

Shellbrook Chronicle

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Looking back on the year that was 2019



Flanked by Big River First Nation Chief Bruce Morin, and Ontario representative Greg Rickford, Premier Scott Moe gives an opening address ahead of the first round of talks about Indigenous youth. The talks unofficially kicked off the 2019 Council of the Federation meeting, which was held in July and made history by being the first such meeting hosted by a First Nation community.

JANUARY

When it comes to saving a life, every second counts.

But for residents of Shellbrook – or those who reside in other nearby communities, or in rural areas – who may face a medical emergency, a lot of seconds can elapse before an ambulance arrives on scene to provide lifesaving emergency care.

Having devoted much of his life to improving healthcare services for Shellbrook and the surrounding area, Jim Van Eaton considers the current state of ambulance service inexcusable.

To solve the dual problems of unacceptable wait times and costs, Van Eaton is hoping that he can convince the provincial government to establish an ambulance depot in Shellbrook.

With the second phase of its rink renovation project set to begin at the end of the upcoming hockey and curling seasons, the Shellbrook Recreation Project Steering Committee has received some good news to start 2019.

After more than a year of back and forth negotiations with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities over a

possible \$750,000 Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program grant, the committee will soon begin to see some of the money roll in.

The first two \$300,000 disbursements helped cover phase two of the project, which included a new ice surface, new boards and glass, and a many other minor fixes.

After a strong 2018 fastball season, the U19 Shellbrook Rangers gathered one last time over the holidays to bid farewell to the year, and hand out some well-deserved awards to players as well as some thank yous to the

people who made the season possible.

The Shellbrook Curling Club lounge was the place to be for anyone with a love of curling this past weekend, as the club hosted its fifth annual Skins Bonspiel on Friday and Saturday.

Earning the biggest payout at this year's Skins Spiel were A event champions Jordan Henry, Evan Corrigan, Matt Mann, and Justin Dinney out of Prince Albert. They overcame a stiff challenge from the local rink of Wes Ledding, Jeff Ledding, Brad Ledding, and Larry Brossart.

Continued on page 2



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Looking back on the year that was 2019



Former Shellbrook Elks from across the organization's history showed up to make the Hockey Day Elks Reunion game one heck of a match, and a major highlight of Hockey Day in Shellbrook 2019.



The \$1.5 million project to replace this culvert in the Sturgeon Lake area was just getting started in January, but it was finished by the end of March.

January Cont'd

Some tapped their toes, others shuffled their feet, and others still whirled and twirled their way across the dance floor. Either way, everyone had a good

time when the Shellbrook Senior's Association held an old time dancing session on Friday afternoon.

This past Friday's afternoon of dancing and socialization even saw

special guests from Grade 11 English teacher Nicole Philp's class come out to join the sizeable group of seniors that came out.



Duane Storey was the recipient of the Builder Award at Shellbrook's annual Sports Awards Banquet.

Despite the sub-zero conditions outside, and the fact that Hockey Day in Shellbrook was entering its fourth year (making it long in the tooth for a small-town event), the community came together at the Shellbrook Recreation Complex over the weekend to exceed the Hockey Day in Shellbrook Committee's modest expectations of raising \$50,000.

Indeed, though some final calculations need to be made, the current estimates put the total raised in the neighbourhood of \$80,000, bringing the total raised by Hockey Day in Shellbrook over the past four years to an impressive \$400,000 – and, of

course, the vast majority of this money has gone towards ongoing repairs at the rink.

As part of the Hockey Day in Shellbrook festivities, the 2019 Sports Awards were presented as follows:

Wendell Harris Memorial Trophy: U16 Rangers

Memorial Builder Award: Bob Potts

Athlete of the Year: Devin Rask

Builder Award: Duane Storey

Volunteer of the Year: Amund Otterson

Hall of Fame: Dry Creek Penguins

Hockey Day in Shellbrook 2019 was host to a game that was both for the history books, and from the history books, when former Shellbrook Senior Elks from across the organization's history suited up to take part in a friendly exhibition match.

For Shellbrook Elks fans of all ages, it was the first opportunity to see the senior team take the ice, since the team folded after the 2015-2016 hockey season. And though most of the players hadn't competed on the ice in a while, they didn't leave the fans disappointed, scoring a combined 25 goals through 60 minutes of fast-paced action.

In what turned out to be a bit of happenstance, the Shellbrook Curling Club earned the opportunity to host

the 2018-2019 Affinity Credit Union Senior Women's Qualifier Bonspiel #2, and the event just so happened to coincide with the Hockey Day in Shellbrook festivities.

This meant that both the Curling Club lounge and the Shellbrook Arena were filled to capacity, as five of the top senior women's teams in the province vied for one of four available slots in Provincials from Jan. 18 to 20.

Though much of the province is in grips of a deep freeze, the R.M. of Shellbrook is currently in the midst of replacing a culvert in the Sturgeon Lake area, near the T-junction of grid roads 693 and 788.

The culvert replacement is being handled

by Calgary Tunneling, with Mocon as general contractor, and Deputy Reeve Derwin Joelson overseeing the project.

Assuming all goes well, the replacement is expected to be completed by the end of March, and come with a cost of about \$1.5 million.

FEBRUARY

It arrived a little later than anticipated, but the Shellbrook Recreation Complex now has its new ice resurfacing machine.

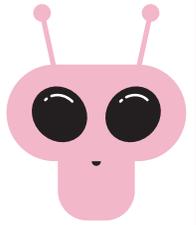
The machine, a brand new Olympia Millennium H Ice Resurfer worth \$135,000, arrived in the back of a semi last Thursday afternoon, just in time for league and provincial playoffs to kick the hockey season into full swing.

Continued on page 3



Liz Renz and her student partner Sam Miller enjoy a dance, while student Zach Bell shares a smile with his dance partner.

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Looking back on the year that was 2019



It was a delicate process, but (with some help from Jay Ferster, and Livewire Electric) Dale Piprell was able to guide the Shellbrook Recreation Complex's new ice resurfacing machine onto the back of a flat bed before it touched down safely on solid ground.



W.P. Sandin High School's mixed curling team of Brennan Stochmanski, Alexis Stochmanski, Burk Gosselin and Hannah Remus earned gold when the school hosted district curling at the Shellbrook Curling Club.

February Cont'd

More than four years after the Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division (SRPSD) held an information night, at which it floated the possibility of a new K-12 school being built in Shellbrook, there's still not much news to report.

While the province's fiscal troubles have left the possibility of the consolidated facility in limbo, Bratvold says the new school, which had an estimated cost of \$25.2 million in 2015, remains a priority for the SRPSD.

Despite the frigid conditions outside, about 50 ratepayers gathered in the Shellbrook Community Hall last Wednesday evening, when the town of Shellbrook hosted a town hall session.

Mayor George Tomporowski began the meeting by providing a snapshot update of the town's ongoing work and future plans for municipal infrastructure.

The evening also saw the town touch on changes to water and sewer services. But most were in attendance to voice their concerns about Co-op's plans to build a fertilizer plant on the east side of town.

With municipal leaders from across the province gathered at TCU Place in Saskatoon for the 2019 Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) Convention, Premier Scott Moe announced Monday morning that the province's revenue sharing

program will be receiving a noticeable boost.

For the 2019-2020 fiscal year, municipalities will split a pot of \$251 million, an increase of \$10 million (or four per cent) over 2018-2019.

This year has been a bit of a challenge for the Canwood Curling Club. With the problems with the failing rafters in the current curling rink, the club has had to use alternate ice surfaces in order to maintain the Curling Club's activities.

For the annual Billyspiel, the Club had to resort to making ice in the Canwood Skating Rink, which made for an interesting event.

After the curling was completed on Saturday evening, the Corey Tomporowski foursome defeated the Grant Person squad to win the "Olympic Bound Event," and first place in the event.

Utilizing puppets based on characters in the Rabbit and Bearpaws stories, as well as a more interactive form of storytelling, Aboriginal storyteller Chad Solomon brought this sharing of culture to students from Shellbrook Elementary School last Thursday, and, together, they told the story of "Rabbit and Bearpaws and The Way".

Solomon's storytelling sessions were made possible by the Shellbrook Public Library, with funding from the Wapiti Regional Library, and were just one way to observe Saskatchewan's Aboriginal Storytell-

ing Month.

It wasn't quite the turnout that curling coach Marliese Kasner had hoped for, but with five teams competing on the boy's side, and three teams taking part in mixed action, W.P. Sandin High School played host to district curling at the Shellbrook Curling Club last week.

What's more, the one-day competition was a resound success for W.P. Sandin's mixed curling team, consisting of skip Brennan Stochmanski, lead Hannah Remus, second Burk Gosselin, and third Alexis Stochmanski, as the foursome earned a spot in the district finals.

At this point, you could almost call it the Ledding Bonspiel.

That's because a Ledding foursome has made it to the A-event final of the Shellbrook Curling Club's annual Open Bonspiel (known, once upon a time, as the Farmer's bonspiel) every year since at least 2016.

Victory was in the cards for the Leddings again at this year's Open Bonspiel, as skip Brad Ledding, teammates Jeff Ledding, Sean Helm and Carson Ledding, and substitute Grant Martin, took on all comers in the two-day, 14 team bonspiel en route to another year's worth of bragging rights.

When you wake up in the morning to see that the mercury has dipped to a balmy -31 degrees Celsius, it's hard to muster



Bear Paws gives a student a big bear hug, during an Aboriginal storytelling session hosted by Chad Solomon at Shellbrook Elementary school. The session was made possible by the Shellbrook Public Library, with funding provided by the Wapiti Regional Library.

any confidence that anyone will bother showing up to the outdoor event you had planned for the afternoon.

Luckily for the Shellbrook Kinsmen and Kinettes, who spent family day hosting their second annual Day of KINDness at Shellbrook's outdoor rink, a little sunshine warmed things up, and people eventually showed up in droves.

