

Shellbrook Chronicle

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Silvertips go 1-1 to close out regular season



It was a close call, but the puck somehow stayed out of the back of the Dalmeny net on this offensive rush led by Silvertips forward Jody Blais.

It won't go down in history as the best weekend of hockey for the Shellbrook Silvertips, but it was good enough for the team to secure its second place finish in the Twin Rivers Hockey League standings.

The Tips closed out their 2019-2020 regular season with back-to-back home games on Friday and Saturday evening, dropping a 7-6 decision to the Waldheim Warriors in their second shootout loss of the season, and following it up with a rough 6-4 victory over the Dalmeny Sabres.

Tips (6) vs Warriors (7)

The first 47 minutes Friday evening's match-up against the Waldheim Warriors went about as well as the Tips could hope.

Thanks to Brendon Beaulac, who got assists from Brett Robillard and Nathaniel

Martin, the Tips were able to jump out to an early 1-0 lead. Waldheim fired right back a minute later, with Derek Bergen scoring on a helper from Leland Dueker, but much of the rest of the opening frame would belong to the Tips.

Parker Turner netted an unassisted goal to put the Tips back on top, and, after an offensive lull, Devin Dicus grew the Tips' lead to two goals on assists from Matthew Kutnikoff and Beaulac.

With time winding down in the period, Waldheim cut the deficit back down one, with Bergen recording his second marker on assists from Kyle Schmidt and TJ Hiebert.

The second frame, much like the first, proved to be mostly Tips, as Nathaniel

Martin got the scoring started, and Brett Mason followed up 36 seconds later to push the score to 5-2. Robillard and Dicus provided assists on the first goal, while Parker Turner earned the lone helper on the second.

Rounding out the scoresheet for the period, the Warriors struck back to pull within two. Rylan Schmidt netted the goal, with assists from Hiebert and Bergen.

Moving to the third frame, the Tips restored their three-goal lead on another goal from Parker Turner. Dorin Canaday and Brett Mason drew assists on the play.

But just over a minute later, everything came unravelled for the Tips.

It started with a Waldheim goal by Cody Bulyaki, with assists from Parker Block and

Nelson Peters. Four minutes later, Hiebert struck, on assists from Dueker and Rylan Schmidt, to bring the Warriors within one.

Shortly after that, Bergen knotted the game up with a hat trick marker, thanks to assists from Colton Smith and Kyle Schmidt, to force overtime.

Following five scoreless minutes of overtime, the action moved to a shootout. Here, the Tips came up short to fall 7-6.

Bergen earned credit for the final Waldheim goal.

Tips (6) vs Sabres (4)

If Friday evening's game started out well for the Tips, then Saturday evening's regular season closer against the Dalmeny Sabres was about as bad as it could get.

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Hidden Hills, Shellbrook Pool receive estate donations

Two Shellbrook recreation facilities have been named beneficiaries of large donations from the estate of the late Velma Ell.

Velma, a career teacher who lived many of her years in Shellbrook with her husband Joe Ell (who passed in 2004), passed away on Feb. 10, 2018 at the age of 91.

Though Velma taught in many communities up until her retirement, she and Joe both said they liked Shellbrook best, and even built their home in the com-

munity.

To give something back to the community that she and Joe loved best of all, Velma left \$153,020.73 to the Hidden Hills of Shellbrook Golf Course, and another \$76,510.36 to the Shellbrook Swimming Pool, bringing the total donations from her estate to \$229,531.09.

Those numbers were confirmed by the executor of Velma's estate last Thursday, and the funds come with the condition that they be put toward capital expenditures at

the facilities — meaning that the money can't be used to pay down the remainder of the golf course's loan from the town, for instance.

Calling the funds left in the estate a "very generous contribution towards these facilities," town of Shellbrook administrator Kelly Hoare explained that the money for the swimming pool won't be spent right away.

"For now, we will just put it into reserves for future upgrades," she said. "The liner in the pool has to be replaced every five or so years, and the cost runs around \$20,000. We may also require a new boiler in the near future."

Speaking on behalf of the Hidden Hills of Shellbrook Golf Course,



The Shellbrook Swimming Pool received \$76,510 from the estate of late Shellbrook resident Velma Ell. The funds will be put into reserves until the need to complete capital projects arises.

general manager Larry Ritchie said he couldn't comment on what the funds might be put towards, but he did list a few projects that the golf

course board has had in mind for some time now — an expansion of the parking lot on the north side of the club house, to name just one.

The decision about what to do with the funds from Velma's estate will fall to the board when they meet in the spring.



The Hidden Hills of Shellbrook Golf Course received \$153,020 from the estate of Velma Ell.

Big River RCMP news highlights

Big River RCMP make arrest on Big River FN

On Jan. 31 at approximately 1:30 a.m. members of Big River RCMP attempted to stop a vehicle on Big River First Nation. The vehicle fled from police but was stopped soon afterwards by police. Three people fled from the vehicle when police approached.

Police located and arrested a female inside the suspect vehicle. Upon searching the vehicle incidental to arrest a weapon and a quantity of crystal meth was located. The female was taken into custody.

A 32 year old female from Ahtah-

kakoop First Nation is facing criminal code weapons charges and possession of crystal meth charges.

Her next court appearance is March 10 on Big River First Nation, SK.

Court dates set for Big River FN men

Two Big River First Nation men facing numerous firearms offences have pleaded not guilty and their trials are set.

Henry Ratt, 23, and Larry Durocher, 36, were arrested Oct. 19, 2019, by Big River RCMP after trying to evade police.

RCMP officers noticed a red-

coloured Chevrolet Monte Carlo driving slow and all over the road. They tried to stop the vehicle but it accelerated and fled the area. Police didn't pursue.

Just a short distance away, police noticed marks on the road they believed to be consistent with a vehicle turning at a high rate of speed. They followed the marks that led to a dirt road and found the Monte Carlo with four people in the vehicle.

One person fled but was arrested a short time later by the North Battleford Police Dog Service.

