

Shellbrook Chronicle

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Silvertips ride win streak into new year



Two Silvertips forwards try to pounce on a loose puck in front of the Cudworth goal, in action from the teams' first meeting of the season. While that game ended in a 13-1 Tips victory, game two, played last weekend, saw Shellbrook fight for a 9-6 road win.

It's been a near perfect season thus far for the Shellbrook Silvertips, who suffered only one defeat through the first half of the 2019-2020 regular season campaign.

With victories in their last game of 2019 and their first game of 2020, all signs point to their hot streak continuing into the fast approaching postseason.

Tips (5) vs Wildcats (2)

Ending the 2019 leg of their first season in the Twin Rivers Hockey League on home ice, the Shellbrook Silvertips welcomed the Warman Wildcats to the Shellbrook Recreation Complex on Saturday, Dec. 21.

It was the first meeting of the season for these two teams (the second will happen in Warman later this month). But after a feeling out process in much of the first period, the Silvertips were the first to strike pay dirt.

Parker Turner netted the game-opener for the Tips late in the opening frame, with Jody Blais providing the lone assist on the play.

Mirroring the first period, the second frame saw only one goal scored. This one came courtesy of Warman's Brett Weiman, who was assisted on the marker by Brayden Anderson and Harris Cameron.

Following two periods of gritty back-and-forth action, the Tips finally found their edge, and the back of the net, with greater frequency in the third period.

Opening the scoring salvo for the Tips around the halfway point of the third was Wyatt Hinson, who received help from Parker Turner and Mitch Wourms.

Later in the period, the Tips would tack on three goals in just over two minutes to ensure their victory.

Jayden Skauge struck first, on assists from Brendon Beaulac and Braidon Turner, and Jody Blais followed up with an unassisted marker.

Closing out the scoresheet, Devin Dicus netted a late one with assists from Nick Martin and Brendon Canada.

Salvaging some late pride in the dying second of the game, Warman struck one last time to push the score to 5-2. Tylin Cameron netted the goal, with helpers from Michael Howse and Cameron.

The victory pushed the Tips to 10-1 on the season, and further secured the team's hold on first place in the standings. For scoring his first goal of the season, Jayden Skauge earned "Tip of the Game" honours.

Continued on page 3

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Volunteers to be fêted at Hockey Day in Shellbrook

With the penultimate Hockey Day in Shellbrook weekend just around the corner, all the Is and Ts are being dotted and crossed, respectively, to ensure that everything goes according to plan.

Among the details being shored up are the plans to hold a volunteer appreciation event on Friday evening, from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Serving as an opportunity for the Hockey Day in Shellbrook Committee to say thanks to the community, the come-and-go event will allow folks to munch on snacks, receive an update on the rink renovation project, tour the behind-the-scenes areas of the rink, and listen to the musical stylings of Debden's Layton Ferster.

Hockey Day Committee

member Stephanie Gosselin is quick to emphasize that the event is open to anyone and everyone — no invitations needed.

"It's been such an amazing response from the community right from day one. The project has gone so well so far, and we really couldn't have done it without the help of donors, sponsors, and volunteers," Gosselin said.

Gosselin adds that, with this being Hockey Day's fifth year, a casual volunteer appreciation event was a perfect way for the Hockey Day Committee to give a little something back and say thank you to the community and region that has supported.

Noting that events of Hockey Day's magnitude tend to peter out after just

a few years, Gosselin says that the community's continued support has helped keep Hockey Day successful (to the tune of \$400,000 over the past four years).

With phase two of the three-phase rink renovation project having been completed over the summer of 2019, she says the committee felt that now was the perfect time to let folks see what their support has accomplished.

"It's to showcase the amount of work that volunteers and people have put into the project," she said, giving special mention to the many who answered last-minute calls for volunteer work bees on Sunday evenings over the summer.

"This is a pretty amazing thing that a little

community has completed so far. And a lot of those people really have no association with the rink. They're just good community people who came out when we needed help."

Emphasizing once again that the rink renovation project wouldn't be possible without the support to sponsors, donors, volunteers, and other supporters, Gosselin says that the volunteer appreciation event is also a perfect way to get folks into the rink while there's sure to be plenty of activity going on.

First and foremost, though, it's about telling the story of the rink, and the people who have helped that story be written.

"It's just so endless. We

wouldn't have the project this close to completion without volunteers."

Hockey Day in Shellbrook weekend runs Friday, Jan. 17 and Saturday, Jan. 18.

Friday's festivities will include a school and community skate (1 p.m. to 3 p.m.), the Tremblay Classic (starting at 4:30 p.m.), the annual group photo (6:30 p.m.) a Shellbrook Skating Club showcase (7 to 7:30 p.m.), and a Shellbrook Silvertips game (commencing at 8 p.m.).

Throughout the evening, the first annual Hockey Day in Shellbrook Street Hockey Tournament will be taking place just outside the rink (weather permitting). The tournament will wrap up starting on Saturday morning.

Keeping things busy at the rink, Saturday will start off with a community pancake breakfast (8 to 10:30 a.m.), and an I.P. Hockey Tournament (8 to 11 a.m.). The day will also feature the AA Midget Beardy's Blackhawks vs the Martensville Marauders (starting at 11:15 a.m.), and the AAA Midget Prince Albert Mintos in action against the Saskatoon Contacts (puck drop at 2 p.m.).

In keeping with tradition, the celebration will wrap up with the Hockey Day in Shellbrook Banquet at the Shellbrook Community Hall (commencing at 5:30 p.m.). Comedian Kelly Taylor has been tapped to MC the soirée, and retired NHLer Dennis Hull is this year's special guest.

Shellbrook Library news in the new year

New hours for Shellbrook Library

Library Lion is proud to announce that Shellbrook Public Library will be open an additional four hours a week in 2020. The board and staff at the library have been working hard to add extra hours to their already busy library schedule.

The new hours will be added onto Tuesday and Thursday with opening time changing to 12 p.m. This will allow patrons to come and visit the library during their lunch breaks.

December News

The Gingerbread House Building Contest was a big success again this year. We had nine teams (30 participants) of decorators, ranging in ages from 2 to 62. The patrons voted on their favourite and the winner was team 7, which consisted of Blythe and Lane Cobb, Nathan and Jacob Manly and Abbie Wood.

Afternoon Book Club met on Dec. 6 for a discussion on the novel Lark the Herald Angels Sing by Donna Andrews, a Christmas mystery about a missing baby in a manger.

Our next meeting is Friday, Jan. 17 at 2 p.m., and our book choice is The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides. Copies are available at the library. We would love for you to join us.

Evening Book Club had met for appetizers on Dec. 18 before settling in for their regular meeting.

Book favourites this month include: The Good Girl by Mary Kubica, The

Lady in the Lake by Laura Lippman, and The Stranger Diaries by Elly Griffiths.

January Programs

Our regular programming will be back on track in January.

Storytime begins Jan. 10 at 10:30.

Lego Club will meet Jan. 13 and 27 at 3:30pm and Makerspace on Jan. 9

and 23 at 3:30 p.m.

A big round of gratitude to all who supported our winter book sale, those who donated items and those who purchased. Donated items can be brought in anytime. We accept books, DVDs, CDs, magazines, puzzles and games.

Contact us for details or questions 306-747-3419.



Winners of the Gingerbread House decorating Contest, in no order: Blythe and Lane Cobb, Nathan and Jacob Manly and Abbie Wood.

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AGM @ Rink

January 21, 2020 ~ 7:00 PM

Opinions & Support Needed

Thank You

The family of the late Vivian M.W. Stieb would like to extend their heartfelt thanks for all the love and support shown to us during mum's last days, prior to and after the funeral. Your prayers, flowers, cards, phone calls and acts of kindness were certainly appreciated. You have made an unbearable time in our lives just a little more bearable.

Thank you to the medical staff at Shellbrook Hospital, St. Paul's Hospital (especially the Palliative Care Unit) and the Paramedics/EMT's who attended and treated Mum with such compassion & dignity. To the Beau Lac Funeral Home and staff who were also very caring and loving during our difficult time. To St. Henry's Church, Dave Hjertaas along with many others who helped with the service and made it truly memorable.

Thank you for all the donations made in lieu of flowers, they will be given in memory of Vivian to the Shellbrook Health Services Foundation. Thank you to our communities as well, you are a great comfort to us as we spend our first Christmas without Mum.

Vivan (Mum) will be missed forever but we know that she will live in the hearts of all who shared her life.



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Olsen promoted to PA recreation manager

For some folks in Shellbrook, Curtis Olsen may be most recognizable in his Shellbrook Elks uniform. But for the past decade he's also worked as the recreation director for the city of Prince Albert.

That all changed Monday morning, with the announcement that Olsen has been promoted to the position of recreation manager for the city.

In this new role, Olsen will oversee all of the city's sports fields, arenas, aquatics facilities, and fitness and recreation programming.

For his part, Olsen says he's excited for the

opportunity.

"The best part is still working with the people I [see] each day and being able to continue to build those relationships," he said in a media release. "With new rinks and an aquatic centre on the horizon, it is an exciting time for our department and I look forward to being a part of it."

Olsen will report directly to director of community services Jody Boulet.