This year's Carrot River & Churchill Regional Invitational Competition was held in Prince Albert at the Art Hauser Centre on Feb. 16 & 17 and was hosted by all of the Region 12 clubs that span from Cudworth and PA to La Ronge and Spiritwood. Every club had an important part to play to make the weekend a success, and a huge success it was.

It was a blustery winter's day, but that didn't stop

close to 100 snowmobilers from hitting the trails for the annual Cameo Snowmobile Rally on Saturday.

The turnout, another

strong one for a small community event that has been going on for more than 40 years, made the day into an overwhelming success.

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Looking back on the year that was 2019



From left: Team Saskatchewan manager Dave Schultz (also Taylor's local coach), Ashlyn Schmitz, Tristan Taylor, and Team Saskatchewan apprentice coach Tasje Sharron (also Schmitz's local coach) await the pair's results after a performance at the 2019 Canada Winter Games in Red Deer, Alta.

MARCH

Studio 747's second annual midseason spectacle may have been billed as a mini showcase, but from the performances, to the costumes, to the raucous response of the audience, there was nothing even remotely miniature about it.

Held at the Shellbrook Theatre on Saturday evening, the showcase featured approximately 30 of the studio's dancers, who, altogether, performed 42 solo and small group numbers.

Shellbrook's Ashlyn Schmitz can now add a national pre-novice pairs

figure skating bronze medal to her burgeoning list of figure skating accolades, after she and her partner, Tristan Taylor, skated their way to the podium at the 2019 Canada Winter Games in Red Deer, Alta. last Thursday.

It wasn't quite a record-setting year, but Kinsmen Telemiracle 43 was still a highly successful one. Altogether, the campaign, which culminated in a weekend-long telethon at TCU Place in Saskatoon, saw the province raise a whopping \$5.6 million for a very good cause.

Shellbrook Kinettes member Tasha Cyr made

the journey to Saskatoon alongside her fellow group members. And in what Cyr calls a "fantastic weekend", the Kinettes took responsibility for a full phone line, worked hard, and even made the on-air presentation on behalf of Shellbrook.

Stating that the province "is amazing," and that she's grateful for the community and area's continued support, Cyr says that the community's donation to this year's Telemiracle totalled \$12,101.10.

It was a star-studded Sunday evening at the Shellbrook Recreation Complex, when the 2019 Saskatchewan Stars on Ice Road Show rolled into town, bringing with it some of the province's brightest young figure skaters.

Displaying stratospheric jumps, dizzying spins, and every trick and skill in between, the mixture of Team Saskatchewan, regional, and local skaters delighted the crowd, earning well-deserved waves of raucous applause and cheers.

While Sunday evening saw many of the Shellbrook Skating Club's young skaters take the ice as part of the 2019 Saskatchewan Stars on Ice Road Show, a handful of skaters were fresh off equally impressive performances in competition.

From March 1 to 3, six of the club's members took part in the 2019 Winter Classic (formerly known



Haiden Sanchez and Teanne Couture channelled a lot of charm into their hip hop duet at Studio 747's mini showcase.

as the Jean Norman/STARSkate Competition) in Saskatoon. And though she was busy serving as an apprentice coach for Team Saskatchewan at the Canada Winter Games in Red Deer, Alta., Shellbrook Skating Club, coach Tasje Sharron reports that most of her skaters were able to bring home some hard-earned hardware.

The Spiritwood Curling Club has a new club champion following the playdowns held Mon-Wed last week. Dalton Wasden and his team of Emma Beaulac at third, Spencer Fox second and Alexis Stochmanski lead scored a last rock victory over Brad Nemish in one of the most tense and exciting matches in recent memory.

Once again The Shell Lake Fifty Plus Club hosted a very successful Bonspiel on March 5, 6, and 7. In the A Event the Jim

Koetse rink made up of players from Spiritwood and Shell Lake went through the competition defeating all of their opponents. In the final they defeated Rene Beaulieu and his rink from Debden.

Shellbrook's town council held a special meeting on Monday, March 11, at which it passed the municipal budget for 2019.

In keeping with provincial regulations, the budget is perfectly balanced with revenues and expenses at \$3,810,010 – a marked increase over last year's budgeted revenues and expenses of \$3,332,840.

While passing the budget, council also enacted a new Mill Rate Bylaw for 2019. This year will see the municipal mill rate increase to 3.98 from 3.95 (an increase of 3 per cent)

Most kids who grow up playing baseball in a small

town rarely get the opportunity to take their love of the game beyond the local diamonds.

Not so for 16-year-old Ethan Bell, a pitcher and Bantam Shellbrook Ranger who spent part of February touring Australia and New Zealand with the Saskatchewan Junior Royal Canadians.

After 18 months of talks, the town of Shellbrook is ready to find out whether there's any truth in the old saying "there's strength in numbers."

The town, along with the City of Prince Albert, the Rural Municipalities of Prince Albert and Buckland, the Muskoday First Nation, and Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation, is one of the founding members of the Prince Albert Regional Economic Development Alliance (PREDA), an organization that will promote regional economic growth.

Continued on page 5

NOTICE OF NOMINATION

Nominations will be accepted January 3 - 9/2020 for Delegates of Lake Country Co-operative Association Limited Delegate Positions are available at the following locations:

- Domremy (one 3 year term)
- La Ronge (one 3 year term)
- Paddockwood (one 3 year term)
- Shellbrook (one 3 year term)
- Smeaton (one 3 year term & one 2 year term)
- Wakaw (one 3 year term)
- Big River (one 3 year term)
- Kinistino (one 3 year term)
- Marcelin (one 3 year term)
- Canwood (one 3 year term)
- Birch Hills (one 3 year term)
- Spiritwood (one 3 year term)
- Prince Albert (five 3 year terms)

Nomination forms are available at the Food Store at each location, except Shellbrook where they can be picked up at the Agro Center and in Spiritwood at the Service Center.

- Nominees must do the majority of their Co-op purchases at the location for which they are nominated, or be a resident of the district.
- Nominees must hold a Co-op membership in their name.
- Nominee purchases must be equivalent to those of the average Co-op member.



LAKE COUNTRY



Shellbrook's Ethan Bell (third from back) recently got the chance to take his love of baseball to Australia and New Zealand, during 12 days of competition and sightseeing with the Saskatchewan Junior Royal Canadians. Sights taken in included the Sydney Opera House.

Looking back on the year that was 2019

March Cont'd

The stands inside the arena and the lobby at the Shellbrook Recreation Complex were filled with proud parents, family members, and friends, Sunday afternoon, when the Shellbrook Skating Club presented "Night and Day", its dazzling, year-end showcase.

Sponsored by the Shellbrook Kinsmen, the showcase boasted 24 show-stopping solo and group routines, giving skaters of all ages the opportunity to demonstrate the skills they've acquired or improved upon throughout the skating season.

Senior curlers in Shellbrook capped off another strong season for the sport on Wednesday afternoon, when they hosted their annual season-ending bonspiel.

After all was said and done, the foursome of skip Duret rink, third Bruce Harper, second Cindy Painchaud, and lead Jerry Clark emerged victorious in the A final.



A-event winners from the Shellbrook Seniors Bonspiel, from left: Ben Duret, Bruce Harper, Cindy Painchaud, and Jerry Clark.



A Winners in the Shell Lake 50 Plus Club Bonspiel: Skip Jim Koetse, third Ken Hogg, second Sandra Howard, and lead Helen Conacher.

When W.P. Sandin High School's School Community Council (SCC) held its regular meeting in the school's multi-purpose room on Monday evening, they were greeted by the largest crowd they had ever seen - and likely ever will see - at a meeting.

The ire of the concerned citizens was fixed on the SRPSD's policies and decision making processes regarding the transfer of teachers from small towns like Shellbrook, and the recent revelation that a number of teachers, including Nicole Philp, were being transferred with little to no notice.

This year at the eighth annual Jim Willoughby Memorial Rec Hockey Tournament, which was played in Shellbrook March 22 and 23, we had total of eight teams participating: Dale Piprell's Elks, the Silvertips, the Midget Elks, the Wash-ups, the Cromarties, Team Pilsner, the Debden Jets, and

the Willoughbys.

The A event at this year's tournament was won by Silvertips over the Jets.

APRIL

It was a little after 4 p.m. when the *Chronicle* arrived in the gymnasium at W.P. Sandin High School, where about 60 kids were racing through an inflatable obstacle course as quickly as possible.

It was just the beginning of what was going to be a long night for the students, and for their supervisors, who were all participating in the school's Wake-athon fundraiser.

Calling the event a huge success, teacher Nicole Philp said her best guess was that the students managed to raise in the neighbourhood of \$2,000.

For the young dancers of Studio 747, March and April mean only one thing: competition, competition, and more competition.

The dancers, who were last seen showcasing their talent and perfecting their routines for an appreciative audience at Studio 747's second annual mini showcase, had a busy March, in particular, including showings at three competitions, including Prince Albert's Dance Blast.

There, 23 of the studio's routines, ranging across all age categories and including solo numbers, duets, and small and large group dances, earned "Most Outstanding" awards.

With the spring thaw officially on, work on phase two of the Shellbrook Recreation Project Steering Committee's renovations to the Shellbrook

Recreation is underway.

Steering Committee project manager Amund Otterson says the hard physical labour of removing the glass and demolishing the boards began in earnest last Tuesday evening, with members the Parkside Community Club volunteering their time.

The second phase's major projects also included a new ice floor.

No, it wasn't a bad April fool's joke.