Upon searching the vehicle, police seized a sawed-off 12-gauge shotgun with 20-gauge ammunition, a .308 calibre bullet, a machete, knives, four cell phones, a baton, masks, zip ties and \$2,895 in cash.

Ratt's trial is scheduled in Big River First Nation court on April 17. Durocher's trial starts on Feb. 14 in Big River First Nation court. Both Ratt and Durocher are still in custody.

Jerry Stewart Netmaker, 39, and Kelsey Lee Lachance, 23, were also in the vehicle and arrested and charged with traffic offences.

Police are still looking for the final occupant of the vehicle, according to Saskatchewan RCMP media relations.

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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.

Visit www.swna.com for further information and nomination forms

Nominations close March 31, 2020

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Silvertips go 1-1 to close out regular season

Continued from 1

After controlling much of the early action, but seeing little by way of scoring opportunities, the Tips surrendered the first goal. Dawson Rowley netted the Dalmeny marker after a gritty penalty kill by the Sabres, beating Segberg over his glove. Harlan Wutzke earned the lone assist.

The Tips knotted it up late in the period, with Brett Mason scoring on an assist from Mitch Wourms, but the team still looked to be far from in top form.

In a quiet second frame, the Tips continued to struggle when it came to generating offensive opportunities. This allowed the Sabres to re-

claim their one-goal lead, as Kyle Martin scored on a cross-ice floater that handcuffed Segberg. Terin Belosowsky and Caleb Scheller drew assists on the goal.

Gifted with the remainder of a 5-on-3 power play to start the third period, the Tips seized the momentum. Jody Blais tied the game up with a top-shelf sniper shot, earning assists from Wourms and Brendon Beaulac.

Minutes later, the Tips managed to claim their first lead of the night, with Brendon Canaday delivering a rifle blast from the point. Nathaniel Martin and Brett Robillard earned the assists.

With the Sabres reeling, Robillard netted a

goal of his own, courtesy of assists from Martin and Devin Dicus. But the Sabres struck back just over a minute later, as Rowley notched his second of the evening on a helper from Tanner Schick.

Given another power play, the Tips made the most of it, as Martin scored on assists from Dicus and Canaday. Late in the frame, Parker Turner gave the Tips a three-goal lead, scoring on helpers from Wourms and Mason.

With the seconds ticking down, the Sabres rallied to score one last goal, with Rylan Couture tucking home a juicy rebound to end the game 6-4 for the Tips. Belosowsky and Kyle Martin earned the



Dalmeny's Dawson Rowley flips the puck over the glove of Silvertips netminder Jory Segberg to score the first goal of Saturday evening's regular season closer.

assists on the goal.

For his gritty two-point performance, Brett Mason earned "Tip of the Game" honours.

With the loss and the win, the Silvertips ended their season at 14-2-0-2, leaving them in second place behind the Birch Hills Blackhawks, who

won the tiebreaker on the strength of a better goal differential.

That sets the team up for the first round of the playoffs, and a rematch against the Dalmeny Sabres.

Game one of the best-of-three series is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 7 in

Dalmeny. Puck drop for the game is 8:30 p.m.

The next night, game two will be played in Shellbrook. That game is slated for an 8 p.m. start.

If necessary, game three will be played in Shellbrook on Friday, Feb. 14. That game has an 8:30 p.m. start time.

Municipal Revenue Sharing climbs to \$278 million

In his annual speech to the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) Premier Scott Moe announced Saskatchewan municipalities will receive record revenue sharing.

Overall funding under the municipal revenue sharing program will increase to a record of \$278 million next fiscal year – a total increase of \$27 million in 2020-21. The amount represents a nearly 11 per cent increase in 2020-21 from the current fiscal year, and is almost a 119 per cent increase from the 2007-08 fiscal year.

"This massive investment will position municipalities across Saskatchewan for the new decade of growth and to continue making key investments in their communities," said Premier Moe. "Municipal revenue sharing has provided municipalities a stable and predictable source of provincial revenue, and I am proud to continue our commitment to supporting key local priorities that help lay the foundation for a growing Saskatchewan."

The Government of Saskatchewan's municipal revenue sharing program is based on three quarters of one point of the provincial sales tax (PST) revenue collected from the fiscal year two years prior to the current year.

As introduced last year, \$1.5 million from the to-

tal municipal revenue sharing program will also be invested in the Targeted Sector Support Initiative for municipalities.

The initiative is co-managed with municipal partners to support innovative ideas from municipalities that advance priority areas, such as good governance, regional planning, and inter-community collaboration.

With this announcement, Saskatchewan municipalities have overall been allocated more than \$3.1 billion in provincial funding through the revenue sharing program from 2007-08 to 2020-21. More details will be available when the provincial budget is released.

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Premier Scott Moe *and the*
**Saskatchewan
Party Caucus**
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Sask. Party must answer for travel expenses

For the 10 Saskatchewan NDP MLAs currently sitting in the legislature down in Regina, it must feel, at times, as if the party is lost in space where no one can hear them screaming.

As is the official opposition party's duty, the Sask. NDP devotes a great deal of its time to holding the feet of the Saskatchewan Party government, and Premier Scott Moe, to the fire. And if the inboxes of media outlets like this one are anything to go by, it seems as though there are many reasons for it to do so.



JORDAN
TWISS
~
News Editor

First among those questions, is why did Mr. Moe choose to take a \$4,000 chartered flight from this constituency to Regina two months ago? Could better scheduling of his time not have allowed him to make the four-hour drive instead, saving taxpayers money?

Next, one could easily ask why the premier's total travel expenses for the 2018-2019 fiscal year are nearly double those of former Premier Brad Wall in 2016-2017 (\$84,000 for Mr. Moe, compared to \$45,000 for Mr. Wall).

Yet, for all its castigations of the Sask. Party, and all the questions (some more valid than others) it raises, the party is scarcely capable of generating more than an indifferent shrug of the shoulders from Saskatchewanians.

Any response it does get, tends towards the negative, either unearthing the buried corpses of long-dead NDP governments, or accusing the party of making a mountain out of a molehill.

