

# Shellbrook Chronicle

The voice of the Parkland for over 107 years



VOL. 107 NO. 21 PMR #40007604

Shellbrook, Saskatchewan Thursday, May 23, 2019

www.shellbrookchronicle.com

## Bike Rodeo teaches students bike safety basics



**Breck Thiel pulled out all the stops (or stop signs, rather), while teaching students from Shellbrook Elementary School the rules of the road, and other important bicycle safety tips, at the schools' annual Bike Safety Rodeo.**

With spring finally arriving in earnest, people in Saskatchewan are looking to spend more and more time enjoying the great outdoors on the prairies. And, naturally, this means that many people, both young and old alike, will soon be spending a great deal of time riding their bikes.

But, as with all things, hitting the open road on your bicycle comes with risks – especially if one isn't fully aware of all the rules of the road.

With the goal of sharing these rules, and countless other bicycle safety tips, Shellbrook Elementary School and W.P Sandin Public High School partnered up on Thursday afternoon, to help guide

students in Grades 1 to 5 through the annual Bike Safety Rodeo.

Held in conjunction with both National Bike Safety Week and Saskatchewan Bicycle Safety Week, the Bike Safety Rodeo has been put on by the schools and the Shellbrook RCMP detachment for as long as anyone can remember. The rodeo runs students through a course that teaches them all the basics of bike riding, starting with helmet safety, and proper riding and braking techniques.

The safety workshop also teaches the young students to be aware and considerate of their surroundings, particularly of vehicles on the road, as well as other bike riders and pedestrians. And it cov-

ers basic rules of the road, including the importance of using arm signals before turning or stopping.

"These kids are out in the streets, and on the playgrounds and sidewalks after being cooped up in the house and school all winter, and they're just gearing to go," said Dwayne Tournier, principal of Shellbrook Elementary School, after last year's Bike Safety Rodeo.

"We try to do the bike safety rodeo as early as possible in the spring, just so that they're safe on the streets before and after school because a lot of the kids ride their bikes to school."

Events similar to the Bike Safety Rodeo are held in communities across the

province, and all aim to keep kids safe while they ride their bikes throughout the summer months. But as always, parents have an important role to play in teaching their kids bike safety as well.

Parents are always encouraged to check that their children have properly fitted helmets, and that their bikes are in working order. This means making sure that the brakes are working, that the tires have enough air in them, and that the chain hasn't become too loose.

Parents must also make sure that their children's bikes are the right fit for them. As a general rule, children are supposed to be able to touch their tiptoes to the ground on both sides of the bike.



Find us on:  
**facebook.**

9 Main Street

On June 16<sup>th</sup>...  
**Don't forget about Dad!**

Find the perfect Father's Day gift at

**Woodland Pharmacy**



Ph: 306-747-2545

# Grade 12 students take on hot topics in debates

From timely hot-button issues such as abortion and cannabis legalization, to complex questions about the role that religion ought to play in contemporary society and the morality of capital punishment, Grade 12 students from W.P. Sandin High School debated it all last Thursday.

Part of the Grade 12 curriculum, the debates see students present, in teams of three, in front of a panel of community judges, as well as a large audience of students, teachers, parents, and community members.

Each team member is given an opportunity to make his or her opening statements. Then, once those have been delivered, teams have a just few minutes to compose rebuttals to their opponents' arguments.

But before the debates can reach that stage, teacher Nicole Philp explains, there's a lot of work that goes into preparing the students to make sound, logical and well-researched points and counter-arguments.

"In order to prepare



**Audience members and guest judges look on attentively, as Kaitlan Stene delivers an argument opposing the legalization of cannabis.**

for this, we do a novel study set in Afghanistan and research current global events. It is an eye opening theme of study where the students gradually form opinions on sensitive topics such as those that were the basis of the debates," she said.

"Students need exposure to these kinds of global issues and I'm glad this outcome is in the curriculum."

This year's panel of community judges included Shellbrook Mayor George Tomporowski, Saskatchewan Rivers Public School

Division trustee John McIvor, Ahtakakoop-Shellbrook RCMP detachment commander Sgt. Kent Ashworth, and Pastor Emmanuel Aristide.

Collectively, the group listened to debates on the four aforementioned issues.

Philp says that the judges were impressed by what they heard from the debate participants, calling them "better prepared" and "more well-spoken" than in many of the previous years' presentations.

That said, the job of the judges was to critique and score the students, and select the year's debate winners.

Up first was the abortion debate, which saw Matthew Collins, Corbin Long and Jennie Anderson argue the for side, and Andrea Morgia, Kyle Skavlebo and Leah Mennie argue the against side. After all the points were made, the against team won out.

Next, Daniel Kundert, Rebekka Potts and Chase Henry were tasked with arguing in

favour of the legalization of cannabis against the trio of Keighly Budan, Spencer Fox and Kaitlan Stene. There, too, the against team was selected as the victors.

Continuing the string of victories for against arguments, the team of Aidan Allman, Sam Miller and Ethan Lanovaz successfully argued against the death penalty, narrowly besting the threesome of Makenna Bloom, Mackenzie Ravine-Bates, and Alexis Stochmanski.

Allman, Miller and Lanovaz's arguments earned the highest team grade on the day, while Bloom earned the highest individual mark.

Capping off an afternoon of debates, the trio of Logan Kereluk, Rayden Stieb and Sarra Hazelwood were victorious in their debate in favour of religion, topping the opposing team of Tasje Wolfe, Brooklyn Anderson and Zach Bell.

Pleased with what she saw on the stage Thurs-

day afternoon, Philp says she felt that the debates continue to be a valuable exercise for students.

"They not only learn to present their side of a very serious topic, but they develop the necessary skills for public speaking and communication that are so critical for success after high school," she said.

"By turning it into a "judged" event with community participation, it becomes a real and authentic learning experience that has so much value for them."

Like the judges, she also had plenty of praise to offer the students.

"Every year students rise to the occasion and this year was no different. I was proud of the work they put in to prepare for the debates and feel that their professional presentations reflected the respect they have for the judges who volunteered their time to be a part of their educational experience."



