

Shellbrook Chronicle

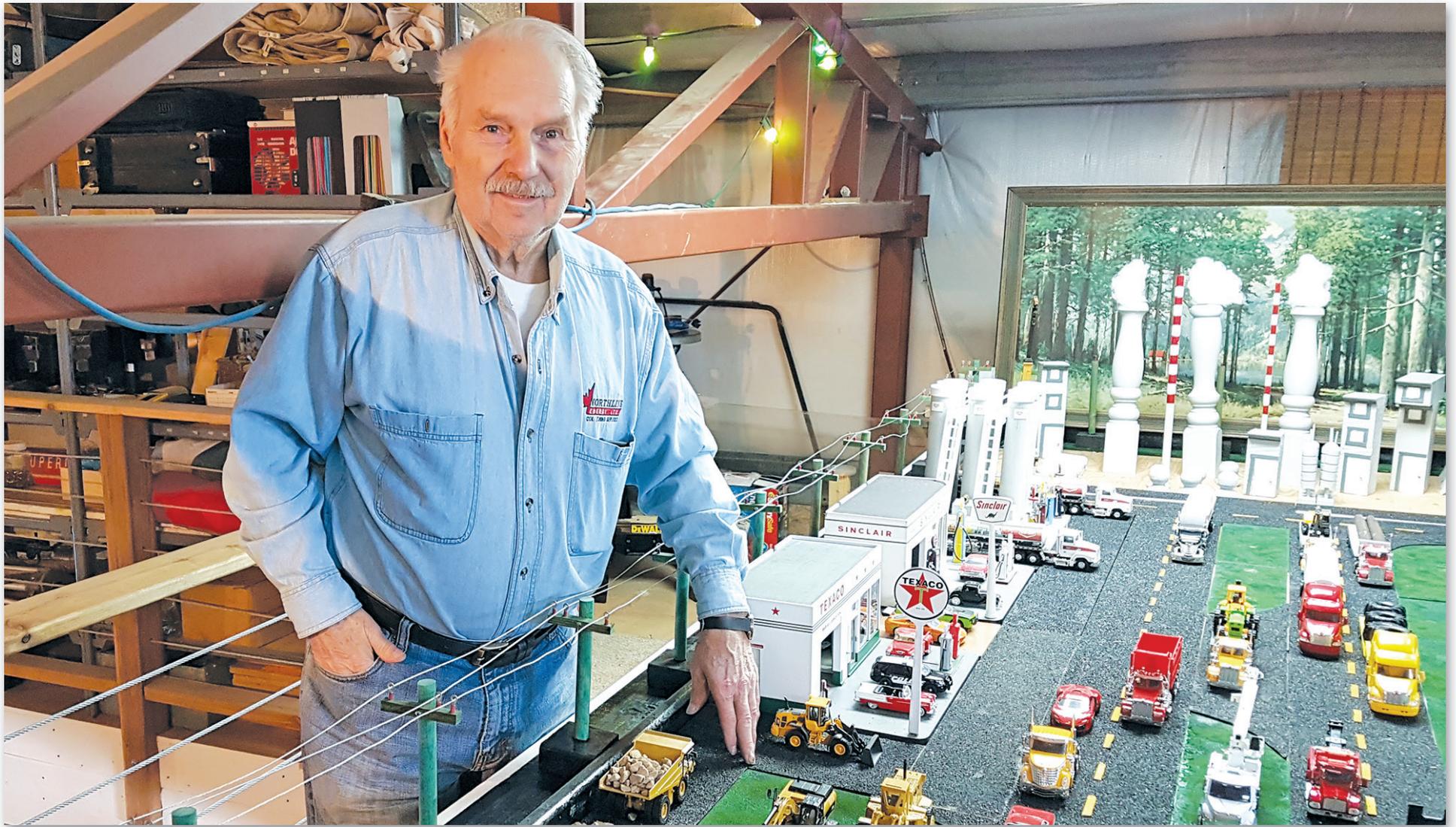
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Looking back on the year that was 2018



Shellbrook's Roland Riel has become an avid collector of model cars and construction equipment, and has spent the past two years setting his vast collection up into unique displays. His current project is this highway and nuclear power plant scene.

JANUARY

Thanks to the generosity of the community, and the hard work of volunteers like the Shellbrook Kinettes and the Shellbrook and Area Food Bank, 33 families and individuals got the chance to enjoy a Christmas meal this past holiday season.

The Food Bank's annual Christmas food hampers were packed full of stuffing, pastas, canned goods, and other staples, at the Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly on Thursday, Dec. 21, and handed out just in time for Christmas.

And this year's total of 33 hampers topped last year's 26 hampers.

After three months of weekend closures,

the Spiritwood Collaborative Emergency Centre (CEC) resumed its normal weekend operations effective Jan. 6 and 7, the Saskatchewan Health Authority announced Tuesday morning.

The Spiritwood CEC is normally open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day, but it had been closed on weekends since early October, due to a shortage of registered nurses at the facility.

"Why don't they just get over it?"

As Canada continues its journey towards reconciliation with its Indigenous people, this is a constant refrain that one sees and hears on social media, in online discussion forums, and even in public places.

But as restorative justice and truth and reconciliation advocate Dave Whalley explains, it's not as simple as just "getting over it."

I hear people of European descent saying, 'Why don't they just get over it?' But you don't get over something that's devastating to you. That's just not the way it is," he said.

This was among many of the insights that Whalley, the minister for Big River's First United Church, gleaned from his trip to the National Symposium on Restorative Justice at the tail end of 2017.

Held in Ottawa, the two-day symposium brought together advocates and speakers from across the globe to discuss how Canada can move forward on restorative justice, and

with the truth and reconciliation process.

Family, friends, fellow Shellbrook Legion members, and many others who knew him, bid Shellbrook's own George Laberge a fond farewell, and drank a glass of wine in his honour, at a memorial service held at the Shellbrook Senior Citizen's Centre on Friday, Jan. 5.

A resident of Parkland Integrated Health Centre's special care home in his later years, Laberge passed away peacefully at the home on Dec. 20, 2017. He was 96.

Laberge will be remembered as a man who gave of himself endlessly, both to his community, and to his country.

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Looking back on the year that was 2018

JANUARY continued

Those in Shellbrook and the surrounding communities and R.M.s who haven't been closely following the work being done by the Shellbrook Recreation Project Steering Committee, had the opportunity to learn all about it Tuesday night, when the committee hosted an informative open house at the Shellbrook Community Hall.

The open house saw the committee outline its rink renovation plans, which it explained could come with a price tag as high as \$2 million, depending on the outcome of a major grant application.

The committee also stressed that the costs wouldn't be downloaded onto ratepayers, but did begin a conversation about the R.M. of Shellbrook contributing more money to the rink.

After the meeting, the committee confirmed it had purchased a new ice resurfacing machine for the rink, thereby completing part of phase one of its plans.

After their fifth place finish at the 2016 World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship helped earn Canada a berth in the competition when the sport makes its debut at the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, Shellbrook's Marliese Kasner, and her partner Dustin Kalthoff, were likely hoping to be the team to claim that berth.

The duo was among the 18 pairings competing at the Canadian Mixed Doubles Olympic Trials from Jan. 2 to 9.



As recently November, 2017, World War Two veteran George Laberge continued to be involved with the community by laying a wreath in honour of his comrades at a joint Remembrance Day ceremony held by the Shellbrook Legion, and W.P. Sandin High School.

Unfortunately, Kasner and Kalthoff were unable to claim the bid to compete for it in February, after amassing a 1-7 record through the round robins to finish well shy of the round of eight, and the playoffs.

Those feeling a need for weed may be able to have a toke of marijuana sold at a Shellbrook-based private retail location, once the federal government legalizes the drug sometime "this summer."

The Saskatchewan government unveiled some of its regulatory framework for the distribution of legalized marijuana on Monday morning, by announcing that the drug will only be permitted to be sold by licensed private companies.

Later in the year, Shellbrook's town council opted to take a wait-and-see approach to allowing a cannabis retailer in town.

Well, there are certainly worse things to be addicted to.

At least, that's what 77-year-old Roland Riel, and his wife Rita, say about Roland's passionate dedication to his hobby of collecting models.

Roland started with the cars, and has been collecting them for the past 15 years.

When the *Chronicle* visited Roland and Rita at their shop, Roland Riel Equipment, it was greeted warmly, and informed that, after careful calculation, Roland's discovered that he has 607 models, ranging from classic and contemporary cars, to farming, construction, and logging equipment, to model Texaco and Sinclair service stations, and even power lines and nuclear power plants.

It wasn't quite the week-long whirlwind of hockey activities that 2017's Cameco Hockey Day in Saskatchewan offered, but Hockey Day in Shellbrook 2018 still generated just as much buzz at the Shellbrook Recreation Complex.

And, more importantly, the two-day showcase of exclusively local hockey, curling, and figure skating, was every bit as much a success as the previous two years.

While cheques have yet to come in, and bills still need to be paid, Hockey Day organizing committee member Stephanie Gosselin says the tentative total raised over the

past weekend is sitting around \$80,000 - bringing the total raised over three Hockey Days to an impressive \$316,000.

While this past weekend's festivities were referred to as Hockey Day in Shellbrook, the Shellbrook Recreation Complex's hockey rink wasn't the only sheet of ice that hosted two days

of thrilling and competitive action.

To help transform Hockey Day into a celebration of all the activities that take place at the arena, the Shellbrook Curling Club played host to a two-person bonspiel, which saw eight pairs of players come out to battle it out for bragging rights, and \$50 for each win they were able to sweep up.

After more than a few hard-fought ends, Alexis Stochmanski and Gosselin were able to retain their perfect record, earning themselves a cool \$150 over the course of the tournament. And the B-event final saw Brennan Stochmanski and Spencer Fox overcome a stiff challenge from Craig Stochmanski and Lyal Fox to emerge victorious, and take home a total of \$100.



Voice of the Riders Rod Pedersen headlined Hockey Day in Shellbrook's star-studded Sports Awards and Banquet, providing laughs and heartfelt wisdom.



Former Shellbrook Queen candidate June Moe, and Shellbrook Pharmacy's Krista Moe and Stacy Tanchuk present the Hall of Fame award to the members of the 1969 Pepsi School Boys Canadian Curling Championship-winning team: Bob Miller, Roger Rask (missing), Lloyd Helm, and Bill Aug.



Over the holiday season, Shellbrook elder Nellie Wendel celebrated her 105th birthday with a few close family and friends. With a twinkle in her eye she stated she feels she lived a long life because she enjoyed a good cup of black coffee, refrained from smoking and eating a lot sweets. Mind you today she enjoyed her cake and ate it too! She also feels that being the only girl in a family of 5 might have helped! Unfortunately, Wendel passed away on June 10.

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Looking back on the year that was 2018

FEBRUARY

It took five months of campaigning, and five ballots.

But after all was said and done, Rosthern-Shellbrook MLA and former environment minister, Scott Moe, shocked the province by being selected as the leader of the Saskatchewan Party, and Saskatchewan's new premier.

Nowhere was the surprise more palpable than at Saturday's Sask. Party Leadership Convention, held at Saskatoon's Prairieland Park, where more than 2,000 party members gathered to celebrate, and greet the man or woman who would be selected to lead the Sask. Party into the post-Brad Wall era.

Moe's victory, which saw him garner 8,075 votes (or 53.9 per cent of the vote), defied the predictions of pollsters, which, in the week leading into the convention, had Moe pegged as a distant third place finisher, behind fellow leadership candidates Ken Cheveldayoff, and Alanna Koch.

A new program being offered by Mason Wallin, owner of Shellbrook's MJW Chartered Professional Accountant, is connecting community groups in need of funds, with other local organizations that are in need of a helping hand.