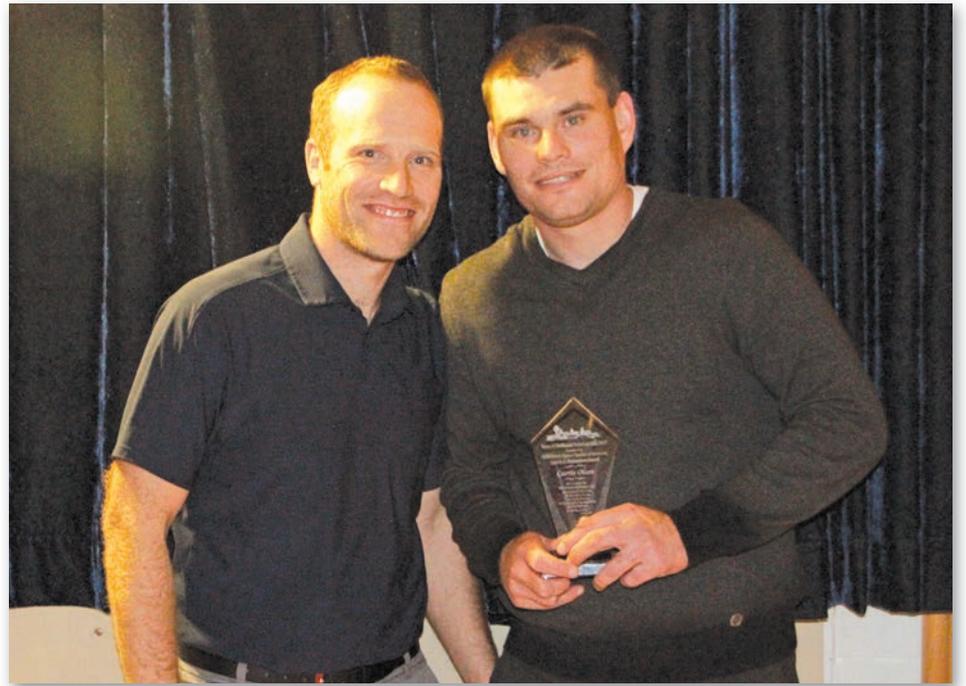
"This is a great opportunity for Curtis and reflects the solid work he has done as recreation coordinator for the past 10 years," Boulet said,

adding Olsen's deep personal involvement with sport in P.A. is one of his strongest assets.

Of course, Olsen's deep personal involvement in sport doesn't just manifest itself in the city.

Locally, Olsen has been heavily involved with the Shellbrook Minor Sports Association as a ball and hockey coach, and also as the organization's president.

Olsen's contributions to sport in the community were recognized in 2017, when he was honoured with the Sports and Recreation Award at Shellbrook's Volunteer Appreciation Gala.



Curtis Olsen (right) accepts the 2017 Sports and Recreation award from Mason Wallin at Shellbrook's third Volunteer Appreciation Gala.

Silvertips ride win streak into new year

Continued from 1

Tips (9) @ Maroons (6)

Following a two-week break for the holiday season, the Silvertips returned to action for the new year with a road trip to Cudworth and a showdown against the Tricky Maroons.

Once again, the Tips proved that they were the one with all the tricks as they fought their way to a hard-earned 9-6 victory to climb to 11-1 on the season.

Nathaniel Martin started the scoring early for the Tips, netting the game opener with assists from Brett Robillard and Devin Dicus. Jody Blais followed up moments later to give the Tips a solid headstart, drawing a helper from Wyatt Hinson on the play.

Not interested in suffering another 13-1 defeat, Cudworth struck back just seconds later, with Tristan Hackl

scoring on assists from David Anaka and Dawson Bender.

After nearly a period of back-and-forth action, the period would end with the score sitting at 2-1.

Coming out hot in the second period, the Silvertips racked up three goals over the course of three minutes (including two scored 14 seconds apart) to jump ahead 5-1.

Blais started the scoring on an assist from Dorin Canaday, then Wyatt Hinson struck on assists from Blais and Brendon Canaday. Finally, Blais earned himself an early hat trick, scoring with helpers from Matthew Kutnikoff and Brendon Beaulac.

Repeating the first period, the Tricky Maroons would get on the board to close out the frame. This time, Dawson Bender scored on an assist from Jared Becker.

In a goal and penalty filled third

frame, the Tips opened the scoring early with a goal from Jayden Skauge on an assist from Brett Mason.

Leveraging a Shellbrook penalty, Cudworth would try to get back into the game. Jeremy Junk earned himself a power play marker, thanks to helpers from Carter Yuzdepski and Anaka.

Despite their penalty troubles, the Tips would manage to respond with two back-to-back goals, both scored by Brett Robillard. Jody Blais provided the lone assist on the first goal, while Braidon Turner and Cody Belair earned helpers on the second.

With a near unbeatable 8-3 lead, the Silvertips would take a string of seemingly unending penalties. This extended sojourn in the sin bin allowed the Tricky Maroons to net three consecutive power play markers.

Cody Thiel scored the first two goals, getting assists from Dawson Bender on the first and Tristan Hackl on the second. Rounding out the trio of goals, Hackl would find the back of the net on assists from Thiel and Bender.

With their lead cut in half, the Tips would manage to score one final goal; an unassisted empty netter from Jody Blais.

For his four goals and two assists, Jody Blais earned himself "Tip of the Game" honours.

Following the win, the Silvertips sit at 11-1 and have a two-point hold on first place in the Twin Rivers Hockey League standings.

This weekend will see the team in action on the road again, when they travel to Dalmeny to face off against the Sabres on Sunday, Jan. 12

Puck drop for the game is 1:45 p.m.



Junior Citizen of the Year Scholarship

For over the past four decades The Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association, in partnership with SaskPower and with the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, have recognized the youth of Saskatchewan through the Junior Citizen of the Year Award.

These prestigious awards are given to youth who:

- Have a positive lifestyle
- Have had the ability to overcome life's challenges
- Have a strong sense of caring and responsibility
- Are dedicated to community and school
- Inspire others
- Are between the ages of 8 to 18



This year four deserving youth will receive \$3000 bursaries to use towards their post-secondary education.

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Nominations close March 31, 2020



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Shellbrook Chronicle

New decade demands new suicide prevention strategy

We're a little over a week into a new year and decade, and so far — knock on wood — everything seems to be going relatively smoothly (though, U.S. President Donald Trump seems to be trying his best to usher in the beginning of World War Three).

Perhaps it's just the post-holiday lull or the lingering food comas, but we've yet to catch a glimpse any portentous omens that the 2020s will bring about a continuation of the worst parts of the 2010s.

By that same token, however, there have also been no signs to suggest that there is nothing but good things on the horizon for this year, or for the next 10 years.

Maybe, then, it's a case of no news being good news.

At the very least, we can hope for this to be true.

At the very most, we can put in the work in our communities, and in the province, to ensure that none of our collective worst fears for what this decade will hold come to pass.

In Saskatchewan, this means that we need to get serious about mental health and suicide prevention, and also tackle the addictions crisis that is destroying



JORDAN
TWISS

~
News Editor

lives across our province.

We've talked a great deal about both of these issues for years now, and thrown piles of money at both of them in the misguided belief that this would be enough.

Funding helps, of course, for nothing in this world can be accomplished without money.

But more can always be done, and a new decade demands that we begin considering new approaches to helping Saskatchewan's most vulnerable.

In its 2019-2020 budget, the Saskatchewan government funnelled \$402 million towards dealing with mental health and addictions in the province — an uptick of \$30 million over the prior year's budget.

It was a record-setting commitment for the government, and a laud-

able move considering the belt-tightening that was done elsewhere within the budget. But data released by the Saskatchewan Coroners Service just prior to the new year shows it was also a necessary investment.

Though numbers are considered preliminary until all investigation is completed, the Coroners Service's 2018 figures on suicide show that (at least) 228 people ended their own lives in 2018.

This, despite all the work we've done on mental health awareness, is a record high for the province, and an increase of 44 suicides over 2017. It also puts Saskatchewan well above the national per capita suicide rate of 10.3 suicides per 100,000 people (Saskatchewan's per capita suicide rate is nearly double, at 19.3 suicides per 100,000 people).

But actual suicides only tell half the story when it comes to people's struggles with mental health. Providing a more complete picture of the numbers, Statistics Canada reports that there are, on average, 20 attempted suicides for every successful attempt.

So why's this happening, when we've done so



much work to eliminate the stigma surrounding mental illness?

Jack Hicks, an adjunct professor at the U of S's College of Medicine who has been researching suicide prevention since 2003, says the problem stems from conflating increased mental health awareness with an actual strategy to prevent suicides.

"We saw it perfectly with the Saskatchewan government, that when somebody talks about suicide prevention, they say, 'Oh, but last year we spent X million dollars on mental health,'" he said.

For its part, the Saskatchewan NDP tried to convince the Sask. Party government to develop a province-wide suicide prevention strategy in November, with the introduction of a private

members bill. Instead of supporting the bill, the government said it would take a wait and see approach and made no solid commitment to developing a strategy.

Conceding that a cohesive province-wide suicide prevention strategy wouldn't eliminate suicide altogether, Hicks says that it could at least bring numbers more in line with the national average.

He also suggests that a good strategy would include deeper research to allow funding to be better targeted at the areas and communities that need it most, improved suicide intervention training, and the implementation of a follow-up program for those who have been checked into hospital due to suicidal thoughts or following suicide at-

tempts.

Another suggestion, offered by Donna Bowers, provincial director of education and training for the Canadian Mental Health Association, would be to provide mandatory training for emergency room staff.

