



TOWN OF BLACKFALDS

Municipal News & Information

Phone: 885-4677 Fax: 885-4610 www.blackfalds.com FEBRUARY 2009



Congratulations Blackfalds Fire Department on 50 years of service to the Town!

Forming in 1959, the Blackfalds Fire Brigade started providing emergency services to the Town. In 1960, a Fire Hall was built on the NE corner of Waghorn and Broadway, which was later replaced with a more modern and larger fire hall in 1988. A new fire engine and other equipment were purchased in 1998. The Blackfalds Fire Department continues to offer Emergency Services to Blackfalds and surrounding area and currently has 24 volunteer fire fighters.

Congratulations and thank you for your dedicated service to our town!

1959-2009



PRE-AUTHORIZED TAX PAYMENT PLAN

Registration in the Pre-Authorized Tax Payment Plan begins January 2009 and is open until March 31, 2009. If you would like to join our tax payment plan, please call 885-4677 for more information.

DOGS ON LEASH -

Please ensure that your dog is on a leash while out walking, especially while on the walking trails! Thank you for considering your neighbors and the Town's animal control. For further information, please contact the Town office.



Check it out!

We are excited to announce that the Town's new website is complete! Go to www.blackfalds.com to see our new look! New features include a weather tool bar, search engine, community events calendar, photo gallery, interactive business directory and a very easy navigation system! If you would like to make comments on the new site, email: kimberley@blackfalds.com.

Attention Business Owners:

The Economic Development and Tourism Board is hosting a Strategic Planning Session on **Saturday, February 21st** at the Town Office commencing at 8:30am. This is a full day session designed for information sharing to develop the Town's Economic Development Strategic Plan. **As a business owner, your opinions and participation will play a significant role as we develop a plan for our community's economic sustainability and growth!** To sign up for this event or for more information, contact Kimberley at 403-885-6248 or kimberley@blackfalds.com.



2009 Utility Rates -

In 2004 the Town of Blackfalds joined with the Town of Ponoka and Town of Lacombe to form the North Red Deer River Water Services Commission, which provides water from the City of Red Deer to the three communities. The Town of Blackfalds started receiving water from the regional pipeline in May of 2006. The Town is responsible for 20% of the cost of the regional water line based on water use. The price of a cubic meter of water includes a capital charge for the pipeline, an administrative cost, plus the price of water. The Town of Blackfalds recovers the cost of their utilities through the rates charged to the consumer. The 2009 proposed rates were changed to reflect a base rate plus a \$1.70 per cu. m usage rate for water or \$0.20 increase (220 gal equal 1 cubic meter), the sanitary rates remain the same, (including a \$10.00 surcharge (started in 2008) to pay for sanitary lagoon upgrades) and the garbage rate would increase by \$1.00 to \$22.00 to accommodate the increase in contracted costs.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

There will be a public hearing on February 24, 2009 @ 7:00pm at the Town Office to discuss proposed changes to the Land Use Bylaw. Changes include increased landscaping requirements for commercial and industrial development, new uses, clarified definitions and new accessibility requirements. For further information, contact Nicole Jensen at 403-885-4677.



Winterfest 2009 will be held February 16th, 2009 at the Highway 2A Pond (across from Esso). Join us on Family Day for many great family focused activities: Penguin Dip, (Packages available at the Town Office) Family 4 on 4 Pond Hockey Challenge, Face Painting, Family Skating, Blackfalds Fire Rescue Concession, and a Fireworks Show at All-Star Park!

Drop-In Skating – February 5 & 6, 11 AM – 1 PM, \$5/family - \$2/person, all skaters under 16 years must have a helmet.

