

BGSD SUPPORT WORKERS JOIN STRIKE

by Shawna Ofstie

On February 24, educational support workers from Black Gold School Division (BGSD) joined over 6,000 workers on strike in Edmonton, Calgary, Fort McMurray, Sturgeon and the Okotoks region. The Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 3484 group includes 570 Black Gold School Division employees.

RaeLyn McLellan, a Thorsby Elementary School Educational Assistant (EA) and Representative had this to say. "We want to be back in the schools, we love our jobs, we love the kids, they are why we do this job, but the reality is our jobs have changed greatly over the past several years. We are tube feeding, toileting, dealing with more behaviours and more children to support. With the added responsibilities our pay has not changed. We are the lowest paid in the area. Edmonton Public gets paid \$5/hour more, Star Catholic gets paid \$5/hour more. We are just asking for a fair wage. We work 30 hours a week, 6 hours a day which means we are supposed to come after the kids come and leave before the kids are done. Three quarters of us don't do that. We come before the kids and leave after the kids so working at least a half an hour to 45 minutes ever day unpaid so

we can be prepared for the day. We have members working 2 or 3 jobs and its tough to give your all to these kids when you are working so many jobs."

According to CUPE, Alberta's average school support worker is \$34,500, and many have gone "almost a decade without a wage increase." Support staff includes jobs like education assistants, librarians, secretaries and more. Black Gold School Division Educational Assistants top pay (Level 3 - Certified 2 Years - \$25.03/hr x 6hr days x 180 days) is approximately \$28,000 per year which is below the Alberta average.

"It is about the kids, we work with the kids knowing that we get crappy wages but this is what we love to do" says Tricia Carstairs, EA at the Warburg Colony.

Sherri Dobko, Secretary and Library Clerk from Thorsby Elementary School added "We miss the kids and don't want to be here because the kids are the ones who suffer but we can't go on like it is, it needs to change."

Some of the secretaries also noted the lack of staffing in our small or rural schools making a larger workload. They noted that duties are similar in a small or large school but due to less staff they often don't get breaks or have time for training because their job comes first.

The Support Staff want to thank Kollbrook Esso and Twisted Laundry for allowing them to use their washrooms and the community for all their support.

More on the strike inside this issue....



Classifieds

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Smaller 10" TABLE SAW on metal stand, very good shape \$55.00 / SMALL ROUTER TABLE & ROUTER, good shape \$50.00. Contact 780-389-3382

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familymediationcentreofcanada.ca

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Dugout digging/dredging, land clearing and general dirt work. Call Kurt 780-267-1109 or Alex 780-905-9200

Classified Ads are \$7.50 for 2 weeks

(max. 4 lines or approx. 30 words) GST included Email media@community39.com



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COTTAGE CLEANER, north side of Pigeon Lake. A flexible way to earn some extra money. Contact Erik at 780-993-9648 or Rena at 587-989-9648.

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WESKAY CATTLE CO. IS CURRENTLY SEEKING PASTURE, HAY OR CROP LAND to lease for the 2025 season and on, competitive prices, on time lease payments. Call Wesley 780-982-1093

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Contact Alex 780-905-9200 or 780-789-3843

Wenham Valley Pet Cremation



Geneva Rodin (780)621-3531 geneva_rod@hotmail.com

"Our pets leave footprints on our hearts"

Warburg, AB

"little papers...BIG RESULTS"

8	1	9	5	7	2	3	6	4
6	3	5	8	9	4	2	1	7
7	4	2	1	6	3	တ	8	5
1	2	8	3	4	7	5	9	6
5	6	3	2	1	9	7	4	8
9	7	4	6	5	8	1	2	3
4	8	7	9	3	1	6	5	2
3	5	1	4	2	6	8	7	9
2	9	6	7	8	5	4	3	1

Sudoku Answers from February 21 Issue

The object of the puzzle is to fill the remaining squares, using all the numbers 1–9 exactly once in each row, column, and the nine 3 × 3 subgrids.

Fraud Alert:

Protecting yourself from scams and deception

This event is designed to empower older adults with knowledge and tools to prevent scams and fraud. Join in for enlightening discussions and a catered lunch while sharpening your skills on staying ahead of scammers!

▶ Date: Friday, March 28, 2025

Time: 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

► **Location:** Calmar Legion 4815 47 Street, Calmar, AB.

▶ Register: contact Carla at 780-955-4554 or Carla@leduc-county.com, or visit leduc-county.com/fraud-alert





EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

°Part time up to 40 hours per week

°Position involves cleaning, inspection, and repair of bunker gear for fire services

°Sewing experience an asset but will train

Please drop resumes off at Unit 1, 5102-50 Ave Thorsby



VILLAGE OF WARBURG

PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

POSITION TITLE: PUBLIC WORKS / MAINTENANCE EMPLOYEE

POSITION SUMMARY: - Responsible for efficient implementation of the overall upkeep, repair and replacement programs of all existing municipal property and facilities in the Village of Warburg.

The Village of Warburg is looking for a highly motivated and well-organized individual to fill this position in a team environment, to work with other Public Work Employees. The part-time position is based on 40 hours per every two weeks (alternate between 2 and 3 day weeks). Reporting to the Municipal Administrator, the individual will work in all aspects of daily operation of the Public Works Department in Warburg, including water, sewer, roads, parks, general and equipment maintenance. The candidate must possess a high school (grade 12) diploma or equivalency and a Class 5 Operator's License, have a good mechanical aptitude, be able to perform physical labour, and provide a Criminal Record Check. Applicant must be willing to get water and waste water certificates.

Applications will be accepted until March 17, 2025 or at such time that a suitable candidate is hired.