Case in point, the complete lack of public response to the Sask. Party's failure to be open and transparent about its travel expenses.

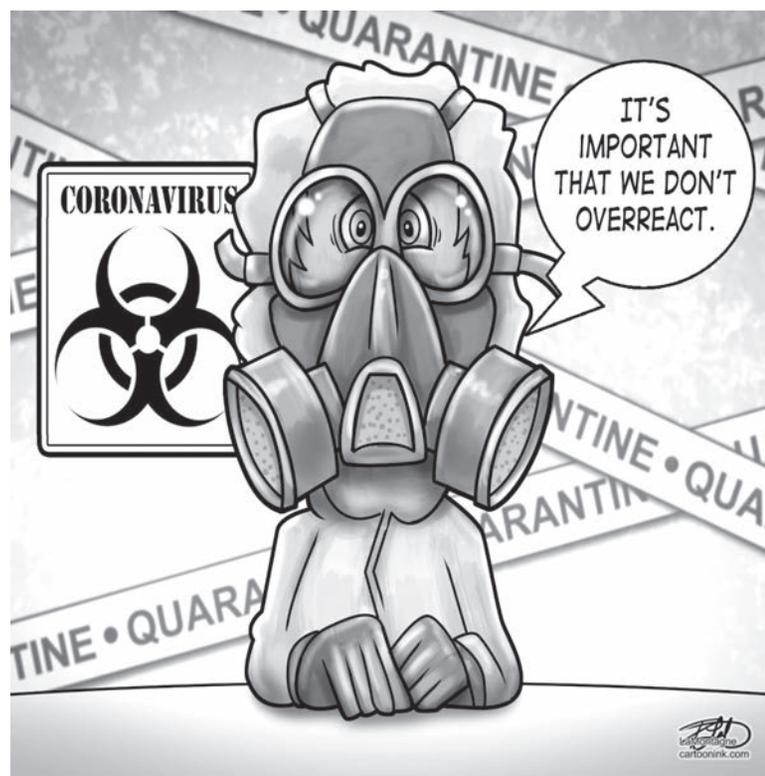
Following a recent Freedom of Information request, which cost the Sask. NDP an absurd \$1,690, there are certainly many things that the Sask. Party government should be answering questions about, when it comes to its failure to make information about the travel of MLAs, ministers, and the premier readily available to the public.

Last, but certainly not least, Saskatchewan taxpayers have a right to know why ministerial travel costs for the past fiscal year increased by 53 per cent, ballooning to \$321,248.

"It's a pretty significant increase when we're looking at a province that's telling everyone else that they should tighten their belts," said NDP ethics and democracy critic David Forbes.

"We've seen a billion-dollar increase in PST in the last few years. Everybody else is paying more. And if that's paying more so ministers and the premier can travel more, they want to know why and they want to know what it's for."

No doubt, the Sask. Party has an explanation for all of its travel. One perfectly reasonable justification is that the Sask. Party government has been spending more money on trade missions, as part of its economic strategy to open up more markets for Saskatchewan exports and make up for lost oil and other non-renewable revenues.



This is certainly good and worthwhile work — work that will have measurable economic benefits for the province. But if this is all there is to it, then why bother with all the obfuscation?

To be clear, the cause of the increased travel expenses for Mr. Moe and his Sask. Party government colleagues is the least of the issues with this situation (unless, of course, it's revealed that the money isn't actually being spent on what it's intended for).

What's truly at issue, is the fact that Mr. Moe's government doesn't seem to have any interest in disclosing information that should already be readily available to the general public.

As the Saskatchewan NDP noted, it was simply asking for basic information that's readily available in almost every other province.

In its news release, the party highlighted

that, "Alberta provides ministerial office expenses and international travel expenses. British Columbia provides ministerial and Deputy Ministers' expenses including itemized receipts. Manitoba provides quarterly expense reports for ministerial travel and annual reports of ministerial office expenses ... Ontario discloses travel, hotel accommodation, meal, and hospitality expenses for each MPP."

Perhaps this whole unavoidable situation is a sign that the Sask. Party government has gotten a little too comfortable at the public trough over the past 13 years.

Or perhaps it's just gotten too good at playing the old government game making itself hard to scrutinize by making it more difficult for people to hold it to account.

Whatever it is, Saskatchewanians should be demanding answers.

Gormley: Sask. election will have significant firsts

There's an old saying in politics that a weekend can be an eternity, meaning that game-changing variables can move dramatically and quickly. The corollary is that making predictions months before an election is a mug's game.

Saskatchewan voters will cast ballots at the end of October and it will be a significant election for a few reasons. First, the Saskatchewan Party faces its fourth election as government and, besides the once natural governing party CCF-NDP which had a lock on the province from 1944 until the early 2000s, the last non-NDP government to govern this long was the founding Liberal government in 1905 that held power for more than two decades.

Second, for Premier Scott Moe it will be his first public accountability session. Although Premier since early 2018, it was by virtue of winning the leadership of the gov-

erning Sask. Party, not a decision made by the general electorate. After three successful campaigns with the popular Brad Wall at the helm, this election will be Mr. Moe's first ask of voters to endorse him and the party under his leadership.

Third, for the NDP — the one-time political powerhouse that had only five leaders during 44 years of governing — this fall's election will see the party's fourth leader in four elections. Once thought impossible for a political party that reveres its leaders and memorializes their names, the NDP has cycled through leaders as if hunting for a magic formula that eludes them.

The party's latest leader, Dr. Ryan Meili, is a physician, social justice activist and relative newcomer to party politics. Although a dedicated campaigner for a variety of causes — he was even locked up while protesting at the Quebec City

Summit of the Americas as a medical student — Dr. Meili's challenge has been to build out his party beyond its base.

It is axiomatic in politics — right or left in Saskatchewan — that when a party is considered for the privilege of governing it must reach past its core supporters to moderates, unaffiliated voters and political "switchers" who take a leap of faith. Dr. Meili's harder left-wing social activism and "smartest guy in the room" demeanour will leave him challenged.