Drop-In Hockey – Every Tuesday @ 11:30 AM, \$5/ person

Blackfalds Jr. B Wranglers

Sunday, Feb 1 @ 2 PM vs. Claresholm
Tuesday, Feb 10 @ 7:30 PM vs. Stettler
Saturday, Feb 14 @ 7:30 PM vs. Airdrie
Watch for playoff dates at blackfalds.com

Blackfalds Lacrosse Association AGM and Registration night - Tuesday, Feb 3, 7 PM – 9 PM, Blackfalds Multi-Plex Banquet Room

Blackfalds Minor Soccer Association, Registration nights, Monday March 2 and Monday, March 23, 6:30 PM – 8 PM, Community Hall

Blackfalds Minor Ball Association, Registration night, Monday, March 16 @ 7 PM, Blackfalds Multi-Plex Banquet Room

Women on Weights – Starts in April, information available at blackfalds.com

Landscape Design Course – Starts Thursday, February 26 from 7 PM – 8:30 PM. Information and registration information available at blackfalds.com



Seniors Snow Removal Program

Are you 55 years of age or older and physically unable to shovel your sidewalks during the winter months? If so please contact Jackie at 403-885-6247 for more information on our seniors snow removal program.

This free program is brought to you by Blackfalds Family and Community Support Services and the Blackfalds Optimist Club.

Growing Families Center

This space is rented out to Little Star Playschool and the Blackfalds School Age Program. As well it is home to Blackfalds Parent Link! To check out what is happening with Blackfalds Parent Link visit www.blackfalds.com.

Red Cross Babysitters Course

This is a practical and fun course that will enable youth to handle real life babysitting situations. You will receive a manual that you can use for quick reference.

Age: 11 years and up
Fee: \$15.00 for local residents and \$18.00 for non-local residents
Dates: March 7th, 2009



The Blackfalds Public Library

New Library Hours

Did you fill out one of our library Survey's in the past year? Did you ask for more hours? Did you ask for more movies? Did you ask for different magazine titles? If you answered yes to any of these questions than come down to your library and see the results. We are now open on **Saturdays from 10am – 5pm** for your convenience.

Children Programs

All our Programs for winter have begun for Mother Goose, Story Hour, Terrific Three's, Puppetry & Story/Game time. Registration is required for all classes.

Memberships are required for all Children & Young Adults to attend any day, after school programs. For any questions and/or for registration please call Teresa @ 885-6251 or visit our website.

Books for Babies

Come by to the library with your baby and receive a book bag of goodies and a **free membership** for your babies' first library card.

The Adult Book Club

We meet the **last Monday** of each month at 7PM if interested in joining call Karen to find out what we are reading next at 885-2343. Or visit our new website and look under the calendar at www.blackfaldslibrary.com

Watch Movies @ your Library

Movies playing this month are: Sat. Feb. 7th @ 1:30pm – **Bridge to Terabithia** & Sat. Feb. 21st @ 1:30pm - **Meet the Robinsons**. Free Admission for all movies **OR** you can bring non-perishable food items for the food bank.

Teen Movie Night

The first and third Wednesday of every month we will have Teen Movie Night @ 6PM. Movies playing this month are:
Wed. Feb 4th @ 6pm – **Equilibrium – 14A**
Wed. Feb. 18th @ 6pm – **Sahara - PG**.
Free Admission for all movies **OR** you can bring non-perishable food items for the food bank.

Library Board Meeting

The next library board meeting is Feb. 3rd at 6:30pm. All library board meetings are open to the public. Call 885-2343 if interested in attending.

Blackfalds Historical Society

We have nearly completed the new and permanent display depicting the Gregson family. The Gregson's were some of the first settlers to the Blackfalds area, arriving in 1890, and all of them were avid entomologists. Drop into the library and learn about their unique and interesting life and hobbies. Do you have a collection or some antique treasures you'd like to show off? Contact Judy at the library every Wednesday, or call 403-885-4314.

Library Hours:

Monday & Wed – 10am-8:30pm
Tues, Thurs, Friday & Saturday – 10am - 5pm
Sunday & Stat Holidays – Closed
Feb. 14th & 16th the Library is Closed
www.blackfaldslibrary.com