Applications can be sent to:

Attn: Chris Pankewitz Municipal Administrator, Box 29, Warburg, AB T0C 2T0

or dropped off at 5212-50 Avenue, Warburg, AB TOC 2T0 or emailed to cao@warburg.ca or faxed to 780-848-2296.



COMMUNITY & info

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UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS (Breton, Thorsby, Warburg & Surrounding Areas)

<u>February 27, 28, March 1</u> - Fiddler on the Roof performed at Eleanor Pickup Centre in Drayton Valley at 6:30pm and Matinee at 1:30pm Saturday only. Tickets on sale \$30 each

<u>February 28</u> - Paint Night with MaryAnn at the Warburg Legion. Call 780-848-2923 for more info.

<u>March 2</u> - Dance to No Hitchiker Band at Winfield Community Centre from 1-4pm. Admission by donation. Lunch contribution appreciated. Everyone Welcome.

March 3 - AGM at Strawberry Hall at 7pm. Everyone welcome.

<u>March 4</u> - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church from 5-7pm. Everyone welcome. Free will offering.

<u>March 4</u> - Reduce Overthinking & Worrying session at the Thorsby Arctic Spas Rec Complex. 18+, Registration required at 780-979-2385. Hosted by Leduc County FCSS.

<u>March 5</u> - Thorsby Soccer Club In Person Registration Night from 6-8pm at the Arctic Spas Rec Complex. Registration closes March 16. <u>www.thorsbysoccerclub.ca</u>

<u>March 9</u> - Warburg Skating Club presents 'Skating with Pixar' at the Warburg Arena at 1pm.

<u>March 15</u> - Ice Golf Tournament at Mulhurst Bay from 10:30am - 4pm with dinner and dance to follow. Go to <u>www.icegolf.ca</u> for more information. Registration Required.

<u>March 15</u> - Tree of Life Suncatcher at Warburg Pioneer Rec Centre from 11am-3pm. Visit the Warburg town office, fcss@warburg.ca to register. Deadline to register is March 5. Adult \$70, Kids age 10+ \$40, Kids under 7 \$20

<u>March 15</u> - Thorsby's Own Wrestling Sensation! Darren "Bacon" Letilly coming to Thorsby. Advance tickets available at Ruhr Valley Lumber or call Marlene at 780-217-9394.

<u>March 19</u> - Community Crockpot Class at the Breton Community Center from 7pm - 8:30pm. \$5/person you are cooking for/session. Pre-registration required email <u>manager@brighterfutures.ca</u>

<u>March 21</u> - Spring Fling Dance at the Breton Community, doors open at 7pm, pulled pork midnight lunch. Tickets are \$40 each. Ticket info coming soon.

<u>March 28</u> - Fraud Alert: Protecting yourself from Fraud & Deception at the Calmar Legion. Registration required at 780-979-2385. Hosted by Leduc County FCSS.

<u>March 30</u> - Reckless Ranch Rendering - at Warburg Pioneer Ag Society from 1-3pm. Turn fat into tallow. Purchase tickets in advance at www.recklessranch.ca

April 12 - Women's Wellness Day hosted by Breton & Warburg FCSS. \$30 tickets, available for purchase online or through Breton & Warburg FCSS starting March 3.

<u>May 2- Volunteer Appreciation</u> at the Warburg Pioneer Rec Centre Doors Open at 5pm and Dinner 6pm

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 - Walking with Grief: Grief Support Group at the Calmar Program Centre. Registration required at 780-979-2385. Hosted by Leduc County FCSS.

Community Events & Information is <u>FREE</u> to advertise



Thorsby Seniors Crib Results!

February 24 Crib scores:

(was cancelled but Rescheduled)

1st Place: Lloyd Snider - 950 2nd Place: Marie Gutenberg - 945 3rd Place: Marion Snider - 930

High Hand of 24: Aime Brosseau, Nestor Dobko, Marion Snider

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WINNERS!

Next crib event:

Monday, March 3 at 1:00 pm Thorsby Seniors Center / Admission \$7.00

Pick up your FREE "Community Connections" booklet

at the Breton Village Office, Brazeau County Office, CE Media Thorsby, Leduc County Office, Thorsby Town Office, Thorsby Arctic Spas Rec Complex and the Warburg Village Office

Or go online to www.community39.com

You will find information on our local communities including maps, contacts, rental facilities, community groups and supports and more....



VILLAGE OF WARBURG

Join the Regional Assessment Review Board -Make a Difference in Your Community!

The Village of Warburg is seeking dedicated community members to serve on the Regional Assessment Review Board. This is a great opportunity to get involved, represent your community, and gain valuable experience.

What's involved?

- Serve as a panel member for the Regional Assessment Review Board.
- Receive specialized training under the Municipal Government Act (MGA) and Matters Relating to Assessment Complaints Regulation (MRAC).
- Commit to a three-year term, contributing to fair and impartial assessment reviews.

If you're passionate about community engagement and decision-making, we'd love to hear from you! Apply today and play a key role in shaping local governance.

Apply at the Village of Warburg 5212-50th Avenue, Box 29, Warburg, AB T0C 2T0 Telephone: 780-848-2841 Fax: 780-848-2296

Emails can be sent to: cao@warburg.ca

PANCAKE Supper St Matthew's Lutheran Church Thorsby 4th March 2025 5:00 - 7:00 pm All are Welcome - Free will offering



Chester Joseph Drewniak

October 8, 1934 - February 19, 2025

The family of Chester Drewniak is saddened to announce that Chester passed away peacefully on February 19, 2025 with his loving family by his side.

Chester is survived by his wife of 59 years Stephie; sons Carnel (Angie), Bradley (Monique), Darren (Connie); grandchildren Kodi, Clinton and Clayton; sister Jean Cowie; brother Adolph Drewniak; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Chester was predeceased by his parents Joseph and Stella Drewniak, sisters Angie Heinz and Wanda Jenson.