A longtime political friend refers to two attributes that win elections: the opportunity for pleasant surprises and not being tempted by lost causes. Pleasant surprises are positions that attract voters beyond the party base. The temptation of lost causes is the tendency for a leader to either stay stuck campaigning to the base vote, which doesn't grow support, or trying to

move too far into issues and voters that will not yield results. It takes discipline and a good team to maintain a formula that wins.

A good example is Ryan Meili's public support for Unifor members involved in the labour dispute at the Coop Refinery in Regina. While the NDP is an official labour party, relying on union financial and volunteer support, rather than show up on the picket line early on and declare his support, Dr. Meili waited until the situation deteriorated into lawlessness, stood in the crowd, nodding approvingly as out-of-province activists threatened an escalation in illegal activity, rule of law be damned. As public support for Unifor and its Ontario leadership has plummeted, Dr. Meili's appearance did nothing to expand his support beyond hardcore union activists, whose votes he already has.

For the Sask. Party and Premier Moe, a softer resource economy

and a government in Ottawa committed to "transitioning" away from many Saskatchewanians livelihoods, are a challenge. While his recently unveiled growth agenda sets out some workable paths forward, his reach will have to be broader than just campaigning against the Trudeau government.

As the economy has softened in some sectors, the Premier's steady, balanced and "Sask-first" approach have earned him popularity ratings over 50%, which are enviable for any leader, never mind one leading a party that has governed for over a dozen years.

This will be the year that leaders get tested.

John Gormley is a broadcaster, lawyer, author and former Progressive Conservative MP whose radio talk show is heard weekdays from 8:30 a.m. — 12:30 p.m. on 650 CKOM Saskatoon and 980 CJME Regina

Report from the Legislature

Saskatchewan is an entrepreneurial province in which we want people to be able to start and grow their businesses. Reducing red tape and regulatory burden is imperative because we know that when small businesses grow, Saskatchewan grows.

Saskatchewan's Growth Plan for The Next Decade recognizes that competitiveness is crucial to economic growth. On the issue of taxes, regulations and government spending, our objective is to ensure Saskatchewan remains competitive.

We know that red tape can stand in the way of the growth of businesses and communities. Our government's "Help Cut Red Tape" web portal helps residents fast-track their concerns on regulations. Our work on this initiative was recently recognized and celebrated by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB).

Saskatchewan received the CFIB's highest ranking



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in their national Red Tape Report Card for its efforts to reduce red tape and modernize regulations. We will continue to identify and cut red tape with additional actions in our Growth Plan, which include:

- appointing a business advisory panel from communities across the province to identify priorities for the Government of Saskatchewan's Red Tape Reduction Committee;
- keeping the province's finances strong and investing in priorities such as

infrastructure and health care, which are areas of concern for small businesses; and

- utilizing the Government of Saskatchewan's Direct Cost Estimator to make informed decisions.

This past year, Saskatchewan saw an increase of 10,400 jobs, or 1.8 per cent, from 2018. More than half of that job growth is due to full-time jobs. In spite of some external headwinds, the creation of 10,400 jobs last year is an indication that Saskatchewan has a robust, diverse and growing economy and is on track for continued growth.

Complete with action items and ambitious goals for the future, Saskatchewan's Growth Plan for The Next Decade is a roadmap to get us there. To learn more please visit saskgrowthplan.ca.

There was a time not long ago when Saskatchewan had the highest number of road fatalities in Canada. In 2019, fewer people were killed on Saskatchewan



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roads than in any single year since records started being kept in the 1950s.

Our government has taken stricter enforcement measures, introduced targeted legislation and run powerful awareness campaigns – all to reduce road fatalities – because collisions are preventable and even one traffic death is too many.

Thank you to all Saskatchewan residents for working to make our roads safer.

Distracted driving is

one of the leading factors in collisions and injuries from automobile crashes in Saskatchewan. In an effort to reduce the number of people driving while distracted, harsher penalties are now being introduced.

Effective February 1, 2020, the cost of a distracted driving ticket for a first offence will more than double, from \$280 to \$580, plus four demerits.

A second offence, within a year of being convicted of the first, is a \$1,400 ticket, plus an additional four demerits, plus an immediate, seven-day vehicle seizure. This penalty does not include the costs associated with towing and impound fees.

A third offence within a year of conviction of the first is a \$2,100 ticket, plus four more demerits and another seven-day vehicle seizure.

It is against the law in Saskatchewan to hold, view, use or manipulate electronic communication equipment while driving a mo-

tor vehicle, and if you are caught, you will get a ticket under distracted driving legislation.

It's important to know that an experienced driver can use a hands-free device if it can be activated with voice commands or one-touch, and is mounted on the dashboard or visor in a cradle. But if you're a new driver in the Graduated Driver Licensing program, even hands-free devices are not acceptable and are illegal to use.

Other forms of distracted driving like eating, using GPS, reading, personal grooming or interacting with pets or passengers are covered under driving without due care and attention legislation. These activities are not considered against the law and won't automatically result in a ticket. But, if your behaviour poses a risk to road safety, you may be ticketed by police for driving without due care and attention.

To learn more visit sgi.sk.ca.

YOUR TWO CENTS

Real action needed on clean energy

Dear editor,

I was really pleased to see the January 30 Spiritwood Herald include a letter about energy issues, an article about plastic waste and an article about soil improvements.

All of these are important issues that deserve our attention and thoughtful consideration.

Our reliance on fossil fuels has enabled us to

build a highly productive economy, but it has also come with serious consequences. We have spewed greenhouse gases into the atmosphere to such an extent that we face a climate emergency.

We need to cut back our use of fossil fuels and rapidly expand our renewable energy infrastructure.

Saskatchewan has lots of wind and sun that can be harnessed to generate electricity. Instead of having our tax dollars subsidize the fossil fuel industry, we should be supporting a transition to clean energy.

Kay Willson,
Spiritwood

Nuclear energy raises many questions

Dear editor,

This is an add to the excellent article by Crystal Frenette on Pickering and nuclear electricity generation.

Sask. obviously didn't accept the Sk-NDP candidate who was going to put big nuclear with notorious Bruce Electric in control.