## Larry & Marjorie Brossart

*Warmest Congratulations & sincere best wishes on your Golden Wedding Anniversary! May your beautiful and admirable union be richly blessed & your love grow stronger!*

Love Vaughn, Rhonda, Trevor, Hannah & Sam



**Kyle Skavlebo, Andrea Morgia and Leah Mennie furiously scribble notes for their rebuttals against the pro-abortion team.**



**Makenna Bloom delivers her argument in favour of capital punishment. Bloom's debating earned her the highest individual mark on the day.**

### NORTHERN HAMLET OF DORE LAKE TENDER

The Northern Hamlet of Dore Lake is inviting tenders for the work:

Renovations – Interior Community Hall located on Parcel H, Plan No. 79B10340

The building is 60' X 32'.

Start time would be as soon as possible.

Tenders will be accepted by fax at (306) 832-4525 or please mail tenders to:

Northern Hamlet of Dore Lake  
Box 608  
Big River, Sask. SOJ 0E0

Tenders will close at 4:00 p.m. on June 14, 2019 in the Hamlet Office of the Northern Hamlet of Dore Lake.

For further information regarding this tender, please contact the following:

Hilda McKay (306) 832-4528 or Jon Fonos (306) 832-4450.

Late tenders will not be accepted and the council of the Northern Hamlet of Dore Lake reserves the right to reject any or all tenders received.

An agreement will have to be signed before work is to commence.

### NORTHERN HAMLET OF DORE LAKE TENDER

The Northern Hamlet of Dore Lake is inviting tenders for the work:

Renovations – Exterior Community Hall located on Parcel H, Plan No. 79B10340

The building is 60' X 32'.

Start time would be as soon as possible.

Tenders will be accepted by fax at (306) 832-4525 or please mail tenders to:

Northern Hamlet of Dore Lake  
Box 608  
Big River, Sask. SOJ 0E0

Tenders will close at 4:00 p.m. on June 14, 2019 in the Hamlet Office of the Northern Hamlet of Dore Lake.

For further information regarding this tender, please contact the following:

Hilda McKay (306) 832-4528 or Jon Fonos (306) 832-4450.

Late tenders will not be accepted and the council of the Northern Hamlet of Dore Lake reserves the right to reject any or all tenders received.

An agreement will have to be signed before work is to commence.

### Thank you to the following sponsors for supporting the Canwood 4-H Beef Club's Achievement Day!

Clevelands Farm: Grand Champion Steer  
Affinity Credit Union: Reserve Grand Champion Steer  
Big Loop Ranch: Grand Champion Female  
AMHL Lorna Benson: Reserve Grand Champion Female  
Barclay and Erin Robertson: Judging  
Shellview Sod Farms: Grooming  
Bodnarus Auction: Showmanship  
Eddie Streleau and Graham Moline: Record Books  
Lake Country Co-op: Male Calf Class  
Ken and Odile Aiken: Female Calf Class  
Vaughn Farms: Heifer Class  
Mumm's Seeds: 2yr Old Cow/Calf Class  
DNA Tire and Stewarts: 3yr Old Cow/Calf Class  
BensSun Acres: Best Home Raised Steer  
Spiritwood Stockyards: Best Home Raised Female  
Robert and Dianne Stewart: Rate of Gain  
Highway 55 Waste Management: Aggregate  
Diamond North Credit Union: Overall Aggregate  
Scotiabank: Special Achievements

**We would like to invite the community to our Achievement Day June 8<sup>th</sup> at the Prince Albert Exhibition Grounds**

# School Community Council calls on SRPSD to review teacher transfer policy

What was once a fight by Shellbrook's school communities to have the transfers of four beloved local teachers reviewed, and potentially reversed, has become an effort to convince the Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division (SRPSD) to revise its policy for transferring teachers, regardless of where they teach.

The community members leading the fight recently undertook the next important stage of that effort, presenting as an official delegation at the SRPSD Board of Education's meeting on Monday, May 13.

As one of the school community's leaders in attendance at that meeting, Bruce Clements said he felt that the meeting was positive and productive, and says that all there is to do now is to wait for a response from the SRPSD.

"We gave a very professional and respectful presentation to them. They told us that they're going to be looking at this," he said. "We appreciated the board listening to us, and we thought they were very receptive towards our presentation."

At Monday evening's presentation, which was delivered by community member Yvonne Groenen, the School Community Council (SCC) for W.P. Sandin High School made official its request to have the SRPSD formally review its policy for transferring teachers, AP443. (Such a request is the SCC's right under the provisions of the school division's policy for reviewing administrative procedures, AP121-3).

Much of the request for the formal review hinged on two of the SRPSD's belief statements – firstly that teachers will be treated in a fair and equitable manner, and, secondly, that the needs of both the students and teachers will guide such transfers – and the argument that the current transfer policy is failing to live up to those beliefs.

Speaking on behalf of the community and the SCC, Groenen delivered a 40-page document to the SRPSD's board of education, highlighting five areas of concern with the existing

teacher transfer policy, and offering recommendations to address those issues.

"As the board, director and administration, it is your duty to employ the personnel to oversee the schools, who have the student's and teacher's best interest in mind. A ground up approach, not top down," Groenen reminded SRPSD board members.

"As your Mission and Vision states, you strive for the 'pursuit of excellence' and value 'community engagement' and 'responsible governance'. Yet, we currently see the opposite because of the current transfer policy."

Speaking to the first of the community's concerns, Groenen began by questioning provision 5 of the teacher transfer policy, which reads, "In the event that a teacher is to be transferred, discussions will be held with the teacher and the school administrator prior to the transfer being implemented."

Calling the provision "vague" and "open to interpretation", Groenen argued that the policy should be made more clear and concise, and recommended that the decision to transfer a teacher should only be finalized after consultation with the teacher and the school's principal.

She also recommended that the SRPSD eliminate provision 7 from its transfer policy, which states, "We believe that five to ten years is a reasonable length of service in one school."

"A transfer becomes questionable when such a teacher is uprooted due to length of time served," Groenen said.

Using the policies of other school divisions as an example, further recommendations include providing teachers with an explanation of the goals of the transfer, the reason for the transfer, and taking into account the distance of the transfer.

"Teachers who are happy and are committed to providing excellence in the classroom and the community in which they live, should be perceived as an asset to their students. They are the most valuable asset

of your school division."