Born in Telfordville on October 8, 1934, Chester was passionate about farming and being with his grandchildren. Chester also enjoyed his many holiday trips they had gone on, and also having coffee with his friends.

Funeral Service will be held on Saturday, March 8, 2025 at 11am at Our Lady of Victory Parish Thorsby, Alberta. Luncheon to follow the interment at the Thorsby Community Centre.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to STARS.

Serenity Funeral Service in care of arrangements.

Condolences: www.serenity.ca

Serenity Funeral Service, Leduc (780) 980-3688



PROGRAMS & REGULAR EVENTS

(Thorsby, Warburg & Surrounding Areas)

**Please note - all events are subject to change. Please email us at media@community39.com or call 780-434-7446 if we have incorrect information.

MONDAYS

Bus To Drayton Valley (Aquasize or Walmart) Must preregister. Contact Warburg FCSS 780-848-2828

Crib at the Thorsby Seniors Centre every Monday at 1:00pm

<u>Community Skate</u> every Monday from 3:45 - 5:15pm at the Warburg Arena

<u>Lego Club</u> at the Thorsby Recreation Centre from 3 - 4:30pm.

Mom Group (Warburg) on Monday mornings from 9:30am - 11am in the Village of Warburg office basement.

<u>TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)</u> - Mondays at 9am, Thorsby Seniors Centre. Jane 780-789-3789 or Cheryl 780-848-7673

TUESDAYS

Family Bingo - Tuesday nights at the Mulhurst Legion Hall. Games start at 6:30 pm

Hero Kids - Every 2nd Tuesday at Thorsby Arctic Spas Rec

<u>Music Jam Session</u> on 4th Tuesday of the month at the Calmar Seniors Centre 1-4pm. 4916 - 50 Ave

<u>Pickle Ball</u> every Tuesday at the Thorsby Arctic Spas Rec Complex from 9:30am - 11:30am

<u>Pickup Basketball</u> (16+) on Tuesday Evening at the Thorsby Arctic Spas Rec Complex. (\$5)

<u>Quilting</u> at the Warburg Seniors Centre on Tuesdays from 9:30am-2pm. Contact Nancy 780-848-7756

<u>Seniors Bowling</u> - Tuesdays at the Thorsby Arctic Spas Rec Complex at 1pm (\$5)

<u>Volleyball</u> (18+) drop in at Warburg High School Gym on Tuesdays from 7 - 9pm (\$2). Contact fcss@warburg.ca

WEDNESDAYS

<u>Busy Brushes</u> on Wednesdays from 10 - 2pm at the Warburg Cultural Center. \$5/class. Call Linda 587-590-0378.

<u>Open Gym Nights</u> at the Thorsby Recreation Centre every second Wednesday from 5 - 6:30pm

<u>Cards</u> at the Warburg Seniors Centre at 1pm every Wednesday (\$2)

English Language Conversation Circle every Wednesday at 6pm at the Thorsby Municipal Library.

<u>Pickleball</u> - Every Wednesday from 7 - 9pm at the Thorsby Arctic Spas Recreation Complex

<u>Parent & Tots Group</u> - Every Wednesday from 9-11:30am at the FRN Modular next to Arctic Spas Rec Complex in Thorsby Ages 0-6 years old.

<u>Shinny</u> at the Thorsby Arctic Spas Recreation Complex on Wednesdays and Fridays from 3:30 - 5pm.

Shinny at the Warburg Arena Wednesdays from 3:45-5:15pm.

<u>Soup & Sandwiches</u> at the Thorsby Seniors Centre starting at 11:30am on the 2nd Wednesday of the mth except December.

<u>Soup & Sandwiches</u> at the Warburg Seniors Centre every 3rd Wednesday at 12pm except July & August(\$10)

Tai Chi at the Warburg Community Hall, Wednesdays 10am to 11am, \$2.780-848-2841 or office@warburg.ca

 $\underline{\textbf{Teen Time}}$ at the Thorsby Library the 4th Wednesday of the month from 3:30 - $4:30\,\text{pm}$

<u>Thorsby Library After School Program</u> (Kindergarten to age 6) 2nd Wednesday of the month from 3:30 - 4:30pm

<u>Warburg Treasure's Thrift Shop</u> is Open Wednesdays from 10am - 4pm at the Warburg Community United Church.

<u>Slow & Strong Yoga</u> - Every Wednesday morning from 10 - 11:30am in the dance studio at Arctic Spas rec complex. \$15 drop in per class.

THURSDAYS

<u>Bingo</u> at the Thorsby Seniors Centre every Thursday at 7pm.

Floor Curling at the Warburg Pioneer Centre at 1pm on Thursdays (\$2).

Mens Curling every Thursday at 10am at the Warburg Curling Rink. Contact Hugh 780-898-8651

<u>Pickleball</u> at the Thorsby Arctic Spas Rec Complex from 9:30am - 11:30am

Pickleball drop in at the Warburg High School Gym from 7-9pm \$2

<u>Public Skating</u> at the Thorsby Arctic Spas Recreation Complex on Thursdays from 3:30 - 4:45pm.

Sandholm Square Dance Club - on Thursdays 7 - 9:30pm at the Sandholm Hall. Contact 780-238-5844 or 780-389-2381.

<u>Sew Heavenly Quilters</u> meet at 10am on Thursdays at the Warburg Cultural Centre.

<u>Thorsby Seniors Thrift Store</u> - Open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10am-3pm. 780-996-5131.

FRIDAYS

<u>Coffee in the Valley</u> at Telfordville Community Centre on the first and third Friday of each month from 9 - 11am. No charge.

<u>Community Socials</u> are held the last Friday of each month at the Mulhurst Legion #246 at 7pm.