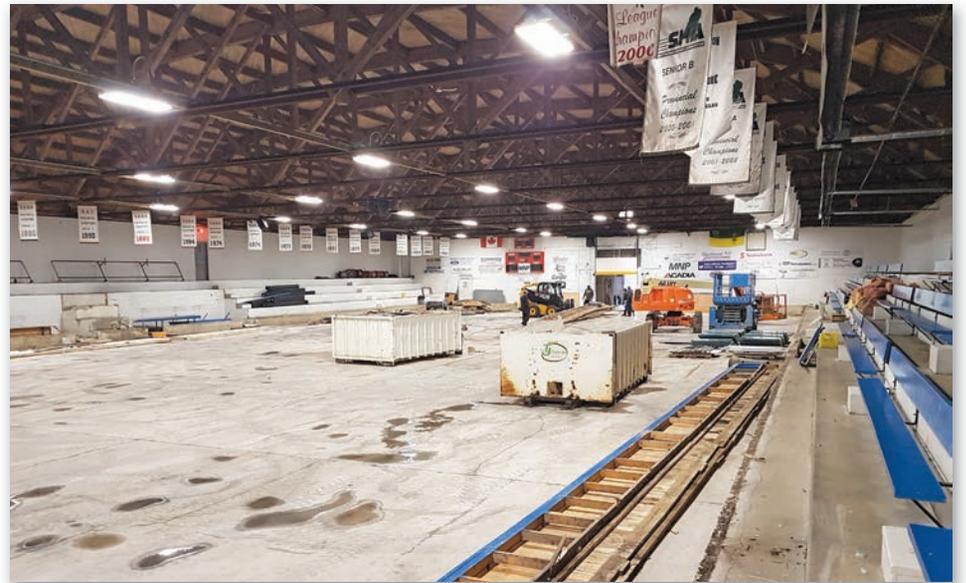
As of April 1, the federal government's carbon tax is now in effect in Saskatchewan, bringing with it higher prices at the pumps, higher home heating costs, and, very likely, other additional expenses for the province's residents.

Predictably, the arrival of

the controversial "price on pollution" was met with criticism from the Saskatchewan Party government.

The Shellbrook Elks Atom 2 team wrapped up a terrific hockey season at the Prince Albert Minor Hockey City Championship this past weekend, winning the league title.

Continued on page 6



The boards at the Shellbrook Recreation Complex were dismantled and removed in March, as phase two of the Steering Committee's renovations got underway.

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Nominate!



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Looking back on the year that was 2019

April Cont'd

It wasn't a perfect season for the Bantam Shellbrook Elks, but the team managed to finish strong by topping the Prince Albert Storm two games to none in the Saskatchewan Valley Minor Hockey League finals to become league champions.

The results are in, and, after being named a finalist in seven Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association (SWNA) Better Newspaper Competition (BNC) categories, Shellbrook Chronicle news editor Jordan Twiss has brought home three first place plaques from the April 6 awards gala.

Twiss was again named Columnist of the Year, and also won in the Best Educational Coverage K-12 (single story) category, and the Best Healthcare Series category.

For the second consecutive year, the Student Leadership Council (SLC) of W.P. Sandin Public High School chose to honour the memory of those killed and injured in 2018's Humboldt Broncos bus crash, by inviting the community out to play the game that the team loved for a good cause.

The event's second goal scored \$4,000 for STARS.

A few Is still need to be dotted and Ts need to be crossed, but as of April 1, the R.M. of Shellbrook had completed its \$1.4 million project to replace an aging culvert in the Sturgeon Lake area, near the junction of grid roads 693 and 788.

The community group fighting to have the Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division (SRPSD)



The Bantam Shellbrook Elks, the 2018-2019 Saskatchewan Valley Minor Hockey League champions.



Shellbrook Grade 7 student Ashton Tanchuk (left) before heading off to Fredericton, N.B. to compete in the Canada-Wide Science Fair, after his project was one of just two selected to advance from the regional science fair in Prince Albert on Tuesday, April 9. Photo by Peter Lozinski, Prince Albert Daily Herald

revisit and possibly reverse its decision to transfer four local teachers to different schools – including two to different communities – was dealt a blow Monday evening.

In an email from SRPSD Director of Education Robert Bratvold, the group learned that a reversal of the transfers was “not being contemplated.”

A Grade 7 student from Shellbrook's W.P. Sandin

High School has proven that he has the science smarts to compete with the very best young experimenters and researchers in Canada.

Facing off against 22 entrants from various Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division schools at last week's Regional Science Fair in Prince Albert, Ashton Tanchuk was selected by the panel of 20 judges to be one of just two competitors to move onto the

Canada-Wide Science Fair in Fredericton, N.B. from May 11 to 17.

From delicious homemade goodies to handcrafted woodwork to fine jewelry, just about everything was on display and up for grabs when the elders of Parkland Integrated Health Centre's long-term care facility, and the facility's Family Council, invited the community in for a spring craft and trade show.



Chronicle news editor Jordan Twiss earned three SWNA honours, including Columnist of the Year for the second time in five years.

Scorched, blackened earth now dots some sections of Highway 3 east of Holbein, after a wildfire broke out in a ditch alongside the southern edge of the road on Monday afternoon.

Buoyed by high winds in the area, the fire reportedly grew to about eight hectares in size, and, at one point, jumped to the north side of Highway 3, before eventually being contained by fire crews from Shellbrook and Buckland later in the evening.

Students from Shellbrook Elementary School and W.P. Sandin Public High School hopped into the Easter break last Thursday, with a morning filled with a delicious pancake and sau-

sage breakfast and a whole array of holiday-themed activities.

The day was the schools' way of celebrating Pink Shirt Day, an annual Canada-wide initiative aimed at creating without a world bullying.

Nearly three months after a town hall at which town of Shellbrook Mayor George Tomporowski and his fellow councillors faced ratepayers' questions and concerns about Lake Country Co-op's plans to build a fertilizer plant on the east side of town, there's been no further developments on the proposal.

According to town of Shellbrook administrator Kelly Hoare, the latest is that the proposal is still with Community Planning,

Happy New Year from Your Saskatchewan Party MLAs

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Looking back on the year that was 2019



A sign that once read "Parkland Terrace" was reduced to rubble in May, and trees were felled. And, later in the year, the building itself was demolished to make room for solar panels to power the rink, and an expansion of Kinsmen Park.

MAY

They say one man's trash is another man's treasure.

That was certainly the case Saturday afternoon, when the Shellbrook branch of the Royal Canadian Legion hosted its annual garage sale and barbecue fundraiser. The fundraiser brought in \$385.

A man and woman were sentenced to jail time for their roles in a home invasion and high-speed chase near Debden on May 25, 2018.

Appearing in Prince Albert Provincial Court on Monday, Erin Mindy Whitefish, 29, was handed a 32-month sentence, after pleading guilty to 19 charges relating to the incident.

Meanwhile, her co-accused, 22-year-old Ryan Lee Lachance, received a 20 month sentence.

On an almost daily ba-

sis, Cory Rennie, manager of addiction and integrated outreach services for Prince Albert and area, has meetings with his colleagues about the drug trends they're seeing amongst their clients.

Historically speaking, he says, this area has always had the same issues, with alcohol and marijuana being most prevalent, and alcohol, in particular, being the drug of choice for most people seeking treatment for addiction.

At least, that was the case until a few years ago, when crystal meth started to flood the area.

From the tiniest tots, to the most experienced dancers, every student of Shellbrook's Studio 747 had an opportunity to showcase their passion and talent, when the studio held its second annual year-end showcase at the Shellbrook

Theatre.

Sunday saw an afternoon filled with more than three hours of live music, when the students of Kerri English took to the Shellbrook Theatre stage for their annual spring recital.

With proud parents and loved ones cheering them on from the full theatre house, English's 36 students on the event program bowed, plucked, picked, strummed, and even sang their way through 41 separate numbers, including some solos, some duets, and even some larger ensemble pieces.

A little over a year ago, when Ahtahakoop-Shellbrook RCMP detachment commander Sgt. Kent Ashworth held his first town hall meeting at the Shellbrook Legion Hall, he was greeted by a full house of folks fed up with the frequency of rural crime.

A few months later, much of that anger had dissipated, replaced by joint community action in the formation of crime watch groups for the Rural Municipalities of Shellbrook and Canwood, and other areas.

And the story was much the same at a third town hall held in Canwood last Friday evening, at which Ashworth provided an update on the current status of the Ahtahakoop-Shellbrook RCMP detachment and an overview of crime in the area to the 20 or so people in attendance.

Their numbers may have been few, but those who attended a live auction benefit for the Shellbrook and Area Food Bank sure made a big difference by opening up their hearts, and their wallets.

All told, the 20 or so people who bid on auction items, which were auctioned off by volunteer auctioneer Jack Hills from Big River, helped to raise \$2,300 for the Food Bank to help those in need.

In sports, there are championship titles that are earned through tough victories and even tougher losses, and, more rarely, there are titles that are claimed so dominantly that they seem as though they were fated.

For W.P. Sandin High School student Marissa Skavlebo, who wrapped up her badminton season in Swift Current on Saturday, May 11 with an SHSAA Girls Singles Provincial Championship title, the 2018-2019 campaign has decidedly been the latter.

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 del-

egation 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 that all there is to do now is to wait for a response from the SRPSD.

Continued on page 8



Shellbrook's Marissa Skavlebo is an SHSAA Provincial Badminton singles champion for 2018-2019.



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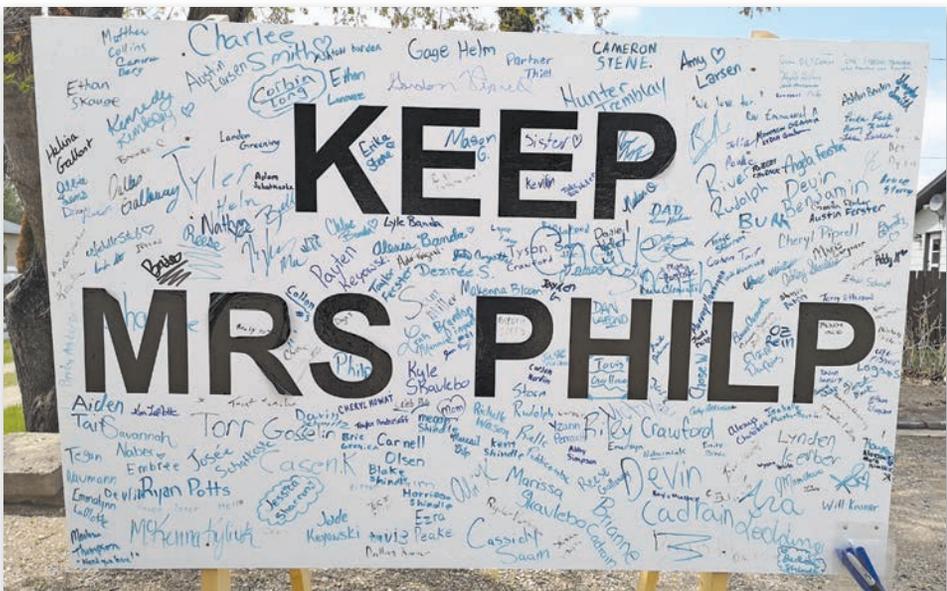
Dear Constituents;

If you are in need of a new passport or a passport renewal, myself and my colleague MP Randy Hoback, will host three passport clinics in January 2020.