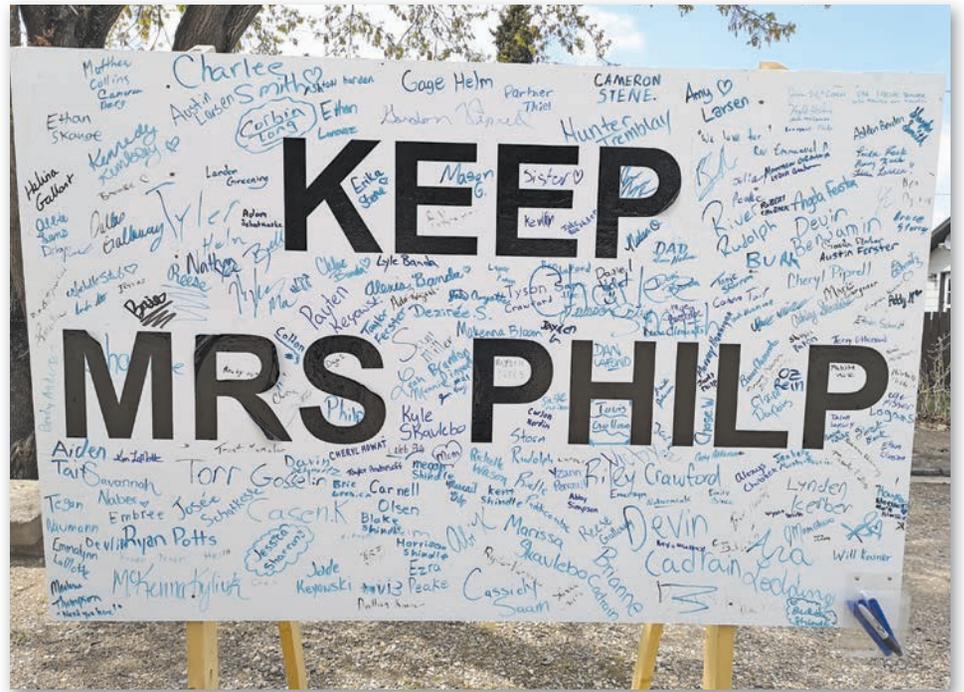
Maintaining a focus on opening communications between teachers and the school division, the second issue raised was with the division's so-called "happy form" – a survey filled out each year by the division's teachers, in which they are asked which schools they'd be willing to be transferred to.

There, the major recommendation was that teachers be given more room to provide reasoning for why or why not they'd be favourable to being transferred, and that personal and medical considerations be factored into transfer decisions.

In other areas of concern, recommendations were made that the SRPSD consider accreditation prior to implementing a transfer, to ensure that rural schools, in particular, aren't left disadvantaged, and that the division introduce a formal appeals process to its current transfer policy.

And, while the goal remains to represent all teachers within the school division, the final recommendation was that the school division give consideration to teachers who choose rural schools.

"When an urban teacher is transferred, their commute changes. When a rural teacher is transferred,



A sign demanding that the transfer of teacher Nicole Philp be overturned now boasts even more signatures than when it first appeared across from W.P. Sandin High School in April

their community changes," Groenen said, contending that rural communities need committed teachers to remain vibrant and viable.

"A teacher who teaches in their own community is putting time and energy back into the people of the community and enhancing its growth."

As has been previously reported *Chronicle*, the SRPSD is transferring four Shellbrook teachers, and moving two of them two different communities.

Among those being transferred are Nicole Philp, who is moving from W.P. Sandin

to Wild Rose School, Heather Hladun, who is moving from Shellbrook Elementary school to Canwood Community School, Lana Kyliuk, who is moving from Shellbrook Elementary to W.P. Sandin, and Janelle Verbonac, who is moving from W.P. Sandin to Shellbrook Elementary.

The quartet of transfers prompted a community-wide outcry to have the transfers reviewed and reversed, and a petition that received 711 signatures. In

particular, members of the school communities had concerns that the transfers would have a profound impact on the community, and that the SRPSD failed to follow its own policies.

In April, SRPSD director of education Robert Bratvold confirmed in an email that the transfers would not be reversed, but said that the board remains open to any suggestions the community has about improving the existing transfer policy.

**NORTHERN HAMLET OF DORE LAKE SALE BY TENDER**

- Northern Hamlet of Dore Lake offers for sale the following property within the Hamlet.
- Property Lots 13 & 14 (each lot measure 75x150), Block 3, Plan #64B01530 building included 32 w x 50 L. (Old Hamlet Shop)
- The Hamlet has set a reserve bid in the amount of \$100,000 for the building and property.
- A certified cheque made payable to the Northern Hamlet of Dore Lake for 10% of the amount of the bid must accompany the tender.
- All tenders must be submitted by May 31, 2019 by 4:00 p.m. in a sealed envelope marked "Property Tender Dore Lake 2019 and addressed to Northern Hamlet of Dore Lake Box 608, Big River, SK SOJ OEO
- Tenders will be opened on June 4, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. in the Hamlet Office on Dore Road.
- Northern Hamlet of Dore Lake reserves the right to reject any or all tenders. Highest tenders are not necessarily accepted.
- Successful bidder will be required to provide the balance of cash within 30 days of the tender being awarded.
- Property is sold as is, where is.
- Unsuccessful bidders will be refunded the 10% deposit.
- For further information regarding the property offered for sale, please contact the following:
- Hilda McKay (306)832-4528 or Jon Fonos (306)832-4450.

**Our CEO's phone number starts with 306.**

**unbank yourself**

1.866.863.6237  
affinitycu.ca

**Affinity**  
Credit Union

## “Yard Work”

So, spring is finally here, or so they are trying to tell us. Don't plant anything before the first of June, or after the second crow, or a favourable pig spleen.

Inevitably, no matter when you're planning on planting flowers and bedding plants, there are things that must be done in order to get the season underway. For all that it entails, we just refer to it as “yard work”.

My project for the day was to roto-till the garden. I was going to get right on it, but I very quickly discovered that anytime you want to do something, you have to do something else first.

I don't believe I am alone in this phenomenon, nor did I invent it. But it seems that this has always been the way things worked out.