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Shellbrook Chronicle

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Member of



Greyeyes to share Freda Ahenakew's legacy

Libraries and stories go hand-in-hand.

But during the month of February, also known in the province as Aboriginal Storytelling Month, the Marcelin Library will feature a special kind of storytelling that emphasizes and celebrates Cree culture.

Hailing from the nearby Muskeg Lake Cree Nation, Gloria Greyeyes will be swinging by the library on Saturday Feb. 8 for a two-hour storytelling and discussion session.

Referring to herself as a land-based learning consultant rather than a storyteller, Greyeyes says it's not her own stories she'll be sharing, but those created and preserved by her mother, the late Cree scholar, linguist, and author Freda Ahenakew.

"Colonization has



Gloria Greyeyes (right) with her mother, Freda.

done such a great job that a lot of our history and ways of being and looking at the First Nations is becoming very elusive," Greyeyes said. "People such as myself need to get out there, share these stories, and work, so that the youth, or anybody, can see that they can be anything they want to be."

Using her own mother as an example of what Aboriginal people can do if given the oppor-

tunity to dream and achieve their dreams, Greyeyes explains that Freda was a mother to 12 children who decided to return to school later in life — first earning a bachelor of education degree, then a master of arts degree in Cree Linguistics.

Freda's lifelong work to promote and preserve Cree culture and language saw her record and translate the stories and legends of

Elders from Cree into Cree Syllabics and English, create a Cree dictionary, publish numerous books of her own, and teach generations of Indigenous youth about their heritage.

This important work earned her honorary doctorates from the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Manitoba, as well as the Order of Canada.

And Greyeyes says she managed to accomplish it all while still being a loving and attentive mother to all of her children.

"She accomplished so much, even though..." said Greyeyes.

While she shares her mother's stories, including the legends of how the birch tree got its stripes and how the mouse got its brown teeth, and discusses her mother's life, Greyeyes says she hopes he

storytelling session will be informative to those who attend.

She also hopes that the stories she shares will encourage guests to pick up some of her mother's work.

"It may break down a few of the stereotypes of Indigenous people being non-productive in society," she said. "It will show people that it doesn't matter who you are or where you come from. You just get an idea or a dream into your head, and you go for it. It's very possible."

Reflecting on Saskatchewan Aboriginal Storytelling Month, Greyeyes says it's important because storytelling in all Aboriginal communities is a way of teaching, and an important part of the family unit.

"It was a family thing. The elders would be somewhere, and every-

body would go to them, and they would tell stories of how we are related to our surroundings," Greyeyes said, noting that this practice was pushed aside as colonization came in.

While technology has allowed for the revival and dissemination of a tradition and stories that were nearly lost, Greyeyes says that nothing compares to the traditional way of storytelling.

"Storytelling, in person, you get to see body language, you get to look in the person's eyes. It's so much of a personal connection," she said. "You can still read those same stories on the internet. But it will be a different feeling and experience."

Greyeyes will be at the Marcelin Library sharing her mother's stories on Saturday, Feb. 8 from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Sask. Health Authority volunteer opportunities

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

Pet Therapy— Parkland Integrated Health Centre, Shellbrook (306) 747-6841

Volunteers with well-trained, friendly pets may visit the resi-

dents at the Homes. The pets must meet the necessary requirements prior to visiting.

Shifts: Flexible
"On Call" Volunteers — Wheatland Lodge, Leask (306) 466-4949

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.

Shifts: Flexible
Friendly Visiting — Whispering Pine Place, Canwood (306) 468-2900

Make a difference in someone's day by visiting residents on a one-to-one basis or in

small groups, chatting, playing cards, reading or strolling with residents.

Shifts: Flexible
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.

YOUR TWO CENTS

Nuclear energy raises many questions

Continued from 5

Having lived in Toronto's Scarborough, we have drunk radioactive water in summer when the Great Lake Pickering H₂O (water) backwatered.

There was, one time, a lot of curiosity generated about the P. nuclear plant grounds flooded with vehicles and the total absence of official comments — it cannot be expected officials in government on nuclear are going to brag about the slightest failure in a facility.

Sitting inside a control room watching a big board full of lights may be exciting your first week on the job. There was one point in time Pickering people were wondering what some of the operators were smoking. Today, with opiated brownies to cure boredom.... let's

pray!

The tech, re "small", is, as stated by C.F., experimental.

Big Nuke was engaged in Ontario big time, and there have been many questions raised from time to time. Satisfying answers to the public are hard to get.

The Nuclear people proclaim that we have made nuclear subs that are safe, so why no SN made electricity? Have you seen an studies on subs and people in them? Long-term studies?

BP oil learned that the Russians drilled one mile down, found oil. They said why don't we drill down one mile. Must be okay!

But the Russians drilled on dry, solid ground... did they notice or care? Be-

cause they trilled through flowing, softer than warm butter water! Then the black stuff flowed unbound, unconfineable, and they tried to stop it with golf balls — very sportsmanlike!

Does this company have an engineering department? They were allowed after the gulf spill to drill in Canadian waters, and have already damaged the fish farmers' spawning grounds! So much for company responsibility.

The small nukes are said to take 10 years before being in place. Everyone should be aware of inflation (governments count on it to pay off old debts with inflated dollars).

There is only so much these privatized (yes, governments proposing these are the ones willing to privatize

everything) plants can change — costs are high — profiteers are known to cut safety costs.

Nuclear has always been related to water. Subs are in H₂O. This fuel is temperamental. Pickering is at Lake Ontario. Alberta ice fields are receding. The oil companies have never been willing to share profits in good times. Both think they shouldn't have to pay taxes.

Do you think they're going to share H₂O with Sask. when it gets in short supply?

It's up to people to ask questions, not accept poor answers.

Hoping I have been of use to Sask.,
N. Levandoski,
Chitek Lake

Winter brings guessing game for farmers

It is that time of year when farmers sit at their desks and kitchen tables and hope they can divine the future in terms of what crops to plant in the spring to generate the best returns this fall.