"You wouldn't put somebody in an emergency room to look after somebody having a heart attack if they don't have training to know what to do with it," she said. "Yet we do that with suicide."

Both Hill and Bowers offer ideas that the Sask. Party government would do well to heed in forming a provincial suicide strategy.

This is a new decade, after all. And it's time to leave old thinking and ineffective policies in the past.

New Year delivers bracket creep to Sask. for the third year in a row

By Todd MacKay
CTF Prairie Director

Bracket creep is sneaking into Saskatchewan again this year as the province's tax brackets are no longer adjusted for inflation which bumps many taxpayers into higher tax brackets even though they aren't actually making more money.

"This bracket creep humbug is getting silly in Saskatchewan," said Todd MacKay, Prairie Director for the Canadian Taxpayers Federation. "The government claimed it would 'temporarily'

stop indexing tax brackets to inflation, but this is the third year in a row the province is hitting taxpayers with bracket creep.

"Taking care of your neighbour's dog for the weekend is temporary; putting an ice-fishing shack on the lake is temporary; but, using bracket creep to sneakily jack up income taxes by millions of dollars for three years in a row is not temporary."

Only a few weeks ago, the Saskatchewan government issued a release touting its "commitment" to protecting

taxpayers from bracket creep.

"Indexation helps keep taxes in Saskatchewan low by protecting Saskatchewan people from 'bracket creep,'" stated then finance minister Kevin Doherty in a release issued Dec. 29, 2016. The release went on to estimate indexation would save taxpayers \$9 million. "Our government is committed to keeping Saskatchewan's tax system fair and competitive, and yearly indexation is part of an array of measures aimed at accomplishing just that."

But that "commitment" ended with

the 2017-18 budget that "temporarily" suspended indexation.

According to the CTF's New Year's Tax Changes report released today, bracket creep will add about \$44 to the average family's tax bill this year.

The Saskatchewan government could easily afford to restore indexation to protect taxpayers from bracket creep by phasing out the labour-sponsored venture capital tax credit. It's a tax loophole that benefits only a few select investment funds. It's projected to dole out \$12 million in credits this year.

Report from the Legislature

Looking back on 2019, there have been a lot of highlights at the provincial level, including our government's tabling of a balanced budget.

Despite harmful federal policies and economic headwinds, we were able to strike the right balance with careful spending and priority investments. This fulfilled our three-year fiscal plan and set Saskatchewan on a path to balanced budgets in the years ahead.

Major infrastructure projects such as Saskatchewan Hospital North Battleford, Jim Pattison Children's Hospital and the Regina Bypass were opened this year.

Our government stood side by side with farmers and ranchers, energy



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workers and all those negatively impacted by a costly and ineffective carbon tax.

We built upon and strengthened interprovincial relations when Premiers from coast-to-coast met in Saskatoon for the Council of the Federation.

We advocated for Saskatchewan exports in Asian markets during a very successful 11-day trade mission to Japan and South Korea.

We made new commitments to develop Small Modular Reactors that rely heavily on Saskatchewan-mined uranium.

Together through partnerships with First Nations we worked toward building a more compassionate, respectful and understanding Saskatchewan.

Our government has also outlined steps Saskatchewan is taking to advance our economic future, and to assert provincial autonomy in areas such as taxation, immigration, trade and climate change policy.

The New Year is repre-



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sentative of renewal and optimism – maybe even more so now as we begin a new decade.

We need to ensure a strong economy that will support strong communities and families. That's the essence of Saskatchewan's Growth Plan for The Next De-

cade.

Growth supports quality of life and allows us to help and to protect the most vulnerable among us. Growth enables us to provide opportunity for young people so that they stay in Saskatchewan to build their careers and raise their families.

Saskatchewan's new Growth Plan is an ambitious plan to do just that by expanding our economy and creating jobs and opportunity in communities and across our province.

Our plan for the next decade has two overarching goals: to grow the province's population to 1.4 million people and create 100,000 more jobs.

The sectors that have driven our economy for

the last decade – energy and mining, agriculture, manufacturing and forestry – will continue to drive our economy. These traditional industries will benefit as new, emerging industries like the tech sector, ag biotech and value-added processing, are all poised for significant growth.

Together we can build a growing, prosperous, confident and optimistic Saskatchewan for our children and their children.

As your representative, we will continue working as part of our provincial government to strengthen our economy, communities and families.

Best wishes for good health, happiness and prosperity in the New Year!

YOUR TWO CENTS

A David versus Goliath battle

Dear editor,

First of all, I would like to thank the Chronicle for allowing me this space to rant a little. Also, thank you Jordan for the excellent article you printed in the Dec. 12/19 paper concerning our corral and fence vandalism.

On behalf of my family, I would also like to express our sincere gratitude to all who are supporting us in this David and Goliath story. Much appreciated. If you are familiar with the Bible at all, you will recall who the winner is at the end (Bible ref.: 1 Sam. Ch. 17). Well, I am David and Goliath could be anyone that is against us, such as the snowmobile gangsters, the R.M., and a very few of the public.

The comments on Facebook have been about 99 per cent on our side. Any phone conversation has been 100 per cent in our favour, because those against us don't have the guts to speak on the phone but hide on

Facebook instead with maybe a false name and false information. Please get all your facts straight.

This has been a very stressful time for my entire family, and how do you put a dollar value on a person's health?

There are some days that I feel like giving up this fight, but then we might get an encouraging phone call, read a nice comment on Facebook, meet someone in person, or receive a personal donation on GoFundMe.

That tells us how they feel. This all gives us the strength to go on. Thanks once again!

As I stated to the R.M. Council on Dec. 20/19, we do not want all our neighbours with the same brush. We have some great neighbours and friends that have helped us in the past and continue to do so. It may have been swathing, combining, spraying, silage, disking, fencing, lending us a CAT, letting us bale straw

on their land, or helping set up temporary panels after this incident.

As the saying goes, a few bad apples can spoil the whole barrel (community).

So it appears that any irrational idea you may have can happen if you get your R.M. councillor behind you.

If anyone is interested in seeing this mess, just feel free to drive up here and have a look for yourself. There are no gates to stop you right now.

This is only chapter one of this story. To be continued.

Also, the Lakeland Snowmobile Club from Christopher Lake is NOT associated with these guys at all.

If you have any information related to this act of vandalism, please call the Prince Albert RCMP

Thanks again for your support.

David Viklund,
Shellbrook, Sask.

Shellbrook Chronicle

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

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Member of



Looking back on 2019, ahead to 2020

**By Gary Vidal, MP,
Desnethé-Mississippi-Churchill River**

The year 2019 included much change for our family. It began in December 2018 with the Conservative Party nomination and earning the right to represent the party in the 2019 federal election.

In the early part of the year, we expanded the team that helped us secure the nomination and started getting out and meeting many people in the riding.

My business partner and I were able to sell our accounting practice at the end of July. This was a very significant decision as it affected our staff and clients whom we appreciated greatly for so many years.

On a personal level, our son Mac married Hannah in June and together they moved to

New Zealand in September. Another highlight was becoming grand-parents for the first time with the birth of Nathaniel to our daughter Nicole and her husband Washington in October. There is nothing that compares with that experience.

The election campaign and election itself was obviously very significant. I continue to be somewhat overwhelmed, very humbled and extremely grateful to be chosen as the Member of Parliament for Desnethé-Mississippi-Churchill River on Oct. 21. The campaign was a fabulous opportunity to get to know many people. I will cherish that experience forever.

Lori and I continue to be grateful to many people who worked tirelessly on our behalf to provide the opportunity to serve in this

capacity. Also, I will be eternally grateful for the support that Lori has been to me in this whole journey.

I am also very fortunate to have built a great team of people, both here and in Ottawa, who are committed to working hard to represent the interests and take forward the concerns of all the people of northern Saskatchewan.

Being appointed the Shadow Cabinet Minister for Indigenous Services in November was a tremendous honour. It is a welcome opportunity to be part of an incredible team of people working on behalf of all Canadians in addition to those in northern Saskatchewan.

In 2020, we are going to work hard to earn the trust and confidence that has been

placed in us. I have surrounded myself with competent, credible and very capable people who are committed to working hard to serve. We know we have much to learn and are prepared for that challenge.

I am personally excited to continue building relationships with Indigenous communities across Canada as the Shadow Cabinet Minister and working to understand the challenges faced by these communities.

The selection of the new leader of our party on June 27, 2020 is also going to be very significant part of our journey in the first half of 2020 and I am looking forward to participating in that process.

It is an incredible honour to serve as a Member of Parliament. I will never take that privilege for granted.

Minutes of a Village of Canwood council meeting

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

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council for the Village of Canwood, held in the Village office on Monday, Oct. 21 2019, commencing at 9:29 a.m.

Present were Mayor – Robert Thompson, Deputy Mayor – Larry Freeman,

Councillors – Jeff Sipes, Lloyd Bather and Joe English, and Administrator – Erin Robertson.

Delegation, 10 a.m.: Mr. Hugh Otterson, Canwood and District Bus Association, re: Update on wheelchair accessible minivan and garage.

Freeman: That the minutes of the Sept. 16, 2019, Regular Meeting of Council be approved as presented. Carried

Sipes: That the Statement of Financial Activities and Bank Reconciliation for the month of September 2019 be approved as presented. Carried

Let the minutes note that Mayor Thompson left Council Chambers at 10:33 a.m. and returned at 10:35 a.m.