OK, my project started out the usual way – with coffee, a quick check of Facebook, a couple of games of Wordscapes, followed by breakfast. Regular readers of this space know that when I have a project in mind, I don't like distractions. Breakfast is such an important part of the day that it can hardly be described as “a distraction”

All that done, and a number of in-the-house kind of activities that it was my turn to do, like empty the dishwasher, make the bed and the like.

But I'm going to get right at the roto-tilling, I promised myself.

But first, I was called upon to lift a couple of pails of dirt into the raised herb garden, dump them and smooth out the dirt so all was nice and level for planting.

And I'm not sure how we got from dumping dirt into a planter to cleaning the bird bath, but that's exactly what happened. This task required the pressure washer, which is stored neatly under my deck. And when I say “neatly”, you'll just have to take my word for it.

At that point I had two choices: unroll the cord or get an extension cord. I chose the latter, which turned out to be the incorrect choice, for the end was gibbled and I wasn't able to plug in the pressure washer. I went back to my tool storage area and came back with a small screwdriver, but for some reason, the screws didn't line up and I couldn't get them to. First, I would have to install a new end on the extension cord to solve that issue. And second, rather than do this right now, I chose to add extension cord repair to the mental list that I carry with me always.

As it turned out, I didn't need the extension cord, or the screwdriver, because the cord from the pressure washer did reach the receptacle. And if it wouldn't have, an option would have been to move the pressure washer closer to the receptacle and unroll more hose from the pressure washer.

That solved, it was an easy finish to the clean-the-bird-bath project, and once that was done, it didn't seem like good sense to put it back into storage, so I moved the base from its storage position out to its spot on the lawn, put the top on, and carefully measured it with the eyeball to make sure it was sitting right.

And now that the pressure washer was still out, it seemed like an appropriate activity to wash out the two pails that had, until earlier, contained dirt for the raised herb garden.

And, I was then prevailed upon to clean a couple of flower garden ornaments, one of which was too heavy to carry, requiring me to head back to the garage for the dolly.

With all the cleaning done, and the dolly put away. And the pressure washer packed up and put away, and all the tools and everything else put away, I was left wondering – what was I supposed to get done today?

... I THOUGHT THAT SINCE WE WILL BE EATING THE NEW “BEYOND BURGERS” ... YOU MIGHT WANT TO TRY THE NEW “BEYOND HAY”?...



## Social media crackdown needs measured approach

“We have lost the feeling of individual empowerment and to a certain extent also I think the optimism has cracked.”

Those words, spoken by Tim Berners-Lee, the father of the worldwide web, could very easily apply to many spheres in our rapidly polarizing society. But coming from Mr. Berners-Lee, they were an expression of disappointment in what his creation has become.

For Mr. Berners-Lee, the monopolization of power on the internet by tech giants like Microsoft, Apple, Google, Facebook, Netflix, and Amazon, is a real danger – as evidenced by recent scandals involving the abuse of personal data, and the seeming lack of accountability and meaningful consequences for these abuses.

Just as disconcerting to Mr. Berners-Lee, is the use of his creation as a vehicle to spread hate and misinformation.

“If you put a drop of love into Twitter it seems to decay but if you put in a drop of hatred you feel it actually propagates much more strongly,” he lamented in an interview with Reuters last November. “And you wonder, ‘Well is that because of the way that Twitter as a medium has been built?’”

No one but Mr. Berners-Lee can say what he had originally envisioned or hoped for when he invented the internet in 1989. Those were, after all, different and far simpler times, and the past 30 years has seen the creation of so many new digital technologies that few would have been able to conceive of when the internet was born.

That said, it seems reasonable to conclude that Mr. Berners-Lee's aspirations for his brainchild were considerably loftier than it becoming a repository for cat videos, memes, and other forms of low-effort, mind-numbing entertainment.

He also, perhaps, didn't fully realize that the internet would be leveraged by those with the worst and darkest human tendencies, or that these people would use the internet as a pulpit from which to spew their vitriol, or to exploit others in the worst imaginable ways.

But this, of course, is the risk inherent to pioneering any new, innovative and world-changing technology.

The technology comes first, and the moral, ethical, and even legal, frameworks to govern it come second, allowing people ample time to discover ways to manipulate and corrupt it for their own ends.

If the current state of social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter tells us anything, it's that people are prodigiously talented at misusing them, and that the platforms seem to be

powerless to, or uninterested in, preventing these misuses.

For proof of this, we need only look at the Christchurch, New Zealand mosque shootings, which left 51 people dead and were streamed live on Facebook by their racist, Islamophobic perpetrator.

Granted, Facebook would require an unfathomable amount of resources to monitor every livestream, video and image posted to its platform by its 2.3 billion users.

But a hatred as vile as the Christchurch shooter's doesn't begin with mass murder, and it's hard to believe that there were no other red flags in the shooter's social media postings that Facebook moderators either missed or ignored.

Even if that's not the case in this isolated instance, Facebook and its social media brethren have a troubling history of failing to suppress hate speech and the wanton dissemination of misinformation, and it's imperative that they be held accountable for these failures.

To his credit, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau appears to be leading the global charge on this front, with the recent unveiling of an upcoming “digital charter” – a legal framework that will hold social media and other digital platforms accountable for combating hate speech, misinformation and online electoral interference in Canada.

While details about what the digital charter will contain remain sparse, Trudeau minced few words in stating that his government would crackdown on those who fail to live up to its standards.

“The platforms are failing their users and they're failing our citizens,” he said. “They have to step up in a major way to counter disinformation and if they don't, we will hold them to account and there will be meaningful financial consequences.”

This, of course, isn't the first time that Mr. Trudeau has talked of clamping down on social media platforms. And with a federal election, in which his party no longer seems to be the frontrunner, just around the corner, it's easy to understand why he would see this as being so urgent.

But for as zealously as we should combat all forms of hate on all platforms, digital or otherwise, we must also be diligent in ensuring that the censoring of hate speech doesn't rapidly devolve into censoring others solely on the grounds that we disagree with them.

Fake news, as well, should not be allowed to flourish anywhere. But, again, we mustn't forget our own responsibility to arm ourselves with the truth.