The process is not a new one, although given all the technology at hand, and data at their fingertips, the process is probably now easier today than it was in the 1960s, or 1940s.

Certainly, 2020 would seem to be a year with a fair amount of cloud and fog rolling through the crystal ball making decisions just that little bit

more difficult.

For some, the question marks for spring are really the ones lingering from last fall. There are producers with crop still in the field and doing something with that once the snow goes will put added time pressure on producers who already face a squeeze in terms of a limited spring window.

Even if it's not a case of removing leftover crop, the long, drawn out harvest meant many producers were not able to apply fall fertilizer, or do other pre-seeding preparatory work. That may



CALVIN DANIELS

well force some changes in cropping plans.

Then there are the vagaries of international markets. The marketplace for grains and oilseeds is always difficult to fully analyze with any long term clarity because

weather and politics can change things almost overnight.

Global climate change may, or may not be a myth, but more severe weather does seem to be hitting around the world with greater frequency, and the more severe a storm, or drought, and the larger the area affected, the greater its impact on markets.

With Donald Trump facing impeachment proceeding as American president, rising tensions in the middle east, Vladimir Putin still stirring the pot from Russia, and British Prime

Minister Boris Johnson stickhandling clumsily through that country's withdrawal from the European Union, there is as much political volatility as ever.

And, there are the cropping options themselves.

Prairie producers have been very reliant on canola in recent years as their go-to crop for maximum returns. However, clubroot is a disease issue that is not going away, and anytime rotations are pushed it tends to favour the emergence of pest and disease.

There are of course

many cropping options, but past canola and wheat, they have all been relegated to near niche market status, which means too many producers opting for any one crop might signal a downturn in prices. As an example, one recent headline in farm media noted an expected increase in acres devoted to oats could signal a price decline.

So the questions are many, but as always, farmers will take something of a leap of faith, set a plan, and take the annual roll of the dice that is grain farming.

APAS carbon tax costing review confirms huge loss to SK farmers

The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS) has released updated estimates on the financial impacts of the federal carbon tax on Saskatchewan producers.

"Federal Minister of Agriculture Marie-Claude Bibeau has asked the agriculture industry for evidence of what the carbon tax is costing Canadian farmers," says APAS President Todd Lewis, who farms near Gray, SK. "We've responded with estimates that are backed up by producer bills in 2019."

APAS's costing review takes into consideration all major farm expenses not currently exempt from the carbon tax. These include grain drying, rail transportation, heating and electricity, and truck hauling of crops off the farm.

The evidence is stark: on average, Saskatchewan farmers can expect to lose 8% of their total net income in 2020 to the carbon tax. For a household managing a 5,000-acre grain farm in Saskatchewan, this will take the form of a \$8,000-10,000 bill.

In less than two years, when the carbon tax increases to \$50/tonne in 2022, this bill will go up to \$13,000-17,000 for the same household – the equivalent of a 12% decrease in net income.

"It's comparable to having 12% of your pay cheque disappear," says Lewis. "Farmers don't set our prices, so those increased costs are coming directly off our bottom line."

"APAS's numbers reflect my personal experience down to the penny," says APAS Vice-President Bill Prybylski,

who farms with his son, brother, and nephews near Willowbrook, SK. "This past year was unprecedented in terms of the role grain drying played for farmers in our province. Without using propane to dry our grain, the wet fall would have meant losing a huge portion of our crop."

Rail transportation is another huge and unavoidable taxable expense incurred by farmers.

"Trucking my crop to the grain elevator, and then shipping it by rail to the coast is one of my biggest annual ex-

penses," says APAS Vice-President Ian Boxall, who farms at his century farm near Tisdale, SK. "Transporting crops is a necessary farm expense, but for some reason it's not exempt from the carbon tax."

APAS is advocating, on behalf of Saskatchewan farmers, for a carbon tax exemption on all farm expenses, including those from 2019. "Our hope is that this is the evidence the Minister is looking for," says Lewis, "and that the Federal Government will step in to help farmers."

Blaine Lake RCMP seek missing Shaun Woytiuk

On January 28, 2020, Blaine Lake RCMP was asked to complete a wellness check on 40-year-old Shaun Woytiuk. The complainant had not seen him in many years. Blaine Lake officers have not been able to locate him and want to confirm his well-being. Shaun may be in the Edmonton or Lloydminster areas, but this is not confirmed.

The description we have for him is: 5' 11" tall with blue eyes and blonde hair. We do not have a photo available.

We would like the public to contact us if they know of Shaun's whereabouts or if they have seen or been in contact with him recently.

If you have information, please contact Blaine Lake RCMP at 306-497-3600 or contact your nearest police service.

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Chin hopes to impart artistic wisdom in Marcelin

After more than three decades of painting, artist John Chin says he still follows the wisdom of Pablo Picasso.

"Picasso once said you paint according to what

you think, not what you actually see. I have always been very interested in doing that," he said. "You do a lot of internalization and imagination, and change things from

one perspective to another. You create something interesting or unusual."

For Chin, who was born in Malaysia, the love of art began when he was seven or eight years old and just beginning his education. This love and excitement for the visual arts brought him to Saskatchewan and the U of S, where he obtained a bachelor of fine arts.

In the years since, Chin says he's gone through many phases as an artist — including a phase in which he was obsessed with crop circles — but that his passion for creating things that people have never seen remains unchanged.

"I did quite a lot of landscape paintings, and after I started diving, I did quite a bit of marine life," he said, adding that the varied and changing Canadian landscape has always been a great source of inspiration.

"What inspires me is

the colours of living organisms. Anything that's colourful and moves and changes, I have interest in."

Over the years, Chin has also done his fair share of teaching the arts. Most notably, he founded and taught at the Art Institute of Miri in Malaysia, providing art lessons to children, youth, and adults.

He's also no stranger to taking part in art shows and displaying his work, and currently has his paintings on display at the Marcelin Public Library.

If he has his way, the future will also see him provide some of his expertise to artistically inclined library patrons at

some point in the near future.