Under the guidelines of the Strength Through Numbers program, community groups or teams in need of extra volunteers for events or initiatives, and groups or teams looking to raise some extra funds must file separate applications. The program will then match two groups together based on their needs.

The club or team in need of the funds will then provide its services to the group in need of extra volunteers, and Wallin will offer up to \$500 to the organization.

The Shellbrook Skating Club was



Premier Scott Moe celebrates Saturday night's victory at the Sask. Party Leadership convention with daughter Taryn, son Carter, and wife Krista.

well represented this past weekend by five aspiring skaters at the annual Carrot River and Churchill Regional competition hosted by Nipawin.

The skaters who attended were Rayne Cyr, Jessica Sharron, Allison Lamotte, Jack Sharron, and Marcail Philp.

Collectively, the successful skaters pulled in an impressive 12 gold, five silver, and two bronze ribbons. The 4 girls capped off the last event of the day with a gold ribbon in the team event.

From confessions that he has Christina Aguilera on his iPod, to revelations about his deep-seated fear of sharks, newly sworn in Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe revealed all in what was likely his most candid and casual speech of the past six months, when he returned home to Shellbrook for a congratulatory soiree Saturday evening.

Held at the Shellbrook Community Hall, which was filled to capacity with friends, family, and well-wishers, the

evening gathering was organized by Grant Hladun, the constituency's representative on the Sask. Party's provincial council, and Rosthern-Shellbrook Constituency Association president, Bevra Fee.

As far as election results go, the conclusion of the brief campaign to become the new reeve of the R.M. of Shellbrook was about as decisive as it

gets.

After 390 ballots were counted on Wednesday, Jan. 31, long-time Division 1 councillor Doug Oleksyn was elected to fill the R.M.'s vacant reeve seat, which had been empty since former Reeve Bob Ernst announced his resignation last August.

All told, Oleksyn, who has been a councillor for more than 30 years, earned 323 votes (or about 83 per cent of the total vote), while Holbein's Lloyd Rudolph received just 67 votes (17.2 per cent of the total vote).

If you're still having trouble believing that Shellbrook's own Scott Moe was named the new premier of Saskatchewan at the Sask. Party's Leadership Convention on Jan. 27, you can stop pinching yourself.

Moe, who has been the Rosthern-Shellbrook MLA for the past seven years, and also served in multiple cabinet posts under former Premier Brad Wall, was officially sworn in as Saskatchewan's 15th premier by Saskatchewan's Lt.-Gov. Vaughn Solomon-Schofield during the swearing in ceremony in Regina last Friday.

In becoming the province's 15th premier, Moe also became the first premier to hail from Shellbrook, and the first premier from north of Saskatoon.

Continued on page 4

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Skip Ron Cripps tosses a rock, while teammate Larry Ritchie prepares to sweep, during action from the Knights of Columbus State Curling bonspiel. The tournament was held at the Shellbrook and Debden curling rinks over the weekend, and Cripps' rink emerged victorious in the A-event final, winning over Bill Prybylski's foursome.

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Looking back on the year that was 2018

FEBRUARY continued

It was another exciting weekend of competition as the another five skaters from the Shellbrook Skating Club attended the Riverskate Regional Competition in Saskatoon on Saturday, Feb. 3. Between the five of them they entered 13 events including freeskate, jump event, and spin event, and took home 9 medals; 4 gold, 2 silver, and 3 bronze.

After falling 11-1 to the Carrot River Loggers in game one of their two-game total points series, the Bantam B Shellbrook Elks were essentially playing for pride when the reaction returned to Shellbrook on Saturday evening.

And despite losing game two by an 8-4 margin, the Elks managed to do that, by making the Loggers work hard for their win.

The loss ended the team's provincials run.

The Shellbrook and Deben Curling Clubs were hubs of activity on the sheets over the weekend, when the two shared hosting duties for the 60th annual Knights of Columbus State Curling bonspiel.

After all the rocks were thrown and swept, and all the takeouts were made, it was a local team that finished atop the standings in the A-event final.

Going undefeated throughout the bonspiel, skip Ron Cripps, and teammates Deb Cripps, Larry Ritchie, and Meg Ritchie, curled their way to the finals against skip Bill Prybylski's team, and walked away with a big victory.

In honour of Saskatchewan Aboriginal Storytelling month, the Shellbrook Public Library invited students from Shellbrook Elementary School out for the morning of Friday, Feb. 16, to listen to and learn from the stories of

Leah Dorion.

An artist and author of Métis heritage, Dorion has written and created original artwork for a number of books.

Dorion explained that while she does enjoy writing and creating art work inspired by different subjects, she feels it's especially important to tell Métis stories that include the Métis knowledge, traditions, and teachings that have been passed down to her by her elders over the years.

After scoring an 11-8 win over the Battleford Beaver Blues in game two of their best-of-five Saskatchewan Prairie Hockey League play-off series, the Shellbrook Silvertips seemed to be carrying the momentum when the action returned to Battleford for games three and four.

Unfortunately for the Silvertips, however, the Blues had no intention of going gently into the offseason.

Crippled once more by dif-

ficulty finding the back of the Blues' net, and shaky goaltending the Silvertips found themselves hanging up their skates for the season, after a 2-1 loss in game 3, and an 8-1 shellacking in game 4.

MARCH

Thanks to an unexpected bout of KINDer temperatures, Saturday proved to be a perfect occasion for Shellbrook to come together as a community, when the Shellbrook Kinsmen and Kinettes celebrated their clubs' National Day of KINDness.

The afternoon celebration, held at Shellbrook's outdoor skating rink, saw members of both community groups serve up free hot chocolate, hot dogs, and other goodies, to all those who showed up to enjoy some skating, or play a game of pick-up shinny.

It takes a special kind of bravery, and a special kind of person, to face the dangers that come with being a volunteer firefighter in rural Saskatchewan, or in any community for that matter.

But, while serving as a member of the Leask Volunteer Fire Department for the past 48 years, Vern Unyi has possessed all the right stuff to fulfill the duties that come along with being a volunteer firefighter.

In recognition of his service at these accidents and fires over the past 48 years, the R.M. of Leask recently decided to award Unyi with a special Canada 150 medal, which was provided by Kelly Block, the Conservative MP for Carlton Trail-Eagle Creek.

It's been a busy first month as Premier for Shellbrook's Scott Moe, who, in surprising fashion for a politician, has quickly worked to implement a number of his key Sask. Party leadership campaign pledges.

The most recent of these fulfilled promises, announced early Monday morning, was the restoration of PST exemptions on individual and group health, and life insurance plans, as well as on agriculture insurance, which covers crop, livestock, and hail premiums.

Local Shellbrook figure skaters Erika Stene and Ashlyn Schmitz represented a part of Team Lakeland in the sport of figure skating at the Saskatchewan Winter Games in North Battleford last week.



MJW's Tasha Cyr (left) and Mason Wallin (second from right), present a \$500 cheque to Peru Youth Mission group members Nyla Dean, Erika Stene, Kaitlan Stene, and Chris Dean as part of the new Strength Through Numbers program.

The skaters did very well; both scoring personal bests, which is what it's really all about. Class 1 Ladies competed on Thursday with Ashlyn bringing home a gold medal.

On Friday, the Class 2 and Class 3 Ladies and Men's events took place with Erika being in Class 2 placing 15th overall.

To an outsider, it likely would have seemed like nothing more than a 90-minute talk about dirt.

But to local producers, an informational luncheon, hosted by Back to Your Roots Soil Solutions at the Shellbrook Senior Citizen's Centre last Friday, proved to be an indispensable source of information that could help them boost the health of their soil and crops, and increase their profits.

The idea of leaving the world a better place than you find it is a relatively fresh one as far as new-age motivational wisdom goes. But for the nearly 97 years that he was alive, Shellbrook's George Laberge embodied this ideal to the

letter.

Despite passing away in December of 2017, Laberge is still finding way to leave the world a better place, and give back to the community. As part of his estate, Laberge left bequests of \$40,000 each for the Shellbrook Legion, the Shellbrook Kinsmen (a donation to Kinsmen Telemiracle), and the Shellbrook and Districts Health Services Foundation.



Skaters Marvail Philp, Allison LaMotte, Jessica Sharron, Jack Sharron, and Rayne Cyr, along with coach Tasje Sharron, did the Shellbrook Skating Club proud at the annual Carrot River and Churchill Regional competition in Nipawin this past weekend.



Elks netminder Ethan Bell faces down a breakaway opportunity by Carrot River Loggers forward Ryland Leichert. Bell came up with a big pad save during this attempt, though Carrot River went onto win 8-4.



Métis author and artist Leah Dorion reads from her book, *Métis Christmas Mittens*, during an Aboriginal Storytelling session at the Shellbrook Library, held for students from Shellbrook Elementary School.



Amund Otterson, Robert Chuback, and Helen Dagenais accept cheques on behalf of their organizations. Nick Bilyk (middle right) presented the cheques for the late George Laberge.

Looking back on the year that was 2018

The sheets at the Shellbrook Curling Club saw no shortage of action Friday and Saturday, when the club hosted its annual open bonspiel.

At the end of the two days of action, the Open bonspiel concluded with the A event final, which featured a rematch between last year's A-event competitors: the Brad Ledding and Wayne Pauls rinks.

Unfortunately, history didn't repeat itself for skip Brad Ledding's rink, which included Jeff Ledding, Larry Ferster, and Larry Brossart, as the foursome fell to Spiritwood's Pauls, and his teammates Kevin Latus, Glen Caffet, and Dennis Simonar.

Imagine no more bullying.

Students from Shellbrook Elementary School and W.P. Sandin High School tried to imagine just that, when staff and students gathered at the Shellbrook Skating Rink for an afternoon of skating, hot chocolate and pink cookies, in observation of Pink Shirt Day - a day observed nationwide that focuses on raising awareness about bullying, but, more importantly, on stamping it out.

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.

At least that's the takeaway from the conclusion of the Saskatchewan NDP's leadership race, which

came to a close Saturday evening as leadership hopefuls Ryan Meili and Trent Wotherspoon were joined by more than 500 party supporters at Regina's Delta Hotel.

The race saw Meili, who was in his third, and likely final, bid to become the Opposition NDP's leader, win 55 per cent of the vote.

North West College has been awarded a \$10,000 Artists in Schools Grant from the Saskatchewan Arts Board to paint two murals later this month.

Students from North West College's Visual Arts 30 classes, as well as senior students from Debden Public School, will be working together on the project.

The murals will be installed at Debden Public School and the North West College Debden Program Site.

The goal of these art installations is to tell the story of reconciliation in the region through the creation of permanent visual displays.

After losing game one of their SVMHL Bantam semi-finals series to the Cudworth-Bruno Blazers by a score of 4-2, Jody Smart's Shellbrook Elks returned to home ice Tuesday evening to fight to keep their season alive.

Unfortunately, if they were desperate to make a Shellbrook versus Shellbrook finals a reality, Smart's Elks did little to show it. The team stumbled out of the gate early on, and only had a few brief moments where it seemed to regain its composure.

The end result was a 6-2 loss, and an end to the team's season.

For the past 40 years, the Cameo Snowmobile Rally has provided a much-needed injection of fun into cold and dreary Saskatchewan Winters, as well as equally important funds to keep the Cameo Hall up and running.

But, with the passing of

time, the annual event has transformed into something much bigger than its original organizers could have ever imagined.

This year, the event played host to 156 snowmobilers, most of them still from the Shellbrook and Canwood area, who all filled the little Cameo Hall to overcapacity.

A Big River First Nation man is in police custody following a break-and-enter that occurred on a rural property in the Spiritwood area in the early hours of Tuesday.