DAVE HYNDMAN

~  
Columnist



JORDAN TWISS

~  
News Editor

## Report from the Legislature

Saskatchewan's economy is getting stronger.

New employment numbers show that 14,200 new jobs were created in the province over the past year, and there were 18,000 more full-time jobs.

This spring's provincial budget is the right balance for our strengthening economy. It increases supports for Saskatchewan people while managing spending to maintain economic growth and provide the services Saskatchewan people expect.

The 2019 Saskatchewan Budget fulfills our government's three-year plan to balance the budget with no new taxes or tax increases while boosting supports for mental health, classrooms and highway safety. It includes:

- A sustainable plan to



**HON. SCOTT MOE,  
PREMIER**

~  
MLA for Rosthern -  
Shellbrook  
Toll Free:  
1-855-793-3422  
scottmoe.mla@sasktel.net

ensure a balanced budget this year and for the years to come;

- Nearly \$30 million more for targeted mental health and addictions funding;
- An increase of \$26 million in operating funding for Saskatchewan school divisions;
- New tax credits for volunteer firefighters and first responders;

- Funding to begin a five-year Enhanced Intersection Safety Program for highway intersections; and

- A focus on infrastructure with funding for preconstruction design of a new Victoria Hospital for Prince Albert, planning for a new Weyburn hospital and continued funding for school consolidation projects in Weyburn and Rosthern.

During the spring sitting, our government passed multiple pieces of legislation, including:

- Changes to The Saskatchewan Employment Act creating a new critically ill adult leave, expanding parental leave and adding an additional week of maternity leave;
- Passing Clare's Law which will allow police to release information



**NADINE  
WILSON  
MLA**

~  
Saskatchewan  
Rivers  
Toll Free:  
1-888-763-0615  
saskrivers@sasktel.net

about someone's violent or abusive past to intimate partners whose safety may be at risk;

- Increasing the number of occupational diseases firefighters and volunteer firefighters are covered for through changes to The Workers' Compensation Act;
- Legislation to allow rural municipalities, and other municipalities

with populations under 500, to join regional police services;

- Legislation that better balances the rights of rural land owners and members of the public in accessing rural property; and

- Creating a paid job leave option for survivors of interpersonal and sexual violence to take up to five paid days and five unpaid days off to seek supports or services.

The spring sitting of the legislature saw your Saskatchewan Party government continue to stand up for Saskatchewan in the fight against the federal government's carbon tax and push for help for canola farmers facing trade barriers with China.

In the coming months, we will keep Saskatchewan issues front and

centre here at home and in Ottawa.

Your Saskatchewan Party government will keep standing up for Saskatchewan and will keep our economy strong. We will advocate for our industries that provide the means to keep Saskatchewan strong – and we will continue our opposition to the Trudeau Carbon Tax, which includes taking our fight all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Now that the Spring Sitting of the Legislature is complete, We look forward to hearing from you – your thoughts, suggestions and feedback in terms of how we can best represent you and build on the growth of our community and province today and in the years ahead.

## YOUR TWO CENTS

### Where, when and why did they bury their moral compasses? Part 2

The following is part two of a four-part letter to the editor series, that will appear in the Chronicle over the coming weeks.

Dear editor,

When Mr. Wall announced he would be "retiring" early from public service, a veteran CTV News Regina reporter later reminded viewers that some of the leadership candidates -- including Ms. Beaudry-Mellor, had mentioned repeatedly that the GTH's baffling circumstances and proceedings needed to be thoroughly investigated. The Honorable Gordon Wyant was also one of those leadership hopefuls who routinely declared that the GTH land buying and selling transactions should be more deeply investigated due to the "cloud of suspicion over the government and

the party."

Nevertheless, in early February of 2018 Scott Moe was handed the Sask. Party's tarnished crown and dictatorial sceptre as the newly anointed political ruler of our vast and diverse province. Shortly after his coronation, a few of his former leadership opponents were invited into the provincial cabinet, including Mr. Gordon Wyant (currently our Deputy Premier and Minister of Education) and Ms. Tina Beaudry-Mellor (currently our Minister of Advanced Education).

The fact that these two (now highly placed) individuals have refused to re-address their concerns over the GTH controversy that were once their solemn campaign promises, merely confirms the suspicions

of many and the continuing need for a Public Inquiry.

It would appear that if one wishes to remain a member of our present government's closed-door inner circle, they must first lose their public service morals and ethics. It seems they have all pledged to fiercely defend the party's position to erect a 'wall of silence' surrounding this issue. One is left no choice but to speculate as to what exactly are they so committed to keeping the public from learning? Is it possible that many of the activities surrounding this project might even have criminal implications? The present position of these elected officials precludes any such dialogue. The optics are very bad.

Sincerely,

Highwayrobbery.org

### Shellbrook Chronicle

Serving the Communities of Shellbrook, Canwood, Debden, Big River, Parkside, Leask, Marcelin, Blaine Lake, Holbein, Mont Nebo, Mayview

A Division of Pepperfram Limited Publications  
Mail Registration #07621

Published Every Thursday Morning

P.O. Box 10, Shellbrook, Sask. S0J 2E0

Phone 306-747-2442 or Fax 306-747-3000  
Editorial: chnews@sbchron.com  
Advertising chads@sbchron.com

### C. J. Pepper, Publisher

Jordan Twiss, Reporter  
jordan@sbchron.com

Madeleine Wrigley, Advertising Sales  
sales@sbchron.com

Meghan Penney, Composition/Pagination  
chads@sbchron.com

Karen Stene, Bookkeeping/Reception  
accounting@sbchron.com

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.;  
Friday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. & 1 to 4 p.m.;  
Advertising Deadline: Fridays at 5:00 p.m.  
website:www.shellbrookchronicle.com

The contents of the Shellbrook Chronicle are protected by Copyright. Reproduction of any material must be done so with expressed permission of the publisher.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: In the interest of readers of this newspaper, we will publish opinions of our readers. Letters To The Editor are most welcome; however, they must be signed and include writer's contact information and will only be published with the writer's name on it. Letters should be limited in length and be typed or clearly written. We reserve the right to edit letters depending on available space.