Fun with Friends Story time at the Thorsby Municipal Library every Friday from 10:30am - 11:30am. Age 0-5 with caregiver

<u>Music Jam Sessions</u> at the Warburg Seniors Drop in Centre the 2nd Friday of the month 1-4pm. All are welcome.

<u>Shinny</u> at the Thorsby Arctic Spas Recreation Complex on Wednesdays and Fridays from 3:30 - 5pm.

<u>Thorsby Seniors Thrift Store</u> - Open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10am-3pm. 780-996-5131.

<u>Warburg Legion</u> - Open Fridays from 5-10pm. Pub Night on the 3rd Friday of the month. Call Max 780-263-0350 for info.

SATURDAYS

<u>Farmer's Market</u> at the Mulhurst Bay Community Hall every Saturday 11-3pm. Contact Carol 587-920-2065.

<u>Pie & Coffee</u> from 1pm - 4pm at the Warburg Museum on the first & third Saturday of every month. Or arrange a tour through Susie 780-848-2507 or Joan 780-621-7174

Thorsby Music Jam - on the 3rd Saturday of the month at the Thorsby Community Hall CANCELLED FOR FEBRUARY & MARCH

<u>Thorsby Seniors Thrift Store</u> - Open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10am-3pm. 780-996-5131.

SUNDAYS

<u>Gospel Music Jam</u> at New Life Christian Fellowship on the 1st Sunday of the month from 2 - 4pm. Call 780-789-4171

<u>Pancake Breakfast</u> by the Thorsby Lions Club the first Sunday of the month at the Senior's Centre 9am - 12pm.



Phone No. 780-848-2365

<u>warscp@gmail.com</u>

<u>www.warburgseed.com</u>

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"BEE" KIND MESSAGES

Black Gold School Division Facebook

Grade 2 students at Thorsby Elementary have been busy spreading kindness with a special project, "Bee" Messages!

Led by the fantastic Kindness Queens, Grade 2 teacher Ms. Walker & Ms. Hailey (MHCB), the Grade 2 kindness crew created handmade, heartfelt messages to brighten the day for the big kids at New Sarepta Community High School. No matter how old you are, kindness goes a long way.

From the TES hive to NSCHS, we hope these messages continue to bring smiles and remind everyone that kindness is contagious!



Working Well online workshop

Understand why it's important to care for and maintain your water well.

Join Leduc County and the County of Wetaskiwin for an online workshop about water wells. During the online workshop, you will learn:

- The basics of groundwater and how your well works
- How to protect your well from contamination
- ▶ How to test your well water
- How to properly operate and maintain your well
- What to do with old, abandoned wells
- **Date:** Tuesday, March 18, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
- **Location:** online via Zoom
- ► Register online: leduc-county.com/working-well









alberta.ca/working-well



Connect with us!

Submitted by Leduc County FCSS

Sign up to receive our monthly update directly to your email inbox. Send an email to fcssinfo@leduc-county.com and ask to subscribe to our email distribution list

Upcoming Registered Sessions

Registration is required for all upcoming sessions and space is limited. Call 780-979-2385 or 1-888-301-FCSS to learn more.

How to reduce overthinking and worrying

Stuck in the cycle of overthinking and worrying? Join us and explore how these mental patterns affect our well-being, relationships and productivity. Participants will learn effective strategies and practical tools to help break the cycle of overthinking and cultivate a more positive mindset.

Adults 18 years and older are welcome to join in to learn how to manage worries and embrace a calmer, more focused approach to life.

Date: Tuesday, Mar. 4, 2025

Time: 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Location: Arctic Spas Recreation Complex

4901 48 Ave. Thorsby, AB.

Understanding Bias and Micro-inequities

Presented by the Centre for Race and Culture, everyone is welcome to join in to explore how personal biases are formed and how they can lead to harmful microinequities, which are subtle, indirect, and often unintentional practices or behaviours that communicate bias and prejudice against members of marginalized groups.

Through discussion and activities, participants will learn:

- What bias is, how is it formed and its potential dangers
- · What micro-inequities and microaggressions are
- · How to recognize and unmask them
- · Why and how they are harmful
- Strategies for intervening in them (as bystanders, allies and targets)

Date: Wednesday, Mar. 19, 2025 **Time:** 1 to 4 p.m. (doors at 12:30 p.m.)

Location: Coast Nisku Inn & Conference Centre (11014

St. Nisku, AB.)

Fraud Alert: Protecting yourself from scams and deception

March is Fraud Prevention Month, and we welcome you to join us for a day of engaging presentations delivered by the TELUS Wise team, Calmar BMO representatives, RCMP, local peace officers and our keynote speaker, Consumer Protection Expert & Fraud Prevention Educator, Julie Matthews.

Designed to empower older adults with knowledge and tools to prevent scams and fraud, join in for enlightening discussions and a catered lunch while sharpening your skills on staying ahead of scammers!

Date: Friday, Mar. 28, 2025 **Time:** 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Location: Calmar Legion, 4815 47 Street, Calmar, AB.

Walking with Grief: Grief support group

Have you experienced the loss of a loved one? Join us for a free in-person grief support group where you will learn about the nature of the grief process, emotion and healing. You will learn to build a community with individuals experiencing similar challenges, gain practical strategies for navigating grief and emerge with a clearer direction for moving forward. In partnership with Karunia Counselling, this five-week session will be facilitated by a Registered Psychologist and a Registered Social Worker.

Dates: Wednesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30

Time: 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Location: Calmar Program Centre 4815 49 Street,

Calmar, AB.

Missing someone is sadness wrapped in the blessing of having known them.



