

ON THE COWBOY TRAIL

News from Councillor Barb Castell

December 2008

Season's Greetings to all of you. As I write this newsletter, the ground is covered in snow and the air is crisp and fresh. Hopefully we are all ready for winter.

It has been a busy Fall in council. We had our organizational meeting in October and I remain on most of the same committees I was on this past year with a few additions. I have been formally appointed to these three new organizations - Leighton Art Centre Board, Foothill's Cemetery Board and the Turner Valley Oil and Gas Group Committee. To view the other committees and boards I am on, go to my website and click on the link to Boards and Committees.

Committee work can be very rewarding. As a member of the Historical Review Committee, I had the pleasure of attending a ceremony to celebrate the restoration of the Sullivan gravesite where 3 small children from a pioneering family west of Longview were buried over 100 years ago. Under Lenore McLean's guidance and with the assistance of the MD, the committee had the cross replaced and restored the gravesite.

I also had the privilege of volunteering at the Leighton Art Centre's Christmas in the Country art sale, where local art was displayed and sold. The sale was well-attended with people coming from all over the MD, surrounding towns and Calgary. For more information about the Leighton Art Centre, visit their web site, www.leightoncentre.org.

In November, council attended the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties convention in Edmonton. This is our chance to meet with provincial ministers to discuss our concerns. I met with the RCMP senior officers and Alberta Government Officials where I expressed a concern for speeding and excessive noise along Highway 762 (especially motorcycles during the summer months). The RCMP were very receptive to many of the suggestions that we put forth.

You should be receiving the MD's newsletter soon, which is full of useful information. An Alberta 1-Call magnet and pamphlet is included so you will have the phone number (1-800-242-3447) at your fingertips should you need to locate buried facilities when you dig, pound posts or disrupt land in any way. You can also find more information on their web site, www.alberta1call.com.

My web site has been updated to include a calendar. It now has council meeting dates and other events of interest.

I wish you all a memorable, safe holiday with family and friends and may 2009 be a rewarding, peaceful year.

Barb Castell

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