Bather: That we issue Cheques 4827 to 4856, Other payments totaling

\$38,482.20, as detailed on attached List of Accounts for Approval, Pay Period 16 and October payroll advance from the general account. Carried

English: That the water report for the month of September 2019 be approved as presented. Carried

Freeman: That we acknowledge receipt of Maintenance Manager calendar, Administrator and Office Staff Attendance Statement for September as presented. Carried

Thompson: That we move to in-camera at 10:53 a.m. and ask that the Administrator session remain in Council Chambers. Carried

Thompson: That we move out of in-camera at 10:56 a.m. Carried

Committee Updates:
• Highway 55 Waste Management Corporation verbal report provided by Robert Thompson and Larry Freeman

• SUMA Regional Meeting verbal report provided by Robert Thompson

Thompson: That Council agree to accept the addition to agenda and consider the verbal request to cover an expense as it relates to sewer repair made from resident Hugh Otterson. Carried

Sipes: That we agree to reimburse Mr. Hugh Otterson payment in the amount of \$348.54 for work completed by Roto-Rooter on resident's sewer line on Oct. 15, 2019, as blockage issue was with the sewer mainline that is managed by the Village. Carried

Let the minutes note that Councillor Sipes left Council Chambers at 12:40 p.m. and returned at 12:42 p.m.

Bather: That the correspondence be noted and filed:

• Community Initiatives Fund final report acceptance for Summer youth Program

• Government of Canada, Municipal Gas Tax Funding Agreement Amendment No. 1

• ATAP Swabbing of raw main site visit report

• RCMP Community Policing Report for July to September 2019

• SaskTel service rate increase of 10%

• Resident Compliant letter
• Request for erection of sign. Carried

Thompson: That we agree to modify the values of the Water Treatment Plant and Lift Station on our SUMAssure Statement of Values with an immediate effective date. Furthermore, we agree to the adjusted Statement of Values and Schedule of Contractor's Insurance Property as provided by SUMAssure with effective statement date of Dec. 31, 2019. Carried

Freeman: That we acknowledge the enrollment of Mayor, Robert Thompson in the SUMA Sector Meeting that was held in Duck Lake on Oct. 3, 2019, for a cost of \$30. Carried

Bather: That we agree to table the discussion of the request from the Ministry of Government Relations as it relates to amendment to the Municipal Gas Tax Fund Agreement. Carried

Bather: That we acknowledge the RCMP Community Policing Report, Shellbrook RCMP Report Detachment, Canwood

Let the minutes note that Council had a discussion

about vehicles situated on Municipal Reserve Land, MR20, Plan 101836919 Ext. 0. Council agreed to contact adjacent owner and request that they be removed.

Bather: That we agree to write off the outstanding balance of \$535.11 on Utility Account 0261 0030. Carried

Thompson: That we approve Moving Permit application 2019 – 04, and allow for a manufactured home to be moved onto Block B, Plan 64PA11101 Ext 0., as per Form C Application dated Sept. 9, 2019. Carried

Freeman: That we approve the Development Permit and Building Permit 2019 – 04, for Block D, Plan 64PA11101 Ext. for the placement of a manufactured home. Furthermore, this approval is contingent with compliance to Zoning Bylaw No. 2/1993 and conditions as set out by the Municipal Building Inspector. Carried

Sipes: That we agree to approve Policy SC – 1, Sign Corridor Policy with a review date of Oct. 30, 2021. Carried

Let the minutes note that Mayor Thompson left Council Chambers at 1:36 p.m. and returned at 1:38 p.m.

Bather: That we agree to approve Policy WW/SW – 1, Waterworks Quality Assurance/Quality Control Policy, with a review date of May 30, 2020. Carried

Sipes: That we agree to approve Policy HR – 2, Harassment Prevention Policy, with a review date of Oct. 30, 2020.

Bather: That we adjourn at 1:47 p.m. with the next meeting of Council to be held on Monday, Nov. 18, 2019, commencing at 9:30 a.m. Carried



RANDY HOBACK, MP
Prince Albert



GARY VIDAL, MP
Desnethé-Mississippi-Churchill River

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Randy Hoback, MP, 79 11th St. W., Prince Albert, SK S6V 3A8

Science holds answers to key ag questions

It is interesting how concerns over methane emissions coming from livestock has spurred research.

It's not unexpected in the sense that science tends to look for solutions to whatever problems come along in our world, but that science might be able to help in terms of what passes through livestock to emerge as greenhouse gases which are impacting our atmosphere.

"An international team of researchers led by scientists at the University of Otago in New Zealand

has identified the main rumen microbes and enzymes that control the supply of hydrogen, the main energy source for methane-producing microbes called methanogens," reported a recent article at www.producer.com

As is often the case in a world so highly connected as ours is how the research was a collaborative affair with scientists at the universities of Monash in Australia, Illinois in the United States and Hokkaido in Japan involved.

It is worth a bit of a



CALVIN DANIELS

tangent here to note that the ability of scientists around the world to stay connected more easily, and to in that way share ideas and talents, is something that bodes well for quicker and

more successful resolutions of research moving forward.

In the case of the investigation into the biology of the rumen as it pertains to creating methane gases, it is a rather interesting approach to the perceived problem. Perhaps that isn't a huge leap if you think of doctors tweaking our own system to deal with reflux issue, but we do tend to think the biological processes are something rather determined by the physiology of the animal, but it appears the inner work-

ings of the rumen may be able to be tweaked.

The science of course is at its very early stages, but it does offer some interesting possibilities and it at the very least shows there is an effort being made to work on livestock methane emissions.

If one considers we may also see those emissions lowered by tweaking the diets of the animals – what goes in will effect what comes out – then there does seem to be a good chance to positively impact the overall levels livestock

release.

It is a proactive use of science to create solutions for a changing world, a world where people will ask more questions about where their food comes from and what impact on the environment its production has.

Those are good questions, of course. Although we must remember, too, that the more expectation we put on production, the higher costs may be, and there are already many worldwide who struggle to buy the food they need.

Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency sending six more staff to support wildfire response efforts in Australia

The Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency (SPSA) is sending another six wildland fire management staff to New South Wales, Australia, for a deployment of 38 days. They will join 24 other members of the Canadian Inter-agency Forest Fire Centre (CIFFC) team.

This is the second deployment of Canadian firefighters to Australia in the last three weeks under the Exchange of

Wildland Fire Management Resources Agreement. A contingent of 21 Canadian firefighters deployed to New South Wales on Dec. 3. Two of those firefighters were deployed from Saskatchewan. Canada has called on Australian firefighters four times since 2015.

The original group has been helping to manage wildland fire incidents in the areas around Glen Innes, Grafton, Casino

and Kempsey in the northeastern part of the state.

The National Resource Sharing Centre in Melbourne requested assistance from Canadian wildfire agencies to fight bushfires along the east coast of Australia. Canadian fire management staff are filling operational, planning and aviation roles.

"Having Australia request more support not only shows how bad

these wildfires are, it also demonstrates the quality of our staff," SPSA President Marlo Pritchard said. "It also exemplifies the fact that Saskatchewan is a province of people that are willing to step up when others are in need."

A severe and early fire season in eastern Aus-

tralia has led to fatalities, property loss and the destruction of large areas of New South Wales and Queensland.

Saskatchewan is a member of the CIFFC. When appropriate, Canadian provincial wildfire agencies export firefighting resources at the request of other jurisdic-

tions through mutual aid resource sharing agreements.

To learn more about the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency visit <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/crown-corporations/saskatchewan-public-safety-agency>.

SHA volunteer opportunities

The Volunteer Service Department is in need of caring, compassionate and committed volunteers to fill the following service positions:

Special Groups or Individuals – Parkland Integrated Health Centre (306) 747-6841

These volunteers entertain, provide interesting educational presentations, assist with special events, sing, etc. and have fun with the residents.

Shifts: Flexible

"On Call" Volunteers – Big River Health Centre (306) 469-2220

Volunteers are needed for the long term care residents on an "on-call" basis, to assist with outings, parties, social gatherings, shopping trips, taking residents to appointments, etc.

Activity Programs – Wheatland Lodge – Leask (306) 466-4949

Volunteers will assist the staff with activities and set up for such. Duties include assisting with crafts, shopping trips, birthday parties, special functions, music therapy, exercise programs, bowling groups, horticulture, painting, baking, etc. Programs change periodically.

Shifts: 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. or 12:45 p.m. – 4 p.m., Monday to Friday

If you are interested in this or any other Volunteer service position, or if you have a particular skill or talent you would like to share with the patients, residents or clients, please call your local health care facility to apply. You can also reach the Volunteer Services Department at (306) 765-6010, by email at volunteers@paphr.sk.ca or find us on the web at www.paphr.ca. We look forward to matching your talents and interests with the right position for you.

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Regular Sale 1:00 p.m.

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Regular Sale 9:30 a.m.



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Highlights of R.M. of Leask council meetings

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

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 held in the Leask Municipal Office on Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2019.

The meeting was called to order by Reeve Cantin at 9:08 a.m.

Present were Reeve Len Cantin, administrator Judy Douglas and the following Council members: Real Diehl - Division No. 2; Ed Musich - Division 4; Robert Girod - Division No. 5; and Clarke Gossen - Division 6.

Absent were Grant Thiel - Division 1; and Gordon Stieb - Division 3.