"I got talking with Marilyn, the librarian, and I found out that they would like to have activities in the library. I thought I could help out with that by doing some classes for people who were interested in learning or picking up a new hobby," he said.

While the details are still to be ironed out, Chin says he'd teach either watercolour or acrylic painting in courses held on weekday afternoons, when the library is already open for business.

While patrons would need to pay a fee for the class and the materials (he suggested \$10 or \$15 dollars), some of those proceeds would go into

the library to help pay for refreshments and also to support the library.

With a focus on helping his students truly improve their work, Chin says each session will end with a critique of each other's work. And, if it can be arranged, his hope is that his students' work can be exhibited at a show over the summer — maybe even in a bigger centre like Prince Albert or Saskatoon, he says.

"If they have already learned some basics, they can further improve, and perhaps see things from a different perspective, and create art rather than trying to paint the things the way they are," he said, citing Picasso's aforementioned wisdom.



Miller reunites with nephew at AHL All-Star Classic



Shellbrook's Brent Miller recently had an opportunity to reunite with his nephew Connor Ingram, just after he won the Skills competition for goaltenders at the AHL Allstar Classic held in Ontario, California Jan. 26 and 27, 2020.

Connor grew up in Imperial Saskatchewan, the son of Brent and Joni Ingram who both grew up in Shellbrook. Connor's grandparents are Dorothy (and

Alan, deceased) Miller and Jeannette (and Gordon, deceased) Ingram.

Connor is a man of exception character and his entire extended family is very proud of his accomplishments.

Connor has represented Canada at the 2017 World U-20 tournament, and currently has a contract with the Nashville Predators of the NHL. He currently plays for their farm team, the AHL's Milwaukee Admirals.

PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Minutes of an R.M. of Shellbrook council meeting

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

Minutes of a regular meeting of council of the Rural Municipality of Shellbrook no. 493 Held on Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2019 in the municipal office council chambers at Shellbrook, Sask.

Present: Reeve – Doug Oleksyn, Division 1 – Cliff Skauge, Division 2 – Phil Hamel, Division 3 – Sean Helm, Division 4 – Jay Ferster, Division 5 – Derwin Joelson, Division 6 – Ron Herzog, and acting administrator Hugh Otterson.

Delegations:

- 9 a.m.- Randal Johnson, TJ Disposals, Clean Farms.
- 11 a.m.- Chelsea Baraniecki, SARM, Plant Health Officer
- 11:30 a.m.- Bill Aug, Foreman, update on operations.

Reeve Oleksyn called the meeting to order at 8:25 a.m.

Skauge: That the Council of the RM of Shellbrook No. 493 adopt the Agenda as amended. Carried

Hamel: That the Council of the RM of Shellbrook No. 493 approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Nov. 6, 2019 as presented. Carried

Joelson: That the Statement of Financial Activities for the month of November, 2019 be approved as presented. Carried

Ferster: That Council approve Accounts Payable, as hereto attached to these minutes, Regular Accounts Payable cheque numbers 11065 to 11125 in the amount of \$188,406.45 and payroll cheque numbers 13520 to 13539 in the amount of \$44,144.79. Carried

Randall Johnson and Guy Lloyd, TJ Disposals entered the Council Chambers at 9: a.m. to discuss the Clean Farms Program. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Lloyd were excused at 9:15 a.m.

Joelson: That we agree to install a Non - Maintained road sign to be installed at the SW 29-53-01-3. Carried

Helm: That it is now 10:00 am we recess our Regular Meeting to hold the Public Meeting for Bylaw 25/2019 to amend Bylaw 08/1981 known as the Zoning Bylaw for the purpose

of regulating the height of fences in the Hamlet District. Carried

Ferster: That as the public hearing for Bylaw 25/2019 is adjourned we now reconvene our Regular Meeting. Carried

Helm: That Bylaw 25/2019, A Bylaw to Amend Bylaw 08/1981 Known as the Zoning Bylaw; received third and final reading and that the Bylaw forming part of these minutes be now adopted, sealed and signed by the Reeve and Acting Administrator. Carried

Skauge: That it is now 10:30 am we recess our Regular Meeting to hold the Public Meeting for Bylaw 26/2019 to amend Bylaw 08/1981 known as the Zoning Bylaw for the purpose of providing for discretionary evaluation and regulations regarding Distilleries, Wineries and Breweries in the Agriculture Residential District (AR) and C District (C). Carried

Helm: That as the public hearing for Bylaw 26/2019 is adjourned we now reconvene our Regular Meeting. Carried

Joelson: That Bylaw 26/2019 be now read a second time. Carried

Skauge: That Bylaw 26/2019, A Bylaw to Amend Bylaw 08/1981 Known as the Zoning Bylaw; be given third and final reading and that the Bylaw forming part of these minutes be now adopted, sealed and signed by the Reeve and Acting Administrator. Carried

At 10:37 a.m. Elizabeth & Corey Rowden entered the Council Chambers to discuss with Council a Stop Sign issue SE corner of the SE 4-51-2-W3, the Heavy Haul Road adjacent to their farm and some culvert concerns. They left the Council Chambers at 10:57 a.m.

Chelsea Baraniecki, SARM Div. 5 Plant Health Officer, entered the meeting at 11:00 a.m. to discuss Clubfoot surveys and SARM Programs. She departed at 11:26 a.m.

Bill Aug, Foreman entered the Meeting at 11:19 am to update Council on Operations and departed at 12:08 p.m.

Helm: That the Council of the R.M. of Shellbrook agrees to replace the Yield Sign with a Stop Sign at the SE corner of the SE 4-51-2-3. Carried

Councillor Phil Hamel left the Council chambers at 1:26 p.m. as he declared a conflict of interest in the discussion of the applicants for Administrator position. He also declared a conflict of interest in the Invoice from R & B Custom Works Inc.

Skauge: That Reeve Doug Oleksyn and Councillors: Skauge, Helm, Ferster, Joelson and Herzog of the R. M. of Shellbrook No. 493 hereby agree to interview Brenda Lockhart, Vicki Hagel, Colleen Collins and Duane Storey for the position of Administrator on Dec. 11, 2019 commencing at 5 p.m. with the Acting Administrator setting up the interview times.