Beginning March 1, apply for your free rural burn permit online



Leduc County issues free fire permits to rural residents conducting open burns between March 1 and Oct. 31. Beginning March 1, 2025, rural residents will be able to apply for open burn fire permits using a new online system, located at **lcfs.burnpermits.com**.

The online system will allow users to select the type of burn permit they are applying for, including:

- fires smaller than 100 square feet (automatic approval)
- fires larger than 100 square feet (site visit required)

Prior to applying for a burn permit online, residents will have to create a user account. Instructions on how to create your account, including a how-to guide, are available at **leduc-county.com/burn-permits**.





THORSBY SOCCER CLUB

In Person Registration Night March 5th 6:00 - 8:00 PM Arctic Spas Rec Complex



Visit our website www.thorsbysoccerclub.ca for more info!

Registration closes March 16th

Scan the QR code, visit us on Facebook or email thorsbysoccer@gmail.com

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www.darcypowlik.com

Office 780-986-2900



RESIDENTIAL, FARMS & ACREAGES

THORSBY - 13.24 Acres with newly updated 3 bedroom mobile home, fenced EDall services in place. Close to Pigeon Lake & Thorsby \$369,900 \$349,000

THORSBY - 2.32 Acres south of Warburg- drilled well and storage shed. Great building site. \$99.900

COMMERCIAL

<u>MULHURST</u>- 39.5' x 100' vacant lot located water front on Pigeon Lake at Mulhurst Bay. Zoned Urban Commercial. Adjoining lot for sale as well. **\$179,900**

TELFORDVILLE (2047 Twp Rd 495 Rd 495 A) - This 35.12 acres hosts a 1506 sq/ft house with a 20x28 attached garage with a creek behind it and sheltered from the industrial yard.50x29 heated and insulated quonset with power and a cement floor. A 40x80 Fully finished Shop metal cladded inside and out with 2 overhead doors (12x14 and 16x14), heated, insulated, power, mezzanine, 3pc bathroom, with offices and lunch room in the front. A 50x80 drive through shop (18x14 doors) with power, heat, fully insulated with an mezzanine, spray booth, and office with two more overhead doors off the side. A 12x16 power shed/office with 200 amp 3 phase power and a 40x14 open faced metal storage shed. \$1,250,000

THORSBY - Mini storage business and office building. Storage units are all rented. Land and buildings \$299,900

THORSBY - 1149 sq/ft solid renovated building on main street. Wheel chair accessible. Newer roof, furnace, and hot water on demand. **\$134,000**

GENESEE - 4443 sq/ft solid building on 12.8 acres, highway frontage, firm developed and gravelled yard. Building has office space, living quarters and 49' x 38' heated shop space. **\$799,000**



Children's Miracle Network MIRACLE HOME

Contributor

Helping kids at



"NOBODY SELLS MORE REAL ESTATE IN THIS AREA!"



Need to talk? We can help!

FREE COUNSELLING SESSIONS

The cost of counselling can be a barrier for many individuals and families. Leduc County FCSS offers access to free counselling sessions to eligible individuals, couples, and/or families who are struggling with common, every day issues.

Counselling services are provided by local counsellors who are either marital or family therapists, psychologists or masters level student interns under professional supervision.

If you want to:

- Improve relationships with better communication skills or conflict resolution;
- Improve mood with anger management and emotional support;
- Enhance personal growth with creativity, spirituality, self esteem, self awareness, goal setting;
- Improve parenting skills by focusing on attachment;
- Reduce stress with life balance; and/or
- Learn new skills and behaviours

APPLY NOW!

Eligibility

Residents of Leduc County, Calmar, Thorsby, and Warburg who meet the specific income thresholds may be eligible for subsidy.

Residents must meet two criteria to be eligible for subsidy:

- 1. Gross family household income less than \$75,000.00 AND
- 2. No access to employee insurance benefits

Sessions and rates

Each household approved for free subsidized counselling may choose from the following options:

- 3 individual sessions per person, or
- 6 couple sessions, or
- 9 family sessions, or
- 7 group sessions per person.

Counselling services are short-term, skill based and preventative. Find out if these services are a fit for you. For more information and to be assessed for eligibility call **780-955-6421** or visit **leduc-county.com/counselling**.



4901-48 Avenue, Thorsby, AB 780-789-3808

Thorsby Library updates & reminders:

Please visit us during our weekday hours of Tuesday 10am - 6am, Wednesday & Thursday 12pm - 6pm, Friday 10am - 5pm

What's New @ Thorsby Municipal Library By Susan Parkinson

WELCOME TO MARCH!

I hope you got a chance to take part in the Escape Room. A huge thank you to Mary Ann and all the volunteers who helped!

New Items

Check out some of the new items at the library:

ADULT FICTION











YOUNG ADULT FICTION







March Programs

Library After-School Program (Kindergarten to age 6) 2nd Wednesday of the month from 3:30-4:30 PM. *Next one March 12, 2025*

Teen Time

4th Wednesday of the month from 3:30-4:30 PM. Teens can gather for games, crafts, and more. *Next one March* 26, 2025

Fun with Friends: Story Time

Children ages 0-5 with their caregivers. Every Friday from 10:30-11:30 AM.

Follow us on Facebook and visit Thorsby Municipal Library webpage to keep up to date.

"Having fun isn't hard when you've got a library card"

- Marc Brown -













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FAMILY HOME IN WARBURG



1711sq.ft. 3 bed, 3 bath grand bungalow with attached garage on double lot. E4415518 \$275,000 \$279,000

WARBURG CUTE AND COZY

3 bedroom, single garage, many upgrades **E4422335** \$120,000



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Vaulted ceilings, loft, screened in wrap around deck, garage, shop **E4421177 \$599,999**



MOBILE ON OWN LOT

2 bed, 1 bath with addition and double garage or 65x140' fenc E4418879 \$120,000



VACANT LOTS IN WARBURG



75' wide serviced lots on pavement. 3 left to choose from. **\$40,000**

Inventory is low meaning it is still a seller's market and a great time to get your place listed and sold!