Girod: That the Minutes of Oct. 9, 2019 regular Council meeting be adopted as presented. Carried

Gossen: That we engage a survey company to provide a legal survey for a 66' road allowance through Section 28 & 33 - 48-8-W3 using the existing roadway as the centre of the road. Carried

Diehl: That we pursue the relocation of the boundary of the Avebury Cemetery to the south boundary of the buffer strip on the north end of the cemetery. Defeated

Gossen: That we relocate the fence on the north end of the Avebury Cemetery to the boundary of the property line in the NW 16-48-7-W3.

Recorded Vote:

For: Gossen, Diehl
Against: Musich, Girod, Cantin. Defeated

Musich: That the Council Indemnity be approved for payment, payment #11111 - 11115 in the amount of \$6,066.40. Carried

Girod: That we approve payment for the list of accounts cheque #12497-12546 and 5152-5171 in the amount of \$215217.71 and payroll Cheque# 2051-2077 in the amount of \$62,905.94 and 11110 in the amount of \$421.72.

Gossen: That the Budget Control Report for Oct. 31, 2019 and to Nov. 20, 2019 be received as presented. Carried

Delegation: Sgt. Aaron Kading, Blaine Lake RCMP Detachment 1:30 p.m. to 2:20 p.m. Sgt. Kading gave a report on the services and issues being dealt with in the municipality and area. He was also questioned regarding the ability to locate rural residences and the methods used for accurate responses.

Musich: That we accept the report from the Superintendent of Public Works. Carried

Diehl: That the Planning Report be accepted as presented. Carried

Diehl: That the next regular council meeting be held on Dec. 4, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. Carried

Girod: That we purchase a municipal cell phone for Administration and one for the Superintendent of Public works. Carried

Diehl: That the Administration Report be accepted as presented. Carried

Diehl: That we authorize the Reeve and CAO to sign the Amending Agreement No. 1 to the Municipal Gas Tax Fund Agreement. Carried

Musich: That the RM of Leask No. 464 has met all six eligibility requirements for the Municipal Revenue Sharing Grant as required for the 2020 annual declaration. Carried

Girod: That we authorized the Reeve and CAO to sign the Collective Agreement with the International Union of Operating Engineers, Hoisting & Portable & Stationary, Local 870 for the years Jan. 1, 2020 to Dec. 31, 2022. Carried

Diehl: That we receive the Bridge Inspection Report done in 2019 and have administration look into the proposed work. Carried

Musich: That this meeting be adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Dec. 4 Regular Meeting

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 held in the Leask Municipal Office on Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2019.

The meeting was called to order by Reeve Cantin at 9 a.m.

Present were Reeve Len Cantin, administrator Judy Douglas and the following Council members: Grant Thiel - Division 1; Real Diehl - Division No. 2; Gordon Stieb - Division 3; Ed Musich - Division 4; Robert Girod - Division No. 5; and secretary Joan Sanftleben.

Absent was Clarke Gossen - Division 6.

Musich: That the Minutes of Nov. 20, 2019 regular Council meeting be adopted as presented. Carried

Girod: That we accept the OCP and Zoning Bylaw with changes as noted

and have another copy prepared by SARM. Carried

Thiel: That the Reeve be authorized to attend a meeting with the Mistawasis First Nation representatives and the Department of Highways in Regina in January. Carried

Musich: That we order and erect signs for Sydney Shores sub-division on the Highway and the grid road in our right of way. Carried

Stieb: That Council agrees to the sale of lands located at SW 25-47-03 W3; NE 23-47-03 W3; NW 23-47-03 W3; SE 23-47-03 W3 and SW 23-47-03 W3. Carried

Diehl: That the Council Indemnity be approved for payment #11135 in the amount of \$556. Carried

Thiel: That the correspondence from Ketzmerick and Willick be received for consideration with the proposed Zoning Bylaw. Carried

Stieb: That Bylaw No 8-2019 A Bylaw to Appoint a Bylaw Officer be read for a first time. Carried

Thiel: That we authorize the Weed Management Plan for the RM of Leask for 2019. Carried

Stieb: That we renew the Fidelity Bond Coverage for \$100,000, the Registered Mail Coverage for \$50,000 and the Money & Securities for \$10,000 for 2020. Carried

Thiel: That we renew our Excess Liability Insurance with SARM to \$5 million for 2020. Carried

Diehl: That we go in camera the time being 1:30 p.m. Carried

Delegation: Ray Enns & Michael Lander 1:30 p.m. to 2:10 p.m.

Diehl: That we go out of camera the time being 2:10 p.m. Carried

Thiel: That the correspondence be received and filed. Carried

Stieb: That this meeting be adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

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Perennials! Bleeding heart and coral bells

By Sara Williams

An old-fashioned perennial, bleeding heart (*Dicentra* spp.) has graced prairie gardens for centuries. The common name refers to the heart-shaped flowers in shades of pink, red or white in which the inner petals protrude from the outer petals, resembling a "bleeding heart". Ranging in height from 25-90 cm (10-36 in.), they are characterized by attractive, ferny, deeply cut foliage and a graceful arching form. All are long lived. They do best in full to partial shade in well-drained soil generously amended with organic matter. They do require even moisture but are otherwise low-maintenance and fit in well in a woodland or shade garden and a mixed border. Propagate them by early spring division.

Fringed bleeding heart (*D. eximia*), native to the east coast of North America, is noted for its graceful arching form and ferny, compound, glaucous blue-green foliage. It is shorter (about 40 cm (16 in.) and longer blooming

than other species and does not become dormant in mid-summer.

Fernleaf bleeding heart (*D. formosa*) is very similar in appearance to the fringed bleeding heart, but native to the west coast of North America. Its foliage is a bit greyer and it will do okay in full sun as long as it has even moisture.

'Luxuriant' (a hybrid of *D. eximia* and *D. formosa*) flowers through most of the summer with cherry- to rose-coloured blooms and a height of 40 cm (16 in.).

'Alba', 30 cm (12 in.) in height, has white flowers.

Common, Japanese or old-fashioned bleeding heart (*Lamprocapnos spectabilis*, syn. *D. spectabilis*) is a close relative native to Asia. The plants are larger at 70-90 cm (30-36 in.) high and often becomes dormant with yellowing foliage in the heat of mid-summer.

'Alba' is 60-90 cm (8-24 in.) with white flowers.

'Gold Heart' has pink flowers with golden foliage and is 90 cm (3 ft) tall.

'Valentine' has bright red flowers and is 70-90 cm (30-36 in.) in height.

Coral bells, alumroot

Coral bells (*Heuchera* spp.) describes the dainty, bell-like flowers in shades from pink to red. The older common name, seldom heard now, alumroot, refers to the high concentration of tannin in the roots, once used to stop bleeding.

A myriad of tiny bell-shaped flowers are held on slender wiry stems of 50-60 cm (20-24 in.) high above a basal rosette of foliage. The dark green, semi-evergreen leaves are rounded to heart-shaped with scalloped margins and resembles a geranium leaf in outline and texture. The woody crown slowly increases to form larger clumps but is never invasive.

Coral bells flourish in full sun to light shade (with less flowering in shade) in average, well-drained soil. Deadhead to prolong flowering. They are exceptionally drought-tolerant once established and lovely toward the



'Northern Fire' coral bells is long blooming, long lived and drought tolerant. Photo credit: Sara Williams

front of a perennial border, as a ground cover or in rock gardens. Increase through division in early spring.

An amazing number of coral bells, with unique leaf colours and patterns, many in alluring purples, bronzes and silvers, have recently flooded the prairie market. Most were developed elsewhere and few were tested for hardiness in northern zones prior to their release. Almost none of these has proved enduring, most lasting only two or three years. A new series, Northern Exposure, with genes from

our native *Heuchera richardsonii*, hopefully will combine beautiful foliage with a tougher constitution. Place them in a protected location.

For now, our best bet are the Morden hybrids, bred by Henry Marshall who crossed *H. sanguinea* with *H. richardsonii* beginning in the late 1950s.

'Brandon Pink' (1957) has bright, coral-pink flowers in July. It is about 60 cm (2 ft) in height, with dense, almost evergreen, faintly mottled foliage. It flowers freely, is vigorous, and drought and wind

tolerant.

'Brandon Glow' (1967) has darker pink flowers in a more open panicle and is slightly shorter at 45 cm (20 in.) with distinctly mottled green and white foliage.

'Northern Fire' (1979), a seedling of 'Brandon Pink', has dark red flowers and is about 60 cm (2 ft) in height. It blooms for 6 weeks in early summer.

'Ruby Mist' has dark green, evergreen foliage and ruby red flowers on 45 cm (18 in.) stems. It has an even longer bloom period than 'Northern Fire'.

Sara Williams is the author of numerous books dealing with gardening in cold climate. Look for *Perennials for Northern Gardens* in fall, 2020. Retired as the Horticultural Specialist, Extension Division, University of Saskatchewan, she to write gives workshops on a wide range of gardening topics 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) for a list of upcoming gardening events.

PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

Parkside
11 a.m. - Worship
Pastor Chris Dean

PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

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

SOVEREIGN GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

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

EVANGELICAL FREE

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

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

PRESBYTERIAN

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

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

407-2nd Ave E, Shellbrook
Sat., 9:45 a.m. - Sabbath School
Sat., 11:00 am - Worship
Broadcast on
VOAR 92.1 FM
Pastor Liviu Tillihoi
306-313-8685

ANGLICAN CHURCH

Leask - All Saint's
Sunday, 9 a.m. - Service
St. Andrew's - Shellbrook
Sunday, 11 a.m. Service
Canwood - Christ Church
Sunday, 11 a.m. - Service
2 p.m. Service 2nd Sunday
of the month
Rev'd Eyad Ajji
306-980-5916

UNITED CHURCH

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

MENNONITE

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

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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

LEASK: Wapiti Library & 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).

LEASK: Leask Sports Centre Inc. AGM @ Rink. January 21, 2020 ~ 7 pm. Opinions & support needed.

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GOOD NEWS

~ LET US BE CONTAGIOUS!!

**By Dave Whalley, DLM (R)
First United, Big River**

First of all, I wish all of you a blessed new year and may you see growth in your lives as individuals in the new year.

I wonder, what do we have in store for our faith communities for the new year? We know that we attract people to our faith community one person at a time. That is what God's message of love is all about! Our future growth is related to how contagious we are as individuals and as a faith community.

We have been told to take care of ourselves so that we are not contagious, such as washing our hands and covering our mouth when we sneeze. I am asking you all to be contagious! Some of you, probably are thinking that I have slipped a cog upstairs. For those of you that think that has happened, I pray that you are right. I pray that all of us will slip a cog this year, and work as hard as we can to become contagious. Of course, not in our physical habits, but in our spiritual habits.

We need to improve our way of living, so that our creator's message of love will infect more people. We can't change our actions of the past, but with understanding and love, we can affect the future, and spread God's message to more people. That is the task that God demands of us. Spread the message to others.

I have come to the conclusion, that for all of us, God's requirement for us, is that we be contagious. When I was growing up the adults used to tell us kids that we could catch a cold if we went outside in the cold winter weather, without our coats done up, or hats and mitts on.

The truth of the matter is germs, not the cold weather, cause colds. The reason we catch more colds in the winter, is because

we are indoors more, and in closer contact with other people and their germs.

You are wondering why I am bringing this up now? The reason is because we are beginning a new calendar year in our community, and we have been talking about sharing the joy we have in Christ for the last while through Advent and the Christmas season.

Our major purpose in our Christian life, is to infect others with the love of Christ, the love that we have in our lives. We want to transmit God's love into the lives of others, so that they too can enjoy knowing the love of the Great Spirit.

I have been told that a church is considered effective, if just one person out of twenty in that church community leads a person to Christ, in a year. We have two questions to deal with. What makes a church contagious? What makes them effective?

In Ephesians, God communicated some things through Paul, which the Ephesian church needed to hear, so that they would become more contagious. Through the theme of this letter to the Ephesians, Paul is reminding them, how rich they are, by committing their lives to Jesus. When we need to be reminded of how rich we are in Christ, turn to this book of the Bible.

A lot of times, when we think we are poor, we become convinced that we don't have anything to offer others. We become pessimistic instead of optimistic; and, when we are pessimistic, we are not contagious. No one that I know of in their right mind wants to "catch" pessimism. When we have something that makes us optimistic - others will want what we have.

So we need to learn how we can be more contagious, by considering what makes us contagious.

I know what some of you are thinking

when I mention holiness. Holiness doesn't sound like something that would make someone want to come to Christ.

But, contrary to what a lot of people think, it's not holiness that turns people off. It's "holier-than-thou-ness" that people reject. The truth is, true Biblical holiness is a very attractive quality! Holiness represents positive change! Holiness is wholeness, and people all around us are looking for positive change in our world and in their lives. They are looking for positive change in their broken lives. They are looking for acceptance, love, healing, and hope.

We can become contagious by showing others our friendship with God or in other words the grace that is freely given to us. When we make a faith commitment to Jesus Christ, we receive God's favor. We don't deserve it. It is just part of the wonderful nature of our creator.

That is just how selfless our creator is. The spirit is gracious because God is love.

Another point to remember is; forgiveness is contagious. It is important for us to remember that Christians are admired for our belief and practice in forgiveness. Not all groups of people in our world believe in forgiveness. We must be aware that our ability to forgive is a gift from God. Inside each of us is the need to be forgiven. We realize that none of us live perfect lives and through Christ we know that our wrongs are forgiven, providing we ask our creator for those wrongs to be forgiven.

In our own sphere of influence, we have family members, friends, co-workers, neighbors, and others who would love to know that their wrongs are forgiven, just by simply placing our faith in Jesus, and requesting the forgiveness. Those of us who have been forgiven by Christ, can take that message to those people around us and

they will want that same experience. You see, forgiveness is very contagious.

Purpose in life is also very contagious. We don't have to live our lives in isolation, loneliness, and aimlessness. Life for us has meaning and purpose. Life for us Christians has to have meaning.

Another point to remember; when we make a commitment to Christ, it means that we are one of God's "chosen" people. For what purpose are we chosen? Simply put, we were chosen to be contagious. We are God's instruments, to do the work and speak out for our creator, here on this earth. It tells us in I Peter 2:9-10; we are to tell others of the day and night difference God has made for us in our lives! From nothing to something, from rejected to accepted.

To me, a church community is a rescue ship, not a cruise liner. God has appointed us to be evangelists for our creator. We are to use our spiritual gifts, our heart for ministry, our abilities, our personality, and our experiences of life, to tell others what Christ has done for us.

Oh, by the way, we have one more spiritual blessing that makes us contagious. We have an all powerful friend. We could never have a more powerful, or more faithful friend than the Holy Spirit. Our most powerful friend wants us to carry the message of the availability of that friendship to others. When we give that friendship away, the more we get in return. We can't keep it just for ourselves.

In closing, when the church, and Christ's followers, in particular, you and I, become so contagious -- those looking for God will wonder what is inside of us that gives us holiness, favour with God, forgiveness, purpose, significance, and such a powerful friend. They will want what we have--so let's all go and share it with them!

New insurance rules now in force in Sask.

The Government of Saskatchewan proclaimed The Insurance Act on Jan. 1, 2020.

The new Act modernizes legislation, allowing Saskatchewan's marketplace to deal with new and emerging issues in the rapidly changing insurance industry.

"These changes better reflect what is going on in the industry," Justice Minister and Attorney

General Don Morgan said. "We had extensive consultations with industry associations, insurers and agents and have developed legislation that is flexible and modern, and enhances consumer protection."

The new Saskatchewan insurance legislation:

- incorporates new licensing and supervision requirements;

- introduces separate licensing categories for managing general agents and third party administrators;

- expands the restricted insurance agents licensing regime to permit the sale of insurance together with the sale of certain products or services (e.g. car rental companies or insurance for portable electronic goods);

- outlines market conduct standards, introduces new fair practice provisions, and identifies unfair practices in order to protect consumers;

- describes new complaint handling provisions, including a requirement to let consumers know about where they can take complaints and disputes such as to an ombudservice or the Superinten-

dent;
and

- moves toward further harmonization with other Canadian jurisdictions, primarily Alberta.

For more information about The Insurance Act visit <https://fcaa.gov.sk.ca/regulated-businesses-persons/businesses/insurance-companies/regulations-for-licensed-insurers>.

Do gift cards have additional fees?

With gift cards being a popular holiday gift choice, the Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority (FCAA) wants consumers to know the rules surrounding gift cards and their usage. Consumers often have concerns surrounding fees, expiration and redemption.

Here are some tips to know when using gift cards:

- There are no additional fees. Gift cards, unlike credit cards, should not have post purchase activation fees, usage fees, or annual/monthly payments.

- Gift cards can't ex-

pire, except for a few exceptions. Gift cards that are purchased and sold in Saskatchewan don't have expiration dates. The only time an expiry date is allowed on a gift card is if you received the card after making a donation to a charity or nothing of value was provided to obtain the

card. (For example, free promotional gift cards distributed for advertising purposes can have expiry dates).

- Use your gift cards promptly. If a store goes out of business, it's unlikely you'll be able to recover the value from your card.

- When buying a gift

card, make sure to read the fine print. By reading the fine print, you will know all the limits the card has prior to purchase.

For more information, visit [and-services/gift-cards.](http://fcaa.gov.sk.ca/consumers-investors-pension-plan-members/consumers-of-goods-</p>
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Contact Consumer Protection Division

The Consumer Protection Division may be able to help consumers with gift card disputes. Consumers can call toll free at 1-877-880-5550 or by email at consumerprotection@gov.sk.ca.

Tiger tales: more to come in 2020

It's a brand new year, with high hopes for another great season on the ball fields, the ice rinks, the golf courses and the tennis courts. So here are a few predictions about which to guffaw:

— This era's most amazing sports story is 44-year-old Tiger Woods and he will continue to stalk the Jack Nicklaus record for most major championships (19). He won his 15th in 2019 and, no matter what the world golf rankings say (Tiger is actually No. 6 today), he appears again to be the game's best player and will win at least one, maybe two, major titles in 2020.

— Major league base-

ball will continue to undergo changes to speed it up, and to clean it up. Houston Astros will have their knuckles rapped in some fashion (and trash-can banging) espionage during the playoffs, and it will take fans a while to get used to the new rule in 2020 saying a relief pitcher has to face at least three hitters, or to complete a half-inning. No more of these one-batter specialists. And it won't happen this year, but movement will continue at a fairly rapid pace to eventually have robotic umpires in place.