According to a release issued by the Spiritwood RCMP, 28-year-old Ronald Joseph faces eight separate charges, including three counts of theft of a motor vehicle, and one count each of: possession of a weapon for a purpose dangerous to the public, unauthorized possession of a firearm, break and enter, possession of property obtained by crime, and operation of a motor vehicle while disqualified.

Humble beginnings is how Irene Kustiak, owner of K-5 Market Greenhouse Enterprise, describes the early years of her business.

However, while demand hasn't necessarily slowed down, 32 years in business is a long time for anyone. And so, Kustiak has decided to hang up her gardening gloves and spade, and forego opening up K-5 during this coming growing season.

Recently, Jim Van Eaton donated his 2014 Ford Fusion Electric car to the Shellbrook and Districts Health Services Foundation to sell or raffle and keep the proceeds.

With this, and previous donations from himself and late wife Inez, they have donated more than \$35,000 to the Parkland Integrated Health Centre.

In honour of this generosity, the Foundation recently presented Jim and Inez with a room sponsor plaque for the family room in PIHC's acute care department.

A star-studded panel of athletes and speakers descended on W.P. Sandin High School on Thursday morning, to start an important discussion about mental health, and deliver a knockout blow to the stigma that accompanies illnesses like depression and anxiety.

Headlined by TSN personality and founder of the non-profit organization #SickNotWeak, Michael Landsberg, the panel included former Saskatchewan Roughriders Chris Getzlaf and Weston Dressler, women's Olympic hockey gold medallist and TSN sportscaster Tessa Bonhomme, and Emily Gill, founder of the mental health support website youaremore.org.

With rural crimes, in which landowners are using firearms to fend off would-be thieves, grabbing headlines across the country, RCMP detachments across Saskatchewan have spent the past few weeks hosting town halls in communities all over the province.

On Thursday afternoon, the Shellbrook RCMP detachment held its own informational session at the Shellbrook Legion Hall. And, to no one's surprise, it was standing room only, as a mix of rural landowners and local officials packed the hall to voice their concerns about crime in the Shellbrook area.

The Debden Jets picked the right time to fire up the afterburners, as the fourth-place team came from a game behind to beat the Spiritwood Timberwolves two games to one to claim the North Saskatchewan Female Hockey League championship for 2017-2018.

About 30 dancers from Studio 747 left their hearts on the stage Saturday evening, when the local dance studio hosted its first ever mini showcase at the Shellbrook Theatre.

And, though the mini showcase primarily shone a spotlight on soloists, duos, and smaller groups, the young dancers still had an enthusiastic crowd of about 150 people to cheer them on, as they danced routines that they will soon be performing in front of competition judges.

It wasn't quite as exciting as the draw to the button in the A-event final last year, but for the second consecutive year, Shellbrook's



Michael Landsberg grills Olympic gold medallist Tessa Bonhomme about the attitudes toward mental illness that she witnessed in the locker room throughout her career, during a panel discussion on mental health at W.P. Sandin High School.

senior curling season came to a thrilling end, when the Shellbrook Curling Club played host the annual Senior's Bonspiel.

In a competitive A-event that came down to the very last end, skip Ted Mazurkewich and his team of Wes Ledding, Sylvia Savage, and Terry Zilkowsky managed to hang on to claim the trophy. They defeated the Clarence Bowes rink, which included LaVerne Suderman, Wayne Bazley, and Brenda Smith.

They say it takes a village to raise a child.

That's why the School Community Council at Shellbrook Elementary School decided to do its part, by introducing a monthly snack day for each of the 177 students at the school.

Now, just a few short months after its introduction, the school snack program is getting a welcome boost in support from the Shellbrook Kinettes and Shellbrook Kinsmen.

The two community groups are allocating a combined \$125 per month to provide a second day of snacks for students at Shellbrook Elementary school. This budget, however, also includes a monthly snack for the 220 students at W.P. Sandin High School.



Former Leask Volunteer fire chief Vern Unyi accepts his special Canada 150 medal from R.M. of Leask Reeve, Len Cantin.



The Debden Jets, 2018 North Saskatchewan Female Hockey League Midget champions.



Skaters Tegan Naumann, Emmalynn Lamotte, Erika Stene, Ashlyn Schmitz, and Mya Cyr brought a touch of ballet to their Sugar Plum Fairy-inspired number, during the Shellbrook Skating Club's Sunday afternoon ice showcase.

Looking back on the year that was 2018

APRIL

Another R.M. of Shellbrook election, another clear decision by the voters.

After garnering 110 out of the 141 votes cast on Wednesday March 28, Cliff Skauge is the R.M. of Shellbrook's new councillor for Division 1 – Skauge's rival in the race, Jeff Gosselin, received the remaining 31 ballots.

With a clear mandate from the voters, Skauge steps into the seat that was long held by current R.M. of Shellbrook Reeve, Doug Oleksyn, who took on his new duties at the end of January after defeating Lloyd Rudolph in the race to fill the vacant reeve's chair.

W.P. Sandin students in Grades 6 through 8 had an opportunity to showcase their scientific knowledge last Thursday, when they put their science projects on display at the school's annual science fair.

In preparation for the fair, the students worked in groups, or individually, and conducted their own unique experiments. For each project, the students are expected to use the scientific method.

Then, once they've completed their experiments, the students are tasked with explaining and presenting their findings to judges, and to the general public, to demonstrate what they've learned, and how they applied the scientific method to their project.

More than two years after a 31-year-old man was fatally injured in a work-

place incident at the Big River Sawmill, Carrier Forest Products Ltd., the company that owns the mill, has been ordered by the courts to pay fines for occupational health and safety violations related to the death.

The ruling was handed down in Prince Albert Provincial Court on Tuesday March 27, and will see Carrier Forest Products pay a total of \$87,500 in fines – \$62,500 for the base fine, plus a 40 per cent surcharge.

From narrative pieces about cherished family vacations, to emotional reflections about the vast loneliness of space, to impactful rants about the power of words, there was a little bit of everything on offer when W.P. Sandin High School's Eclipse Creative Writing Group held a poetry reading at the Shellbrook Public Library on March 29.

The creative writing club, coached by long-time writing coach, and published author Laurie Muirhead, was formed in October, 2017. Since then, its 13 members have been meeting once a week to study creative writing, and, most importantly, craft their own pieces of writing and get them published.

After three-and-a-half years of simmering tensions around the R.M. of Shellbrook's council table, things look set to boil over once more.

In an email forwarded to the *Chronicle* (and to Saskatchewan Ombudsman Mary McFadyen) by Division 4 councillor Lyle Muller on Friday morning, Muller confirmed that he has filed a formal complaint with the R.M. of Shellbrook, in which he accuses Division 5 councillor Derwin Joelson of violating the R.M.'s code of ethics bylaw.

Muller's allegations are related to his ongoing questions surrounding removable docks at Wilf's Beach, along Sturgeon Lake, that have been installed and removed each

year by Arnold Anderson and his family since 2015.

Schools were closed Monday morning, and the Horizon School Division was arranging to bring grief councillors to the community, as the city of Humboldt continued to grapple with the loss of the 16 people killed in a collision between a semi-truck and the Humboldt Broncos team bus Friday evening.

The 16 killed in the crash (including 10 Humboldt Broncos players, the team's head coach, assistant coach, and play-by-play radio announcer, a volunteer statistician, and the bus driver), as well as the 13 survivors, were honoured at a Sunday night vigil in Humboldt, which was attended by hundreds, including Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe, and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

If municipal budgets had taglines – and glossy \$200,000-plus covers – then the slogan for the town of Shellbrook's upcoming 2018-2019 budget would be something like, "Maintaining the focus."

That's because Shellbrook Mayor George Tomporowski says this year's budget, which was expected to be finalized later this week, is very similar to the budgets of the past couple years, in that it continues council's work on municipal infrastructure.

People from Shellbrook and the surrounding area had the opportunity to show their support and strength for the city of Humboldt, which is still reeling from the deaths of 16 people in a crash between the Humboldt Broncos' team bus and a semi truck, when W.P. Sandin High School's Student Leadership Council (SLC) hosted a street hockey tournament and barbecue on Sunday afternoon.

All told, the SLC raised \$15,500 on the day.

While the community was gathered at W.P. Sandin High School to support the Student



WP Sandin Writing Club instructor Laurie Muirhead shares some of her own poetry at a poetry night held on March 29.

Leadership Council's (SLC) fundraiser hockey tournament and barbecue for the Humboldt Broncos, Mason Wallin, owner of MJW Chartered Professional Accountant, was busy devising a way that he could support the cause.

Through his business' program, Strength Through Numbers, Wallin is donating \$500 to the SLC in recognition of their efforts to raise approximately \$15,500 to donate to STARS in the Humboldt Broncos' name and memory.



Taylor Ferster (Kinette in training) works with Nicole Grimsrud.



A battle for a loose ball creates quite the splash, during the W.P. Sandin Public High School SLC's fundraiser street hockey tournament, which raised about \$15,500 for STARS Ambulance in honour of the Humboldt Broncos.

Wishing you and your family good health, happiness, success and prosperity in the coming year. Happy New Year!



Hon. Scott Moe, Premier
MLA for Rosthern-Shellbrook
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Hon. Jeremy Harrison
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Nadine Wilson
MLA for Saskatchewan Rivers
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Looking back on the year that was 2018

It was an afternoon filled with music – three hours of it, to be more precise – when the students of Kerri English, took to the stage for their annual spring recital at the Shellbrook Theatre on Sunday.

With proud parents and loved ones cheering them on from the packed seats, English' 36 students on the event program bowed, plucked, and strummed their way through 43 separate numbers, some solos, some larger ensemble pieces.

RCMP officers, Search and Rescue team members, and volunteers, mobilized at the Shellbrook RCMP detachment on Wednesday to organize a renewed search effort for Jim Mumm, who has been missing from Parkland Integrated Health Centre's long-term care home since Tuesday morning.

Mumm was found, safe and sound, the following evening.

The Kinettes and the elders residing at Parkland Integrated Health Centre's Special Care Home recently had the opportunity to deepen their connections in a unique way, when the both groups gathered together at the health centre for a paint nite.

The paint nite session, led by volunteer art instructor Joan Sommerfeld, saw the Kinettes, and a few of their daughters (referred to as "Kinettes in training"), encourage and assist the elders through a step-by-step art lesson based on the theme of this year's national volunteer

week: Volunteers Light up The World.

Two people are facing numerous drug and weapons charges, following a routine traffic stop on Saturday, April 21.

According to an RCMP press release, Big River and Spiritwood RCMP officers conducted a traffic stop on Highway 55, near Debden, at 5 p.m. on Saturday evening. The stop resulted in the seizure of what is believed to be methamphetamine (crystal meth), and a quantity of prescription pills.

With the snow finally disappearing, The Hidden Hills of Shellbrook Golf Course welcomed the late arrival of spring with a fling on Saturday evening, as it hosted its seventh annual Spring Fling fundraiser at the Shellbrook Community.

This year's spring fling brought in between \$16,000 and \$17,000, making it another success.

MAY

RCMP are seeking two suspects in relation to an armed robbery that occurred at Amanda's Pizza in Shellbrook on Friday, April 27.

Staff at the restaurant were held at gunpoint and robbed, before the suspects, who were wearing bandanas, sunglasses and other face coverings, fled in what is believed to be a red sedan heading east of Shellbrook.

While Hollywood actors look most forward to Oscar season in late February of each year, Sas-

katchewan's newspaper reporters tend to keep their gaze more firmly fixed on the month of April, when the Saskatchewan Weekly Newspaper Association hands out its annual Better Newspaper Competition awards to the province's best.