<p>Tuesday, January 14th Shellbrook Elks Hall 103A Railway Ave W Shellbrook, SK 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM</p>	<p>Please register at: Gary.vidal.c1@parl.gc.ca or CALL 306-304-234-1264 or 1-844-365-9664</p>									
<p>Wednesday, January 15th Choiceland Seniors Club 200 - 1st Street E Choiceland, SK 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM</p>	<p>Please indicate the number of people and which type of passport is required.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Adults 16 +</th> <th>Children Under 16</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>5 year</td> <td>\$120</td> <td>\$57</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10 year</td> <td>\$160</td> <td>N/A</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Adults 16 +	Children Under 16	5 year	\$120	\$57	10 year	\$160	N/A
	Adults 16 +	Children Under 16								
5 year	\$120	\$57								
10 year	\$160	N/A								
<p>Thursday, January 16th Christopher Lake Legion 120 Main Street Christopher Lake, SK 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>A photographer will be available. (\$20 per person). To speed up photo processing time, cash only please!</p> </div>									

CONSTITUENCY OFFICE:
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 TF: 1-844-365-9664
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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.

Looking back on the year that was 2019

May Cont'd

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 Grade 12 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.

About 15 kids and teens were locked in a room in the basement of the Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly on Friday evening, and tasked with using nothing but their wits and puzzle solving capabilities to break free.

Some walked around W.P. Sandin High School's track, some ran, and some did cartwheels. Others, still, simply enjoyed some good old-fashioned barbecue.

But no matter how they did it, everyone who supported or participated in the high school's third annual Relay for Life event did their part to raise an impressive \$7,000 for cancer research.

On May 16, students and community gathered at Leask School for a Spring Carnival. This event was hosted by the School Community Council and volunteers included SCC members, students, and teachers.

The entire event started with a free BBQ supper for the community.

Young children and students then started with a strip of free tickets to play games that included

sponge in the face, bean bag toss, a fish pond, plinko, a hockey shoot, face painting, curling and many more.

JUNE

In a graduation ceremony that featured a number of new traditions, Canwood Public School offered congratulations and best wishes to its graduating class of 2019, which includes Cole Masuskapoe, Riley Rude, Kirsten Sawatzky, Alisha Sasakamoose, and Preston Alstadt, on Friday, May 24.

Absolutely no one was laughing about the cold temperatures and the chill wind that kicked up Saturday evening, but there was still plenty of laughter to be heard at the Shellbrook Sports Grounds during Shellbrook's first-ever Comedy Crawl.

Organized and hosted by the Shellbrook Kinsmen and Kinettes and Shellbrook Minor Sports, the

Comedy Crawl was conceived of as an add-on to Sports Day, both to give the parents of ball players a chance to enjoy an evening out, and as a means to raise a few extra dollars.

On the surface, it may seem like a small change, but a new sign that was recently erected at Shellbrook's Kin Park is a symbol of the years of hard work that have gone into making the park a place for outdoor play in the community, and all the supporters who made that work possible.

At least, that's the take one gets when talking to Shellbrook Kinettes Tasha Cyr, who has been one of the Kinettes members to spearhead park renovation efforts in recent years.

"It's been a long haul,

but the work we have managed to accomplish at this park is astonishing. I am so proud of this club, and all they've accomplished," she said.

With sun and warm temperatures this past Friday and Saturday, there was certainly no shortage of softball action on offer at this year's Sports Day festivities, even if some changes were made to condense the event after last year's three-day affair.

For starters, there was no parade to kickoff the celebration of softball. Moreover, Friday night saw all the local minor ball, featuring the U10 and U12 teams, and the traditional slo-pitch tournament squeezed into its line-up. The night's action was headlined by the U19

Shellbrook Rangers, who hosted the Dry Creek Penguins.

Students from Shellbrook Elementary and W.P. Sandin High School were treated to a full day of scientific learning and discovery last Thursday, when the Saskatchewan Science Centre's Go! Science Outreach team rolled into the school to put on five themed workshops.

The event was made possible by the Shellbrook Public Library, with additional help in the form of Saskatchewan Lotteries Grant funding from the R.M. of Shellbrook. Librarian Dian Campbell says it was a perfect fit for the library, which "strives to promote lifelong learning and growth in children."

Continued on page 9



Leading the procession for the lap in honour of cancer survivors, W.P. Sandin High School students Makenna Bloom, Sam Miller, and Leah Mennie share conversation at the school's third Relay for Life.



A Shellbrook Rangers player executes a perfect slide into home plate to score a run during Shellbrook's Sports Days festivities.



Canwood Public School's class of 2019: Cole Masuskapoe, Riley Rude, Kirsten Sawatzky, Alisha Sasakamoose, and Preston Alstadt.



Seated on a bench at Parkland Integrated Health Centre named in honour of Norma Gampe. Back row, from left: PIHC recreation coordinator Trina Chamberlain, Mary Stieb, Arthur Gampe, Lilleth Schantz, and Health Care Auxiliary president, Norma Dahl. Front: Marlene Rudolph, Betty Straf, and Alice Sokulski.

Looking back on the year that was 2019

June Cont'd

Cool, rainy conditions did their best to put a damper on things, but spirits remained high at St. John's Lutheran Church in Shellbrook on Sunday afternoon, when The Lighthouse hosted its first-ever Pine Derby Car Grand Prix.

Dressed to the nines, with family, friends, and teachers, and even Premier Scott Moe to cheer them on, W.P Sandin High School's graduating class of 2019 was fêted on Friday afternoon during the school's annual graduation exercises and banquet.

2019's graduating class is: Aidan Allman, Jennie Anderson, Zach Bell, Makenna Bloom, Keighly Budan, Matthew Collins, Sarra Hazelwood, Chase Henry, Logan Kereluk, Daniel Kundert, Ethan Lanovaz, Corbin Long, Leah Mennie, Sam Miller, Andrea Morgia, Nolan Okeewehow, Rebekka Potts, Mackenzie Ravine-Bates, Kyle Skavlebo, Kaitlan Stene, Rayden Stieb, and Alexis Stochmanski.

The Prince Albert and Area Elementary P4A Track Meet was held June 4 to 6 at the Carlton Comprehensive High School track.

This track meet includes public elementary schools across Prince Albert and Area. Kasey Acorn, a Grade 7 student at Wild Rose School had a very successful few days.

Kasey took home a first place in long jump. But the event he is most proud of, is his first place win in the 60-metre dash.

He not only placed first, but also broke the city record!

More than 50 minor ball teams from the surrounding area piled into the Shellbrook Sports Grounds on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, when Shellbrook Minor Sports hosted its year-end ball tournament.

The action kicked off in earnest on Thursday evening, with the midget boys taking the spotlight. Competition here included teams from Shellbrook, Spiritwood, Debden, Big River and Leoville.

Then, when Saturday morning rolled around bringing with it a community pancake breakfast, it was time for some non-stop boys minor ball action across the mite, squirt, peewee, and bantam age groups.

Financially speaking Shellbrook Minor Sports' Tricia Bell said the tournament was a huge success, bringing in over \$5,000.

With new head coach Roger Boucher at the helm, the Shellbrook Silverfins Swim Club is hoping to make a splash in competition this summer.

Hardly a new face to the club's 21 swimmers, Boucher, who takes over from last season's coach Janaya Fuller, was first introduced to the team during a 2018 training camp session.

Local and area athletes have featured prominently in a number of recent off-season moves, both by football teams in the Canadian Junior Football League and hockey clubs the Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League.

Beginning on the gridiron, the CJFL's Calgary Colts began June by announcing the signing of two Shellbrook products, Nathan Anderson and Ryan Potts.

In other football news, Connor Klassen of Big River kicked off his June by being signed by the CJFL's Regina Thunder.

Shifting to the ice, it's been a big offseason season for Shellbrook's Cole Tanchuk, who was drafted in the second round by the SJHL's Flin Flon Bombers, and in the fifth round by the WHL's Seattle Thunderbirds.

Rounding out the acquisitions, Canwood's Dallyn Peekeekoot was selected as the opening pick of the second round by the SJHL's La Ronge Ice Wolves.

École Debden Public School held their graduation ceremonies on Friday June 14.

It was a lovely program celebrating our 11 graduates.

W.P Sandin Public School students said an

early hello to summer on Wednesday afternoon, when the school hosted its annual year-end Summerfest activities.

Using it as a means to help students blow off some steam before they have to write their final exams, and to build school spirit and community, the school has been hosting Summerfest for a number of years.

There was a great deal of buzz at Hannigan Honey's warehouse over the weekend, and, for once, it wasn't just coming from the bees.

That's because the local business had the responsibility of hosting the Saskatchewan Beekeepers Development Commission's annual SBDC Field Day on Saturday, June 22, and welcoming beekeepers from across the province.

The weather posed a few problems for the annual Penguin Summer Classic Men's and Ladies' fastpitch tournament this year.

But this did not dampen the enthusiasm on the ball diamonds at the Canwood Regional Park.

