



Hockey transforms Big River FN girl

At a glance, seven-year-old Aaliyah Kennedy Sunrise Ross is just like any other first grader who resides on the Big River First Nation.

But there was a time when her family feared her life would be anything but normal.

When Aaliyah's mother, Doris, was seven months pregnant, an ultrasound revealed that Aaliyah had spina bifida.

"We were devastated when we found out," said Tammy Whitefish, Aaliyah's grandmother. "We didn't really know what the outcome would be with her condition."

As per the Centers for Disease Control, Spina bifida occurs when the neural tube along the spine doesn't close all the way. This prevents the backbone that protects the spinal cord from forming properly and closing, and often results in damage to the spinal cord and nerves.

Depending on the location and size of the opening in the spine, and the impact on the spinal cord and nerves, spina bifida can result in a range of mild-to-severe intellectual and physical disabilities, including paralysis from the waist down.

In Aaliyah's case, she was diagnosed with the second most severe of the three most common types of spina bifida. It could have been worse, of course, but it still left her family with many questions.

"We didn't know what to expect, and the not knowing was the hard part. We were told to be prepared for whatever comes," said Aaliyah's grandfather, Willard Morin, adding that family, friends, and pastors said a lot of prayers for Aaliyah and her mother after the diagnosis.

At just one month, Aaliyah



Aaliyah Kennedy Sunrise Ross, a seven-year-old from Big River First Nation, was born with spina bifida, and had to undergo a four-hour surgery when she was just one month old. But her family says learning to skate and play hockey has helped change her life. Here she's pictured with Berno Bear. Photo courtesy Samantha Stouffer

underwent a four-hour surgery to repair her spine. Thanks to the work of a neurological surgeon from Edmonton, and a second surgeon from Royal University Hospital, she made it through just fine.

"They did a tremendous job," said Willard. "It's a miracle that she came out of it like the way she is today."

Miracle is a word that Tammy also uses to describe Aaliyah and her recovery.

But both her and Willard agree that another true mir-

acle is the transformation they've seen in Aaliyah ever since she was enrolled in the Big River First Nation's hockey program.

Though Aaliyah is now a healthy, normal seven-year-old who enjoys running around a playing like the rest of her peers, Tammy recalls a time when her granddaughter was "closed off" and "quite shy."

She believes much of the change in Aaliyah's attitude is owed to hockey, which she

plays at the pre-novice level, and the accomplishments she's achieved — such as finally being able to skate without the help of a chair.

"She's really more outgoing with her classmates. She has more friends, and she's interacting more with kids her age," Tammy said, noting that this has translated into improved confidence and better attendance at school.

"Ever since she started the hockey program, she's been getting more involved in

sports. To be able to accomplish little things just means the world to her," Willard added.

Noting that many other kids have benefitted from the community's hockey program — which is made possible through the support of the Big River First Nation's chief and council, as well as volunteers and other personnel — Willard says he hopes Aaliyah will continue her involvement in sports, and even consider joining the soccer program.



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Novice Timberwolves close off exciting season

The Spiritwood Novice Timberwolves had a strong 2019-2020 season.

They started off by hosting a home tournament early in December at the Spiritwood Recreation Centre and finished off the month attending a tournament in Big River on Dec. 22. Fun was had at both tournaments.

League play began Jan. 10 and ran through February. The team suited up for ten games in six weeks to complete their season finishing third in their division.

The season was busy, but rewarding for the players.

Playoffs kicked off

shortly after the end of the regular season and Spiritwood was matched up to play against Glaslyn in the first round.

They took a tough loss, 10-7, in their first game of the series while playing in Glaslyn's rink.

The team rallied for the second game with players giving it their all and truly playing their hearts out. They mustered a big win 6-5 on home ice to keep the series alive.

This led to an immediate 10-minute tie-breaker game, which Spiritwood triumphed in, 2-0, winning the series. It was an extremely exciting night!

The team then ad-



The Spiritwood Novice Timberwolves had a fun-filled season and look forward to hitting the ice again in the fall.

vanced to the Novice B-side playoff tournament hosted in Meadow Lake on March 7 and 8.

The competition was very strong, with Spiritwood matching up against two Meadow Lake teams and one team from Neilburg.

Players played their best and enjoyed the

full weekend of hockey. A fourth-place finish marked the end of their exciting and enjoyable season.

Players came out all season with great attitudes and a willingness to work hard and improve.

The team had three coaches, Adam Kotun,

Lane Buswell and Dillan Simonar, who contributed to the season's success.

Parents of players pitched in throughout the season putting in volunteer hours in the kitchen, helping on the bench, and running the clock.

The Spiritwood Minor

Hockey Association's board members, who provide the opportunity for kids to play the game, put on a great Hockey Day in Spiritwood, which was a blast for all the minor hockey players.

It was a fun filled season, and it has players looking forward to being back on the ice next fall.



There was lots of ice time this season for the hard-working youngsters.

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

Pursuant to subsection 214 of *The Municipalities Act*, notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll for the Town of Spiritwood for the year 2020 has been prepared and is open for inspection at the Office of the Assessor by [phone appointment](#) from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays.

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file his or her Notice of Appeal with the two hundred (\$200) dollar fee to:

The Assessor
Town of Spiritwood
Box 460
Spiritwood, Saskatchewan S0J 2M0
by the 4th of May, 2020

Dated at Spiritwood, Saskatchewan, this 2nd day of April, 2020.
Rhonda Saam, Assessor
Town of Spiritwood

Notice of Preparation of Assessment Roll Village of Medstead

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Village of Medstead for the year 2020 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the following days: Tuesday to Friday, April 2 to May 1, 2020.

A bylaw pursuant to Section 214 of *The Municipalities Act* has been passed and the assessment notices have been sent as required.

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file his or her notice of appeal with: The Assessor, Village of Medstead, Box 148, Medstead, SK, S0M 1W0 by the 1st of May, 2020.

An appeal fee of \$100 per property must accompany the notice.

Dated this 2nd day of April, 2020.
Coleen Kitching, Assessor

Public Notice – RM of Leask

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the RM of Leask intends to consider the adoption of two bylaws under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*. The RM will establish a new Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw.

Intent: The proposed Official Community Plan bylaw will establish municipal land use policies, goals and objectives for the RM. The proposed Zoning Bylaw will implement land use regulations, establish zoning districts, prescribe permitted and discretionary uses within each zoning district, establish a development permit process, prescribe a process for appeals and provide a provision for amendments.

Affected Land: The proposed bylaws will affect all land within the incorporated area of the RM.

Reason: The Official Community Plan will provide the RM with direction on development decisions and municipal goals. The Zoning Bylaw will help direct and manage growth and development within the RM.

Public Inspection: Any person may inspect the proposed bylaws and associated maps at the RM office during normal office hours. Copies of the bylaws are available at cost. The bylaws and associated maps are also posted on the RM's website at www.rmleask.ca.

Public Hearing: Council will hold a public hearing on May 6, 2020 at 1:00 pm. The public hearing will be held at the RM office. Any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaws is welcome to attend or to submit comments prior to the meeting. Council will consider all comments received.

The RM will continue to monitor the challenges with the COVID-19 situation and provide notification if rescheduling is required.

Issued at the RM of Leask 19/March/2020
Judy Douglas
Chief Administrative Officer

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

Pursuant to subsection 214 of *The Municipalities Act*, Notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll for the Resort Village of Pebble Bay for the year 2020 has been prepared and is open to inspection by calling (306)468-3104 or emailing resortpebblebay@gmail.com for an appointment between March 27th and April 28th, 2020. Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file his or her notice of appeal with:

**The Assessor
Resort Village of Pebble Bay
Box 449, Canwood, SK S0J 0K0**

By the 28th day of April, 2020
Dated at Canwood, Saskatchewan, this 20th day of March, 2020
Terry Lofstrom, Assessor
Resort Village of Pebble Bay

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

Notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll for the Village of Leoville for the year 2020 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor by appointment only by calling 306-984-2140 from April 3 to May 4, 2020.