Call me to discuss at 780-619-2564

BGSD SUPPORT WORKERS JOIN STRIKE continued...

by Shawna Ofstie

Here is some information from the Black Gold School Division Website. For more information go to www.blackgold.ca/labour-action-updates

Program Changes

The Pre-Kindergarten program will be paused from February 24th to February 28th to allow schools to enact part-time learning plans. Following the five-day pause, children enrolled in Pre-Kindergarten will return on a part-time basis with learning from home for the remainder of their schedule.

Background

BGSD and CUPE Local 3484 ratified their last collective agreement in June 2024, which covers the period from September 1, 2021, to August 31, 2024. Negotiations for a new agreement began earlier this school year. After initial discussions, the Union identified areas of disagreement between itself and the Division.

BGSD recently tabled a 10% increase in compensation over the next four years (3% in the first year, 3% in the second year, 2% in the third year, and 2% in the fourth year). BGSD made progress and continued to resolve some of the Union's outstanding issues, but could not reach an agreement on the monetary items.

The Division deeply appreciates the contributions of its support staff and recognizes their essential role in schools. BGSD remains fully committed to ongoing negotiations with CUPE Local 3484, and continues to work towards a resolution that is fair and balanced to all parties while also safeguarding the best interests of our students.



Kasey Clarke (third from left), a student at Warburg School cannot go to school with out our support staff so she chose to support our EAs and their efforts on the picket line.

\$5.4 MILLION IN PRIZING!







INCLUDING THE EARLY BIRD PRIZE:

REACH FOR THE STARS. \$500,000 CASH

EARLY BIRD DEADLINE MARCH 6

starslottery.ca 1-855-STARS-68



Draw: March 31, 2025. Licence 712760. Tickets must be purchased in Alberta.

Must be 18+ to purchase. Please play responsibly.

Grazers information session

Learn more about funding opportunities, nutrition and management tools and tap into the expertise of our featured speaker, Steve Kenyon from Greener Pastures Ranching Ltd.

Join Leduc County and Wetaskiwin County's Sustainable Agriculture program for this free, in-person session with lunch included!

- Date: Friday, March 7, 2025
- **Time**: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- ► **Location**: Lakedell Agricultural Society 461043 Range Road 12, Westerose
- Register: visit www.county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca/ grazer-session or call Kim at 780-387-6182









Warburg Legion Branch No. 205

CHILLIN NIGHT BROUGHT IT ALL!

Thank you for your support for Meat Draws

WINNERS

Warburg Colony Meats Amy Nelson (Chicken)

Warburg Village Mart Bruce McKell (Sirloin steaks)

Ranchland Meats Carrie Levins (Beef Jerky)

Thorsby Family Foods
Guy Breton (Shrimp ring)

Chase the Ace raffle every Friday was launched.

Supper, games, dancing, visiting & great time!



TIPSFrom TOPS!

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

From Pearl Elson

Our meetings are designed to encourage weight loss, maintenance, to educate and to provide support. New members are welcome to attend a meeting with no obligation. Meetings are held at the Thorsby Senior's Centre on Monday mornings with weigh in from 8:45am to 9:15am and the meeting following from 9:15am to 9:45am. There is an annual fee to TOPS International and a monthly fee to the Thorsby Chapter #1694 of \$5. The first month chapter fees are free. Phone Jane at 780-789-3789 or Cheryl at 780-848-7673 for more info.

Canadian,eh!

- If someone in a Home Depot store offers you assistance and they don't work there, you may live in Canada
- If you've worn shorts and a parka at the same time, you may live in Canada
- If you've had a lengthy telephone conversation with someone who dialed a wrong number, you may live in Canada
- If 'Vacation" means going anywhere South of Kelowna for the weekend, you may live in Canada
- If you measure distance in hours, you may live in Canada
- If you know several people who have hit a deer more than once, you may live in Canada
- If you have switched from heat to A/C in the same day and back again, you may live in Canada
- If you can drive 90 km/hr through 2 feet of snow during a raging blizzard without flinching, you may live in Canada
- If you install security lights on your house and garage, but leave both unlocked, you may live in Canada
- If you carry jumper cables in your car and your wife knows how to use them, you may live in Canada
- If you design your kid's Halloween costume to fit over a snow suit, you may live in Canada
- If driving is better in the winter because the potholes are filled with snow, you may live in Canada
- If you know all 4 seasons: Almost winter, winter, still winter and road construction, you may live in Canada
- If you have more miles on your snow blower than your car, you may live in Canada
- If you find -2 degrees 'a little chilly', you may live in Canada
- If you understand these jokes, and forward them to all your friends, you definitely are Canadian and proud to be.

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As the next federal election approaches, I want to take a moment to share some personal news with you. Following the Conservative nomination process this past summer, I was not selected to represent the Yellowhead riding once again. As a result, I will not be running in the upcoming federal election for Yellowhead. While this means my time as your Member of Parliament will soon come to an end, I remain deeply grateful for the incredible privilege of serving you over the past five-plus years.

Since 2019, my goal has always been to ensure the voices of Yellowhead were heard loud and clear in Ottawa. Whether advocating for our farmers, protecting the energy sector that powers our economy, pushing for a low-tax, high-growth economy, or standing up for rural communities, I have taken on this role knowing how vital it is to represent the values and concerns of the people who call this incredible region home.