Member of



# PARTY Program highlights risks of impaired driving

With impaired driving still the number one killer on Saskatchewan's roads, it seems the province has a lot of progress to make when it comes to attitudes towards drinking and driving – even as deaths related to impaired driving dropped by 32 per cent from 2016 to 2017.

According to SGI figures from 2017, 39 people were killed in alcohol-involved accidents, a marked decrease of 18 deaths over 2016's total of 57 drug and alcohol related deaths on the road.

Though this is undeniably a step in the right direction for a province that is made of small cities and towns that are connected by kilometres and kilometres of high-

way, its unhealthy relationship with impaired driving is still concerning.

According to Statistics Canada data from 2017, the province continues to lead the country in rural impaired driving, with 939 incidents per 100,000 people, and 6,153 urban and rural charges laid.

Equally troubling, though, is the fact that youth aged 16 to 25, appear to be at disproportionate risk in impaired driving incidents across the country.

In 2010, this age group accounted for 33.4 per cent of alcohol-related deaths on the road, despite making up just 13.6 per cent of the province's population.

While tougher drink-

ing and driving laws were introduced by the Sask. Party government in 2017, enforcement is only part of the solution.

The other part is educating youth to inspire change in future generations.

That's where the Prevent Alcohol and Risk-Related Trauma in Youth program (PARTY) comes in.

Put on by the Saskatchewan Health Authority in conjunction with W.P. Sandin High School, the PARTY program aims to provide students and communities with the education they need to make informed decisions when it comes to getting behind the wheel, or in a vehicle with friends and loved ones.



**Emergency crews demonstrate use of the jaws of life during a mock crash. The scene was part of the PARTY program, an initiative that aims to teach youth about the dangers of impaired driving.**

Hosted Thursday May 16, this year's program saw Grade 9 students spend their morning learning first-hand the impact that the decision to drive while under the influence or distracted can have on their lives.

The demonstration began at the Shellbrook Town Office with a mock crash simulation put together by Shellbrook First Responders, Buckland Fire and Rescue, Parkland Ambulance Care, RCMP officers and Shell River Towing and Recovery.

When the students arrived on scene Tuesday morning, RCMP and paramedics were already hard at work on the scene. They walked the students through the

challenging process of dealing with accidents involving drunk drivers, and even demonstrated use of the jaws of life.

Following this impactful presentation, the students travelled to Parkland Integrated Health Centre, where they listened to demonstrations from nurses in the emergency room, and the local addictions counsellor, and also got to witness the rehabilitation process that follows an impaired driving accident.

After that, the students got to experience first-hand the challenges that come with injuries by attempting to eat a lunch at the hospital with an assigned injury.

Later, it was off to

Beau Lac Funeral Home, where students were taken through a demonstration that touched on the fatal consequences of impaired driving, and other risky behaviours, and the planning that goes into holding a funeral for a loved one.

To conclude the program, students returned to the high school, where they listened to a presentation from local survivor, Evan Wall, who suffered a severe brain injury in an alcohol-related accident in 2016.

According to the PARTY program, youth between the ages of 15-24 are injured or killed in motor vehicle crashes two-and-a-half times more than other age groups. The leading cause of death for ages 1-44 is unintentional injury, and Saskatchewan has the most injuries per capita in Canada.

The annual cost of injuries in Canada is estimated at \$19.8 billion.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Rural Municipality of Big River, No. 555

Public Notice is hereby given that the Council of the RM of Big River, No. 555 intends to adopt a bylaw pursuant to Section 207 of the *Planning and Development Act, 2007* to amend Bylaw No. 1A/16 known as the Zoning Bylaw.

#### INTENT

To amend zoning district map to by rezoning 4 lots from LR2 – Medium Density Lakeshore Residential District to LR1 – Low Density Lakeshore Residential District to accommodate two separate parcel consolidations.

#### AFFECTED LANDS

In NW-12-57-07-W3, Lots 1 and 2, Block 4, Plan 82B12420 and Lots 23 and 24, Block 6, Plan 82B12420 Pickerel Point Subdivision in the Rural Municipality of Big River, No. 555 shown in the sketch below within the bold line.

#### REASON

The reason for the amendment is to accommodate two requests to consolidate titles.

#### PUBLIC INSPECTION

Any person may inspect the bylaw at the RM Office on any judicial day between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Copies are available at a cost of \$1.00.

#### PUBLIC HEARING

Council will hold a public hearing on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019, in the Board Room at the Big River Community Centre at 606 First Street north, Big River, SK at 3:00 pm. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing.

Issued at Big River this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2019.

Donna Tymiak  
Rural Municipal Administrator



## Correction

In the May 16 edition of the Chronicle, a story about the Kinettes' Mother's Day Brunch erroneously stated that tickets for an upcoming June 1 Comedy Crawl are available at the Shellbrook Motel. Tickets are, in fact, available at the Shellbrook Hotel.

## 18,000 New Full-Time Jobs

Despite headwinds that our economy faces domestically and abroad, Saskatchewan has now seen nine consecutive months of strong job gains.

Learn more at [saskatchewan.ca](http://saskatchewan.ca)



**Hon. Scott Moe, Premier**  
MLA for Rosthern-Shellbrook  
[scottmoe.mla@sasktel.net](mailto:scottmoe.mla@sasktel.net)



**Hon. Jeremy Harrison**  
MLA for Meadow Lake  
[jharrisonmla@sasktel.net](mailto:jharrisonmla@sasktel.net)



**Nadine Wilson**  
MLA for Saskatchewan Rivers  
[saskrivers@sasktel.net](mailto:saskrivers@sasktel.net)

## No end in sight for canola growers' woes

The canola export issue between Canada and China is not going away.

Frankly I don't see a solution cropping up for several months. It is likely the Chinese have secured much of their need for the time being, and won't be getting internal pressure for a Canadian source of canola oil until closer to the 2019 harvest. When such pressure does come from companies within China the pressure to negotiate toward a real solution will mount.

Whether my guess is right, or way out in left field, the issue for Canadian canola growers is real today.

In response to that reality the federal government finally came

out with some programming to help producers May 1.

Agriculture minister Marie-Claude Bibeau announced a plan to provide additional credit to producers through the Advance Payments Program, expanding available credit to \$1 million and providing up to \$500,000 interest-free for canola production.