A Bylaw has been passed Pursuant to subsection 214 of the *Municipalities Act*, and assessment notices have been sent.

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file notice of appeal with: The Assessor, Village of Leoville, Box 280, Leoville, Sk. S0J 1N0 by the 4th of May, 2020. An appeal fee of \$200.00 per property must accompany the notice.

Dated at Leoville, Saskatchewan, this 2nd day of April, 2020.
Mona Chalifour, Assessor
Village of Leoville

Town of Shellbrook grappling with damaged sewer pump

It was March 17, the height of the global toilet paper panic buying frenzy, when the town of Shellbrook sent out a notice to ratepayers cautioning them not to flush anything other than toilet paper into the municipality's sewer system.

"We understand that with the "panic buying"

going on, that access to toilet paper has become very difficult," the town's chief administrative officer, Kelly Hoare, wrote in the notice. "However, the Town's sewer system is not capable of processing anything other than standard toilet paper as it will cause damage to our pumps which in turn

will cause for larger issues."

Eight days later, Hoare's warning to ratepayers became a reality for the town.

Due to an influx of improper materials being flushed, one of the town's sewer pumps has suffered "a substantial amount of damage" and

is in need of a repair or a replacement.

"The damage is a direct result of people flushing what they shouldn't — paper towel, wipes, etc. The pumps aren't meant for that," Hoare explained.

The pump is currently on the wait list for a fix, and, given the current

circumstances with COVID-19, Hoare estimates that the repair could take about six weeks. Hoare adds that the town is currently investigating the costs of repairing or replacing the pump outright, before proceeding with the solution to the problem.

In the meantime, the town is currently running a spare pump at one of the lift stations. However, if people keep flushing materials the pumps weren't designed to handle, Hoare says there could be serious consequences.

"If any of the lift stations fail, we are look-

ing at sewage backing up into people's houses that are along the line that the lift station is on," she said.

While acknowledging that toilet paper can still be hard to come by at local and area stores, Hoare again urges ratepayers to refrain from flushing anything other than standard toilet paper.

The Town of Shellbrook isn't the only municipality that's had to send out these notices.

The City of Prince Albert has been pushing the same message to its ratepayers over the past two weeks.

Covid-19 forces closure of Big River Saw Mill

With estimates that as many as two million Canadian workers have been laid off or are facing the threat of losing their jobs to the COVID-19 pandemic, the reality of the virus is being felt in rural Saskatchewan.

On Monday afternoon, Carrier Lumber temporarily suspended two of its operations, including the Big River Sawmill and the Tabor Planer mill in Prince George, B.C.

The closures will result in the layoff of around 120 staff mem-

bers.

In emails to community newspapers, Carrier Lumber president William Kordyban said he hopes the layoffs are short term and employees will be back to work as soon as possible.

In an interview with CTV News, Big River Mayor Rob Buckingham said the closure of the sawmill is making the pandemic a lot more real for people in his community.

"I think everybody around here, it's really hitting home with them," he said. "Lots of livelihoods are

depending on the mill operation."

The Big River Sawmill isn't the only small-town business whose employees have found themselves laid off.

With the Sask., Party government's move to limit business operations to only "allowable" businesses, many businesses have been forced to shut their doors.

Allowable businesses include: healthcare and public health workers; law enforcement, public safety and first responders; production, processing and manufacturing and the supporting supply chains; transportation and logistics; government and community services; media and telecommunications; construction including maintenance and repair; select retail services; and banking and financial services.

R.M. OF CANWOOD NO. 494 Seasonal Employment Opportunity for General Labourer

The R.M. of Canwood No. 494 invites applications for seasonal employment. The successful applicant must be able to carry out assigned duties without supervision and shall answer to the R.M. Council and the Public Works Supervisor. A valid Class 1A driver's license is an asset. Submit your resume and driver's abstract, including past experience and references, to:

R.M. of Canwood No. 494
Box 10, 641 Main Street
Canwood, Sask., S0J 0K0
Fax: 306-468-2666
Email: rm494@sasktel.net

Wages are negotiable based on experience. All resumes are to be in the hands of the Administrator on or before **4:00 P.M., Wednesday, April 15, 2020**. Only those contacted will be granted an interview.

COVID-19 in Saskatchewan

Help protect yourself and others.

Pull together by staying apart.

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Virus scammers must be stopped

They say there's a sucker born every minute. If that's true, then it's equally true that there's a fraud, con artist or cheat born every 30 seconds.

For proof of this, one need only perform a quick Google search of the phrase "COVID-19 scams."

Sure, there's been plenty of heart-warming stories coming out since the virus put the world on lockdown. But for every display of human goodness we've witnessed during this pandemic, there have been at least two tales of people leveraging it to make a quick buck.

Just last week, for instance, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau introduced the Canada Emergency Response Benefit, which is intended help those who have been adversely impacted by COVID-19.



JORDAN
TWISS
~
News Editor

Less than 24 hours later, he was forced to use his daily briefing from Rideau Hall to warn Canadians of a scam related to the benefit.

From all accounts, the scam is a pretty simple one: the victims receive a text message from a random number, stating that they've received money from the federal government and instructing them to follow a link to receive their benefit money.

The link then takes them to a very convincing website, complete with a Government of Canada masthead, where they are no doubt asked to enter all of their banking information. Once that's done, the scammer is free take them to the cleaners.

It's sad that these types of predators exist today, and sadder, still, that there are people who are naive

and trusting enough to fall victim to their schemes.

But, just in case you or anyone you know is contacted by one of these scammers, be advised that the Canada Emergency Response Benefit is available only to those who *apply* for it, and that it will be rolling out at some point this month.

While the above may be the most recent scam related to COVID-19, it's far from the first.

And, odds are, it won't be the last. As of March 18 — a time when the virus was still in the infancy of its cross-Canada spread — there were at least 10 known rackets that had cropped up, ranging from private companies selling fake COVID-19 tests to phony Public Health officials telling victims' that they'd tested positive for the virus.

Then, of course, there are the despicable humans who cashed in on the toilet paper hysteria that gripped the world by purchasing it all and selling it at an obscene mark



up (just last week, the Toronto Star investigated the burgeoning black market for TP and found packs going for as much as \$150).

For as bad as these schemes are, there's something even more unpalatable, and far more dangerous, about the deliberate misinformation that's being spread about COVID-19.

Most recently, Dr. Thomas Cowan, a California-based holistic medical practitioner who trained as a physician, published a YouTube video claiming that the pandemic was caused by 5G technology.

The video has received hundreds of thousands of views over the past week, and Dr. Cowan's message been spread far and wide.

But there is absolutely *no scientific evidence* to support Dr. Cowan's claims, and it should be noted that Iran, one of the worst COVID-19 hotspots, has no 5G towers.

What's more, Dr. Cowan is no stranger to being at odds with established scientific and medical practice. He's currently on probation for questionable conduct, after he gave a breast cancer patient an

unlicensed drug without informing her that it had yet to be approved — and he did this without ever meeting the woman or reviewing her medical history.

Dr. Cowan has also authored several books, and is opposed to immunizing children.

As far as misinformation about COVID-19 goes, Dr. Cowan's 5G conspiracy isn't anywhere near the worst. But like suggestions that certain groups of people have a natural immunity to the virus, or false claims that the virus is a hoax, it needs to be denounced loudly and publicly.