— The race to 894 will start gaining media traction in 2020. That's Alex Ovechkin's attempt to



BRUCE
PENTON

supplant Wayne Gretzky as the NHL's No. 1 all-time goal-scorer. At the Christmas break, Ovechkin had 24 goals this year and 682 for his career. Give him another 20 or so this year and he'll be around 700 going into next season. He'll be only 35 next year, and 194 goals shy of Gretzky's total. Five more years at 40 goals per year and the Great One will be the Great Two.

— Canadian tennis will continue to rise, and thrive. More courts will be built in our country. More kids will take up the game. All because of the recent successes by the likes of Bianca Andreescu, Eugenie Bouchard, Milos Raonic, Denis Shapovalov, Felix Auger-Aliassime

and Vasek Pospisil. If nothing else, Canada's hopes for medalling in tennis in the Olympics have been greatly enhanced.

— Despite the signing of free agent pitcher Hyun-Jin Ryu to a four-year, \$80 million contract, it will be another so-so (rough) year for the Blue Jays; the Leafs won't win the Stanley Cup (again); the Bombers will find it tough to repeat their Grey Cup victory; and Brendan Bottcher of Edmonton will win the Brier and Tracy Fleury the Scotties. Other than that, I'm fresh out of ideas, but the best idea I've had today is to put \$100 down on Tiger to win the Grand Slam and then take my winnings and retire comfortably to a South Pacific island.

• Janice Hough of leftcoastsportsbabe.com: "Gerrit Cole will be 39 by the end of his \$324 million nine-year contract. But if he doesn't live up to it I'm sure Yankees fans and the New York media will be warm and understanding."

• Blogger Eric Stangel, after the Yankees signed pitcher Gerrit Cole for

\$324 million over nine seasons: "The Yankees also announced that beer at the stadium will now cost \$734."

• Bob Molinaro of pilotonline.com: "I'm waiting for the story that accuses the Patriots of stealing signs for the Astros."

• Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "The best place in America to experience New Year's Eve, according to a WalletHub.com study, is New York City. Except now there's bickering over whether it's a Jets or Giants receiver who gets to drop the ball at midnight."

• Dwight Perry again: "This is the Year of the Pig, according to the Chinese calendar, though one could argue that Russian doping and the can-banging Astros make it seem like the Year of the Cheetah."

• Comedy writer Jim Barach, after a Patriots video crew violated league policy while taping at the Browns-Bengals game: "They say they weren't spying, they were just putting together a blooper reel for the NFL Christmas party."

• Comedy writer Alex

Kaseberg, on the Patriots being accused of spying on the Bengals: "That's like the Rolling Stones spying on Milli Vanilli."

• Justin Rogers of The Detroit News, via Twitter, on the plight of the local NFL squad: "Two presidents have been impeached since the Lions last won the division."

• Warriors coach Steve Kerr, to reporters, when asked if his 8-24 team's win over Houston on Christmas was its best of the season: "Well, yeah, but there haven't been that many to choose from."

• Janice Hough of leftcoastsportsbabe.com, on the 16-day lag between the semifinals and title game of the College Football Playoff: "Players have so much time off they might even have to go to class."

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg, on diva wide receiver Antonio Brown getting a tryout with the Saints: "Brown has as much chance of acting like a Saint as the 1-14 Bengals have of acting like a tiger."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Sask. NDP sounds alarm over eHealth data breach

The Saskatchewan NDP is raising concern after eHealth Saskatchewan announced on Monday that an unknown number of servers and files have been compromised by ransomware, as first reported by the CBC.

"People should be able to trust that their health records are secure -- that's eHealth's most important responsibility," said NDP Health Critic Vicki Mowat. "Unfortunately, the Sask. Party government has consistently undermined eHealth's ability to deliver the results Saskatchewan people expect. It's time for the Minister of Health to step up and show that he can and will address the ongoing issues at eHealth."

The NDP has previously raised concerns about the Sask. Party's handling of the Crown agency, specifically a

vendor-sponsored travel scandal, the use of sole-source contracts, and staff concerns about the current CEO, who was dismissed from his role as CEO of Ontario Community Health Systems amidst declining performance measures and low staff morale.

"When it comes to ensuring quality health-care that's there when people need it, this government continues to let Saskatchewan people down," Mowat said. "People need to hear that they're taking this data breach seriously, and that their failures have not compromised the security or integrity of Saskatchewan people's health records."

(Editor's note: According to eHealth CEO Jim Hornell, no confidential patient data has been stolen so far. The incident has been reported to the RCMP.)



HOCKEY DAY In Shellbrook

Friday, January 17th

- 1:00 - 3:00 pm School & Community Skate
- 4:30 - 8:30 pm Street Hockey Tournament
- 4:30 pm Tremblay Classic
- 5:30 - 7:00 pm Come & Go Appreciation Event @ Curling Rink Lounge
- 6:30 pm **SHELLBROOK RINK GROUP PHOTO**
- 7:00 - 7:30 pm Skate Club Showcase
- 8:00 pm Shellbrook Silvertips vs. Birch Hills Blackhawks
*Beer Gardens & Smokie Sale

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Saturday, January 18th

- 8:00 - 10:30 am Pancake Breakfast @ Rink
- 8:00 - 11:00 am Initiation Hockey Tournament
- 9:00 am Street Hockey Tournament
- 11:15 am AA Midget Game - Beardys Blackhawks vs. Martensville Marauders
- 2:00 pm AAA Midget Game - Prince Albert Mintos vs. Saskatoon Contacts
- 5:30 pm Banquet
 - Emcee: Comedian Kelly Taylor
 - Guest Speaker: Dennis Hull
 - Live Auction
 - Music & Socializing

OBITUARY

Larry LaPlante



old homesteads and points of interest. Larry was a good shot, and he could gut a moose in 20 minutes if he had to.

Larry started working at the mill in Big River in 1957. It was during his time at the mill that Larry got together with Elaine Mary Johnston. They had a son Kevin in 1964, a daughter Shelly in 1965 and a second girl Sherry in 1970.

Larry and Elaine built a beautiful home on the lake in 1975 where they spent many hours together building the yard. Larry left the mill in 67 or 68 and worked for Max Wilson and after working for Max, Larry bought his first gravel truck from him. This was the beginning of Larry going into business for himself. He logged with his brothers Raymond and Gerald from 69 -75. When the brothers decided they were no longer going to log, Larry went into road construction and maintenance business. Larry's company was called Larry LaPlante Trucking until 1981, that's when he brought his son Kevin into the business, it was now Larry LaPlante and Son

Trucking. Larry worked on many projects over the years for the Dept of Highways where he made many friends.

Larry was an easy person to talk to, he made friends wherever he went on the job or off. He loved his days working on road jobs, his favorite was always operating the loader. His nephew Gary and son Kevin joined him working on a job at Meadow lake in the summer of 81, Bob Dunn was also on this job.

Tragedy would strike the family in the spring of 83 when Kevin was killed. In many ways Larry's life was changed forever his heart and his spirit were broken. Through time Larry somehow found the strength to carry on.

Later that year Shelly married Richard Jezowski and in July of 84 Craig Kevin was born. Larry and Elaine were thrilled to have a baby in the family and spent as much time as possible with him. Larry and Elaine were so happy to have him in their lives- that little boy took a lot of their pain away.

Shelly and Richard added another grandson to the family, Tyson Ronald in January of 88 both the boys were close with their grandparents.

By 1993 the beautiful home that they had raised

their 3 kids in and created so many memories, some of those memories made it too painful to stay there any longer. They brought in a new house across the road where Andy and Evelyn had lived years before but moved again onto a lot that at one point was owned by Elaine's Dad Lyman Johnston across from the rink.

Elaine's health was starting to fail in 97, her cancer that she so courageously battled years before was back. On June 11, 1998 she would succumb to her battle and once again the family was devastated by a loss. Larry was hurt deeply but managed to keep the twinkle in his eye and a warm reassuring smile for his daughters and grandchildren.

Larry continued to hunt and spend time out at the block and going to auctions and yard sales, he loved the treasures he found there. It was at one of these auctions that he ran into an old friend from his past and from that sale he took home an antique that he would cherish for the rest of his days. Larry and Louise and were married 2005, their

families became one family. They loved spending time with all their now large extended family traveling to, Jamaica, Mexico and Vancouver Island, late night card games and stories of their past lives and making new memories with friends and family.

Larry loved his family, friends, and his community. He made friends at work and at play, at yard sales and auctions, in his own back yard and wherever his travels took him, striking up a conversation with a total stranger came easy to Larry. He was truly a warm kind soul who at the drop of a hat would gladly help anyone. He will be missed by all.

Larry will be lovingly survived by his wife, Louise LaPlante; his daughters, Shelly Jezowski-Balon (Dennis) and her children, Craig (JamiLynn) and children, Sorsha-Laine and Warwick; Tyson (Shae) and children, Chloe and Liam; Sherry LaPlante (Scott Hartnett) and their daughters, Kelly, Taylor, Abby and Sienna; Sheila Muzechka; his siblings Evelyn Neufeld, Raymond (Colleen) LaPlan-

te, Wilson (Rita) LaPlante, Angeline Boyer, Rita Arcand, Gerald (Rosemary) LaPlante; Louise's daughters, Cindy (Rodney) Jonasson, Holly (Dave) McPhee, Penny Viden, and Bonnie (Michel) Mailloux; a very good friend, John Leck; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives and many friends.

