 representatives from the Community, one agricultural and one non-agriculture, 3 from the resource extraction industry, 3 from the County of Barrhead administration, including the CAO, Development Officer, and a representative of the Public Works department.

We look forward to finding sensible solutions to meet everyone's needs. If you have any questions or comments, or are interested in finding out more, please call the office at 780.674.3331.

Aquatics Center Survey



Though our Council has made no decision on funding of the proposed Aquatics Center in the Town of Barrhead, Town Council has requested that the County contribute dollars into the facility. Therefore, we are providing a survey inserted into this newsletter regarding what you would like to see in the facility, should it come to pass. We are providing you the same survey that Town residents will receive, and hope to gain your input on this important issue in our community. See the insert for more information and return to the County office. Thanks !

Upcoming Events & Notices

- **County Annual Pancake Breakfast** - April 16 at Public Works Shop
- **Volunteer Appreciation Evening** - April 24, 2013 *Nominate someone today!!
- **GROWTH Alberta** - Deadline to nominate your favorite for the 2013 Business Awards is May 1.
- **2013 Alberta 55 Plus Summer Games** - July 25-28, 2013 Get involved, volunteer, participate, enjoy!
- **Ag Service Board (County) Summer Tour** - July 30, 2013
- **Check out our 2013 Events Listing** online at www.countybarrhead.ab.ca
- **Recycle!** Bring your old paint cans and household batteries to Home Hardware on main street for recycling.
- **Annual Fly-in Breakfast**, May 26, 2013 Barrhead Airport
- **Batt Traps Mudd Bogg and Quad Rodeos**, May 25-26 and Sept 21-22
- **Barrhead Golf Club Tournaments**, Mixed Open July 1, Ladies TBA, Men's Sept 7-9th.
- **Batt Traps Golf Tournaments**, June 1, July 20 & Sept 14
- **Highridge Rodeo**, July 13th
- **Neerlandia July 1st community celebrations**
- **Lac La Nonne Boat Regala**, August 17th, LEPA **Fall Supper**, September 14th
- **MANOLA TRUCK FILL NOW OPEN**. Set up your account at the main office today!

*Check our events listing for details: www.countybarrhead.ab.ca

YOUR COUNCIL:



Bill Lee, Reeve
Division 6
780-584-2323
bill.lee@mcsnet.ca



Doug Drozd, Cr.
Division 1
780-674-3677
ddrozd@telus.net



Marvin Brade, Cr.
Division 2
780-674-6545
Marvinbrade@gmail.com



Lawrence Miller, Cr.
Division 3
780-674-4202



Bill Lane, Cr.
Division 4
780-674-3847
thunderlakelanes@gmail.com



Darrell Troock, Cr.
Division 5
780-674-4404
dttroock@xplornet.com



Dennis Nanninga, Cr.
Division 7
780-674-5673
dennisna@live.ca

Reeve's Message

Winter is behind us and soon the long days of summer will be here. This summer is extra special because four municipalities, the County of Barrhead along with the Town of Barrhead, Town of Westlock, and County of Westlock are hosting the 2013 Alberta 55 Plus Summer Games, July 25th to 28th. This event will bring our 4 municipalities closer together and showcase our wonderful communities that we call home.

We're expecting 1100 participants *plus* their supporters and fans to from all over Alberta to come into our community during these 4 days of July. There will be cars, campers, trailers, motor homes and buses of seniors that will all need a place to park, sleep and eat. We will need billets for many of our athletes, since there aren't enough campsites or hotels. If you would be willing to open up your home to an Alberta athlete you may just be creating a lifetime friendship with a fellow Albertan.

Our community's recreation facilities will be upgraded and improved, not just for this event but for the future use of our residents. Thanks go out to the individuals and businesses in our towns and counties that have stepped forward financially and have generously donated to make these games a success. Please express your appreciation by patronizing these businesses that are willing to make our community a better place for all.

Some of the events that will be held during the 2013 Alberta 55 plus summer games are:

- Opening Ceremonies - Westlock Spirit Centre

- Athletics - Barrhead Comp. High School Track
- Bocce - St. Mary School, Westlock
- Contract Bridge - Westlock Seniors Centre
- Cribbage - Barrhead Seniors Centre
- Cycling - Belvedere Hall Area
- Floor Curling - Westlock Elementary School
- Floor Shuffleboard - Westlock Spirit Centre
- Golf - Barrhead Golf Club
- Horse Shoes - Westlock Mountie Park
- Military Whist - Barrhead Comp. High School
- Pool (8- ball) - Westlock Spirit Centre
- Slow-Pitch - Barrhead & Clyde
- Swimming - Westlock Rec. Centre
- Tennis - Barrhead & Westlock
- Creative Writing - Barrhead Curling Rink
- Arts & Crafts - Barrhead Curling Rink
- Closing ceremonies - Barrhead Arena

It takes a lot of volunteers and their time to organize such an event and even more once the games are here. During the games we will need volunteers to help register, accommodate, transport, feed, and guide our athletes. If you'd like to get involved in this great event, please contact our Barrhead/Westlock 2013 Alberta 55 plus Summer Games Office in Westlock at 780-349-6165 or the website at www.bw55plussummergames.com

A community is full of people, but it's the people that make it a community.