Granted, we could all play a role in stopping scammers and frauds if we just did ourselves the favour of looking at everything with a healthy dose of scepticism — especially when it comes to random strangers who claim they want to give us money.

But as the world continues to grapple with the COVID-19 pandemic, it falls to governments and other authorities to crack down on the cheats and liars who are trying to profit from people's fears.

YOUR TWO CENTS

Our big neighbour

Dear editor,

I think we all know why the United States has become the world's greatest power. The fact is that they and we, took over a big continent rich in every resource we could need and which our forefathers confiscated from the people who were living here.

The Americans, as we did later, adopted the democratic form of stable government developed in England, and invited their European neighbours to come and occupy the country. The protection of an ocean on each side also enabled the United States to enjoy peace at home and to become great.

But there are things I don't really understand. I'm looking for a new book called, "Trump For Dummies" to explain to me some recent items such as:

- Making America great again seems to be at the

expense of its neighbours.

- The president observed that the coronavirus concern would be over by Easter. I'm not sure what year he had in mind.

- The president talked about stopping New York people going to Florida two weeks after they went there.

- The job security of many long term civil servants seems to be rather frail.

- The president seemed to be considering sending his army to defend the US along the Canadian border.

If anyone has the above book I would like to buy it for study to help me make sense of some of tweets and actions of our neighbour that I hear about.

Fred Grant, Sandwith, Sask

Shellbrook Chronicle

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Spiritwood Herald

Serving the Communities of Spiritwood, Shell Lake, Leoville, Chitek Lake, Mildred, Rabbit Lake, Medstead, Mayfair, Bapaume, Belbutte, Glaslyn

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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



Shellbrook skaters shine at Winter Classic

By Tasje Sharron

The Shellbrook Skating Club had five skaters attend Winter Classic (formerly Jean Norman Open Competition) in Moose Jaw Feb. 28 to March 1, 2020.

It was a great weekend for all the skaters.

On Friday, Erika Stene started Shellbrook off with a gold medal in STAR 8/9 solo dance. Saturday started early with Allison LaMotte taking 4th place in STAR 6 element event, Erika Stene taking

home a silver medal in STAR 6, Jessica Sharron bringing home a silver as well in STAR 5 elements, and Julia Shindle bringing home a bronze medal in STAR 4.

These placings were all in the element event. Later on in the day, Tegan Naumann brought home a bronze medal in STAR 7/8 elements.

New this year, every STAR-Skate freeskate event crowned a STARSkate champion in that particular category. A few of the

flights were larger than normal (15 or more skaters).

Allison LaMotte placed 10th in STAR 6. Jessica Sharron placed 6th in STAR 5 13-and-Over. Julia Shindle earned a bronze medal in STAR 5 U13. Erika Stene earned a bronze medal in the STAR 7 freeskate event, and Tegan Naumann took home the gold in STAR 8 and was crowned the STARSkate Champion in that flight.

It was a fun-filled weekend for

them all.

Our focus every year after Winter Classic is to get ready for our annual ice show and prepare for any final assessment days.

With the global pandemic upon us, we had to cancel our show that was to be held on Sunday, March 22. But we managed to have a mini ice show on what we chose to be our last day of practice on Sunday, March 15.

We kept it small and did not invite any spectators, but we did manage to have several parents with their skaters there to

showcase the duets and group numbers that were put together, as well as a few skills learned by a handful of our CanSkaters.

A big round of gratitude to the executive who put in loads of volunteer time all year long, and to the parents who stepped in to volunteer their time and talent and participate in our many fundraisers. Appreciation also goes out to our coaches and program assistants who help and volunteer with our CanSkate, Advanced CanSkate, and Jr. STAR programs.

Without all of you, our club would not exist as we know it.

Shellbrook Senior's Bonspiel ends early

Normally around this time of year, Shellbrook's senior curlers would be crowning their champions in the local Senior Bonspiel. But with concerns about COVID-19, the difficult decision was made to protect the health of the curlers and cancel what remained of the wind-up.

They did give it the old college try, however. And, based on the action from the Wednesday March 11 and Monday, March 16 draws, it was shaping up to be another great bonspiel.

On the A-side, the final match was all set between skips Wilbur Grayston and

Murray Cameron.

Grayston and his teammates, Ethel Williamson, Wayne Pringle, and Terry Zilkowsky, made their way to the A-Event final by topping the Clarence Bowes rink, then the Lynn Harper rink.

Meanwhile, Cameron and his teammates, Bill Sanderson, Marion Miller, and Cliff Skauge, beat out Amund Otterson's foursome and the rink of skip Ben Duret.

Moving to the B-side, Bowes and his teammates, Gord Goudal, Brenda Smith, and Dick Clark were denied entry to the B-Event final by Gilbert Jouan's

foursome of Bruce Harper, Dale Ledding, and Orville Agrey.

In the other B-side matchup, Connie McIntyre's team, including Jim McComas, John Hein, and Ray Danger, was able to earn its spot in the B-event final with a win over Otterson's rink of Brenda Arabsky, Maurice Tanchuk and Val Priestley.

On the C-side, the C-event final was set to be a matchup between skip Lynn Harper and her team of Larry Ferster, Debbie Ferster, and Ron Helm, and the Duret rink of George Tomporowski, Murray Hannigan and Wilf Lindenbach.

The D-event final, meanwhile, would have been a showdown between the Bowes and Otterson rinks.

As usual, Shellbrook had another strong season for senior curling, with enough players for eight teams and a healthy list of substitute curlers.

MARTINS LAKE REGIONAL PARK HELP WANTED/REQUEST FOR TENDERS

Martins Lake Regional Park is accepting resumes/tenders for the 2020 camping season for the following positions:

- 1) **GOLF CLUBHOUSE RESTAURANT:** Leased operator for the fully equipped kitchen and restaurant facility May thru Sept., c/w living quarters. Must be certified food handlers.
- 2) **BEACH CONCESSION:** Leased operator June to Sept. Must be certified food handlers.

For more info call Christie at 306-221-4457. Mail resumes or tenders to Martins Lake Regional Park, Box 488, Blaine Lake, SK, S0J 0J0 or email to martinslake@sasktel.net.

OUR DOORS MAY BE CLOSED, BUT WE'RE STILL HERE FOR YOU.

SGI branch issuing and claims offices are closed to the public due to the Coronavirus pandemic, but assistance is still available. Here's how:

- Phone or email us, or visit MySGI.ca. Many transactions can be done online, like renewing your plates, filing an auto claim, making a driver's licence payment and more.
- You can also contact your licence issuer or SGI CANADA broker, or call SGI's Customer Service Centre at 1-844-855-2744.
- Appointments are available for transactions that must be done in person.

Other service impacts:

- Road test appointments have been temporarily suspended, but written tests are still available by appointment.
- SGI will continue to provide appraisal services for vehicles that are non-driveable. All other auto claims will be dispatched to a collision repair partner for appraisal.

Visit sgi.sk.ca/covid-19 for full details.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work to serve you as best as possible during these difficult circumstances.



Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the members of Innovation Credit Union will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2020.

Virtual meeting time is set for 7:00 p.m. CST.

Information on how to join this virtual meeting will be available by April 14, 2020 by visiting our website at www.innovationcu.ca.

Meeting agenda items include:

- Report on 2019 operations and presentation of financial statements (copies of financial statements will be available for examination on our website at www.innovationcu.ca or at any advice centre of Innovation Credit Union after April 14, 2020)
- Announcement of elected directors
- Appointment of Auditor
- Other Business



1.866.446.7001 | www.innovationcu.ca

Sask. suffers first COVID-19 deaths

Two Saskatchewan residents in their 70s have become the province's first COVID-19 victims, after dying in hospital as a result of complications related to the virus.