This year's plaques and certificates continued to be handed out by the SWNA at its AGM on Saturday, April 28, with *Shellbrook Chronicle* news editor Jordan Twiss earning one top honour for Editorial Writing Excellence.

After relying on old-tyme dancing to help them keep the doldrums at bay through yet another long prairie winter, members of the Shellbrook Senior's Association, along with folks from the area, enjoyed their final old-tyme dancing session of the season on Friday, April 27.

Steeped in the music and traditions of a bygone era on the prairies, old-tyme dancing was introduced by the Senior's Association as a monthly activity in early 2015. Since then, the afternoon of dancing and togetherness, which often includes live musical entertainment, has become one of the association's most popular gatherings, attracting seniors from Prince Albert, Debden, and many other communities in the area.

First Debden, then the world.

Or Spiritwood and Shellbrook, at least.

That seems to be the thinking of Don Broder, owner of Debden's Pawn Prophet and Spiritwood's Discount Don's, who, with very little fanfare, opened up his second Discount Don's store in Shellbrook on April 16.

It was, at times, like something out of a movie. But, fortunately, this one had a happy ending.

After more than 30 hours of desperate searching by RCMP officers, local and area Search and Rescue teams, and 100-plus volunteers, Jim Mumm was found in a field southeast of Shellbrook, and reunited with his worried family members and caregivers last Wednesday evening.

Whether it's a curling bonspiel or hockey play-offs, a lot of hard work and determination goes into winning a major competition. And yet, the true measure of athletes isn't just in how they win at competitions, but also in how they respond to defeat.

Competing at the Sas-

katchewan High School Athletics Association (SHSAA) Provincial Mixed Curling Championships, which were held in Rose-town in March, W.P Sandin's mixed curling team didn't come home with the gold medal.

But the team, consisting of skip Brennan Stochmanski, third Alexis Stochmanski, second Burke

Gosselin, and lead Hunter Tremblay, finished atop the podium when it came to displaying sportsmanship.

This sportsmanship was noted by the team's opponents and officials at the championship, who selected the team to be the recipient of the 2018 SHSAA Sportsmanship Award for curling.

Continued on page 8



From left: Raef Debruijn, Carnell Olsen, Becky Wilson, Amy Larsen, Reese Fisher, Addison Kyliuk and Sydney Peake were among a group of performers to kick off Sunday's recital with the tune "Kicking Horse."



Leona Willoughby, Marlene Rudolph (in back), Marianne Hulme, and Margaret Smiley delighted everyone with a tone chime performance, led by volunteer Linda Bator.



Wade Reddekopp (Vera Walters), Leann Strube (Bridget Charles), Jody Smart (Tom O'Grady), and Myron Wall (Sylvia Charles) in a scene from *Nana's Naughty Knickers*.



Massive banks of smoke dotted the horizon around Shellbrook on Saturday and Sunday, as a wildfire kicked off to the southeast of Holbein. The fire has continued to grow since then, posing threats to Crutwell as well.

Looking back on the year that was 2018

MAY continued

It's been about 10 years since W.P. Sandin High School's football team was revived, and, since then, community support for the team, which has put together a string of solid seasons in recent years, has only continued to grow.

The depth of this support was on full display Friday night, when the football team hosted a sold out Lights and Lids Steak Dinner fundraiser and brought in an im-

pressive \$4,000.

The laughs echoing from the Shellbrook Theatre over the weekend were both loud and plentiful this past weekend, when the stage lights went up on the HOST Players production of Katherine DiSavino's comedy *Nana's Naughty Nickers*.

Back in April, Shellbrook Mayor George Tomporowski promised a budget that would maintain the town's focus on

bringing municipal infrastructure into the 21st century. And this year's budget, which was passed at a special meeting of council on May 4, certainly appears to do just that.

In keeping with the town's legal requirement to run balanced budgets, the 2018-2019 municipal budget is forecasting that municipal revenues and expenses will be dead even at \$3,332,840. This marks a modest drop from 2017's budgeted

spending of \$3415,810, and, predictably, infrastructure work makes up a large portion of the planned items in the expenses column.

The budget also saw no tax increases.

Nearly 90 young dancers took the stage and dazzled the jam-packed Shellbrook Theatre on Saturday May 12 and Sunday May 13, when Studio 747 held its annual year-end dance recital, *Dance the Night Away*.

At times billowing up from the horizon like ominous clouds, at others hanging on the air like a dense, grey veil, smoke has become a part of daily life for residents in Holbein, Crutwell, Shellbrook, and the surrounding area, while crews continue to battle a wildfire raging to the south and east of Holbein.

Those who perhaps forgot to buy a mother's day gift had one last chance to remedy that grave mistake, and show a little

appreciation for all the things that moms do, when the Shellbrook Kinettes hosted their Mother's Day Brunch at the Shellbrook Community Hall on Sunday morning.

Police are continuing to investigate, after human remains were discovered in a burnt out vehicle on the Ahtakakoop First Nation the evening of May 10.

The remains were later identified as those of Brennan Ahenakew, 20.

The RCMP's subsequent handling of the investigation earned harsh criticism from Ahenakew's family, especially after Ahenakew's death was ruled "not a homicide."

Madison Bourgeault, a 2016 graduate of WP Sandin High School in Shellbrook, will be attending the International Scholar Laureate Delegation on Business & Entrepreneurship in Beijing and Shanghai, China in June, which includes students from all over the world.

She is also participating in the cultural extension to Hong Kong.

Despite fire crews having had a few days of cooler temperatures, continued tinder-dry conditions in the province early this week have allowed the Rabbit fire, raging along the south western edge of Prince Albert National Park, and in an area outside of the park boundary, to continue to grow in size.

The fire, which began on May 6 when a prescribed burn got out of control, has now reached 24,000 hectares.

If laughter is the best medicine, then the folks who packed the Shellbrook Theatre on Thursday evening got more than just a spoonful, when the students of W.P. Sandin High School put on their annual spring production.

The production included two short plays, Claudia Haas' *Box Office*, and Ed Vela's *Expedient Family*.



Senior hip hop: Brooke Cadrain, Kaitlyn Stene, Leah Mennie, Kelly Woodley, Alexis Chuback, Erica Stene, Sarra Hazelwood, Brianne Cadrain.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

BLAINE LAKE: Wapiti Library - Books, Movies, Magazines, Children's Section, Internet, Printing, Study/Meeting Space, Proctor Service, Community Programming. Hours: Wednesday 12 pm - 6 pm; Friday 1 pm - 5 pm; Saturday 12 pm - 4 pm. Contact us for more info 306-497-3130, www.wapitilibrary.ca.

CANWOOD: Canwood Branch of Wapiti Regional Library. Regular Library Hours - Tues. 1 - 5 p.m., Thurs. 10:00 a.m. - 4 pm & Friday 1 - 5 pm. Storytime: Fridays 2 pm. Play cards the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2 pm. Crafter's Choice the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month at 10 am.

DEBDEN: Wapiti Library hours: Monday 3 pm - 7 pm; Tuesday 11 am - 4 pm. Librarian: Aline Hannon

LEASK: Wapiti Library Hours: Tuesday 1 pm - 5:30 pm; Friday 10:30 am - 5 pm; Saturday 1 pm - 5 pm.

MARCELIN: Wapiti Library is open Tues. 10:30 am - 5:30 pm; Thur. 2 pm - 8 pm. For information on all your library needs, please contact 306-226-2110.

SHELLBROOK: Shellbrook Branch of the Wapiti Library located at 105 Railway Ave., West (Provincial building). Library Hours: Mon. 2 - 6:30 pm; Tues. 2 - 8 pm; Wed. 2 - 8 pm; Thur. 2 - 6:30 pm; Fri. 9 - 4 pm. Children's Story Time: Fri. 10:30 am (Sept - June).

SHELLBROOK: Shellbrook Theatre Movie Night, Fri., Jan. 11, Jurassic World; Fri., Jan. 25, Trolls; Fri., Feb. 8, Beautiful Boy; Fri., Feb. 22, Incredibles 2. Doors Open 7 p.m. Showtime 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$5

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A column of smoke rises from the wildfire burning in the southwestern corner of Prince Albert National Park. Photo courtesy of Parks Canada.



Sam Miller, Erika Stene, and Ben Lafond generated more than their fair share of laughs last Thursday evening, when W.P. Sandin put its annual spring production. The three starred in the comedy, *Expedient Family*.

Looking back on the year that was 2018

JUNE

Good pie, good music, and good fellowship were experienced by all in attendance on Sunday evening, when the Shellbrook Legion played host to a benefit concert for Dave and Helina Gallant at the Shellbrook Legion Hall.

With personal cheques include, the evening, which featured entertainment by the talented Amundson family, brought in nearly \$3,300 (\$3,295.80) for the Gallants. The proceeds will all go directly to the Gallants, to help them “raise the roof” on their family home.

If one were to see how full the Mont Nebo Hall was on Sunday evening, when the community hosted its final potluck dinner and jam session until the fall, one would have a hard time believing that, just two years ago, the building’s future was very much in question.

Facing \$20,000 worth of roof repairs, the hall, which also houses tributes to more than 100 World War One and World War Two veterans, was in dire straits.

However, as is always the case in small communities, a handful of people came together with the goal of saving the hall, and improving it for year-round use.

One of the fruits of the labour that went into saving the Mont Nebo Hall, was the introduction of monthly potlucks and jam sessions, which are held on the last Sunday of most months of the year.

Despite an early afternoon thunderstorm that looked like it might put a damper on things, W.P Sandin

High School’s Relay for Life, which was organized by the school’s Student Leadership Council (SLC) and held on the school’s football field Saturday evening, went off mostly without a hitch.

Aside from being a beautiful night, the SLC’s second annual relay life was also an undeniably successful one, raising \$7,500 for the Canadian Cancer Society and cancer research.

On May 25, 2018 the Canwood Community School gym was filled to capacity with family and friends to celebrate the end of the graduates’ school careers. Grads, decked out in their finest received good wishes and support from the community.

Canwood’s 2018 grads are: Dylan Kvinlaug, Skylar Bear, Colton Bahnuick, Saxon Rowland, Mercedes Bedard, and Karina Johnson.

Mae Atkinson, a long term resident of Shellbrook, celebrated her 90th birthday this past Sunday, May 20 with a Come and Go Tea at the Parkland Integrated Rec Health Centre.

There won’t be any trains rolling through Shellbrook any time soon, but thanks to the volunteer efforts of Fred Tatler and Wayne Larson, the Shellbrook Museum now has a longer section of railway track on its south side.

With pouring rain and high winds over two days of a three-day outdoor event, it would have been easy to pack it in and call it a day.

But in true Shellbrook fashion, the organizers of Shellbrook’s Sports Days, all the ball teams who com-

peted in the event, and the parents and supporters who lined the stands to watch, persevered.

Not only this, they en-

sured that this year’s Sports Day, held at the Shellbrook Sports Grounds from June 1 to 3, was still an overwhelming success, bring-

ing in about \$5,000 – down slightly from last year’s take of about \$7,000, but still a solid profit nonetheless.

Continued on page 10



Survivor Zenia Saam led the first lap of the Relay for Life, alongside Cassidy Saam, Kaelee Saam, Jenna Andreae, and Lauren Jones.



Mae Atkinson blows out the candles on her birthday cake, during a celebration of her 90th birthday at Parkland Integrated Health Centre on May 20.



A throw to home plate comes too late to beat a well-timed slide during competition between Shellbrook’s Peewee girls and Squirt Heat.



The dance floor was full for much of the evening, when a potluck and jam session was held at the Mont Nebo Hall Sunday, May 27.