The Sask. Thunderbirds ended up powering their way to the win, defeating the Prince Albert Brewers in the Men's championship game. The consolation final saw the Earl Grey Rockets blast the

Edgerton Eagles for the win.

The more experienced Prince Albert Aces Alum-

ni team edge the current U19 Prince Albert Aces for the women's victory. The Parkland Pacers showed

that they still have it and defeated the Saskatoon Renegades in the consolation final.



Hannigan Honey owner Murray Hannigan walks Premier Scott Moe and Prince Albert MP Randy Hoback through the finer points of his operation and warehouse.



Debden's class of 2019. Back row L-R: Graeme Gillies, Brendan Aarrestad, Dylan Reed, Graham Couture, Cody Meiklejohn and Ty Amundson. Front row L-R: Alyssa Patrick, Daphnie Nelson, Karly Collins, Jaelyn Couture and Kolbie Couture.



Shellbrook's Class of 2019, back row: Aidan Allman, Ethan Lanovaz, Corbin Long, Kyle Skavlebo, Daniel Kundert, Sam Miller, Rayden Stieb, Matthew Collins, and Zach Bell. Middle: Andrea Gonzales Morgia, Rebekka Potts, Jennie Anderson, Keighly Budan, Makenna Bloom, Leah Mennie, Alexis Stochmanski, and Sarra Hazelwood. Front: Mackenzie Ravine-Bates and Kaitlan Stene. Missing: Chase Henry, Logan Kereluk, and Nolan Okeewehow. Photo courtesy of Michelle Stieb

Looking back on the year that was 2019

JULY

Though the new Ahtahkakoop RCMP detachment building has been in use since December of 2018, a grand opening ceremony, held at the Ahtahkakoop School on Friday morning, had made things official.

With RCMP brass, the Ahtahkakoop First Nation band council, government dignitaries, and other special guests in attendance, the ceremonies, which were MCed by RCMP Sgt. Dave Sanderson, began with traditional Indigenous drumming and

singing as community elders were ushered into the school's gymnasium.

Cool and overcast conditions in the morning made for a slow start to the day, when Honeywood Heritage Nursery hosted its annual Artists in Bloom event at the nursery grounds on Sunday, June 23.

A spiritual successor to the former Parkland Artisan Tour (on which Honeywood was a popular stop), Artists in Bloom sees many of the artisans who once participated in the tour,

as well as some others from farther afield, gather at Honeywood to offer convenient one-stop shopping.

With a provincial election still a little more than a year away, Saskatchewan NDP leader Ryan Meili made a push into the Sask. Party stronghold of rural Saskatchewan with stops in Rosthern and Shellbrook on Thursday.

In Rosthern, Meili met with the Prairie Spirit School Division to talk about funding issues in education, be-

fore moving on to Shellbrook's Parkland Integrated Health Centre to discuss the challenges facing the province's healthcare system.

While W.P. Sandin High School's annual awards night is typically about the academic and athletic achievements of the school's students, it was actually a teacher who took the spotlight this year, after she was presented with a prestigious national leadership award.

In recognition of the work she's put in, both inside and outside of the classroom at W.P. Sandin over the past 10 years, Nicole Philp was honoured with the Canadian Student Leadership Association's 2019 Leader of Distinction Award for Saskatchewan.

Conditions were perfect for ball on Thursday evening, when, for the second consecutive year, the Shellbrook U19 Rangers played host to the Team ISA New Zealand U19 club in front of a full house at the Shellbrook Sports Grounds.

In an age when more and more small-town businesses seem to be shuttering up, and more people are relocating to larger urban centres, the grand opening of not one, but two stores in Debden is illustrative of the community spirit that lives on in rural



Nicole Philp (right) accepts her Canadian Student Leadership Association Leader of Distinction Award from Tina Edwards, president of the Saskatchewan Association of Student Council Advisors.



Leah Mennie was the recipient of this year's Clarence Martin Memorial Trophy, which recognizes W.P. Sandin's senior student of the year. Teacher Nicole Philp presented the award.



Saskatchewan NDP leader Ryan Meili (right) chats with Traci Wallace, Parkland Integrated Health Centre's director of care. Healthcare, Meili says, is one key area of concern for many of the Saskatchewan residents he spoke to during his visit to the Shellbrook and Rosthern area.



RCMP officers and officials, and Ahtahkakoop band council members, elders, and residents, gather out front of the Ahtahkakoop RCMP detachment building. Though it's been operational since December 2018, a grand opening for the facility was held on Friday, June 28.

Saskatchewan.

At least, that seemed to be the message being broadcast from Debden on Thursday, July 4, when the new Demers Shopping Centre building, and the Demers Rona store held their official grand openings, in front of a crowd of about 100 people.

A recent raft of vandalism in and around Shellbrook has the community shaking its head and asking "Why?"

First reported by the Shellbrook Swimming Pool in a June 28 Facebook post, the string of vandalism and destruction began with pool equipment and lost and found items being thrown into the pool.

The same night that the pool was vandal-

ized, Kin Park suffered the same mistreatment.

In what was at many times called a historic moment, provincial and territorial leaders, along with provincial and national representatives of indigenous organizations gathered for the on the Big River First Nation to talk about Indigenous youth.

The July 9 gathering, the first of its kind in Canadian history, marked the unofficial beginning of the 2019 Council of the Federation (COF) meeting, an annual three-day affair between Canada's premiers that, this year, was being hosted by Saskatchewan and Premier Scott Moe in Saskatoon.

Continued on page 11

Looking back on the year that was 2019



Rona district manager Paul Dahmer, Demers Rona owners Leah and Dean Demers, Demers Rona managers Ted and Michelle Lamotte, and Rona/ACE director of business development Tony Perillo celebrate the grand opening of the new Debden Rona store on Thursday, July 4. The day, which also included the grand opening of the new Demers Shopping Centre location and a barbecue, saw a strong show of support from the community, with about 100 people coming out.



Conservative Party of Canada leader Andrew Scheer shakes hands with supporters, during a pre-campaign stop at The Ranch, just northwest of Debden. Debden was one of four stops for Scheer during a day-long tour of northern Saskatchewan.

July Cont'd

Like clockwork, the arrival of July means another round of provincial ball.

And, just as predictably, another round of provincial ball means that Shellbrook's teams bring home the hardware.

On the boys side, the U12 Shellbrook Rangers capped off their season with a Provincial A Championship, despite what assistant coach Stephanie Gosselin referred to as a "rough start" to the weekend in the form of a 5-6 loss to the Prince Albert Astros on opening morning.

For the U14 Rangers, provincials got off to a much stronger start, as the team managed to make it through round robin action with just one loss, then fight their way through the playoff to the final against Saskatoon.

There, the team stumbled, but the boys still managed to bring home a silver medal.

At the U16 level, provincials turned out to be a three team competition between the Rangers, the host Wadena Royals, and the Saskatoon Selects.

After a tough tournament, which saw the team fight its way to losses in a number of close games, the team left with a bronze. However, it still managed to earn a place at nationals.

On the girls side, U12 Girls Heat coach Nicole Philp says she couldn't

be prouder of her squad, which consisted mostly of rookie provincial players. Given its lack of experience, the team had modest expectations heading into the tournament, and was hoping just to win a game in a deep field of 12 teams.

It managed that, and even competed in a playoff game.

On the U14 side, the Shellbrook Heat team joined forces with the Parkland Predators squad to form a super team with per girls from Shellbrook, Debden, Big River, and Shell Lake for their provincial run in Saskatoon from July 7 to 9.

Coach Deanna Ledding says her team, as well as co-coaches Jackie Woytiuk, Cheryl Ledding, and Drew Ferster, entered the tournament looking to place in the top two and earn a spot in Westerns in Winnipeg.

However, the team fell short of that goal, ending their season with a fourth place finish.

If you grill it, they will come.

At least, that seems to be the major takeaway from a fundraiser barbecue hosted by the Shellbrook Swimming Pool on Tuesday, July 26.

Once the final amounts from barbecue and treat sales, raffle basket ticket purchases, and a few generous donations were tallied up, the Swimming Pool managed to splash up a \$3,166.80 profit.

In what was an occurrence nearly as rare as the July 9 gathering of Canada's premiers on Big River First Nation, Conservative Party Leader Andrew Scheer toured the Prince Albert and Desnethé-Missinippi-Churchill River ridings last Thursday, holding rallies in Prince Albert, Debden, Big River and Meadow Lake.

What was forecast to be an evening filled with rain and possible thunderstorms turned into a perfect night for softball, when the Shellbrook U14 Rangers played host to the New Zealand Team ISA U14 squad in Super 8 International Series doubleheader action.

Goller's Tire Service has returned to its rural location, due in large part to the addition of new services offered by the business. They have added welding and fabrication to their repertoire, with a fleet of mobile service trucks ready to hit the countryside when called upon.

"We'll be able to repair anything, anywhere," said Dean Goller.

Affinity Credit Union – Canwood Branch & Lake Country Coop held a Community BBQ on June 20 with proceeds going to both the Canwood Curling Club and Canwood Skating Rink. The BBQ raised a total of \$1,401 with each organization receiving \$700.50.



A piece of Shellbrook's history was wiped from the town's landscape in July, as town crews worked to demolish the old Parkland Terrace nursing home building. The building was reacquired by the Town of Shellbrook, and was torn down to make room for an expansion of Kin Park, and the installation of solar panels for the Shellbrook Recreation Complex. The panels are expected to be installed in 2020, during the final phase of the Shellbrook Recreation Steering Committee's project to renovate the rink, and reduce its carbon footprint.



U12 Boys, provincial champions, from left to right: Travis Keyowski – Assistant Coach, Harlin Henry, Chezanne Shewchuk - Head Coach, Brody Anderson, Chase Smith, Jack Gosselin, Lane Keyowski, Stephanie Gosselin – Assistant Coach, Jack Sharron, and Kenton Ledoux. Front Row, kneeling: Treah Primeau, Kamden Shewchuk, Aiden Tait, Soren Day, and Davin Schmidt.