The deaths came during a weekend that saw Saskatchewan's confirmed cases increase by 50 per cent, growing to 156 from 104.

With another 20 confirmed cases being re-

ported Monday afternoon, the province's total climbed to 176. And, more and more, a greater number of cases are being linked to local transmission, signalling that COVID-19 has well and truly arrived in Saskatchewan after getting off to a slow start in the province.

Despite the exponential uptick in confirmed cases over the weekend, the Sask. Party govern-

ment hadn't responded with further restrictions on residents or businesses as of Monday afternoon. Nor was there any signal from the government that further precautions would be put in place, beyond measures to limit public gatherings to fewer than 10 people and narrow down the list of allowable businesses.

Both these measures came into effect as of March 26. But while the limit on public gatherings was clear, the government was forced to clarify the meaning of allowable and non-allowable businesses.

While stopping short of calling the services and businesses essential, the government describes them as "critical public services and business services that will

be allowed to continue operating during the COVID-19 response and maintaining critical services to the public and industry to prevent supply chain disruption."

Classed into that category are: health care and public health workers; law enforcement, public safety and first responders; production, processing and manufacturing and the supporting supply chains; transportation and logistics; government and community services; media and telecommunications; construction including maintenance and repair; select retail services; and banking and financial services.

Meanwhile, businesses and services added to the non-allowable category include: clothing stores; shoe stores; flow-

er shops; sporting good and adventure stores; vaping supply shops; boats, ATV, or snowmobile retailers; gift, book, or stationary stores; jewellery and accessory stores; toy stores; music, electronic and entertainment stores; pawn shops; and travel agencies.

The non-allowable businesses and services join a large group that were already ordered closed on March 23, including restaurants, food courts, and cafeterias that only offer dine-in eating, personal service facilities (tattooists, hairdressers, tanning parlours, aestheticians, etc.), and all recreational and entertainment facilities.

Additionally, dental, optometrist, chiropractic, registered massage

therapy and podiatry clinics are only permitted to operate for non-elective procedures.

The same day these new policies came into effect, the provincial government moved to protect renters who have been adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic by suspending all eviction hearings in the province.

Tenants who are unable to pay their rent during the province's declared state of emergency will be expected to pay it in full, once the state of emergency is over.

"Under the circumstances, we want to ensure that tenants facing hardship as a result of COVID-19 can remain in their homes and follow all orders and recommendations from the Chief Medical Officer," Justice Minister and Attorney General Don Morgan said in a release.

"An essential part of flattening the curve is staying home and self-isolating. We want to provide piece of mind that those taking the necessary precautions as a result of this unprecedented situation will still have a roof over their head."

On Monday, in a bid to keep healthcare facilities and stores stocked during the pandemic, the government eased hours of service restrictions on truckers transporting goods and supplies needed to face COVID-19.

For more information, visit www.saskatchewan.ca/COVID19.

NOTICE

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we will be **postponing our Annual Meeting that was originally scheduled for April 20th.**

The new Annual Meeting date will be advertised well in advance, once it has been selected.

Thank you for your understanding.



Take Part. Get Paid.



The next provincial election is coming up in 2020, and we need workers! Did you know that you can **make up to \$230** for working election day, and **even more** for working during advance voting?

To be eligible to work you must be:

1 A Saskatchewan resident (lived in SK for at least 6 months before the date election was called)



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Apply online at: elections.sk.ca/takepart or by calling 1.877.958.8683.



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 **Diamond North**
CREDIT UNION

**ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING**

POSTPONED

April 14, 2020
Nipawin Elks Hall

**Due to COVID-19,
Diamond North
Credit Union's
Annual General Meeting
has been postponed
until further notice.**

AGRICULTURE

April 2, 2020

www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald 7

Ag is key to maintaining food supply

There is an underlying concern with the COVID-19 situation, and that is that toilet paper may not be the only thing that people go to purchase and find the store shelves empty.

What if the situation escalates and food shelves go empty?

No one is suggesting that will happen, but it is an easy leap to make, at least in terms of what might happen.

In my youth, yes that is now several decades ago, the worry about finding food in a store would have been far

less.

We lived on a farm, and in that era a farm was more than canola and wheat. Most producers still had mixed farms, meaning some livestock, and that meant the freezers filled with food.

Farms also meant huge gardens for most, ensuring vegetables in the freezer too.

The era was also one where making pickles, canning fruit in season, and similar preserving of food was common place.

Add in that flour was purchased in 50 pound bags be-



CALVIN DANIELS

cause most made bread, and there was not the immediate need for food from the store we have today.

It was only slightly different

for my grandparents living in town. They had a huge garden, canned preserves, and of course got meat from the farm.

Backyard gardens are increasingly rare, as are mixed farms. The result there is far less food self-sufficiency today than say 40 years ago.

In a mere four decades, not long in terms of history, we have given over the key aspect of life, our food supply, to others.

We in North America have gone through a long period of very limited direct upheaval

in our lives, since the end of the Second World War when you think about it. That is 75-years without war on this continent, without a 'dirty-30s- style stock crash, without major epidemic. In the passing of the decades we have grown safe, secure, and perhaps a little lax in terms of our self-care and preparedness.

Perhaps something positive that can come out of the COVID-19 could be a return to a greater control of our own food sources.

The first step in that can be

as simple as connecting with area farmers to buy your beef, pork and chicken. In a crisis, those producers are still close at hand.

And step two is to get back to backyard gardens. Grass might look nice, and require less attention, but potatoes and carrots taste far better.

Urban municipalities can play a role here too, offering up vacant lots and even marginal park space as community garden spaces.

The process is about self-reliance and knowing our core food supply is always there.

Farmers Markets are an essential service, says NFU

The COVID-19 global pandemic highlights the vulnerabilities in our society. Our healthcare system, our globalized economy, and our food system are all being tested.

Food supply chains have undergone major changes over the past several decades as a result of globalization. Corporations coordinate transnational shipments to precisely balance supply and demand, keeping inventories and reserves low. Under "normal" circumstances, this system results in an abundance and diversity of cheap foods right at our fingertips. It also streamlines profits into the pockets of a few. As grocery store shelves become increasingly bare, we are reminded that we cannot rely on imports during times of crisis. In this time

of vulnerability, it is more important than ever to recognize the importance of rebuilding resilient local economies, including diversified local food systems.

Farmers markets are an essential component of local food systems and food sovereignty. But, as non-essential businesses are shut down across the country, many farmers markets are also being forced to close due to emergency measures undertaken to reduce the spread of COVID-19. This action not only creates economic harm for local farmers but it also reduces public access to safe, healthy food.

The NFU demands that farmers markets be considered an essential service and allowed to continue operating. Markets are able to implement proactive measures to

ensure vendor and customer safety, such as moving outdoors (if they weren't outdoors already), increasing the space between vendors, removing seating/dining areas, limiting the number of customers at a given time, and prohibiting customers from touching vendors' items. It is also important to note that farmers markets provide locally-grown produce with minimal post-harvest handling and significantly shorter supply chains than retail foods. Open air markets may also offer a safer alternative to grocery stores as there are fewer surfaces that need sanitizing and customer behaviour can be more easily monitored by vendors. Vendors who sell at farmers' markets already must meet public health safe food handling requirements, and farmers

know how to address biosecurity risks.

As long as grocery stores remain open to the public, so should farmers markets. We are privileged to live in a country that has the capacity to move towards diverse self-sufficiency - a key tenet of food sovereignty. Now more than ever we urge all levels of government to acknowledge the importance of localized food systems.

We call on governments across Canada to declare farmers markets an essential service, and to work with markets to ensure their continued safe operation and food provision capacity during the pandemic crisis. We also call on eaters to support their local farmers and other local businesses during this difficult and uncertain time.