All the best, Reeve Bill Lee

Fire Billing and Insurance Coverage

Council would like to remind County residents and owners that an invoice is issued for fire suppression costs if it is necessary to attend to a fire on your property, regardless of who started the fire and regardless of who called in the fire alarm. We do this in an effort to keep services funded as much as possible on a user pays system.

It is recommended that everyone contact their insurance agent to find out whether their fire insurance pays to have the emergency vehicles attend if they have a fire. Some policies provide total coverage for attending the fire, some don't cover it at all, and some policies may place a limit on the amount that they pay. It is also important to determine what is covered as "insured property". If you have bush property you may want to know whether it is included with your "insured property" Contact your agent today to find out what kind of coverage you have.

Public Works Department - Updates

Dust Control:

Public Works wishes to remind ratepayers that the deadline for Dust Control Applications is May 31, 2013. Forms can be filled out at the Administration office. Cost this year is \$2.50 per foot for first 400 feet, \$10.00 for each lineal foot after to a maximum of 1000 lineal feet

Road Construction:

This year road construction will continue on Bloomsbury road (Township 604) and also through 28 & 29-62-3-W5 and West of 26 & 35-58-4-W5. Please drive slowly and keep an eye out for the crews - for both your safety and theirs!

Gravel Hauling:

Hauling will begin in April, weather permitting. Please watch for the trucks and slow down on the roads where recent spreading has occurred. Call Public Works at 780-674-2619 if you have any questions or concerns regarding the haul this season.

Annual Long Weekend Refuse Clean Up Program Cancelled:

A reminder to residents of Lac La Nonne and Thunder Lake: Due to rising costs, changing circumstances and the desire to provide equal services to all it's residents, the County of Barrhead Public Works Department **no longer** provides the May Long Weekend Refuse Pick-up Program, as noted in 2012. Residents will be responsible for disposing of their own refuse in the future. For more information, call Mark Oberg at 780.674.3331 or Cal Fischer at 780.674.2619. Thanks for your assistance in keeping our County clean!

Agriculture Service Board Department

The County of Barrhead assists ratepayers in controlling beaver populations that affect productive agricultural lands. The cost per complaint this year will be raised from \$50 to \$70. If you have beaver that are flooding producing agricultural lands or County roads, please call the office and file a complaint at 780-674-3331.

Weed and disease monitoring will continue in 2013, similar to the 2012 program including club root, tansy and other noxious weeds. We want to take this opportunity to thank those ratepayers who work with us to control the many weeds and diseases coming into the County.

The Agricultural Service Board is still running its Shelterbelt Program. Orders are now being taken for a variety of hardy trees, including the following:



Ash – Showy Mountain (under 36" – 1 year old)	\$2.00
Aspen – Swedish (under 24" – 1 year old)	\$3.00
Birch – Paper (over 8" – 1 year old)	\$2.00
Cherry – Evans (over 8" – 1 year old)	\$2.00
Cherry – Pin (over 10" – 1 year old)	\$1.50
Chokecherry – Schubert (over 20" – 2 years old)	\$1.50
Cranberry – High bush (8" – 2 year old)	\$2.00
Dogwood – Red Osier (16" – 1 year old)	\$2.00
Fir – Canaan (1 year old)	\$2.00
Lilac – Manchurian (over 6" – 1 year old)	\$2.00
Lilac – Villosa (under 20" – 2 years old)	\$2.50
Maple – Amur (over 20" – 1 year old)	\$2.00
Maple – Silver (12" – 1 year old)	\$2.00
Maple – Manitoba (over 12" – 1 year old)	\$1.50
May Day (over 6" – 1 year old)	\$2.00
Pine – Lodgepole (over 10" – 2 years old)	\$2.00
Poplar – Balsam (over 10" – 1 year old)	\$2.00
Poplar – Okanese (8" – 1 year old)	\$2.00
Poplar – Tower (20" – 1 year old)	\$2.00
Saskatoon – Northline (7" – 1 year old)	\$2.00
Sea Buckthorn (over 6" – 1 year old)	\$2.00
Spruce – Colorado Blue (12" – 1 years old)	\$1.50
Spruce – Colorado Blue (over 12" – 3 years old)	\$3.00
Willow – Golden (approx 18")	\$2.50
Willow – Laurel Leaf (approx 18")	\$2.50