Larry was predeceased by his son, Kevin LaPlante; his first wife, Elaine LaPlante (nee: Johnston); his parents, Hercules and Jean LaPlante (nee: Anderson); his brothers-in-law, Andy Neufeld, Wilfred Boyer, and Joe Arcand. The Funeral Service for Larry took place on December 6, 2019 at 2:00 pm at the Big River Community Hall with Delores Beaulac as officiant. In lieu of tributes, memorial donations may be made in Larry's memory to the Parkview Wildlife Federation. Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home, Shellbrook 306-747-2828.

LAPLANTE - Larry

Larry was born June 4, 1941 in Spiritwood, SK, at the 7 Bar T Ranch. The family then moved to Chitek for a short time and then to Timberlost aka The Block, by the time Larry was 3.

Larry had many relatives and made some lifelong friends at the block. By the age of 10 Larry was trapping and making his own stretchers for the pelts, and at 13 he had had enough of school and went to work in the bush for his dad first at the block in 1954 and then to Sled Lake in 56.

Larry never really left the block returning to hunt and picnic as often as possible, he loved taking people out there and talking about the

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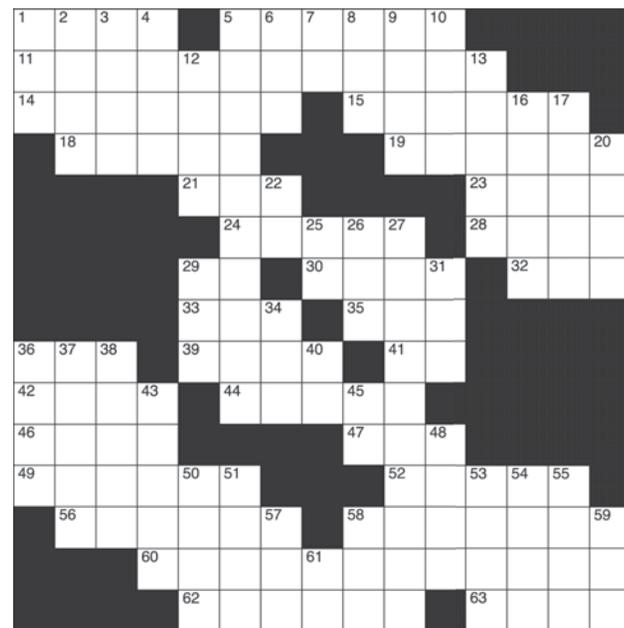
CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Beer ingredient
- 5. Popular FOX TV show
- 11. Recurring from time to time
- 14. Criticized severely
- 15. Musician
- 18. German urban center
- 19. Quenched
- 21. Human gene
- 23. Indian music
- 24. Accumulate
- 28. One who graduated
- 29. Atomic #109
- 30. Semitic fertility god
- 32. Sportscaster Patrick
- 33. Child's dining accessory
- 35. Payment (abbr.)
- 36. Guitarist's tool
- 39. Dabbling ducks
- 41. Commercial
- 42. Style someone's hair
- 44. Biu-Mandara language
- 46. Actress Spelling
- 47. Large hole in the ground
- 49. One-masted sailboats
- 52. Tropical Asian plant

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Belong to he
- 2. One time only
- 3. Parent-teacher groups
- 4. Puts in place
- 5. Editing
- 6. In the course of
- 7. Helps injured people (abbr.)
- 8. OJ trial judge
- 9. Resist authority (slang)
- 10. Formerly alkenols
- 12. "Cheers" actress Perlman
- 13. Jewelled headdress
- 16. Viking Age poet
- 17. Vanuatu island



- 56. Concurs
- 58. Latin term for charity
- 60. The number below the
- line in a fraction
- 62. Reddish browns
- 63. This (Spanish)

- 20. Wish harm upon
- 22. Unit of length
- 25. Blood type
- 26. Drain
- 27. Do-gooders
- 29. Advanced degree
- 31. Business designation
- 34. Chinese-American actress Ling
- 36. Performs on stage
- 37. Slang for money
- 38. Large Russian pie
- 40. The Mount Rushmore State
- 43. Narrow inlet
- 45. News organization (abbr.)
- 48. Scarlett's home
- 50. Micturates
- 51. Monetary unit
- 53. Any customary observance or practice
- 54. Sons of Poseidon
- 55. Facilitates grocery shopping
- 57. Standard operating procedure
- 58. Former OSS
- 59. Midway between south and southeast
- 61. The Wolverine State

Answers on page 14

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE ESTATE OF THOMAS ERVIN BUCKINGHAM, late of Shellbrook, in the Province of Saskatchewan, deceased. All claims against the above Estate, duly verified by statutory declaration and with particulars and valuation of security held, if any, must be sent to the undersigned before the 31st day of January, 2020. NOVUS LAW GROUP Barristers & Solicitors 1200 Central Avenue Prince Albert, SK S6V 4V8 Attention: Bill Cannon Solicitors for the Estate 2-03C

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MEMORIALS

In Remembrance of
Larry LaPlante



Born June 4, 1941, 7 Bar T Ranch, Spiritwood. Passed away Dec. 1/2019 in Saskatoon, formerly of Big River and Shellbrook. Thank you to all for the cards, flowers, and food. Thank you all for the kindness.

The LaPlante family and Neufeld family. 1-02C

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Security tips for online gamers

Online gaming is wildly popular, and growing more so by the minute. According to Limelight Networks' "The State of Online Gaming 2019" report, which surveyed the online habits and opinions of 4,500 consumers in countries such as the United States, France and Japan, among others, people who play video games spend an average of seven hours and seven minutes playing. Gamers between the

ages of 26 and 35 play even more, averaging eight hours and 12 minutes of play each week, a more than 25 percent increase from 2018.

The market and consumer data provider Statista notes that there were 1.82 billion gamers in 2014, a figure the firm estimates will rise to more than 2.7 billion by 2021. Billions of gamers across the globe means there are billions of opportunities for on-

line criminals to exploit gaps in security. As a result, it's imperative that online gamers take measures to protect themselves when engaging in online gaming.

• Routinely update security software. Get Safe Online, a United Kingdom-based organization that offers free online security advice, emphasizes the importance of updating antivirus and antispyware software. Online gamers should

be accustomed to receiving notifications that updates to their security software are available, and should always install these updates as soon as possible. Play online games only after the updates have been downloaded and installed.

Parents of online gamers may need to download and install these updates for their children, who may not recognize the threat posed by outdated security software.

Online criminals use viruses and spyware to access gamers' personal information, and many can recognize vulnerabilities in software programs very quickly. That only highlights how important it is that security software is updated as soon as updates are made available.

• Resist the temptation to play pirated games. Playing pirated copies of games is not just illegal, but also risky. Pirated games that must be downloaded may contain viruses or spyware. When purchasing games, purchase them only from authorized sellers. Online gamers, even if they download pirated games that do not contain viruses or spyware, may be banned from playing games if manufacturers discover they have used counterfeit programs in the past, yet another reason to

resist the temptation to play pirated games.

• Choose a safe username. Usernames that contain personal information, such as a date of birth, can make gamers vulnerable to identity theft and other online crimes. When choosing a username, make sure it contains no sensitive personal information, and never include such information in online gaming profiles.

• Dispose of devices properly. Before discarding, reselling or giving away a device as a gift, make sure it is scrubbed clean of any personal information. Scan the device for photos and videos, and sign out of all online accounts, including social media profiles.

Online gaming is popular, and that popularity can be exploited by online criminals when gamers fail to prioritize security.



BILL 194 MAKES LOCAL GOVERNMENT LESS OPEN

Bill 194, the Miscellaneous Municipal Statutes Amendment Act, was recently given second reading in the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly and could soon become law. It recommends amendments to several Acts relating to the publication of official notices by city, town and rural municipalities.

In short, Bill 194 removes the requirement for city, town and rural municipalities to provide 'public notice' of valuable information that affects our daily lives, in exchange for 'public access' to that information.

It gives local government the option to post information only on its own website rather than using independent media to inform citizens of its actions.

If this bill is passed, it will be up to you to have to go and find out yourself if any land is being rezoned, or if your municipality has hired people without advertising that a position was available, or if there is a notice of an upcoming election.

Local government has said that the sections in Bill 194 that affect mandatory publishing of public notices in newspapers will be at the discretion of the council or municipality as to whether they will do that.

Bill 194 must be amended to keep public notice in independent media and to protect openness and transparency of local government.

BE INFORMED. BE HEARD. BE PART OF THE PROCESS

Call, write or visit your MLA to let them know you deserve PUBLIC NOTICE not just public access.

Or contact the sponsoring minister Hon. Lori Carr, Ministry of Government Relations

Phone: (306) 787-6100 or Email: minister.gr@gov.sk.ca

Mailing address: Room 30, Legislative Building, 2405 Legislative Drive, Regina, SK, S4S 0B3

This message is brought to you by the Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association



Thank You

Thank you to all the volunteers who gathered the food and helped pack the 2019 Christmas Hampers. There were 42 hampers in total, which helped 73 adults and 61 children for a total of 134 individuals. Through the generosity of: the many volunteers, businesses, churches & Green Leaf Hutterite colony, community organizations, schools, and many individuals in Shellbrook and area, the hampers this year were very generous. The support was overwhelming. Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way, large or small, in helping to make this Christmas a little brighter for those in need, to receive some love and support.

- Shellbrook and Area Ministerial Association