Looking back on the year that was 2018

JUNE Continued

Ten years of garbage and recycling is a whole lot of waste. But that's precisely what Shellbrook's own garbage and recycling collection company, TJ Disposals, was celebrating last Friday, when it held a free barbecue for customers, and the community, at its headquarters.

Following nearly a month of suppression efforts by local and provincial fire crews, the Rally wildfire raging near Holbein and Crutwell was officially declared "out" on June 7.

The extinguishing of the fire, which had been burning since May 12, was confirmed Monday morning by a spokesperson for the Wildfire Management Centre in Prince Albert.

At its apex, the Rally wildfire reached 2,567 hectares in size.

In keeping with their chosen theme of "It always seems impossible until it's done," W.P. Sandin High School's 2018 graduating class gathered in the high

school's gymnasium Friday morning, along with staff, family, and friends, to celebrate something that once seemed impossible to them: the completion of their first 13 years of education.

This year's graduating class is: Oz (Rhiannon) Amyotte, Evan Anderson, Nathan Anderson, JBenna Andreae, Jacksen Bloom, Kacy Campbell, Huy Cao, Pierce Crawford, Dane Ethier, Courtney Farthing, Nolan Ferster, Lauren Jones, Sam Lafond, Abigail Lunsford, Dakota Moore, Mathew Moore, Marshall Nagy, Bailey Otto, Ngan (Ben) Phan, Ryan Potts, Tessa Riel, Kaelee Saam, Jushuana Sakebow, Chase Schmidt, Kyle Simmonds, Ciera Smith, Shayden Smith, Paxton Tremblay, and Tanner Wolfe.

One suspect in Amanda's Pizza robbery arrested in Shellbrook

Matthew Lafond was arrested without incident in Shellbrook Tuesday June 12. Lafond will be appearing

in Provincial court at Ahtahkakoop First Nation at 10 a.m. on June 13th in relation to these charges.

About 30 fellow Legion members and close friends of George Laberge gathered at the Shellbrook Cemetery Saturday afternoon to say their final farewells, as the World War Two veteran, businessman, and former town mayor was finally laid to rest.

Laberge died peacefully at Parkland Integrated Health Centre's special care home on Dec. 20, 2017, and a memorial service and celebration of life, officiated by the Shellbrook Legion, was held early in the new year.

After reaching a peak size of 36,665 hectares, the Rabbit Creek wildfire burning along the south-western border of Prince Albert National Park has seen no growth since May 21, and fire crews are now focusing their efforts on extinguishing any hotspots that flare up.

The U19 Shellbrook Ranger Fastball team got their first taste of what looks to be a schedule filled with friendly international competition, when it played host to the Team ISA New Zealand U19 club during its tour of Saskatchewan.

The match-up, a doubleheader played Sunday afternoon at the Shellbrook Sports Grounds, was blessed by perfect conditions

for ball. And the U19 Rangers gave the New Zealand a taste of what the province has to offer with an offensively and defensively dominant 5-2 win in game one, and a 9-4 victory in game two.

With the oppressive summer heat making it hard to focus in class, and the stress of looming final exams, students at W.P. Sandin were likely in need of a way to blow off some steam. Luckily, they got just that when the school hosted its annual Summerfest bash last Thursday afternoon.

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again, the old saying goes.

Shellbrook's own Ryan Smith certainly learned the truth of that adage, even if he only had to try twice before becoming one of just 17 young Ca-

nadians named to Team Canada's roster for the upcoming 2018 WBSC Junior Men's Softball World Championships.

JULY

For the past seven years, the CanAm Bowl, a fiercely competitive six-man football game played in Saskatchewan by Canada and the United States' top Grade 12 all star football players, has seen Team USA earn some pretty decisive victories.

But, when he dons the red and white jersey and the maple leaf-adorned helmet of Team Canada in the 22nd CanAm Bowl in Kerrobert on July 7, Shellbrook's own Nathan Anderson is hoping that he and his fellow Team Canada players can end The Americans' win streak.

Spoiler alert: They didn't.

With the arrival of

summer, the Shellbrook Swimming pool will soon be one of the town's main hubs of activity as people from the surrounding area search for a way to beat the heat.

And, thanks to the hard work of the pool's lifeguards, those who choose to frequent the swimming pool throughout the summer will have more ways to have fun there, after the lifeguards managed to splash up about \$2,896 (before expenses) at a fundraiser barbecue last Thursday.

The Canada Day long weekend proved to be a lucrative one for a pair of thieves, who are now wanted for a string of robberies that saw Naber Ford and Shellbrook Tempo victimized in the early hours of Saturday June 30.



George Laberge's friend, Nick Bilyk, and Shellbrook Legion members Marie Trueman and Helen Dagenais drink a final toast in his honour.



Shellbrook's Dylan Kvinlaug slides safely into home plate in action from the top of the first inning, after a wild pitch by Team New Zealand pitcher Samuel Haehae opened the door for a steal. The U19 Rangers topped New Zealand twice in doubleheader action on Sunday, June 17.



Canwood grads, from left to right: Dylan Kvinlaug, Skylar Bear, Colton Bahnwick, Saxon Rowland, Mercedes Bedard, and Karina Johnson.



W.P. Sandin High School's graduating class of 2018. Back: Kyle Simmonds, Nathan Anderson, Chase Schmidt, Ryan Potts, Evan Anderson, Mathew Moore, Marshall Nagy, Dane Ethier, Huy Cao, Samuel Lafond, and Ngan (Ben) Phan. Middle: Lauren Jones, Kaelee Saam, Jenna Andreae, Ciera Smith, Bailey Otto, Jushuana Sakebow, Tessa Riel, Kacy Campbell, Courtney Farthing, and Oz (Rhiannon) Amyotte. Front: Nolan Ferster, Tanner Wolfe, Dakota Moore, Pierce Crawford, Jacksen Bloom, and Shayden Smith. Missing: Abigail Lunsford, and Paxton Tremblay.

Looking back on the year that was 2018

After the previous week saw the spotlight fixed on the athletic accomplishments of the student athletes at W.P. Sandin High School, Wednesday evening focused primarily on academics, as staff, students, and proud parents filled the school's gymnasium to celebrate the school's highest achievers.

A 31-year-old Shellbrook man, who is being described as a "great father" to his two daughters, is dead following what RCMP are calling a homicide on Saturday June 30.

According to a release issued by the RCMP, officers from the Shellbrook RCMP detachment responded to a complaint of an assault at an apartment complex in the 300 block of 4th Avenue East in Shellbrook at approximately 3:20 p.m. on Saturday, June 30.

Blaine Lake RCMP are asking for the public's assistance in identifying the individual responsible in recent theft investigations.

In the early morning hours of June 28, 2018 a suspect attended multiple rural properties near Leask in the RM of Leask and stole gasoline and batteries from the farmyards.

The suspect vehicle is described as an early to mid 1990s GMC or Chevrolet 4x4 truck, dark blue or black in color with a "Z71" decal on the rear of the box.

Stopping off in Shellbrook for an exhibition doubleheader against Japan's 2018 WBSC Junior Men's World Softball team, Team Canada, which includes homegrown talent Ryan Smith, got taken for one hell of a ride.

However, even if the home team lost game one 8-0, and game two by closer score of 11-7, the big crowd at the Shellbrook Sports Grounds was happy to cheer on its country, during what turned out to be a perfect evening for softball.

After greeting the world by opening the 2018 WBSC Junior Men's World softball Championship with a dominating 10-3 victory over perennial rivals, the United States, Team Canada was back in action against the Czech Republic Sunday evening.

The stands were packed as the sun slowly descended over Prime Minister's Park in PA, and hometown product Ryan Smith wasn't in the starting lineup, but Team Canada put on an impressive show on both sides of the ball, downing the Czech squad 6-1.

When the *Chronicle* last looked into updates on the three-year-long legal saga that includes R.M. of Shellbrook Division 4 councillor Lyle Muller, the R.M. of Shellbrook, David and Lorinda Helm, and Division 3 councillor Sean Helm back in April, there had been little movement

on any of the files still before the Prince Albert Court of Queen's Bench.

Three long months later, that hasn't changed, as there's been no progress on Muller's \$216,214 lawsuit against the R.M. and the Helms for flooding damages on his property, or Muller's second suit to have Sean Helm dismissed from council for alleged violations of the Municipalities Act's provisions around declaring pecuniary interest in council matters

In a completely unrelated legal matter, Muller is on the legal defensive once again, this time facing a defamation and slander lawsuit for his conduct with regards to a marina along Sturgeon Lake that is operated by Arnold Anderson and family.

The Andersons' marina has been a bone of contention for Muller, who began to question its legality after access to the public reserve land on which the marina is situated was blocked one summer, preventing him from launching his boat from his usual spot – technically speaking, it is illegal to block access to public reserve land, as it is intended for the enjoyment of all, though what constitutes "blocked access" is up for debate.

Some call it the triathlon of the horse world. And, after a 20-year absence from the province, eventing is making a triumphant return to Saskatchewan on July 28 and



Team Canada's Shellbrook product, Ryan Smith, stares down team Japan's pitcher in front of a roaring hometown crowd. Canada lost both games, but the crowd of about 1,000 still enjoyed the action.

July 29.

The two-day Horse Trials Saskatchewan event is being hosted by Greg and Laurel Vaadeland's NorthWestEquest horse training facility, which is located on the western border of Prince Albert National Park, and will include competitive action in dressage, show jumping, and cross-country jumping.

If the 2018 WBSC Junior Men's Softball World Championship can be compared to a marathon, then Team Canada would be most comparable to the runner who starts off a little too strong, and ends up fading before reaching the finish line.

After cruising through the round robins, Canada stumbled in the playoffs, ending the tournament with a disappointing fourth place finish.

It was a busy three months for the Shellbrook RCMP detachment, which, according to its quarterly report for the period from April 1 to June 30, 2018, received 1,101 reported occurrences.

The Prince Albert U14 Aces girl's softball team went undefeated in Provincial ball play this past weekend. The Aces defeated teams from Regina, Southey and Saskatoon in round robin, with continued wins in the Semi-final over Saskatoon White Raiders 9-2. Aces won the final against the Moose Jaw Ice 11-8.

The provincial gold awards the team the opportunity to compete for the Canadian national title in Montreal Quebec this coming August 15-19.

Aces connections to Shellbrook are Anik Moe, daughter of Sheldon and Monique Moe, Carey Lehner (daughter), Karlee Lehner (granddaughter) of Bruce and Diane Cle-

ments. Carnell Olsen is daughter to Curtis and Cortney Olsen.

For the third consecutive summer, orange pylons and heavy equipment have become features of Shellbrook's Main Street, as another round of summer infrastructure maintenance begins.

The work, being completed by United Paving, began Monday morning with the paving of the boulevards that begin at the 3rd Avenue intersection of Main Street.

Some days you're at your best. Some days you're at your worst. And some days you're just good enough to scrape by.

For the Shellbrook U19 Rangers, who spent July 20 to 22 competing in the U19 A Boys Provincials in Saskatoon, it was mostly the latter over this past weekend. The team played some strong ball, but in the end "strong ball" was only good enough for a third place finish.



W.P. Sandin's junior and senior student of the year awards were a family affair, as Hunter Tremblay took home Junior student of the year and the Kinnette Marie Nesdoly Memorial trophy, and Paxton Tremblay earned senior student of the year honours and the Clarence Martin Memorial Trophy.



Despite facing stiff competition, the U16 Shellbrook Rangers came out of provincials in Saskatoon with a silver medal. The Wadena Wildcats earned gold. The silver medallists, back row: Drew Ferster, Tricia Bell, Dallan Saam, Ashton Ferster, Dalton Wasden, Lucas Lomsnes, Dallas Galloway, Ethan Bell, and Sheldon Moe. Front row: Ethan Skauge, Gavin Fisher, Rylan Moe, Breck Thiel, Devin Aug, and Jake Feige



Shellbrook's Main Street was dug up for the third consecutive summer on Tuesday morning, but this time the work, which includes repaving the section of Main Street that was dug up after last summer's sewer line failure, was expected.