The obvious question is whether increasing a farm debt is really helping, or whether farmers should have to carry the costs of a purely politically motivated trade barrier?

Reaction to the announcement has not exactly been glowing.

"The China decision to block canola has had a



CALVIN DANIELS

major impact on grain farmers with no end in sight. Farmers don't want tax dollars in the form of interest free loans, we want to be able to grow our grains and export them without political interference," said Gunter Jochum, President of the Western Canadian Wheat Growers (WCWG), in a release.

The WCWG release noted; farmers are used

to managing risk associated with factors that are outside of their control such as weather. Factors such as trade markets and political interference should be within our government's control.

The new program sounds impressive with a maximum advance of \$1 million but the WCWG's note to be "eligible for \$1 million advance on canola where \$500,000 is interest free, you have to produce approximately 200,000 bushels of canola. In order to qualify for the maximum, you need 5,263 acres at 38 bushels per acre, which is roughly a 16,000 acre farm."

The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities also noted

the help is purely a loan.

"Farmers will be expected to repay dollars borrowed through the Advanced Payment program, since it is a loan and to be clear it is a temporary solution," stated Ray Orb, President of SARM in a release.

"While this announcement is a step in the right direction, it still does not address the problem with China," explained Orb. "We are frustrated and will continue to push for a diplomatic resolution to the problem. Canada needs an ambassador to China and Ministers Bibeau, Carr and Freeland also need to be more involved."

Nearly half (40 per cent) of canola and

canola products produced in Canada go to China. Saskatchewan is the largest exporter of canola in Canada and globally. As SARM noted, access to the world market is critical to the success of the agriculture industry and the provincial and national economies.

The loan announced by the feds is at best a stop gap measure. While trade diversification minister Jim Carr also announced efforts to expand exports to other Asian markets, the real solution is getting to the table with China and finding an equitable solution to what is essentially a temper tantrum at the highest levels of the Chinese government.

## RCMP detachments seeking assistance finding three stolen vehicles

It's been a busy week for the province's Crime Watch Advisory Network, and also a busy week for rural truck thieves in the area.

In just the past week, the Crime Watch Advisory Network has sent out three separate notices reporting the theft of a motor vehicle, one in the Big River RCMP detachment area, a second in the Spiritwood RCMP's area, and a third in the Ahtahkakoop-Shellbrook detachment's jurisdiction.

Beginning in Big River, the detachment reported that a black 2000 Dodge Ram, license plate 983 FMM, was stolen in the Park Valley area on May 12. The vehicle has a headache rack and built-in tool boxes in the back, and a heavy duty front bumper.

On May 15, meanwhile, the Spiritwood RCMP reported the theft of a 2011 Ford F150 Raptor, license plate 027 KGP, from the town of Spiritwood. The vehicle's colour wasn't reported.

Lastly, the Ahtahkakoop-Shellbrook RCMP reported on Tuesday, May 21 that a white 2015 GMC 1500, license plate 237 LEU had been stolen from the town of Shellbrook.

Anyone with any information about any of these incidents is urged to call

911, their local RCMP detachment, or 310-RCMP.

Funded by the provincial government, the Saskatchewan Crime Watch Advisory Network initially launched in southern Saskatchewan on March 7 as partnership between the province, the RCMP, SUMA, and SARM. But it has quickly expanded to cover all communities in the province.

With the Crime Watch Advisory Network, RCMP detachments can issue an advisory when they become aware of an incident or a crime. That advisory will then be sent to anyone who has joined the Network on the platform of their choosing (email, text, or landline).

In the first month after the Crime Watch Advisory Network's launch, an estimated 5,500 people signed up to receive alerts and be in the know about crimes or incidents in their communi-

ties and areas.

Anyone can register to receive notifications from the Crime Watch Advisory Network at [www.saskcrimewatch.ca](http://www.saskcrimewatch.ca).

### Place your Classified Today!

1st week 20 words \$16.00

Extra words 20¢ each

2nd week \$8.00

Plus GST

Phone: 306-747-2442

Fax: 306-747-3000

Email: [chads@sbchron.com](mailto:chads@sbchron.com)

Shellbrook Chronicle

### PRINCE ALBERT LIVESTOCK SALES

A division of Northern Livestock Sales



To consign cattle or for on-farm appraisals please contact Brent, Glen, Boyd or Frederick

## Tuesday, May 28, 2019

### Regular Sale 9:30 a.m.



Producers wishing to market cattle prior to sale day please contact the office 306-763-8463 for delivery.

Your independently owned & operated livestock marketing facility - working with the producers' best interest in mind

FEEDER FINANCE PROGRAM AVAILABLE - Please contact Glen

Brent 306-240-5340 • Glen 306-960-4732 • Boyd 306-841-7998 • Frederick 306-227-9505

Office 306-763-8463 ~ Fax 306-763-4620

For market info visit: [www.northernlivestocksales.ca](http://www.northernlivestocksales.ca)

### Happy Hearts Childcare Centre

#### Annual General Meeting

Thursday, June 6, 7:30 p.m.

(a short meeting will follow for board members)

@ Happy Hearts Childcare Centre

Join us to learn more about Happy Hearts.

Everyone welcome.

Those interested in joining the board can participate in the election. For more information on the AGM: [breanna.happyhearts@hotmail.com](mailto:breanna.happyhearts@hotmail.com)

# Biennial plants to grow on the prairies

By Erl Svendsen & Sara Williams

A true biennial is a plant that takes two growing seasons to complete its lifecycle. During the first season, the seed germinates, it typically forms a low rosette of leaves and then goes dormant in the late fall. The following spring, a flowering stalk elongates, flowers and sets seeds and dies. A number of biennials are well worth growing in our prairie gardens. If you're hoping that the biennials will make a permanent home in your border, refrain from mulching below them so they can happily self-seed.

"Once a medieval knight and his lady-love were walking beside a river. The knight held a bouquet in his hands. Because of the weight of the armor, he fell into the water. According to the legend, he threw the bouquet at her shouting 'forget-me-not'."