PRINCE ALBERT LIVESTOCK SALES
A division of Northern Livestock Sales



To consign cattle or
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Glen, Boyd or Frederick

Monday, April 6, 2020

Regular Sale 9:30 a.m.

Monday, April 13, 2020

Presort Sale 9:30 a.m.

Regular Sale 1:00 p.m.



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



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For market info visit: www.northernlivestocksales.ca

MEADOW LAKE LIVESTOCK SALES LTD.



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for on-farm appraisals
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Brent, Blair or Brody

Wednesday, April 8, 2020

Regular Sale 9:00 a.m.

All Breeds Presort Internet Sale 11:00 a.m.

Friday, April 17, 2020

Makin' It Pay Bull Sale & Pen of 3 Heifer
Show & Sale 1:00 p.m.

Producers wishing to market cattle prior to sale day
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Minutes of a Town of Spiritwood regular meeting

(Where necessary, the following minutes may have been edited for clarity or brevity)

The regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Spiritwood was held in the Council Chambers at the Town Office located at 212 Main Street on Dec. 19, 2019 at 6 p.m.

In attendance were Mayor Gary von Holwede, Councillor Brad Nemish, Councillor Jim Bedi, Councillor Debbie Allan, Councillor Bryan Wingerter, and CAO Rhonda Saam. Absent were Councillor George Pretli, and Councillor Shannon Beaulac.

A quorum being present, Mayor Von Holwede called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Debbie Allan: That the agenda be adopted as presented. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

Debbie Allan: That the minutes of the regular meeting on Nov. 27, 2019 be approved as presented. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

Brad Nemish: That the correspondence be filed as presented. Wapiti Regional Library Semi-Annual Meeting - Nov. 16, 2019 and OH & S Report - December 2019. Seconded by Jim Bedi. Carried.

Jim Bedi: That the Accounts for Ratification, Cheque No. 30372 to 30400 in the amount of \$52,601.07 be approved as presented. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Debbie Allan: That the Accounts for Approval, Cheque No. 30401 to 30422 in the amount of \$92,239.99 be approved as presented. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That the Bank Reconciliation for the month of November 2019 be approved as presented. Seconded by Jim Bedi. Carried.

Jim Bedi: That the Financial Statement for the month of November 2019 be approved as presented. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter.

Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That the reports be filed as presented. Chief Administrative Officer Verbal Report and Council Verbal Reports. Seconded by Debbie Allan. Carried.

Brad Nemish: That the 2020 regular meetings of council shall be held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month commencing at 7 p.m. at the Town Office with the following exceptions:

July will be on the 28th only & December will be on the 15th only and the 2020 regular council meeting schedule will form part of the minutes and be posted at the town office. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Debbie Allan: That we approve the 2020 Transfer Site Schedule as presented to form part of the minutes and be posted at the town office, with Transfer Site Hours set as follows: Summer Hours - April 1 to Sept. 30: Wednesdays 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Saturdays 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Winter

Hours - Oct. 1 to March 31: 1st and 3rd Saturdays of every month 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That we provide a discounted dump day to Town Ratepayers on May 9, 2020 with a 50% discount on Tipping Fees with the exception of shingles. Seconded by Debbie Allan. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That we ratify the decision to terminate Shelley Pretli as Rec Director effective Dec. 6, 2019 and that Rhonda Saam remain appointed as Acting Rec Director while the Rec Director position is vacant. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That Bylaw No. 525/19, a Bylaw to Establish the Spiritwood Area Recreation Culture and Sport be read a first time. Seconded by Debbie Allan.

Carried.

Jim Bedi: That Bylaw No. 525/19, a Bylaw to Establish the Spiritwood Area Recreation Culture and Sport be read a second time. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

Jim Bedi: That Bylaw No. 525/19, a Bylaw to Establish the Spiritwood Area Recreation Culture and Sport be read a third time and finally adopted. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That Bylaw No. 525/19, a Bylaw to Establish the Spiritwood Area Recreation Culture and Sport be read a third time and finally adopted. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

Jim Bedi: That we approve Policy No. 24 Events & Recreation Coordinator Policy as amended. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Brad Nemish: That we advertise Events & Recreation

Coordinator position with SaskJobs, SUMA, Spiritwood Herald, Saskatchewan Parks & Recreation Association (SPRA) & Saskatchewan Association of Recreation Professionals (SARP), and Kijiji. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That we postpone this item until the next council meeting (Waste & Recycling Collection and Disposal). Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

Debbie Allan: That we approve the quote from Delco Automation Inc. in the amount of \$40,200 to install 40 new membrane elements as required for the RO system at the water treatment plant. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Debbie Allan: That this meeting be adjourned at 6:45 p.m. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Governments announce extension to Sask. crop insurance deadline

The federal and Saskatchewan governments have announced the deadline to apply, reinstate, cancel or make changes to Crop Insurance contracts is extended to April 13, 2020.

"Canada is fortunate to have such dedicated, hard-working farmers who put high quality food on our tables daily," said Agriculture and Agri-food Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau. "By offering Saskatchewan producers this extension, we are giving them the flexibility they need to get their job done in challenging times like these."

"It is critical for our government to continue to support Saskatchewan agriculture," Sask. Agriculture Minister David Marit said. "We understand the challenges producers faced over the last year including evolving situations like the COVID-19 pandemic that continue to add to these uncertainties."

Producers interested in Crop Insurance coverage for the 2020 year now have an additional two weeks to finalize their contracts. Extending the Crop Insurance deadline gives producers more time to prepare and make decisions regarding all aspects of their business, including risk management.

Despite new guidelines concerning service delivery, Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) continues to support Saskatchewan producers as we approach the 2020 growing season. Knowledgeable staff are available to assist producers by phone at 1-888-935-0000 or email at customer.service@scic.ca.

Current customers can also use SCIC's online application, CropConnect, available at www.scic.ca/cropconnect, to enter insurance selections, add or delete crops, change program options and choose coverage levels.

Crop Insurance is a Business Risk Management program supported through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a five-year, \$3 billion commitment by Canada's federal, provincial and territorial governments that supports Canada's agri-food and agri-products sectors.

Under Crop Insurance, premiums for most programs are shared 40 per cent by participating producers, 36 per cent by the Government of Canada and 24 per cent by the Government of Saskatchewan. Administrative expenses are fully funded by governments, 60 per cent by Canada and 40 per cent by Saskatchewan.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SPIRITWOOD: Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, Wednesday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm & Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

LEOVILLE: Wapiti Regional Library - Wednesday 10 am - 4 pm; Thurs. 10 am - 3 pm (Storytime from 10:30 am to 11:30 am)

SHELL LAKE: Wapiti Regional Library - Tues. 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm; Wed. 1 pm - 4 pm.

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

CANWOOD: Canwood Branch of Wapiti Regional Library. Regular Library Hours - Tues. 10 am - 3 pm, Thurs. 10:00 am - 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 10:30 am - 5 pm; Friday 10:30 am - 5 pm; Saturday 1 pm - 5 pm.

MARCELIN: Wapiti Library is open Tues. 2 pm - 7 pm; Thur. 2 pm - 8 pm; Sat. 9 am - 2 pm. For information on all your library needs, please contact 306-226-2110.

SHELLBROOK: Shellbrook Branch of the Wapiti Library located at 105 Railway Ave., West (Provincial building). Library Hours: Mon. 2 - 6:30 pm; Tues. 12 - 8 pm; Wed. 2 - 8 pm; Thur. 12 - 6:30 pm; Fri. 9 - 4 pm. Children's Story Time: Fri. 10:30 am (Sept - June).

SHELLBROOK: Shellbrook Theatre Movie Night has been cancelled until further notice.