Looking back on the year that was 2018

AUGUST

Three months after two armed men robbed Amanda's pizza, the second suspect in the robbery has been arrested.

RCMP issued a release Friday afternoon, reporting that Keith Stonechild was arrested on July 26 on the outstanding warrant related to the incident. His co-accused,

Matthew Lafond, was arrested without incident in Shellbrook on June 12, and since then has made at least one appearance in the provincial court on Ahtahkakoop First Nation.

Perfect weather and a near-capacity crowd made for ideal conditions for some automo-

tive mayhem Saturday, as the Parkside Community Club played host to the annual Parkside Demolition Derby.

A mainstay in the small village over the past 36 years, the demolition derby, which is put on by a small but dedicated group of volunteers, has always been a big draw for the community. This year was no different, as 30 drivers drove out from across the province in their decked out derby cars to smash and bash their way to the winner's circle.

This year, Parkside's own Derek Olson was the last driver standing.

Nearly three months after his remains were found in a burnt out vehicle on the Ahtahkakoop First Nation, the RCMP has yet to arrive at a concrete conclusion regarding the death of 20-year-old Brennan Ahenakew.

In a brief phone call last week, RCMP spokesperson, Cpl. Rob King,



Parkside Community Club president, Jeff Ledding, shakes hands with Derek Olson, the winner of the 2018 Parkside Demolition Derby. Olson had a big day at the derby, winning one of the truck heats, as well as the prize for best entertainer.



Ladies' Rosebowl winners, Marie Wachno and Sheila Popowich.

was only able to confirm that there is currently "no evidence" that Brennan's death is criminal in nature.

After a two-and-a-half year investigation by the RCMP and Manitoba Prosecution Services, none of the players involved in the highly controversial GTH land deal will face criminal charges.

The revelation was made by the RCMP Wednesday, July 25, when Supt. Paul Saganiski, federal criminal operations officer, announced the conclusion of the investigation at a media conference.

In any town other than Shellbrook, a partnership between the local daycare and the local butcher shop might seem like the plot of a horror film.

But here in Shellbrook, where organizations and businesses thrive by supporting each other and working together, a three-year partnership between Parkland Meats and Happy Hearts Childcare Centre has proven to be a rather profitable arrangement.

This year, after a month-and-a-half of sales, Happy Heart pocketed \$3,422 in profits.

For the town of Shellbrook, it sometimes seems less like a question of if something will go wrong, and more like a question of when.

Just two weeks after the town wrapped up its summer patching and paving work by repaving the section of Main Street – between the intersections of 1st Avenue and Second Avenue – that was dug up for two months

during last summer's major sewer line repairs, water is flowing in places it shouldn't be once again.

This summer, however, the rogue water is flowing to Parkland Meats. But the good news, says town councillor Amund Otterson, is that the water isn't causing any serious damage.

Debden Swimming Lessons ran July 9 to 20. We had another great year, and have a whole community to thank for that.

Swimming lessons ran smoothly and we had beautiful weather for most of the time.

Our three wonderful instructors did a fantastic job. Together they taught 195 swimmers this very important skill. The two weeks ended with games and a Friday fun day.



Crews dig up a section of Main Street, just south of 1st Avenue, to get to the root of a water line break.

PRAISE & WORSHIP

Regular services, Sunday school and special services will be listed.

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Zion - Canwood
Sunday School,
Worship Sunday, 9 a.m.
St. John's - Shellbrook
Sunday School,
Worship Sunday, 11 a.m.
Rev. Emmanuel Aristide

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

Parkside
11 a.m. - Worship
Pastor Chris Dean

PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Parkside
10:30 a.m. Worship
Pastor Doug Hope
306-747-3572
Shellbrook
Sun., 10:30 a.m. - Worship
Pastor David Bodvarson
306-747-7235
Canwood
11:00 a.m. - Worship
Pastor Glenn Blazosek
306-468-2138
Leask Gospel Tabernacle
Sunday 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
Pastor Lorne Valuck

SOVEREIGN GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

Currently meeting in homes on Sunday morning & Wednesday evenings
Parkside 306-747-2309
Leask 306-466-4498
Marcelin 306-226-4615

EVANGELICAL FREE

Big River
11:00 a.m. - Worship
Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.
Summer: 10:30 a.m. - 12
306-469-2258
Youth Nite: Fridays
Mont Nebo
Bible Study & Prayer
Sun., 11:00 a.m. - Worship
Pastor Bill Klumpenhower

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Debden
Sun. Mass - 9:30 a.m.
Fr. Michael Fahlman
Big River - Sacred Heart
Sun., 11:30 a.m. - Mass
Whitefish
Sun., 2:30 p.m. - Mass.
Victoire
Sat., 7:30 p.m. - Mass.
Fr. Michael Fahlman
Eucharist Celebrations
Muskeg
Sunday, 3 p.m.
St. Agatha's - Shellbrook
Mass - Sunday - 9 a.m.
St. Henry's - Leask
Mass - Sunday - 11 a.m.
St. Joseph's - Marcelin
Mass - Saturday - 7 p.m.
Mistawasis
2nd & 4th Sundays, 1:30 p.m.
Fr. Phong Tran

PRESBYTERIAN

Mistawasis
Sunday worship
11:00 a.m.
Rev. Katherine Bretzlaff

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

407-2nd Ave E, Shellbrook
Sat., 9:45 a.m. - Sabbath School
Sat., 11:00 am -Worship
Broadcast on
VOAR 92.1 FM
Pastor Scott Manly
306-747-3305

ANGLICAN CHURCH

Leask - All Saint's
Sunday, 9 a.m. - Service
St. Andrew's - Shellbrook
Sunday, 11 a.m. Service
Canwood - Christ Church
Sunday, 11 a.m. - Service
2 p.m. Service 2nd Sunday
of the month
Diocese of Saskatchewan
Synod Office 306-763-2455
and leave message.

UNITED CHURCH

Shellbrook - Knox United
Sun., 10 am - Worship
306-747-3434
Big River
Sundays
10 a.m. - Worship
at Anglican Church
Rev. Dave Whalley
306-747-2804

MENNONITE BRETHREN CHURCH

Blaine Lake Gospel Chapel
109 Railway Ave. W.
Blaine Lake
306-497-3316
Pastor: Rick Schellenberg
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.
Worship

Looking back on the year that was 2018

Lady golfers, both from Shellbrook and from across the province, were in the spotlight on Aug. 8 and 9, when Shellbrook's Hidden Hills of Shellbrook Golf Course played host to Golf Saskatchewan's 48th annual Ladies Rosebowl.

Buoyed by two days of sun and heat, the Rosebowl went off without a hitch, and also turned out to be a fun-filled, yet still highly competitive event.

Claiming the top spot, with 28-under-par (116) over the course of 36 holes, was the Wynyard-based team of Marie Wachno and Sheila Popowich.

Shellbrook's U16 Rangers received a valuable lesson in overcoming adversity over the weekend, and did their community proud, as they battled their way to a gold medal at Westerns.

The parents of 20-year-old Brennan Ahenakew are vowing to continue their pursuit for justice for their son, after the RCMP said last week that there's nothing to indicate foul play in his death.

Since Brennan's remains were discovered in a burnt-out vehicle on the Ahtakakoop Cree Nation on May 10, his parents, Lisa Johnstone and Jared Ahenakew, have remained convinced that their son was murdered, and that they know who is responsible for his death.

However, while speaking to multiple media outlets late last week, RCMP spokesperson Cpl. Rob King said nothing about the investigation's initial findings points in that direction.

On Tuesday, Aug. 7, John Arcand, the Master of the Metis Fiddle from southwest of Saskatoon, visited the Canwood Library for a fiddle presentation and interview that revolved around the recent book release "John Arcand: The Man, The Music, The Festival." This book, released by the Gabriel Dumont Institute, provides a summary of John's personal and musical life, his artistic accomplishments and the growth of the annual John Arcand Fiddle Fest that happens every August at his Windy Acres residence.

Acres residence.

After earning their spot at the U19 Men's Canadian Fast Pitch Championship with a hard-fought third-place finish at provincials in July, the U19 Shellbrook Rangers were understandably underdogs when they competed on the national stage in Napanee, Ont. from Aug. 14 to 19.

But even though the Rangers didn't pull off a Cinderella-story style upset of the competition, which included 11 of the best teams from across the country, the team played hard en route to a 3-7 record, and a ninth place finish at the tournament.

Though referred to as a horticultural show, the Walter Willoughby Horticultural Society's 56th annual Horticultural Show, held Thursday Aug. 16 at the Shellbrook Community Hall, had a little something for everyone.

Of course, there was no shortage of horticultural handiwork on display at the show, which included an impressive 491 exhibits from 41 exhibitors.

June was celebration month at the Marcelin Public Library, as it observed both its 50th anniversary and the opening of a newly renovated facility expansion.

Opened in the spring of 1968, the library was established in space added on to the Marcelin Town Office building to specifically accommodate the library. The Town Office recently moved to a new location, and reallocated its portion of the building to the library, more than doubling available space. The new space houses an expanded children's section, with activity tables and a cozy reading nook.

One of the region's leading sellers of modular homes and RTMs, Prince Albert's Escalade Homes, is bringing the modular movement to Shellbrook in a big way,

with the construction of the 12-unit Parkland Meadows condominium development.

U16 Westerns champions. Back Row: Sheldon Moe (Coach), Gavin Fisher, Ashton Ferster, Dallas Galloway, Ethan Skauge, Lucas Lomsnes, Breck Thiel, Jake Feige, Drew Ferster (Coach). Front Row: Ethan Bell, Dallan Saam, Devin Aug, Rylan Moe, Tricia Bell (Coach). Missing: Dalton Wasden.



with the construction of the 12-unit Parkland Meadows condominium development.

In small town Saskatchewan, most community events only go on for so long before a new, but no less worthy, event or cause comes along.

After 10 years of mud and mayhem, the Marcelin MX Games seem poised to be an exception to this rule. That's because, according to all accounts from both organizers and visitors alike, this year's Games were the best, the biggest, and the most successful yet, raising \$6,607 – enough to help the committee pay off a building it had constructed on the MX Games grounds.

Details are still being finalized, but as early as spring 2019 Lake Country Co-op could begin construction on a Dairy Queen restaurant at its Shellbrook C-Store and Gas Bar location.

If it isn't dealing with having to move the entire event at the last minute, it seems the hard-working Shellbrook Summer Fair committee has to contend with less than ideal weather conditions instead.



Dirt bike entries were up at the Marcelin MX Games this year, meaning there were more nail-biting races like this one.