Public service has been a defining part of my life for decades, first as a Councillor, then as Mayor, and most recently as your Member of Parliament. Every step of the way, I have been inspired by your resilience, kindness, and determination. Together, we have faced challenges and celebrated successes, and I am incredibly proud of what we have accomplished. To each of you who shared your stories, voiced your concerns, or simply offered a kind word along the way-thank you. You have not only guided my work but have reminded me why this community is so special. Representing you in Parliament and fighting for what matters most to our families, businesses, and future generations has been the greatest honour of my life.

I also want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to my partner, Susan, and my family for their unwavering support and sacrifices. They have stood by me, offered advice, attended events, and have been my greatest supporters. Their encouragement has meant the world to me, and I cannot thank them enough.

A special thank you as well to my office teams, both in the Riding and Ottawa, for their incredible dedication. Jeannette and Annette, who have been with me from the very beginning, and Bonnie and Aidan, who have continued to support me in my work-your efforts in assisting constituents, managing schedules, and ensuring effective communication have been invaluable. I am truly grateful to have worked with such an outstanding team.

Although I will not be your MP after the next election, it has been an incredible experience for me. Representing the riding, has been an extraordinary honour and privilege. Along the way, I have built lasting friendships and formed meaningful relationships that I will always treasure.

With sincere gratitude, Gerald Soroka

The coffee shop had a sign that said "No WiFi, pretend it's 1973!" So, I paid 10¢ for my coffee and lit a cigarette.

Breton Denture Centre

5012 - 50 Ave. Breton

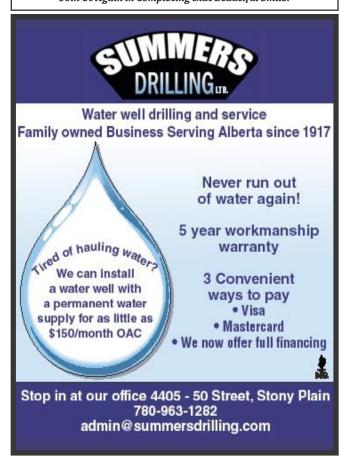
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We are Now Accepting Listing for Our Spring Machinery Consignment Auctions Rimbey, Alberta - April 18th to 22nd & Hwy #16/Rge Rd 185 - April 4th to 8th

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Upcoming Spring Farm & Real Estate Auction Sales

Schut Farms (Real Estate) - Saddle Hill County/Bonanza March 28th to April 1st

> Dale & Donna Gartner - Usona Area March 28th to April 2nd

Kelvin & Debbie Riley - Rimbey April 18th to 21st

Neat Stuff Antiques - Drumheller April 25th to 28th

JC Drilling, Welding & Fabrication - Lacombe May 1st to 5th

> Harold & Alice Stumpf - Eckville May 2nd to 6th

Realignment Auction - Camrose May 9th to 12th

Larry & Leanne Walton - Real Estate & Farm - Tees
May 9th to 13th

Estate of Denis Mercier & Laureen Morck - Round Hill May 9th to 13th

Dan Hart (Dan's Trucking) - Rocky Mtn Hse May 23rd to 27th

Estate of Lewis Andrews - Fort SaskatchewanJune 6th to 9th

Estate of Ernie Glasel - Buck Lake July 11th to 15th







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UPDATE Submitted by Gail O'Neil

Ph: 780-848-2391 / Fax: 780-848-2296 www.warburglibrary.ab.ca

the Library is also on FB and Instagram

OPEN Monday - Thursdays 10am - 5pm Friday - Sunday CLOSED

Did you know? Public Library's lend out some very interesting items: At Warburg Library there is outdoor equipment: 5 pairs of snow shoes, Toboggans, street hockey sticks with balls, lacrosse sticks with balls, these items can be checked out with a valid in good standing TRACPAC card and persons 18 plus. There are also indoor and summer items: volleyball setups, badminton setups, horseshoes, can jams, these items need to be picked up at Warburg Library as these items are too big for the van run.

The Library has information on learning basic sign language, call 780-848-2391 and Staff can send the information to your email.

Warburg Library contact information and hours:

Monday – Thursday 10am – 5pm, Closed Friday – Sunday.

Phone: 780-848-2391, website: <u>warburglibrary.ab.ca</u> Facebook, Instagram.



to make an appointment

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ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINE INVASION

Alberta News, February 24, 2025

Parliamentary Secretary for Settlement Services and Ukrainian Evacuees Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk issued the following statement on the third anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine:

"Three years ago, the world watched as Russia launched an invasion of Ukraine – a conflict that continues to this day. Today and every day, our full support lies with the people of Ukraine.

"Many brave Ukrainians have died defending their country, democracy, freedom and their way of life. Millions of others are displaced, their lives forever changed.

"Since the war began, Alberta has welcomed almost 65,000 Ukrainian evacuees into 213 communities. They have become our friends and neighbours and are now among the threads that, woven together, create the fabric of our province.

"We sincerely wish for a resolution to this unjust war, but until then we continue to ensure Ukrainian evacuees find a welcoming home in Alberta.

"Slava Ukraini!"



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CONNECT 39 (Thorsby, Warburg & Area) media@community39.com 780-434-7446 February 28, 2025 EDITION #109

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MKT-14371-C-AD

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor

SENIORS BEWARE

While in the hospital February 1/25. With my 3rd broken bone in 9 years, it was brought to my attention by a hospital pharmacist the side effects of a drug I had been on for 20 years. I said yes I had read about this and was very concerned, he said I'm taking you off right now.

The side effects brittle wrists, hips and spine plus many others that are possibly affecting my health. In 9 years I've had 2 broken wrists and now a broken hip.

The drug Pantoprazole. Just saying please read all the side effects of the drugs you take.

Olivia Richter Thorsby, Alberta

All "Letters to the Editor" must be printed with the name of it's author. Only letters emailed will be accepted, letters dropped off will be charged an admin fee. Letters to the Editor are the opinions of those who wrote them, not necessarily those of Community 39 Enterprises and we have the right to refuse publication.