Looking back on the year that was 2019

AUGUST

Conditions were ideal for automotive mayhem on Saturday afternoon, when the Parkside Community Club invited nearly 3,000 people to take in its annual Parkside Demolition Derby.

Highlights from the derby included:

- This year's charity car, a replica of the General Lee from the TV

show Dukes of Hazzard, dwarfed the first two years, selling for \$15,000 to Rob Forbes of Forbes Bros. Those proceeds will stay with the Parkside Community Club, and, along with the other profits from the derby, will be donated to a number of local and regional causes.

- With Brett Skarpinsky behind the wheel, the General Lee showed that

it was no slouch as it took first place in the barrel races with an impressive time of 18.72 seconds.

- On the growing truck derby side of the auction, the first time proved to be the charm for Austin Ferster, who went the distance in both heats to take home \$800 in prize money.

- After all the hitting was done, Derek Willoughby

was the Parkside Demolition Derby champion.

In what has been a summer filled with international softball, the ladies of the U14 Shellbrook Heat got in on the action Friday evening, hosting the U14 ISA New Zealand girls squad in a 2019 Super 8 International Softball Series double-header.

The team fought its way to a 6-6 tie in game one, and came up one run shy of a comeback in game two, falling 5-4.

Saskatchewan Rivers MLA Nadine Wilson has stepped down from her role as provincial secretary, after being charged with assault.

According to the Saskatoon Police Service, Wilson was arrested Thursday, July 25 when she turned herself into police in Prince Albert. The Saskatoon Police Service added that, following an

investigation and consultations with Crown prosecutors, two charges of assault were laid against Wilson.

After bringing home a silver medal from provincials in early July, the U14 Shellbrook Rangers were back in tournament action once again to close out the month when the U14 Nationals rolled into Saskatoon from July 27 to 31.

Though it got off to a strong start, the team was eliminated after a 5-4 loss to the Saskatoon Selects.

With hockey season seemingly right around the corner, and what appears to be a lot of work left to do to get the Shellbrook Recreation Complex prepared, Amund Otterson, the Shellbrook Recreation Project Steering Committee's project manager, nonetheless says he's sleeping pretty soundly these nights.

This offseason has been perhaps the busiest at the

Shellbrook Recreation Complex in quite a few years, as Reward Construction has been busy working on the installation of the new ice floor surface at the rink, with Simonar Refrigeration also providing its services in the effort.

Debden Rec Board held their yearly swimming lessons at Morin Lake Regional Park, July 8-19, and our registration was amazing.

We had 218 swimmers registered this season, and three instructors, Cole Aarrestad, Mya Cyr and Jasmine LaMotte, who did a fantastic job passing on their knowledge.

On Sunday, July 21, the Canwood Zion Lutheran Church celebrated their 60th Anniversary of the church building and 65th Anniversary of the congregation. To God Be The Glory!

Continued on page 13



After inclement weather briefly delayed demolition plans, the town of Shellbrook finally completed the demolition of the old Parkland Terrace Nursing home on Thursday, Aug. 1.



Derek Willoughby receives the Parkside Demolition Derby trophy from Parkside Community Club president Jeff Ledding, after bashing his way to victory in the derby's championship heat.



Project manager Amund Otterson gets some helpful pointers while lending a hand with the renovations at the Shellbrook Recreation Complex.



Ava Ledding attempts to slide into home plate, but meets a wall in the form of New Zealand's Jayah Lee.



With the cement for the brand new ice surface at the Shellbrook Recreation Complex being poured, workers do their best to make sure it gets in the right spots.

Looking back on the year that was 2019



Hort. show winners from left back: Judy Krakalovich, Blythe Cobb, Abreanna Naylor, Sara Verbonac, Tarin Ballan, Alyssa Ballan, and Joan Sommerfeld. Front row from left: Layne Cobb, Trinity Smith, Muriel Robin, Hilda Gaboury, and Barb Person. Missing: Zander Bodnarchuk, Toni Sommerfeld, and Sylvia Rogerson.

August Cont'd

Fresh off a bronze medal finish at the 2019 provincials, the U16 Shellbrook Rangers travelled to Saskatoon to take part in Nationals from July 31 to Aug. 4.

Entering the 14-team tournament as underdogs, the Rangers needed to play their best ball of the season if they had any hope of bringing home a national title. Instead, the team struggled through the first day-and-a-half of the tournament, recording three consecutive losses without scoring a single run.

The team would manage to earn a couple of wins, before being eliminated by Team BC on day four of the tournament.

The Hidden Hills golf club hosted the annual Shellbrook Merchants golf tournament this past weekend.

The men's championship

flight was won by Brett Henry, runner up was Bill Cannon, and consolation winner was Kyle Gouldhawke.

The ladies flight was won by Meg Ritchie, with Ev Hollowell and Bev Barkway tied for 2nd.

It's been just 18 months since the Shellbrook Chronicle caught up with a quartet of former and current University of Saskatchewan (U of S) students, who all hail from Shellbrook and have been spearheading a project to make the university more sustainable by having more solar panels installed across campus.

The year started off slow for the group, but by the spring of 2019 it was meeting with the U of S Student Union to take a second crack at pitching the project, which envisions a "series of roof mounted solar

installations across campus on roofs with favourable pitches and aspects."

The Student Union received the presentation well, approving a structural assessment of the roof of the Memorial Union Building.

On Aug. 13, 2019, at approximately 8:20 a.m., Shellbrook RCMP responded to the report of an employee who had been struck by a pickup truck at a gas station in Holbein, Sask.

Initial police investigation revealed that two young adult males fuelled their pickup truck and attempted to leave without paying. The employee intervened by jumping in the driver's side of the cabin to prevent the vehicle and the two males from leaving.

The employee was transported by ambulance to hospital in Prince Albert



Despite some coaxing from mom, this shy little guy still wasn't convinced that he wanted to pet the donkey. The petting zoo has been a long-standing tradition at the Shellbrook Summer Fair.

for what appeared to be serious but non-life threatening injuries.

The Walter Willoughby Horticultural Society, celebrating our 60th Anniversary, hosted the 57th Annual Hort. Show in Leask on Thursday Aug. 15. There were 12 Juniors with 66 entries and 18 Adults with 278 entries for a total of 344 exhibits and of all those 11 were first time exhibitors.

This year's grand aggregate winner was Muriel Robin, with 121 points.

In the days leading up to the 2019 Shellbrook Summer Fair, the forecast was calling for the annual event to be yet another rainy and chilly one.

Fortunately, aside from a brief scare around 10 a.m. that left organizers scrambling to move picnic tables in the rain, the sun made frequent appearances for much of Saturday, making for what organizer Tasha Cyr calls a fantastic day.

Three U16 Shellbrook Rangers were in the thick of the action, when Team Saskatchewan's U16 softball team travelled to Swift Current to compete in the Western Canadian Summer Games from Aug. 9 to 18.

Ethan Bell, Gavin Fisher, and Kaleb Willoughby were the three local products selected to be a part of the squad, which competed against Team Saskatchewan's U19 team, as well as Alberta's U19 squad, and managed to pitch and hit its way to a silver medal.

Hard work and more success this summer are in the books for local skater Ashlyn Schmitz.

The team competed at the North American Cup in Edmonton. This was the first international competition they've attended as a team.

Ashlyn and Tristan came home with silver medals after an amazing skate.

This currently puts them at the top for being Canada's "number one" pair team.

Along with that accomplishment came a special invitation to a NextGen camp from Aug. 27-30 in Montreal (a first for Saskatchewan skaters).

SEPTEMBER

Brian Hagel isn't your typical trucker.

While a life spent on the

road would make it all too easy to stop at every fast food restaurant along the highway, the 64-year-old, who lives in Shellbrook but works out of Spiritwood, drives his truck with a lunchbox full of fresh and healthy meal and snack options in the seat beside him.

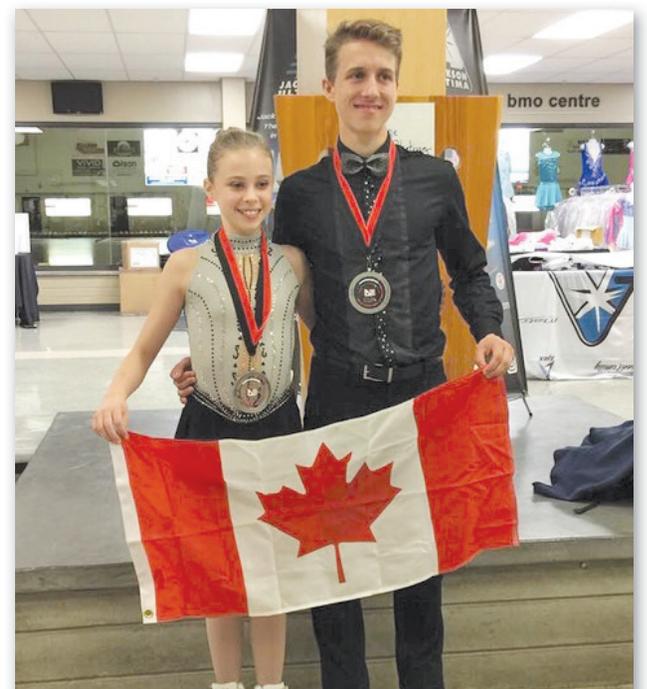
Following two years of trying to lose weight, and a great deal of patience, perseverance and support from his TOPS, Hagel managed to shed 51.2 pounds, dropping from 246 pounds to a more healthy 195.

This two-year weight loss journey earned Hagel the prestigious title of TOPS weight loss king for Saskatchewan at the organization's International Recognition Days in Portland, Ore. in July.

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Publisher Clark Pepper presents Spiritwood Herald reporter Dave Hyndman with a plaque in recognition of his 40 years of service.



Continuing their progress as a pair, Shellbrook's Ashlyn Schmitz and partner Tristan Taylor recently claimed silver medals at the North American Cup in Edmonton.