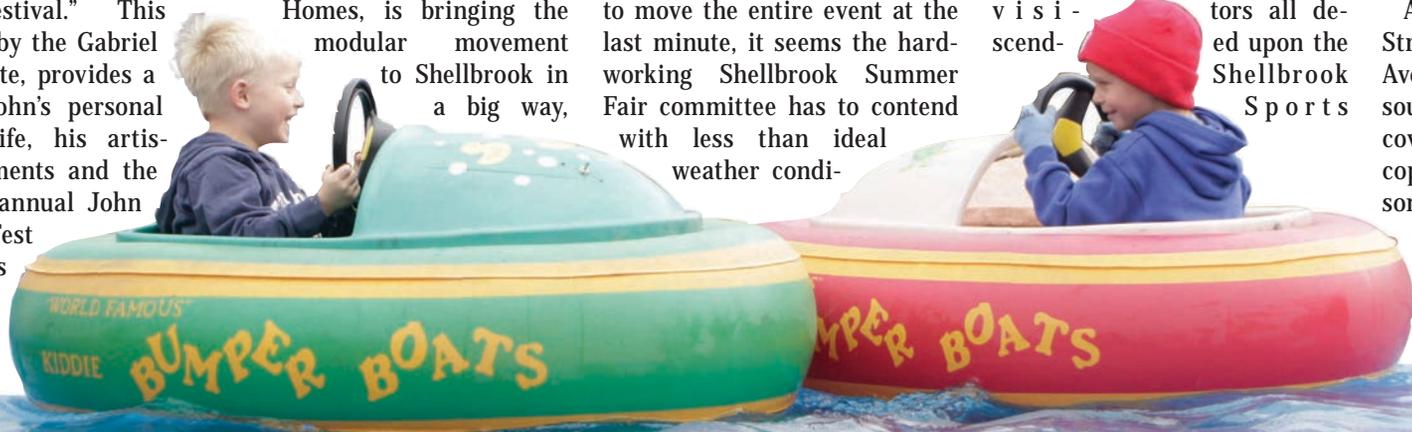
Grounds in droves.

Despite the presence of a new speed bump in the road, work to repair a water line break on Shellbrook's Main Street has officially been completed.

After a small section of Main Street was torn up between 1st Avenue and Railway Avenue, the source of the problem was discovered to be a failure in an old copper service connection line – something that Shellbrook Mayor George Tomporowski says is fairly commonplace with the ageing infrastructure.

tions instead.

But even if the 2018 Shellbrook Summer Fair was marred by gloom and the ever-present threat of rain, it still seemed to be the place to be on Saturday, as vendors, attractions, and visitors all descended upon the Shellbrook Sports



In their first year, it's safe to say that the bumper boats made quite a splash at the Shellbrook Summer Fair.

Looking back on the year that was 2018

SEPTEMBER

It was a dream at least six years in the making, and thanks to the support of the Shellbrook Theatre's user groups, and grant funding from Affinity Credit Union's District Council, it finally came (partially) true this year.

That dream, which has now been at least half realized, was the installation of new stage lights at the theatre – lights that were put in the spotlight, so to speak, at a meeting held at the theatre last week.

The Affinity Credit Union District Council funding, which is made available twice a year for projects in the arts, agriculture, and everything in between, totalled \$2,000. And it was just enough to help the theatre groups pay the final bill of \$9,000 for the new LED light fixtures.

With the ringing of school bells on Tuesday morning, the kids are now back in their classrooms for another busy school year filled with learning.

But for the Shellbrook Aardvarks football team of W.P. Sandin High School, the preparation for what is to be a grueling season on the gridiron began well before the first day of classes.

The preparations for the season were capped off by a controlled scrimmage on home turf against the Birch Hills Marauder on Thursday, Aug. 30.

Once again the Shell Lake Fifty-Plus Club hosted the Bud Dicus Memorial Golf Tournament on August 23. Despite the cool, breezy teeth-chattering weather, 99 participants from surrounding communities gathered to



Brent Miller accepts a \$2,000 cheque from Parkside Mayor and Parkside General Store owner, Dave Moe. This donation brings the total donations from the community of Parkside over the past two years to \$27,000. "This commitment by a neighbouring community is exceptional, and words cannot express the gratefulness and encouragement felt by the Steering Committee," said Miller of the community's donations.

compete for the prizes.

The winners, with a score of 66, were Robert Bonneau, Helen Fisher, Bob Hryniuk, and Wayne Dixon.

The 35th annual Men's Invitational Tournament was held Aug. 24, 25, and 26, 2018. There were 112 golfers playing. The winner of the Championship Flight was Mike Smith in a final match against Shawn Strelau

The W.P. Sandin High School Aardvarks opened up their 2018 regular season campaign with a back-and-

forth showdown against the Big River Highway 55ers last Friday evening, hosting their opponents under the glow of the big lights.

Despite falling well behind the visiting team in the second half, the Aardvarks' defence managed to make some big stands. This allowed the Aardvarks to walk away with a narrow 35-32 victory.

The game was eventually called early, due to an injury to a Big River player.

MJW Chartered Professional Accountant continues to prove that the community of Shellbrook is better when everyone works together.

With its fifth round of the Strength Through Numbers Program, the business connected the Prince Albert Aces Under 14 girls softball team with the Shellbrook Kinsmen to help the local organization finish some much-needed maintenance at the outdoor rink.

The team's players were tasked with scraping and repainting the boards, and giving the warm up and skate shack a fresh coat of paint, and each of them worked hard to get the project done.

Every September, when the Farmer's Market and Pie and Coffee Social rolls around, our elders look forward to everything from cutting apples, to eating pies and seeing all the people along with everything in between. Not only is this a fundraiser, it's a community builder as well. It's an opportunity to connect with others. A real social affair.

This, by far, was the most successful event out of the seven years running. People came early for the best selection, but patiently waited 45 minutes for the doors to open.

Taking a page out of the unofficial motto of the United States Postal Service, Honeywood Heritage Nursery went ahead and hosted its year-end Touch of Autumn event Sunday afternoon, in spite of misty, rainy, and downright miserable conditions.

But, as Honeywood's Judy Harley explains, not even the gloomy weather could detract from the autumnal display being put on at the nursery grounds.

The list of needs was a long one. But after a summer filled with renovations, the work at the Shellbrook Legion Hall is nearing completion, says Legion president Helen Dagenais.

Over the past couple of months, work crews have been a fixture at the Legion Hall, which, according to most estimates by people in the community, is about 75 years old.

Starting on the ageing building's interior, the floor was sanded and revarnished, and a storage room for Judo instructor and legion member Fred Tatler was added to the facility.

Moving to the exterior, where the lion's share of the work was done, the siding was completely replaced, the eaves were fixed up, and the parging was redone.



New siding was just one of many projects completed at the Shellbrook Legion Hall over the summer. But with membership declining, the future of both the Legion, and the Legion Hall, are uncertain.



Memorial Lake Regional Park Invitational Tourney winners, top left to right: Zoltan Pataki, Wayne Ringdahl, Blaine Unger, Owen Johnson, John Morrow, Brad Brataschuk, John Bernier, and Steve Warren. Bottom left to right: Tyson Walter, Darren Lehmann, Shawn Strelau, Mike Smith, Tyler Fisher, and Aaron Baier. Missing Mark Mrazek

Looking back on the year that was 2018

With kids constantly outgrowing their hockey gear, the question often arises: what do parents do with equipment that isn't being used anymore?

Fortunately for parents in Shellbrook and the surrounding area, Kelly Herndier and Melissa Moe had the perfect answer. With a ringing endorsement from Shellbrook minor hockey and the town of Shellbrook, the two spearheaded a hockey equipment buy/sell/swap at the Shellbrook Recreation Complex on Saturday, Sept. 8.

It's always a feel good moment when local businesses and community organizations team up and focus their combined efforts on an important cause.

Last Tuesday, however, was more of a fuel good moment, as the Shellbrook Kinettes and Lake Country Co-op joined forces for the Co-op's Fuel Good Days, an initiative that saw 10 cents per every litre of gas sold throughout the day put towards the Kinettes' Kin Park project.

Three people from the Marcelin area, who were perhaps hoping to cash in on Ottawa's pending legalization of marijuana early, saw their dreams go up in a big puff of smoke as the RCMP descended upon and shut down their operation.

After a March town hall that was fraught with tensions and thinly veiled frustration on the part of rural property owners, the Shellbrook RCMP detachment's second town hall meeting of 2018, held at the Shellbrook Theatre last Wednesday evening, had a markedly different tone.

Though some frustrations were still aired – both by landowners, and the overworked

and overstretched members of the Shellbrook RCMP – there were far fewer questions about property owners' rights to use force to defend their property from criminals.

However, the primary focus was on the activity of Rural Crime Watch groups that have become active in the Shellbrook and Canwood areas.

Summer may be considered the off-season for hockey and curling, but the Shellbrook Recreation Complex was a hub of activity this past summer, as phase one of the Shellbrook Recreation Project Steering Committee's ambitious renovation project was effectively completed.

That first phase, which is the first of many to come, included the purchase and installation of a brand new, \$400,000 ice plant with a reverse osmosis water system. And, although the new piece of machinery hasn't been up and running for long, it's already looking like a sound investment in the rink's future.

OCTOBER

The elders from Parkland Integrated Health Centre's (PIHC) Special Care Home are used to having full social and recreational calendars. But last week, their calendars were especially full for a very special purpose: the celebration of Special Care Home Week, which ran from Sept. 23 to 29.

As recreation coordinator Trina Chamberlain explains, Special Care Home Week is an annual opportunity to bring communities together to celebrate the staff, volunteers, and, above all else, the elders of local long-term care facilities.

With blustery and downright miserable conditions to contend with, students from



Harvest operations were in full swing on the Field of Dreams on Wednesday, Oct. 3. In keeping with the tradition of the Field of Dreams being a community endeavour, John Deere Service Equipment helped harvest this year's wheat crop.

Shellbrook Elementary School and W.P. Sandin Public High School still found ways to have fun, and honour a Canadian hero, when they united for their annual Terry Fox Walk/Run on Thursday, Sept. 27.

This year, the students and the community were able to make a sizeable donation to the cause, as they raised \$700 through proceeds donated to the elementary school, and also through an annual barbecue hosted by the high school's Student Leadership Council (SLC).

On July 7, the Stump Lake Flyers Alumni Hockey Team had a golf tournament, held at a Canwood Pines Golf Course. Lots of good fellowship and going over Mitch Alstalt's stats from years ago proved to be very interesting.

The winning team was Calvin Johnson, Rock Jensen, Lloyd Bathen, and Wayde Thall (referee). Second place was John Bundgaard, Jens

Bundgaard, and Mitch and Janet Alstalt, with honourable mentions to Nels Bundgaard, Glenn Nordby, John Wreford, and Johnny Johnson.

One woman is dead following a single vehicle rollover on the Mistawasis First Nation on Saturday, Sept. 28.

According to a release issued by the Shellbrook RCMP, the accident happened around 6:40 p.m. on Saturday evening.

A 37-year-old North Battleford man is facing numerous charges, after leading RCMP officers from the Blaine Lake, the Battlefords and other detachments on one heck of a merry chase.

The chase began around 8:40 a.m. Monday morning, when an officer with the Blaine Lake RCMP detachment stopped a vehicle along

Highway 40, 10 miles west of Richard, Sask. During the stop, the driver, later identified as William Rhode, reportedly fled in the vehicle, before turning around and attempting to run the officer down.

The officer was okay, and Rhode was eventually arrested at a gas station in Cochin, Sask.

For many producers, it's been one hellish nightmare of a harvest. But in spite of that, it's still looking like another sweet season for the Field of Dreams.

With 8,100 bushels of wheat harvested from about 160 acres of land, Galloway says the project should bring in between the \$40,000 and \$50,000 once the few bills have been paid, putting it right in the average profit range for the past 14 years.

Continued on page 16



The Travel table was full throughout the night, during the Shellbrook Library's first-ever Book Tasting event.



Affinity Credit Union District Council Chair Tina Stene (right) presents a \$2,000 cheque to Pat Grayston and Merle Roberts. The funds were obtained through Affinity's District Council Funding grant program, and helped pay for new LED stage lights at the Shellbrook Theatre.

Looking back on the year that was 2018

OCTOBER Continued

It doesn't matter whether you're five years old or 95. If you, like many other folks in rural Saskatchewan, grew up on a farm or have spent even a little bit of time on a farm, then you understand that farming is not just a job, or a pastime; it's a way of life.