SHELLBROOK & AREA: Shellbrook & Area Food Bank is looking for the following items: canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned meats, coffee, toilet paper, cereal & peanut butter. Contact David Bodvarson at 306-747-7235 or bodvarson@sasktel.net or Linda Lundy at 306-960-6879.

TRIPLE YOUR ADVERTISING

We'll advertise your important community event in our Community Calendar

FREE for two weeks prior to the event with purchase of a

2 column x 2" Display ad for only:

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NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

Notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll for the Rural Municipality of Spiritwood No. 496 for the year 2020 has been prepared and is open for inspection (by appointment only) at the Office of the Administrator from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 31st, 2020 to Thursday, April 30th, 2020 excluding statutory holidays.

A bylaw pursuant to section 214 of *The Municipalities Act* has been passed and the assessment notices have been sent as required.

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file his or her Notice of Appeal with: **The Assessor, RM of Spiritwood No. 496, Box 340, Spiritwood, SK, S0J 2M0 by the 30th day of April, 2020.** An appeal fee of \$75.00 per property must accompany the appeal.

For questions regarding your assessment please contact the municipal office at 306-883-2034.

Dated at Spiritwood, Saskatchewan, this 31st day of March, 2020.

Colette Bussiere, Assessor

Canwood Library news highlights



Lorean Nichol brought show and tell items to a recent Crafter's Choice session. Crystal Carey was giving away yarn, so Lorean made a knitted toque and crocheted neck scarf. Lorean started sewing and brought a place mat she'd made for her first project. Crystal shared her toque with a friend as she doesn't wear toques.



Bria Benson showed great dedication during a recent hanger braiding session at the Canwood Library's Kid's Club. She's pictured here with Ailyn Amistad.



Shaving cream and colourful dyes can create beautiful designs on art paper. Sarah Johnson (right) provided instruction during this Kid's Club activity.



Swedish weaving created by Hilda Gaboury.

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"Bear Lac"
FUNERAL HOME

Knowing that funeral rituals are unique and important events, we are here to assist you and your family. To celebrate the life of your loved one, privately, using technology or to postpone services and mark their passing at a later date.

Feel free to contact us at any time if you have any questions or concerns.
Be well, be safe, and be vigilant.

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

SPIRITWOOD 306-883-3500	PRINCE ALBERT 306-763-3322	SHELLBROOK 306-747-2828	BIG RIVER 306-469-2277	DEBDEN 306-724-4474	LEASK 306-466-4822	CANWOOD 306-468-2244
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OBITUARY

Diane Jantz



JANTZ, Diane

Diane Beverley Jantz (Dafoe) left us peacefully on March 6, 2020 surrounded by her family, after an extended illness. Diane was born 76 years ago in Canwood, SK. Diane was born 76 years ago in Canwood, SK. Remaining to miss her are: her loving husband of 57 years Stan; her son Carey; daughter Kim Peterson; grandson Lukas Peterson and his partner Bryanne Labbe; her sister Joanne Clausen, bother-in-law Ove Clausen and nephew Guy; her brother Dan Dafoe, sister-in-law Kathy and nephews Nathan and Adam; her brother Brad Dafoe and wife Deb; her sister-in-law Nel MacIntyre, brother-in-law John and nephews Vince and Darrell; her sister-in-law Hazel Fraser, brother-in-law Peter, nieces Laura and Heather, nephew Robert; her nephews Vince, Lyle, Russell, and Murray Goodkey and their families. And an extended, loving family and friends (especially Pauline Cadieu and Betty Tanaka).

Predeceased by her parents, whom she loved so much, Calvin Bernell Dafoe and Agnes Viola Dafoe; parents-in-law Agnes and Henry Jantz; Ruth and George Goodkey; her grandparents, special aunts, uncles and cousins; and her close friend Sharon Biggar (Warren).

Diane chose cremation and, per her request, no formal service will be held. Her family and friends will gather for a reflection of our love and lives with her, in

summer 2020 in Saskatchewan. We are comforted knowing that she is now resting in peace, is in the loving care of her family gone before her, and God. We know that she is watching over us for the rest of our lives.

Stan (Husband): When it was just the two of us, I always called her "Babe". She was dedicated to her family - she was a great wife, mother and grandmother. Rest well. I love you, and will miss you.

Carey (Son): "In the name of *common* sense." Berry picking. Painting the new house with Aunt Jo Jo. Mad walks to Woolco. Coloured hankies in the breast pocket. Always singing. Christmas eve. The BEST cooking and baking. Bedtime stories. "It's quiet time now." I love you, Mommy.

Kim (Daughter): My Mommy had the best sense of humour, she instilled her sense of humour into Lukas from the moment he was born. Teaching him to laugh hard and to spit. After I had my baby Lukas, I understood the depth of the love my Mommy had for Carey and I. She was the best Gma ever, loving my son, infinity and beyond, she called him the "King". In the last months she fought hard to stay with us, saying I'm so snooty I want to see what you are all doing, she said I just want to be a fly on the wall. She told us before she left us, "I will be a fly on the wall so don't swat any flies". She didn't want to leave "Daddy" alone. I will miss her so

much, she called me Kim Doll and loved one. She loved us all with such intense love. She loved her music and had a song for us all. The song that is running through my mind constantly, "I can tell by your eyes you've been crying forever, I don't want to talk about it, how you broke my heart, if I stay here just a little bit longer, won't you listen to my heart"... by Rod Stewart & Amy Belle. Mommy you have broken my heart. Your passing was "a walking contradiction": so happy for you to be at peace, so sad for us. We love you forever Mommy. Bye for now. Love Kim Doll, Norton and Isla.

Luke (Grandson): My Grandma was not just my Grandma: she was my hero and someone I have and will always cherish in my heart. Now I have to be honest, if you ever heard us making the sound "CAW" (which in our heads resembled a crow) it was most likely because you were playing cards and made the mistake of letting us be on a team. That was our version of table talk, and I do apologize, but we were, most likely, cheating and winning. This did not teach me to cheat in order to win at all, we did it because that was as much fun as playing the game of cards.

Grandma taught me how to skate along with many other things. My Grandma always pushed me to try things I had never heard of. Whenever Mom and I would go over to Grandma and Pa's house I was always greeted with hugs at the start, followed by Grandma telling me she had something new for me to try. We would both laugh uncontrollably until I either figured her new idea out, or we both agreed that it may get us in trouble from Mom and Pa.

We shared a passion for sports; growing up, she cheered me on at whatever sport I was playing, but her favou-

rite to watch was hockey. She wanted me to play like Sydney Crosby but, sadly, I wasn't blessed with the same goal scoring ability. So as Mom was turning to look away while there was a scrum, Grandma would be cheering me on as hard as she could.

I could go on and on about my Grandma, she will always live in my heart. I cannot help but wonder what she will have ready for me to try when I get to see her again. I love you with all my heart and soul Gma and miss you more than you will ever know.

Bryanne (our girlie girl): Grandma Jantz not only welcomed me into her home, she welcomed me into her heart and made me a part of her family. I will be eternally grateful for the love she gave me; all the card games played with her and Pa; our trip to Saskatchewan; going for car rides, and just being able to share my life with hers. Grandma's beauty lives on through the most amazing family that she created and I am blessed with in my life. Because of Grandma I always left their house full of love, laughter, stories, wisdom, food and butter. May she continue to guide me through my future, share in my successes, and support me in my failures. I love you Diane (Gma) Jantz.

Aunty Joanne (Aunty Jo Jo), Ove (Ovid), and Guy (Gus): Jo and Diane were together constantly growing up, and had the same friends. Diane's friend, Pauline, remembers all the times they would laugh together and go out at Halloween.