Looking back on the year that was 2019



Dr. Benedict Omeike and Dr. Olugbenga Adebayo, both no strangers to the Parkland region, opened their practice, The Shellbrook Parkland Medical Center, on Sept. 16.

September Cont'd

Before school was even back in session for the 2019-2020 school year, W.P Sandin High School's six-man football team was getting an early start on its football season with a series of afternoon practices leading up to an exhibition game against the Hague Panthers last Thursday.

Thanks to some changes to the federal Gas Tax Fund, the Town of Shellbrook will be receiving a big chunk of extra change to put towards infrastructure priorities like roads, wastewater and recreation in the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

In addition to its annual Gas Tax allocation of \$85,196, the town is set to receive another \$91,139 from the Gas Tax's top-up fund, which was made available in the federal government's 2019 budget and effectively doubles the funds that Saskatchewan communities will receive each year.

The Canwood Branch of the Wapiti Regional Library held their second ever music concert and interview gathering at the Canwood Legion Hall on Monday evening, Aug. 12, with Ed Peekeekoot (guitar, wooden native flute, vocals and fiddle) and Trent Bruner (pianist and interviewer) on stage. A near capacity audience enjoyed many stories from Ed and a

variety of musical selections played by both musicians.

The Canwood Summer Youth Program had a great run again for the summer of 2019. With seven themed weeks and over fifty kids, ages 5-12, registered in the program, both the kids and us Coordinators had a blast.

Once again the Bud Dicus Memorial Golf Tournament at Memorial Lake Regional Park Golf Course in Shell Lake was a great success.

Ninety one golfers registered for play, and were put onto 23 teams as they registered.

For the past 2,080 weeks (well, a few more than that now), Dave Hyndman has picked up his weekly copy of the Spiritwood Herald and been able to see his name, his face, and his words in newsprint.

That's because Hyndman, the Herald's long-time news editor, has been serving in his role for more 40 years now. His 40th anniversary as the face of the Herald, was recently acknowledged by publisher Clark Pepper, who presented him with a plaque in recognition of his 40 years of commitment to the newspaper.

When the Chronicle arrived at Parkland Integrated Health Centre on Sept. 5 for the 8th

annual Farmer's Market and Pie and Coffee Social, the facility's great hall was bustling with activity and buzzing with conversation.

Frequent musical guests, the Golden Girls, were just warming up for their hour-long set, elders and guests were enjoying homemade pie and visiting, and staff members and volunteers, having been forced to find extra tables to accommodate the greater-than-expected influx of people, were scrambling to find enough chairs for newer arrivals to sit and enjoy the afternoon.

The new doctors are (almost) in.

Starting Monday, Sept. 16, Doctor Benedict Omeike and Doctor Olugbenga Adebayo will begin seeing patients at the newly named Shellbrook Parkland Medical Clinic (formerly the Shellbrook Medical Clinic, operated by Doctor Anatole Nguigno).

If you were to ask a hundred authors how they got their start in writing, you'd probably receive nearly a hundred variations of a very similar response.

For Debden's Dylan Aarrestad, the story is a slightly different one.

Perhaps, like so many other writers, he was always destined to put pen to paper. But, if so, he discovered his fate entirely by accident six years ago, when he was



Students taking part in the Rural Skills Tour stopped by the car show and book launch being hosted by Parkland Integrated Health Centre's long-term care residents. Community engagement was a key piece of showing students what rural healthcare has to offer.

only 14.

Aarrestad's writing has taken him on quite the journey. Just this past August, for instance, he self-published his first novel, *The Road to Blackthrush*, through Kindle Direct Publishing using the pen name Jarret Madden.

With warm and sunny conditions on Sunday afternoon, nearly 280 people paid at the gates of Honeywood Heritage Nursery for a chance to take in all the vibrant reds, oranges, and yellows at the nursery's annual Touch of Autumn event.

This was a marked improvement over 2018, when cold and rain made for miserable day, and resulted in only 90 people making the trip.

For as long as she can recall, Pamela Maxwell has been interested in writing.

However, as a teacher for more than 30 years, seven of which were spent teaching Grade 5 and 5/6 in Leask, she says her love of writing manifested in a unique way.

Then, barely even a year after she retired, around back-to-school time, the idea for her first children's book, *I Want to be a Writer*, came to her.

"If you intend to finish, you have to at least start," were the words that Lee Cooper kept re-

peating to himself as he spent last week biking from Red Deer, Alta. to Waskesiu through cold, rainy, and windy conditions.

Originally from Big River, but now a resident of Red Deer, Cooper was returning to his old stomping grounds to participate in his 20th MS Bike Tour in Waskesiu on Sept. 14.

Learning to drive is an important rite of passage for all teenagers in Saskatchewan, and each of us undoubtedly has a story – either good or bad – to tell about the first time we got behind the wheel.

Few of us, however, would want these stories recorded and published for posterity.

That's not the case for the elders in long-term care at Parkland Integrated Health Centre (PIHC), who just released their second book, *Along the Road*, at a book launch and car show on Saturday.

As kids lace up their skates in anticipation of the arrival of hockey season, one might take a peek inside the Shellbrook Recreation Complex and wonder how the facility will ever be ready in time.

But Amund Otterson, who has spent the summer overseeing the second phase of the three-phase, \$2 million overhaul of the rink for the Shellbrook Recre-

ation Project Steering Committee, remains confident that everything will be complete by the tentative opening day of Oct. 16.

Students hoping for careers in healthcare got a taste of all that rural healthcare has to offer on Sept. 21, when staff and volunteers at Parkland Integrated Health Centre (PIHC) opened up the facility for a Rural Skills Tour.

Hosted in conjunction with SaskDocs, the busy day saw 39 post-secondary students, and for the first time ever one high school student, make the trip out to PIHC for a day filled with learning, practical experience, and community engagement.

Renovations and upgrades completed at the Shellbrook Theatre over the summer are ensuring that the show will go on at the local facility, both on the stage, and on the screen.

In recent months, says town of Shellbrook facilities manager Jody Smart, the theatre has had a new, full-sized screen installed to replace the old one, which was between 25 and 30 years old.

In addition to a pristine new screen, a new projector was also purchased for the theatre to replace the previous projector, which was between 15 and 20 years old.

Looking back on the year that was 2019

OCTOBER

Shellbrook seniors with a mind to maintain their fitness – or looking to get back in shape – will soon have an ideal way to do just that, when the Shellbrook Senior Citizen's Centre begins hosting twice-weekly exercise sessions this November.

The morning workouts will be held at the Senior's Centre every Wednesday and Friday, starting at 9:30 a.m. on Nov. 6, and are part of the province-wide Forever in Motion program.

As they lace up their skates for their 10th season as an organization, the Shellbrook Silvertips are in for a major change.

That's because the team has opted to leave

behind the Saskatchewan Prairie Hockey League, in which it had competed over the past nine seasons, in favour of competing in the Twin Rivers Hockey League.

With better than anticipated conditions, and an RCMP escort, students from Shellbrook Elementary School and W.P. Sandin Public High School united with enthusiasm to honour a Canadian hero, when they united for their annual Terry Fox Walk/Run on Wednesday, Sept. 25.

Through this year's effort, the students and the community were able to make a sizeable donation to the cause, as they raised \$1,564.

McKenna Kyliuk, Marissa Skavlebo and Hunter Tremblay, all from W.P. Sandin High School, represented the North Central District at the Saskatchewan High School Athletics Provincial Golf in Estevan on Sept. 27 and 28.

In total there were 34 female golfers and after the final round on Saturday the individual results were: Hunter Tremblay - 9th; McKenna Kyliuk - 16th; and Marissa Skavlebo - 24th. Overall the North Central District ladies team finished 6th.

Budding Debden author Dylan Aarestad (pen name Jarret Madden) got a taste of the author's life on Sept. 30, when he held his first-ever book signing at the

Debden Public Library.

The event, a means to promote his self-published debut novel *The Road to Blackthrush: The Sixth Order Book 1*, saw about 20 people come out to chat with him and congratulate him on the accomplishment, while snacking on coffee or juice, cookies made by the author himself, and brownies.

While Crown employees of SaskTel, SaskEnergy, SaskPower, SaskWater, Direct West, SecurTek, and the Water Security Agency continue to walk the picket lines amidst an impasse in contract negotiations with the province, one

SaskEnergy employee is going the extra mile to make his point.

Daniel Frenette, an instrumentation mechanic who has worked with the Crown corporation for the past 25 years, and who resides near Round Lake, hopped on his bike Monday morning and rode all the way to Shellbrook to demonstrate in front of the constituency office of Premier Scott Moe.

In recognition of Seniors' Week in Saskatchewan, which ran from Sept. 29 to Oct. 5, the Shellbrook Seniors' Association invited members and non-members alike to the Senior Citi-

zens' Centre for a spot of tea and some delicious pie last Friday.

Thanks to infrastructure grant funding from the provincial and federal governments, the future for the Highway 55 Waste Management Corporation is looking a little brighter.

Highway 55 recently received \$4,000 to close down the second cell of its landfill site, which has reached its capacity. A cheque presentation and celebration of the grant funding were held at the landfill site, which is located about 10 kms west of Canwood, on Thursday, Oct. 10.

Continued on page 16



Employees of Highway 55 Waste Management Corporation, municipal representatives, and MLA for Melfort Todd Goudy (far right) gathered at the Highway 55 landfill site on Thursday, Oct. 10. The gathering was a celebration of provincial and federal infrastructure grant funding awarded to Highway 55 to assist with the closure of the landfill's second cell.



Proving she could be a good sport, Kelly Herndier even helped W.P. Sandin High School students tape her to the flag pole for the lunch hour as a reward for their fundraising efforts.



Debden author Dylan Aarestad (right) with Aline Hannon, librarian for the Debden Public Library, at Aarestad's meet the author evening.



Striking SaskEnergy employee Daniel Frenette stands in front of the constituency office of Premier Scott Moe.