And so, for the past five harvests, Stephanie and Jeff Gosselin have been inviting the elders from Parkland Integrated Health Centre to their farm, both to share in a harvest meal, and to provide them with an opportunity to reminisce about the good old days.

As far as municipal elections in small communities go, the Village of Leask's Oct. 3 contest for a single council seat was as close to a nail-biter as it gets.

All told, 95 ballots were cast in the election, which saw four candidates throw their names into the hat.

Serving as the Village of Leask's newest councillor, after receiving 45 votes (or 47.3 per cent of the vote), is Joanne Lapierre. Christy Verbonac, meanwhile, managed to garner 39 votes (or 41 per cent of the vote) to finish a close second.

The numbers are in. And for rural schools in the Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division, at least, those numbers tell a mostly positive story.

The school division's 2018-2019 enrolment numbers were finalized at the end of September, and for the fifth consecutive year those numbers showed the total number of students within

schools in the *Chronicle's* coverage area continues to hold steady, with no large increases or decreases in total enrolment.

Over the past three years, Hockey Day in Shellbrook has raised a whopping \$316,000 to help keep the Shellbrook Recreation Complex up and running.

With the final puzzle pieces of Hockey Day Shellbrook 2019 being put into place, Hockey Day committee member Stephanie Gosselin is hoping that the fourth rendition of the will add at least \$50,000 to that already impressive total.

Winter is coming. And that means that the season of 6 a.m. wake up calls to drive the kids to the local rink will soon be upon us.

The Shellbrook Recreation Complex, in particular, is certain to be a hub of activity throughout the colder months, as 142 kids have registered for minor hockey this year - a number that Shellbrook Minor Sports' Quinn Tait says is comparable with years prior.

With winter nearer than we'd like, and summer already a distant memory, people will soon be looking for ways to chase away the cold weather doldrums.

Luckily for seniors residing in Shellbrook and the surrounding area, the Shellbrook Senior's Association's Friday afternoon old tyme dances are finally back after taking a summer vacation.

Steeped in the music and traditions of a bygone era on the prairies, old-tyme dancing was introduced by

the Senior's Association as a monthly activity in early 2015.

Some days the forces of the universe just align against you.

That seemed to be the case for W.P. Sandin High School's Aardvarks football team, when it played host to the high-flying, hard-charging Hague Panthers last Thursday afternoon.

In the face of Hague's seemingly impossible to stop aerial attack, and the Aardvark offence's failure to find its footing, the home team was handed a crushing 54-6 loss.

Shellbrook RCMP is seeking four suspects in relation to a break-and-enter and theft that occurred at a Main Street business in Shellbrook in the wee hours of the morning on Oct. 19.

At around 3:30 a.m. Friday morning, a small, light in colour, four-door hatchback pulled up in front of the Discount Don's location in Shellbrook. The occupants of the vehicle then gained entry to the business by smashing through the glass front door.

According to surveillance footage of the crime, the suspects spent about 20 minutes inside the business as they removed selected items before fleeing in the vehicle.

When one thinks of a library, one typically envisions shelf upon shelf full of books. For, at their heart, libraries are nothing if not repositories of the written word, whether it be non-fiction, fiction, poetry, or something in between.



There had to be plenty of room at the table, as 46 people sat down for a harvest meal in the shop in the bin yard at Stephanie and Jeff Gosselin's farm. This marked the fifth consecutive harvest that the Gosselins have invited the elders from Parkland Integrated Health Centre for a meal.

But throughout Saskatchewan Library Week, which ran from Oct. 14 to 20, the Shellbrook Public Library, and librarian Dian Campbell, worked tirelessly to demonstrate that libraries are so much more than just collections of books.

With the prohibition on cannabis officially lifted in Saskatchewan - and all of Canada - Sgt. Kent Ashworth of the Shellbrook RCMP Detachment says that his officers are prepared to deal with any hiccups or violations of the new law of the land, which came into effect Oct. 17.

NOVEMBER

When David Moe and his wife, Vivian, returned to David's hometown of Parkside on April 6 of 1970 to become the owners of the Parkside General Store, they were embarking on the first chapter of an entirely new adventure.

After nearly 50 years, that adventure is coming to an end, as Moe has announced that he will be closing the store.

W.P. Sandin High School got its Halloween tricks and Treats out of the way early this year, as the school played host to its annual Quarter Carnival last Friday evening.

Organized by students who are involved in the high school's Student Leadership Council (SLC), the Quarter Carnival has become a must-attend Halloween attraction over the past four years.

The Shellbrook RCMP is asking for the public's as-

sistance as it investigates a string of break-ins at three Shellbrook businesses.

According to a release issued by the RCMP on Friday morning, the break-ins occurred sometime between the hours of 1 a.m. and 4:30 a.m. on Oct. 25. Two of the businesses were located on Main Street, while the third was along the Service Road. There, police say, a Blue 2016 Ford F350 was stolen.

For many of the 30-plus years that she's been involved in health care, Elke Hutton has been a tireless advocate for family and patient-centred care.

Come December, however, Elke will be bringing her experience, her passionate advocacy for patients and families, and her dedication to improving healthcare for everyone, with her to Ottawa.

That's because Elke was one of 14 people, from a pool of about 800 applicants from across Canada, selected to serve as an advisor on the Canadian Medical Association's (CMA) inaugural Patient Voice liaison group.

Residents of Rural Municipalities across the region (and the province) woke up last Thursday morning to new faces on their R.M. councils, after ballots were cast in elections in even-numbered divisions the evening before.

In the R.M. of Shellbrook, there was only one election following the acclamation of Jay Ferster as the councillor for Division 4 (replacing Lyle Muller), and Ron Herzog as

the councillor for Division 6 (replacing Andy Larsen).

In that lone Division 2 race, which saw a solid turnout of 86 voters, those who cast their ballots were divided almost perfectly down the middle. In the end, though, newcomer Phil Hamel won the seat with 44 votes, while incumbent Earl Stewart was defeated after garnering 42 votes.

In the R.M. of Canwood, Division 2 incumbent Dennis Benke held onto his seat after garner 52 votes, compared to 18 votes for challenger Clifford Millar.

The Division 4 race, meanwhile, saw a strong turnout of 140 voters. Once all the ballots had been cast, Raymond Duret was the new councillor with 98 votes. Duret's challenger, Louise Grimard, earned 42 votes.

In the R.M. of Leask's Division 6 election, which featured an impressive four candidates, Clarke Gossen emerged victorious with 32 votes. Just behind him was William Dyck with 29 votes, followed by Marcie Kreese with 22, and Gordon Mayer with six.

In the Division 4 race in the R.M. of Blaine Lake, Alan Lavoie was elected to council with just 23 votes, while Wayne Reiter was defeated after garnering three votes.

In Division 6, Robert Dagenais was newly elected to council with 31 votes, while incumbent Glenn Lamontagne had 20 ballots cast in his name.

Continued on page 20



World War Two veteran Virginia Pechawis receives a Quilt of Valour from Henri and Helen Dagenais. Pechawis, 92, is the oldest surviving First Nations veteran in Saskatchewan.

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Looking back on the year that was 2018



The Big River Flaming Crusaders Broomball team finished fifth at Worlds.

NOVEMBER Continued

While Shellbrook Elementary School's Walkathon fundraiser has always seen strong community support, and this year was no different, there was a brief moment, before the fundraising deadline, in which principal Dwayne Tournier and educational associate Kelly Herndier feared that their students would come up just shy of their \$10,000 goal.

But then, as always seems to be the case, the community came through. And before either Tournier or Herndier knew it, the Walkathon had raised a whopping \$11,470.05 for the school.

With Remembrance Day, and the 100th anniversary of the end of World War One, just around the corner, the Shellbrook Legion Branch invited the community into the Legion Hall last Thursday and Friday as it held its annual Remembrance Day Wreath Sale.

As has become tradition, Thursday's wreath sale included a lunch served by members of the Legion. And

though Legion president Helen Dagenais says wreath sales were down a bit, because people have started reusing their wreaths, she adds that she was pleasantly surprised by the turnout for lunch.

With the arrival of more fall-like temperatures just in time for Halloween last Wednesday, it was a little chillier outside. Fortunately, the Shellbrook Senior's Association was serving up a delicious and, more importantly, warm chilli lunch at the Shellbrook Senior Citizen's Centre.

All told, 81 people partook of some chilli and good company, helping the Seniors Association rake in just over \$800 dollars on the day.

The ultimate sacrifice was honoured in Shellbrook over the past two weeks, as members of the Shellbrook Legion, and the entire community, found many ways to come together to observe Remembrance Day on the 100th anniversary of the end of World War One.



The tree that once stood in front of the Shellbrook Museum, and also made the building almost invisible, is no more. But it will be recycled, and find new life as a fundraiser for the museum.

As always, the observation of Remembrance Day included the Legion's wreath sale, visits to the schools, and the official ceremony at the Shellbrook Theatre on Nov. 11.

The Shellbrook and Districts Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Shellbrook held their fourth Volunteer Appreciation Gala. Winners this year were:

Youth volunteer: Sam Miller

Sports and Recreation: Jay Ferster

Arts and Education: Pat Grayston

Community Involvement: Amund Otterson

Community Groups: Jeff Ledding

Long Service: Norma Dahl

Volunteer of the Year: Larry Brossart.

The Big River Flaming Crusaders travelled to the U.S.A., with Coach Bryan Meyers, Assistant Coach Les Fraser, and manager Michelle Schaffer to participate in the World Broomball Competitions.

After a tough competition, the team finished in fifth place.

If you stopped by the Shellbrook Community Hall for the Shellbrook and Districts Arts Council's annual Christmas Craft Sale this past Saturday, odds are you rubbed shoulders with quite a few people.

That's because, for the 29th consecutive year, the craft sale saw a remarkable turnout, both in terms of local and area artisans looking to ply their unique, hand-crafted goods, and in terms of patrons looking, perhaps, for some one-of-a-kind Christmas gifts for people on their lists who are especially hard to shop for.

Despite the persistence of wintry conditions, crews spent Tuesday craning Escalade Homes' upcoming Parkland Meadows condominium development into place.

The RTM development, located at 615 2nd Avenue West, just by Parkland Integrated Health Centre is the first of its kind in Saskatchewan.

It was billed as a community celebration, and when the lights came up on the Golden Host Players' latest produc-



Trent Lavoie gets his hair cut for charity. PIHC's Evelyn Keyowski volunteered her services for the trim.

tion, aptly titled Lights up: A Community Celebration, the mood in the Shellbrook Theatre was most certainly jubilant.

All told, the variety show brought in \$1,500.

Most people would balk at the idea of a \$700 haircut. But for Trent Lavoie, a \$700 haircut was just a way of giving back to three important causes.

The plumber had his hair cut to benefit the family of Saint Benedict, Sask.'s Lane and Tiffany Martinka, whose daughter was recently diagnosed with Dravet Syndrome, a severe form of epilepsy, Happy Hearts Childcare Centre, and Locks of Love.

In a community that thrives on volunteerism like Shellbrook does, saying thank you often feels like an inadequate way of recogniz-

ing those who have donated so much time to the improvement of the community.

But sometimes, a thank you is all that the community can offer.

These "thank yous" were in plentiful supply recently, when the Shellbrook and Districts Health Services Foundation presented plaques of appreciation to its longest serving – though now retired – members, Jim Van Eaton and Murray Kasun.

If you've taken a drive down Shellbrook's Main Street in the past couple of weeks, you've likely noticed that the south end of the street looks a little different, not because something new has been added, but because something very old has been removed.

The remains of the tree will be recycled as a fundraiser for the museum, which is in need of much repair work.



Larry Brossart receives the Volunteer of the year award from Shellbrook Bigway's Crystal and Jody Lanovaz.