Jo and Diane had a playhouse made out of an apple box. They also had a 10 lb honey pail. They were about 4 - 5 years old. They loved to pretend they were baking cakes with mud etc. Viola (mother) had some laying hens, and she sold the eggs to make extra money. For about 3 - 4 days, the hens were not laying eggs and Vi-

ola could not figure out why . . . until she found the honey pail filled with eggs. The girls had been collecting them and using them to bake their "cakes". She took it quite well and told the not to do that anymore.

The girls loved to go on trips to Waskesiu. They had such good times taking the kids to ride on horses and look for bears.

There was a big leg-horn rooster. He was mean and acted like king of the castle. One day he took after Diane, knocked her down and started pecking at her. Viola caught the rooster and dumped him in and out of the water trough, and twisted his neck. When she let him go, he walked like a drunk. Jo thinks he was supper a few days later.

Diane loved animals and had a pig called Hungry, a calf called Pride, and a dog named Toby. Toby loved Diane and, if Joanne pushed Diane, he would bite Joanne in the butt.

Ove remembers the time Diane picked cranberries and baked a pie for him and Stan. Unfortunately, she forgot to add the sugar. When Ove took a bite, he wasn't expecting it to taste so sour and was so surprised because Diane always made the best pies.

There was the time when Stan and Diane came for a visit and they all sat outside drinking coffee (or beer). Ove had set up a hammock for Guy, but he was very leery about using it. Diane decided to give it a try. She insisted that she wanted to get into it, and after a few attempts she did. Unfortunately, it started swinging and it tipped over and she fell out. She hurt her back, but didn't want to say anything. Eventually, she admitted she was hurting and asked Stan to take her home.

Diane loved country music and her favourite singer was Webb Pierce. When they were

younger, she and Diane would go to barn dances together.

Uncle Dan & Aunt Kathy: Picking blueberries and cranberries near Shellbrook, and keeping an eye out for the bears. The beautiful garden on the acreage with all of the lilies.

Dan remembers a time in the 60's in downtown Canwood when some bullies stole his hat. When Diane heard about it, she tracked them down and made them give it back! Always the "mighty mite".

Diane would sing the line, "Daniel my brother" by Elton John when she walked by every now and then when we visited.

Kathy was referred to as the "sister who married my brother"©.

We both remember her good cooking, hospitality and great love for us all.

Aunty Nell: When my Daddy brought our Mommy home to meet his family, my Aunty Nell shared that she hoped Mommy would be "the one". One of her greatest goals was to live up to Grandma Jantz as a Grandma and, with Lukas, she absolutely did.

Donna Dodge (other child): Diane, thank you for being my best friend's mom ♥. I have so many memories of our time spent together to cherish. You loved me and my children like family, and for that I have been forever blessed. I LOVE YOU FOREVER AND ALWAYS!!!

Nathalie Rockefeller (part of the family): Diane, you were a light that was always shining. I'm going to miss sharing a glass of wine and laughter with you. Rest in peace.

Messages of condolence may be left for the family at www.myalternatives.ca.

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Stanley Cup playoffs: why not a one-and-done?

It's the last week of March and fans of the National Hockey League are going stir crazy while the coronavirus rages on, with seemingly no end in sight. The reality? There could be no Stanley Cup playoffs this year. And really, with what's going on in the world, who really cares? On a 0-to-100 priority list of things we need, a Stanley Cup playoff is a solid zero.

Still, with no sports going on to satisfy the sports-hungry crowd, that crowd can't quit talking about sports, or listening to people talking about sports. The sportswriters have to keep writing about sports. The broadcasting panels occasionally get together with big bottles of liquid sanitizer and wipes to talk about sports. When will the playoffs start? Will there be a Stanley Cup winner in 2020? Was firing Don Cherry the right thing to do? What will the new Seattle team be called? Will there be a new Seattle team? Given the situation in Washington

State, will there still be a Seattle after all this COVID-19 stuff shakes down and fades away?

Presently, however, the NHL playoff situation seems to be attracting the most attention from the sports media and fans. A variety of proposals are being suggested, even the most dire one that starts with the letter 'C' and ends with 'ancellation'. One recent suggestion had the NHL playing no more regular season games if and when play resumes, but simply picking the top 24 teams, 12 from each conference, and holding some sort of a mini-playoff system — perhaps a one-and-done affair, like the NCAA basketball tournaments, or best-of-three series that will have the desired effect of crowning a champion before training camps are scheduled to open for the 2020-21 season.

Personally, I love the one-and-done suggestion. Top four teams in each conference get a bye; the other eight play to eliminate four. Endless overtime. No shootouts. No five-on-five.



BRUCE
PENTON

Once that first round is done, and eight teams are left, only seven games will be needed to decide a conference champ. Then, have the two conference champs play a two-game, total-goal series — one home game each — to determine the new home of the Stanley Cup.

Hey, we're in uncharted waters. There are no scripts that need following.

Twelve teams from each conference puts all but one Canadian team — sorry, Ottawa — into the post-season. It just might be Montreal's best chance to win their first Cup in 27 years. Toronto's first in 53 years? C'mon, get real, this is

the Leafs we're talking about.

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "At the NFL combine, 364-pound lineman Mekhi Becton ran a 5.10 in the 40-yard dash. When Tom Brady ran the 40 at the combine, he ran a 5.21 at 220-pounds. Becton ran faster with an entire Joe Buck in his belly."

• Alex Kaseberg again: "At Kobe Bryant's memorial, it was revealed Kobe once showed up for his daughter Gigi's school parents' day in full Laker uniform with his Olympic gold medal. How would you like to be the dad after that with the Geico-Insurance-Agent-of-the-Month plaque?"

• Dallas forward Kristaps Porzingis, to reporters, when asked if the recent Mavs-Pelicans game felt like a playoff atmosphere: "I mean, I wish I had that

experience to tell you."

• Chris Long, on Twitter: "(Tom) Brady just left Boston on St. Paddy's day and I believe that's a hate crime."

• Golfer Shane Lowry, on the 2020 Open Championship (from golf.com): "I guess if they do call off the Open, I will get to be Open champion for two years and I will have to go celebrating again."

• Headline in the New York Post: "San Juan catches a break, MLB cancels the Mets-Marlins series scheduled for April."

• Headline from The Hill: "Major League Baseball officially postpones start of 2020 season. Orioles rejoice they're officially still tied for first."

• At Faux John Madden on Facebook: "Breaking: Dak Prescott's latest contract demands to include month supply of

toilet paper."

• From @GaBoy_Shockley on Twitter: "Day 6 no sports. Watching birds fight over worms. Cardinals lead the Blue Jays 3-1."

• Norman Chad of the Washington Post, on Twitter: "My favourite First-Day-That-Tom-Brady-Is-Not-a-Patriot Stat: He could lose his next 283 starts and still have a better career record than the Tampa Bay Buccaneers franchise."

• Comedy writer Brad Dickson: "The XFL has cancelled the rest of its season. Great, the one place where you have groups of 10 or less watching and we can't go anymore."

• Dickson again: "Right now my thoughts are with the elderly. But enough about Tom Brady leaving New England."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

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What happens when you don't advertise?

Very little.

Starting seeds indoors: what you'll need

By Sara Williams

These uncertain times, through which many of us are "self-isolating", is an excellent opportunity to start some seeds. Watching them germinate, grow and produce their first "true leaves" is the height of horticultural therapy. You may not end up saving money, but you will derive a great deal of satisfaction from raising your own plants. And it's not too late to start.

Containers: Plastic seeding trays are light weight and easy to clean and carry. The type you select will depend on how many types of plants you wish to seed. Cell packs are portioned into individual cells or compartments which fit into a plastic drip tray. Seedlings and media are easily removed at transplanting time. Twenty-row starting trays have a ridge between seeding gutters. Because they are shallow, they dry out more quickly.