Looking back on the year that was 2019



Payten Keyowski (left) and Alexis Banda (right) with coach Jennifer Keyowski. After both young equestrians put on solid showings at provincials, Keyowski says she couldn't be prouder of them.



The Canadian Authors table, featuring works by literary heavyweights like Margaret Atwood, Michael Ondaatje and Alice Munroe, was a place of much discussion during the Shellbrook Public Library's second book tasting event.

October Cont'd

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 2019-2020 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 decreases in total enrolment.

It was a beautiful day on Sunday, Oct. 6 for the 43rd annual Shell Lake fall supper. The combined efforts of our Lady of Smiles Catholic Church and Partners in Worship church they were able to feed approximately 525 Appreciative attendees that were lined up at 3:30.

Closing out what was a nearly impossible to call election race, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's Liberal government has earned a minority mandate

from Canadians on the strength of solid performances in Atlantic Canada, Québec and Ontario.

In the Prince Albert riding, incumbent Randy Hoback sailed to an easy fourth mandate as MP by seizing 68 per cent of the vote (26,671 ballots).

Moving to the usually hard-fought Desnethé-Missinippi-Churchill River riding, Conservative candidate Gary Vidal was able to unseat NDP incumbent Georgine Jolibois by taking 41.7 per cent of the vote (10,816 ballots).

Looking west to Battlefords-Lloydminster, Conservative incumbent Rosemarie Falk won in one-sided fashion, tak-

ing 78.9 per cent of the vote (28,137 ballots).

Closing out the area's results, the Carlton Trail-Eagle Creek contest saw Conservative incumbent Kelly Block cruise to an easy victory with 78.7 per cent of the vote (34,814 ballots).

A pair of young ladies from Shellbrook recently showed off their equestrian skills at the Saskatchewan Horse Federation's Saskatchewan Heritage Provincial Finals, and rode home with a stable full of ribbons and accolades.

The provincial competition was held in Moose Jaw from Sept. 27 to 29, and was the culmination of a long season for riders Alexis Banda and Payten Keyowski.

The Shellbrook Public Library made its first foray into fundraising in 2018, hosing its first ever book tasting event. That first effort proved to be highly successful, transforming the library into a place of passionate discussion about books.

With a special focus on Canadian books for the second go-round last Thursday evening, that success continued for another year, as a small crowd gathered to devour the best of Canadian travel, fantasy, graphic novels, and biographies, as well as a few of the Library board's own favourites.

For as long as anyone can remember, Shellbrook Elementary School has been hosting an annual Walkathon as its only major fundraiser for the school year. And, for as long as anyone can remember, the community has always been happy to throw its support behind the cause.

This year continued that long-standing tradition, as the school managed to raise a whopping \$12,542.65, besting last year's total by just over \$1,000.

While the students of Shellbrook Elementary School were busy walking to raise money for their school, their counterparts at W.P. Sandin were holding their own fundraiser.

For the first time ever, students were tasked with selling Gold Cards,

discount cards for local and area businesses.

Kelly Herndier says the students jumped on this opportunity to fundraising, selling 640 of them to help bring in \$6,400 for the school.

The Annual Canwood Elk's and Royal Purple Elk's Fall Supper was held on Sunday, Oct. 27. The weather wasn't the greatest but, just the same, the community support of donations was very generous and well over 300 people attended and had a lovely roast beef and ham supper.

NOVEMBER

It was a comeback, of sorts, and a successful one at that, when the Shellbrook Royal Purple School has been hosting a Pearl Party fundraiser for brain injury awareness at the former Railhouse Restaurant.

Including appetizers, oysters, pendants and chains, the soirée brought a taste of Hawaii to the 25 or so ladies who came out to enjoy the evening, and brought in about \$650.

While Devil's Night, the night before Halloween, is often said to be an evening filled with mean-spirited pranks and other forms of mischief, there was nothing like that on display when W.P. Sandin High School put on its annual Quarter Carnival on Wednesday, Oct. 30.

Continued on page 20



From left, W.P. Sandin students McKenna Kyliuk, Marissa Skavlebo and Hunter Tremblay represented their school at SHSAA provincial golf in Estevan on Sept. 27.



Shellbrook Royal Purple member Leola Skrupski gives the wheel a spin to determine who will get to draw the first oyster at the club's Pearl Party.

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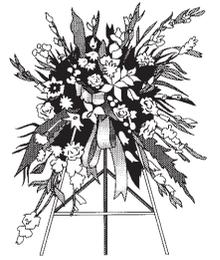


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CANWOOD: Canwood Branch of Wapiti Regional Library. Regular Library Hours - Tues. 1 - 5 p.m., Thurs. 10:00 a.m. - 4 pm & Friday 1 - 5 pm. Storytime: Fridays 2 pm. Play cards the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2 pm. Crafter's Choice the 2nd & 4th 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 & Legacy Gallery Hours: Tuesday 1 pm - 5:30 pm; Friday 10:30 am - 5 pm; Saturday 1 pm - 5 pm.

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Looking back on the year that was 2019



It may not be a first, but the Atom Shellbrook Elks girls team is certainly rare for a small town.

November Cont'd

Since Parkland Integrated Health Centre opened its doors in 2013, the old Shellbrook Union Hospital and Parkland Terrace nursing home buildings had sat vacant, untouched.

Over the past week, rumours have been swirling in the community that the facility is going to be used for cannabis research.

Neither confirming nor denying these rumours, town of Shellbrook administrator Kelly Hoare said that there just isn't much to report in terms of the old hospital, beyond the fact that a company expressed interest in the building.

Courage and sacrifice were 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 ob-

serve Remembrance Day on the 75th anniversary of D-Day.

The Shellbrook and Districts Chamber of Commerce and the town of Shellbrook hosted the community's fifth and final Volunteer Appreciation Gala at the Shellbrook Community Hall on Nov. 7.

This year's recipients were the W.P. Sandin Student Leadership Council, the Shellbrook Kinsmen and Kinettes, and the Shellbrook Elks and Royal Purple.

It's estimated that 1-in-5 Canadian children are at risk of going to school hungry every day.

Here in Shellbrook, however, the Shellbrook Kinsmen and Kinettes, with the assistance of the Parkside Community Club and Shellbrook BigWay have banded together to lower these odds for the students of

Shellbrook Elementary School and W.P. Sandin High School.

Hoping that students will learn valuable lessons about responsibility and healthy eating, the Kinettes have set up accounts for the schools at the grocery store.

Every month, students from each school will be tasked with picking up the supplies for the emergency lunch program, preparing the lunches so that they're available as needed, and, most importantly, staying under the budget of \$150 per month for each school.

The Canwood Annual Royal Purple Craft Sale was held on Saturday, Nov. 2 at the Canwood Elks Community Hall from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The weather was nice and the hall was packed with 40 tables of a variety of crafts, baking, wood working, stain glass, paintings, etc.



Shellbrook Legion member Lloyd Rudolph salutes fallen comrades, after laying a wreath in their honour at Shellbrook's Remembrance Day Ceremony.

Many shoppers filled their bags with numerous items from the vendors that were present.

At just 17 years of age, Brooklyn Anderson can now proudly state that she's part of Saskatchewan history.

The Shellbrook-born hockey player, who normally suits up for the Prince Albert AAA Northern Bears, recently had the opportunity to represent the province at the 2019 National Women's Under-18 Championship in Winkler and Morden, Man.

With her help, the team brought home its first ever medal, a silver.

With the countdown to Christmas officially on, folks from Shellbrook and the surrounding area had an opportunity to get their hands on some one-of-a-kind items for their loved ones when the Shellbrook & District Arts Council hosted its annual Christmas Craft Sale on Saturday.

This marked the 30th year for the Craft Sale, which sees that Shellbrook Community Hall packed, almost wall to wall, with unique works created by vendors from as far afield as Saskatoon, North Battleford and Christopher Lake, and from as nearby as just up the street.

Minor Hockey in Shellbrook is set to get a big boost in talent starting in the 2020-2021 hockey season, with the

addition of AA Midget hockey team to the community's ranks.

Shellbrook Minor Sports president Cheryl Ledding received confirmation that the organization's application to be included in the Midget AA Division of the Saskatchewan AA Hockey League on Tuesday, Nov. 12.

Want to know who's trying to come onto your rural properties you're allowed to hunt, ATV or snowmobile on?

If all goes according to plan, there will soon be an app for that.

Currently in the prototype stage, SaskLander is a mobile and desktop app that is being developed by Saskatoon-based Western Heritage.

What's perhaps the most telling measure of just how busy the Shellbrook Rink stays throughout the winter, is the fact that this hockey season will see the community feature an all-girls atom hockey team.

It may not be a first in Shellbrook (a quick perusal of the Chronicle's archives proved inconclusive), but it is exceedingly rare for a small town.

As the team's coach, Wallin feels it can only signal good things for hockey in the community.

What started out as a chorus of whispered rumours around the com-

munity has turned out to have more than just an atom of truth to it.

The old Shellbrook Union Hospital, which has sat vacant and untouched since the opening of Parkland Integrated Health Centre, has found an interested buyer nearly a year after it was put up for sale by current owner James Carpenter, who is based out of Alberta.

What's more, the old facility will be used as a cannabis production and research facility — barring anything unforeseen, of course.

It's been three years since the Shellbrook Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee introduced incentives that offered student nurses bursaries of \$500 or \$1,000 for completing their preceptorships at Parkland Integrated Health Centre.

In that time, more than 30 young nurses have taken advantage of the incentives, while others, still, have made use of a separate program that offers soft landing assistance to nurses who take jobs at the facility.

The Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division, and its Saskatchewan Rivers Students for Change initiative, were recently honoured with the Saskatchewan School Boards Association's 2019 Premier's Board of Education Award for Innovation and Excellence in Education.



W.P. Sandin SLC president Tyson Crawford speaks on behalf of the SLC at Shellbrook's fifth annual Volunteer Appreciation Gala, while senior members and advisor Rhonda Berezowski look on.