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Laurie's Laughs





I told my daughter to check her attitude, and she responded, 'For complaints about attitude, please contact the manufacturer.'





You know you're getting old when you bend down to tie your shoes and wonder what else you can do while you're down there

		4						
	7				9		5	
5						1	6	
3							9	
6	8		9			3		
				4		2		5
			8					1
7	9			5		6		
	6							2

Answers will be published in the next issue!



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www.community39.com

BOOSTER

- Published every Wednesday -

Pick up locations in Breton, Warburg, Thorsby, Winfield and Alsike.

(deadline Monday at 10am before publication)

Classified/Payment Drop off available at Breton IDA, Warburg Village Office & CE Media Signs & Promotional in Thorsby.

PRICING

Classified Ads are \$5.00 (includes GST) for 2 weeks (max. 4 lines or approx. 30 words)

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3.4167" wide x 2.28" tall \$20 + GST **multi-ads - \$18.00 + GST

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7" wide x 4.6" tall <u>or</u> 3.4167" wide x 9.25" tall <u>\$40 + GST</u> **multi-ads - \$38.00 + GST

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3.4167" wide x 4.6" tall \$29 + GST **multi-ads - \$27.00 + GST

FULL PAGE

7" wide x 9.25" tall \$60.00 + GST **multi-ads - \$57.00 + GST

CENTIECT39 Thorsby, Warburg & Area NEWS

- Published every Friday -

Pick up locations in Thorsby, Leduc, Calmar, Pigeon Lake, Warburg & Alsike

(deadline Wednesday at 10am before publication)

Classified/Payment Drop off available at Breton IDA, Warburg Village Office & CE Media Signs & Promotional in Thorsby.

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7" wide x 9.25" tall \$90.00 + GST **multi-ads - \$85.50 + GST

** Qualify for multi-advertising price by running your ad for three weeks or more in one or both papers consecutively <u>OR</u> if you are a non-profit group or team.

Pick up our FREE "Community Connections" booklet

at the Breton Village Office, Brazeau County Office, CE Media Thorsby, Leduc County Office, Thorsby Town Office, Thorsby Arctic Spas Rec Complex and the Warburg Village Office Or go online to www.community39.com

You will find information on our local communities including maps, contacts, rental facilities, community groups and supports and more....

DID YOU KNOW?

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3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Updates: Vinyl windows, flooring, both bathrooms, shingles. Decks added recent years. Garage



15 acres, no time requirement to build. Fenced on two sides. Ample space to have some animals



For your business! Office building on main street, attractive street frontage, wheel chair access. Front reception area, office areas



Private 30 acres, trees, small pond , open area. Ideal for retreat or your dream home. Approx 10 min to Breton, 30 min to Drayton

LOTS IN BRETON at DEER CROSSING ESTATE

2 lots still available. No time requirement to build, GST included in price. \$35,000/lot



.66 acre lot at Oakes Bay Estates. Gas, power, water well, septic tank, screened gazebo, storage shed.



Beautiful home, natural woodwork, 3 bed 1 bath, hot tub, firepit, double detached garage, share in community dock for your boat.



0.5 acre, recently completely 2 bed, 2 bath cabin with loft. Short walk to Buck Lake & boat launch. Water well & septic new 2022.



5.07 acre parcel, partially treed, triple bay, insulated garage, Pond. Your own private campground or build your dream home

VACANT LOT

Large lot backs onto golf course with 159 ft of golf course frontage. Natural trees for privacy. Newer neighborhood, no time restrictions to build, modular homes are acceptable (restrictive covenant applies). GST included BRETON \$49,900



9 acres - building spot for your dream home. Located just minutes west of Drayton Valley. Creek in enviro res north boundary



126 acres west of Drayton Valley. Mix of hay land, trees and creek. Annual surface lease revenue \$6552—amount being verified.



1.1 acre lot comes with a 9000+ sq ft building with 3 office bays each with its own shop bay. Adjacent 1.1 acre lot also for sale.



Awaiting your development - 10 acre parcel zoned Rural Industrial minutes east of Drayton Valley with great access to Hwy39/22.



Office bldg, full basement, 3 bay heated garage. Reception, multiple offices. boardroom w/ kitchenette, 2 executive offices, crew rooms



161 acres, Modeste Creek, sense of privacy, serene atmosphere, 2 ponds & a meadow, haven for birds, wildlife, a nature oasis. 4 bedrm, 3 1/2 bath home, ICF walkout basement. Easy care landscaping, fire pit/picnic spot by large pond, trails thru trees, a heated insulated shop, w/att 3-bay garage (3-pce bath), storage sheds, older garage, log cabin. Antique machinery, lawn benches & tables included. Most household furniture can be included with the property, making it a truly remarkable and turnkey opportunity for the next owner. Located west of Breton

OUR TEAM OF REALTORS

Trent Wirsig 780-202-0140 Terence Barg 780-621-6767 Justin Hatt 780-621-3695 Cathy Pohl 780-898-0729

RV LOTS on Pigeon Lake

Own your own RV lot with direct access to Pigeon Lake in a gated, private community. 1.63 acre lots. Condominium Property with natural gas, electricity and sewer at the lot line. Common property includes road and lake front area with 240' of lake frontage. Low condo fees of \$50/mo. Great Opportunity to Be at the Lake at a Great Value! GST applies to purchase price

4 Lots offered at \$130,500 to \$157,500 + GST per lot



11 ARCES - Spacious bi-level family home w/ partially finished basement(2 bedrms up/2 bedrms down). Heated shop, quonset (power & concrete floor), 2 automatic waterers. Annual surface lease revenue.







Moore's Realty Ltd, Breton, AB

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Real Estate