Separate plastic drip trays catch excess water. Care should be taken that they not be permanently full of water or the soil will become waterlogged and the seedlings will be deprived of oxygen.

Raised domed clear plastic lids allow light through while retaining humidity. After germination, prop up the lids to allow better air circulation.

Light: Use a combination of incandescent bulbs, which emit red light as well as heat, and fluorescent tubes, which come close to duplicating the colour spectrum of sunlight. Cool white and warm white fluorescent tubes, used together, produce the best light for plant growth. These should be attached to a ceiling or a stand with chain and s-hooks to allow you to raise them to keep them above the plants as they grow. Begin with the lights about 12 inches above the seedlings and adjust them as the plants gain height.

Most seedlings require 14-16 hours of light.

Media: Use a commercial soil-less potting mixture for sowing seeds and a soil mixture for transplanting. Soil-less mixtures are lightweight, uniform and sterile, but with few (if any) nutrients. They're composed of combinations of peat moss, vermiculite and



Seedlings which have germinated but have not yet developed their true leaves. Photo credit: Pink Sherbet Photography - Creative Commons 2.0

perlite. Use warm water (which is more readily absorbed than cold water) to dampen the media several hours prior to seeding. Do not use garden soil as it tends to pack and crust and may contain weed seeds and fungal organisms which result in damping off.

Begin fertilizing the seedlings after they have germinated and starting to develop true leaves. Use a soluble, complete fertilizer with trace elements (called micro-nutrients) such as 20-20-20. Start with half the recommended rate on small seedlings. Once the seedlings have developed a few true leaves, you can use the full fertilizer rate. Fertilize once a week when watering. Apply to moist rather than dry soil. Faster growing annual flowers and vegetables require more fertilizer than slower growing perennials. It is always better to under-fertilize than to over-fertilize.

Air circulation: Good air circulation is critical. Sow seeds thinly enough so that they will not be overcrowded. Use a small fan set at a distance to increase air circulation. This will help reduce disease development.

Heat: Most seeds require a fairly warm soil temperature to germinate, between 21 and 32°C, but there is a lot of variation among species. Lights usually produce enough heat to maintain a temperature of at least 21°C which is sufficient for most plant growth. Temperatures toward the outside of the lighted area will be lower. A soil thermometer is

a good investment. If the room in which the seedlings are grown is cool, and the plants you are growing require a high germination temperature, bottom heat is advisable. Heating mats vary in size and price but are well worth the investment if you're planning to start seeds for several years.

After germination, seedlings grow better at cooler temperatures, usually about 12°C cooler than their germination temperature.

Labels: These can be metal, wood or plastic. Use a waterproof and UV-stable permanent felt marker (aka a landscape marker); include the date as well as the variety.

Next week: Sowing: Different regimes for different seeds

Sara Williams is the author or coauthor of numerous books including *Creating the Prairie Xeriscape*, *Growing Fruit in Northern Gardens*, *Gardening Naturally* and *Best Trees and Shrubs for the Prairies*. Retired as the Horticultural Specialist, Extension Division, University of Saskatchewan, she continues to give workshops throughout the Canadian prairies.

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).

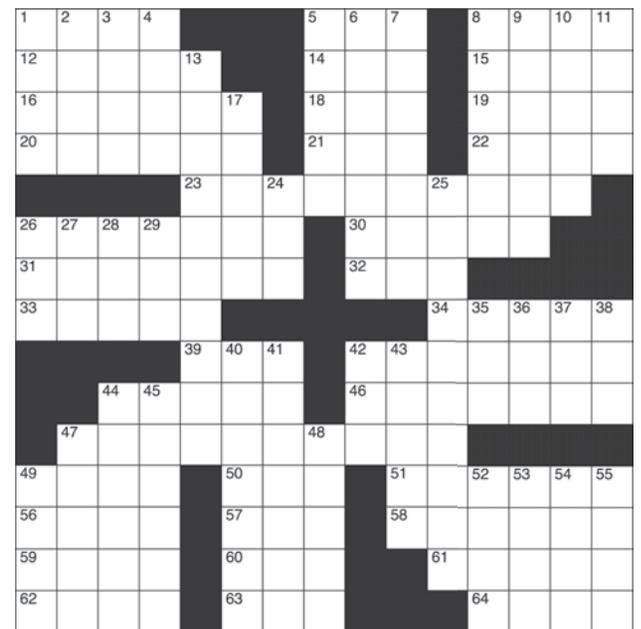
CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Bond villain Mikkelsen
5. A team's best pitcher
8. French river
12. Mountain nymph (Greek)
14. City of Angels airport
15. Military force
16. Scrawny
18. Value
19. One billionth of a second (abbr.)
20. Highly seasoned sausage
21. Trouble
22. Prong
23. Showing varying colors
26. Cloaked
30. Renters sign one
31. Acquires
32. Type of language (abbr.)
33. Partner to pains
34. Third portion of the small intestine
39. Excessively theatrical actor
42. Infraction
44. Classical music for the stage
46. Slogged
47. One who terminates
49. Breakfast is an important one

CLUES DOWN

1. Female parents
2. Region
3. Transaction
4. Heroic tale
5. Of algae
6. Luminous intensity unit
7. Uncovers
8. French commune name
9. Poisonous gas
10. Pearl Jam's bassist
11. Horse groom in India
13. Destroyed
17. A way to alter
24. Promotional materials
25. American state



50. Moved earth
51. Medical procedures
56. Genus of clams
57. Not well
58. Comparative figure of speech
59. Covered thinly with gold

60. Principle underlying the universe
61. A parent's sisters
62. Professional engineering group
63. Coniferous tree
64. Impudence

26. Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand
27. "Modern Family" network
28. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series
29. Exercise system ___-bo
35. Type of bulb
36. Opposite of beginning
37. Utilize
38. Type of student
40. Deficiency of moisture
41. Areas of the eye
42. Select
43. Sheets of floating ice
44. Priests who act as

- mediums
45. Roof of the mouth
47. Unnatural
48. Illuminated
49. There are three famous ones
52. Large, fast Australian birds
53. "Dracula" heroine Harker
54. Substitutes (abbr.)
55. Tax

Answers on page 14

GOOD NEWS

TRUST IN GOD, HE'LL BE THERE IN A FLASH

We have three boys close in age.

When the boys were about 10, 8 and 6, I remember we would watch a new series called *The Flash* together. I always liked one particular show when Barry (who is actually the Flash) is sitting with his nephew Shawn on the step outside the house.

Shawn had recently lost his dad. Barry is trying to console his nephew by showing him the silver medal his dad and the relay team had won. He explained to the little guy his dad would have won the gold if the race had been ten yards longer.

Barry says of his brother Jay that he didn't get beaten, he just ran out of track.

Shawn is explaining how he misses his dad. Barry says to his nephew that he certainly misses him too.

This is the line I always liked, he says to his nephew "Shawn anytime you need me, I will be there for you. I couldn't run like your dad but I be there in a flash."

I would say to our boys I can't run as fast as Olympic runner, but if you ever need me I will be there in a flash.

I get it that God is omnipotent (all powerful),

omniscient (all knowing), and omnipresent (all present). Great theological words to describe God. But what touches my heart is when I am reminded that He is our Father, and, more so, He is Abba Father. Abba, meaning Daddy.

Trust in these unsettling times that you will find Jesus to be your Saviour, friend, someone you can lean on. Maybe you can console someone who needs it with the thought you can't do what Our Heavenly Father can do, but, if you need Him, He will be there in flash.

Blessings,
D. Bodvarson, SPA

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Thank-you for your understanding
during this difficult time that we are
all experiencing. Take care.

Clark Pepper
Publisher