Forget-me-nots (*Myosotis sylvatica*), native to Europe, are short (8 inches), spring blooming biennials with blue flowers with a yellow or white eye. They grow in sun or shade in well-drained soil well amended with organic matter and do best with even moisture. They can persist in the garden for many years through self-seeding. I've found them particularly lovely under plum or apple trees with whose bloom period they often coincide. The genus name comes from the classical Greek *myosotis* mouse and meaning ear. In

this case, a plant with short pointed leaves. *Sylvatica* means "of the forest", their native habitat.

Many true biennial foxgloves (*Digitalis purpurea*) often do not survive their first winter. The good news is that there is an annual cultivar, 'Foxy', that flowers in its first year. If grown early from seed indoors (January) and the seedlings set out in a shaded area in May, it will flower that same year. 'Foxy' is also available as a bedding plant. A hardy perennial foxglove (*D. grandiflora* or *D. ambigua*) is another option. Its flowers are a soft butter-yellow with a brown spotted interior. Flowering occurs in June on spikes up to 100 cm (3 ft.). The genus name, *Digitalis*, describes the finger-shaped corolla (all of the petals taken together). One of the species is the source of *digitalis*, a heart stimulant. All parts are poisonous.

Hollyhock (*Alcea rosea*, syn. *Althaea rosea*) is an old-fashioned biennial that is regaining popularity. Native to China, it had reached England in the 1500s. It was once used to cure the hocks of horses and mistakenly believed to have come from the holy land, thus the common name, hollyhock. It is a very tough plant. During their first year, hollyhocks produce a rosette of round, lobed, medium green leaves. The following summer, a very tall stalk rises from the rosette, often



**Hollyhocks. Tough plants, at home in full sun and amazingly drought-tolerant. Image credit: Erl Svendsen**

reaching 150 – 240 cm (5 – 8 ft.) and producing large (10 – 13 cm/4 – 5 in.), saucer-shaped flowers over a 2-month period starting in July. Flower colour can be white, pink, yellow, red or purple. Some cultivars are so dark a purple as to appear almost black ('Nigra'). There are also double flowered cultivars that resemble small pom-poms. Hollyhock plants may produce side shoots that survive and flower into the following year. They will also self-sow and, if left alone, will eventually produce a self-sustaining little colony that will

bloom year after year.

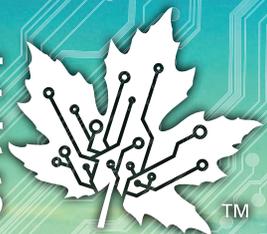
Johnny jump-ups (*Viola tricolor*) are tiny pansies of violet, yellow and blue that will flower cheerfully through most of the summer as long as it's not too hot. Native to Asia, it's variously referred to as an annual, biennial or a short-lived perennial. Only 4-6 inches high, they seem to do well in both sun and shade and will reseed happily (perhaps too happily) once established. I remember asking a friend if I could have one in the mid-1970s. He gave me a very stern warning that they would be with me forever, reminding me of the meaning of the common name. He was right. We later sold the house.

*Sara Williams is the author of many books including Gardening Naturally, Best Trees and Shrubs, and Best Groundcovers and Vines with Hugh Skinner, Creating the Prairie Xeriscape, and with Bob Bors, Growing Fruit in Northern Gardens. She gives workshops on gardening topics throughout the prairies.*

*Erl gardens in Saskatoon and tweets about it on occasion @ErlSv.*

*This column is provided courtesy of the Saskatchewan Perennial Society (SPS; saskperennial@hotmail.com). Check our website (www.saskperennial.ca) or Facebook page (www.facebook.com/saskperennial) for a list of upcoming gardening events.*

RECYCLE  
MY  
ELECTRONICS



The future is in your hands.  
Don't let it go to waste.™

To find out what and where to recycle, visit:

[recycleMYelectronics.ca/SK](http://recycleMYelectronics.ca/SK)

or visit our newest drop-off location at Highway 55 Waste Management,

10 KM west of Canwood on Highway 55.

Land Location: SE 29- 51-5 W 3rd

EPRA



## Recycling Electronics In Saskatchewan Just Got Even Easier

In Saskatchewan, we're used to charting our own path and doing what's right without waiting to be told. We also have an ingrained understanding about what it means to be stewards of the land. Saskatchewan was the first province, and the first jurisdiction in North America, to launch a regulated, industry-led electronics recycling program beginning in 2007.

One year ago, the Electronics Products Recycling Association Saskatchewan (EPRA SK) and its network of Recycle My Electronics drop-off locations began accepting more types of electronics. This resulted in more end-of-life electronics being diverted from landfill, recycled, and put back into the manufacturing supply chain. In the past 12 years, Saskatchewan residents have recycled more than 31,000 metric tonnes of electronics.

This year, EPRA SK is opening more Recycle My Electronics drop-off locations throughout the province, providing greater access for residents in rural communities.

"Our mandate, at EPRA, has always been to make recycling end-of-life electronics easy and accessible for residents of Saskatchewan," said Gayleen Creelman, Program Director, EPRA SK. "We're doing just that by opening more drop-off locations throughout the province for consumers to safely and securely recycle their devices"

"Highway 55 Waste Management is very excited to be an Authorized 'Recycle My Electronics' Drop-off Location. It removes one more obstacle for residents that we serve to safely and securely recycle their end-of-life electronics," said Ken Larsen, Operations Manager.

EPRA SK has set up a vast network of over 90 collection locations consisting of municipalities, regional waste authorities, businesses, and SARCAN Recycling Depots throughout the province and is committed to recycling end-of-life electronics in a responsible manner. That means always considering both worker and environmental safety at every stage and in every process.

EPRA, in Saskatchewan and throughout Canada, only work with recyclers who are verified under the national Electronics Recycling Standard (ERS), which was designed by the electronics industry to ensure that end-of-life electronics are managed in a safe and environmentally sound manner. In addition, ERS-approved processors must meet over 150 protocols to ensure the safety of their employees and the environment.

Residents of Saskatchewan are now able to recycle more types of electronics at more drop-off locations throughout the province than ever before, including the newest location at Highway 55 Waste Management. Finding your nearest drop-off location is as easy as visiting [recycleMYelectronics.ca/SK](http://recycleMYelectronics.ca/SK) and entering your postal code.