Ferster: That the Council of the RM of Shellbrook No. 493 hereby agrees to issue a cheque to R & B Custom Works Inc., Shellbrook, Sask., in the amount of \$5,550.00. Carried

Councillor Phil Hamel returned to the Council Chambers at 2:25 p.m.

Councillor Derwin Joelson left the Council meeting at 2:25 p.m.

Skauge: That we agree to set Friday, Jan. 17, 2020 as our next Regular Council meeting date as our regular meeting date falls on Jan. 1, 2020.

Hamel: That the RM of Shellbrook No. 493 authorizes any Council member and the Administrator who would like to attend the Parkland Association meeting on Jan. 15, 2019 at 1 p.m. in Spiritwood at the Recreation Centre. Carried

Ferster: That the Council of the RM of Shellbrook No. 493 agrees to hold as Special of Council on Dec. 20, 2019 commencing at 8:30 a.m. for the following purposes: business matters requiring the municipal council attention and payment of year end accounts, Appointment of 2020 Municipal Committees and Board members, 2020 Custom Work Rates and 2020 Employee wages. Carried

Skauge: That the Council of the R.M. of Shellbrook No. 493 advise Gord Krismer & Associates Ltd., Regina, Sask., of the sudden passing of the late Mr. Des Swain on Nov. 16, 2019 for their records. Carried

Hamel: That the Council of the R.M. of Shellbrook No. 493 advise Govern-

ment of Saskatchewan, Community Planning that in the matter of the proposed subdivision known as Parcel "A" in the SW 18-52-3-W3M that this subdivision complies with our Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw. It is further agreed that we do not require a servicing agreement or upgrades to the existing approach but we require payment for costs from North Bound Planning file review and that all gravel hauling must only go to the east from this location and not over the existing bridge and all hauling must conform Ministry of Highways and Municipal Weight Restrictions. Carried

Hamel: That Council of the RM of Shellbrook No. 493 appoints Grant Thornton LLP, to carry out the 2019 Audit as Cogent C.P.A. joined the aforementioned company. It is further agreed that Resolution 418. 11.19 of the Nov. 6, 2019 is hereby rescinded and that

the Reeve now sign the new Auditor Engagement Letter. Carried

Herzog: That Council of the R.M. of Shellbrook No. 493 hereby agrees to amend the Sick Leave Policy of the Municipality by adding the words "full time" after the word "hourly" in said policy dated March 6, 2019. Carried

Ferster: That the Council of the RM of Shellbrook No. 493 hereby agrees to renew the Quarry Leases with the Sask. Ministry of Agriculture for the leases on the SW 32-50-01-3 and the SW 28 & SE 29-50-02-3. It is further agreed that we now issue a cheque in the amount of \$1,169.37 to cover the Lease Renewal Fess and the 2020 Rental Fee. Carried

Ferster: That the Council and Administrator are hereby authorized to attend the Getting to Outcomes workshop sponsored by N. C.T.P.C. at the Birch Hills Civic Centre on Thursday Feb. 27, 2020 commencing

at 10 a.m. Carried

That the Council of the RM of Shellbrook No. 493 record in these minutes the following list of Volunteer Fire Fighters and First Responders.

Firefighters: Darwin Baptist, Larry Bergen, Al Dion, Brad Novakowski, Kaz Rudolph, Kerry Wendel, Tavis Wason, Timo Rudolph, Jared Wason, Dakota Moore, Ken Kraft.

First Responders: Al Dion, Allison Irvine, Phil Hamel, Yvette Hamel. Carried

Herzog: That the Council of the RM of Shellbrook No. 493 advise S.A.R.M. that for the year 2020 we hereby select \$30,000.00 Elected and Appointed Officials Group Coverage. Carried

Skauge: That the Council of the RM of Shellbrook No. 493 received and file the following Correspondence (list omitted due to space restrictions). Carried

Hamel: That the meeting be adjourned at 3:30 p.m. Carried

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. 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).

CANWOOD: Canwood Regional Park Supper & Auction, Canwood Elks Community Centre, Saturday, March 14, 2020. Happy Hour 5 pm; Supper 6 pm; Auction to follow. Adults \$15; 6-12 yrs \$8; 5 & under free. For information call Bob 306-468-7942 or Terry 306-468-4425. Proceeds to Canwood Regional Park & community improvements.

CAMEO: Cameo Community Snowmobile Rally. Saturday, February 15, Register 12 noon to 2 pm @ Cameo Hall (6 miles west of Shellbrook, then 2 miles north - on Cameo-Buckingham Road). Tickets \$10 each or 3/\$20 *every rider must purchase a \$10 ticket*. 24 hr permit will be available at local SGI's for \$20. Call Keith at 306-747-3765 or 306-747-2101 or Ralph at 306-747-3611. Kaiser Tournament ~ Sunday, Feb. 16, Cameo Hall, Register 12 noon - 1 pm, \$5 per person.

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Astros face pressure to perform in 2020

Pitchers and catchers report to spring training sites in about two weeks and no team is facing more pressure to perform in 2020 than the Houston Astros.

Embroided in a technologically-driven cheating scandal that goes to the heart of their 2017 World Series title, the Astros will be facing extreme scrutiny this summer as they try to win their fourth consecutive American League West pennant and third A.L. championship.

With the talent on the Houston roster — Jose Altuve, Alex Bregman, George Springer, Carlos Correa, Justin Verlander, et al — winning 95 games or so to top the A.L. West should be easily within the Astros' wheelhouse. But if they hit a slump — and a key injury here, or a cold hitting spell there can easily happen — then the skeptics are going to be out in full force.

Did they win the last few years only because of cheating? Did know-

ing that a fastball and not an off-speed pitch was on its way give the Houston hitters an unfair advantage? If the Astros fall back into the middle of the pack in their division, or hover around .500 for a spell, they will undoubtedly be found guilty in the court of public opinion.

Naturally, Houston players want this cheating scandal to go away. As if.

"The commissioner made his report, made his decision and the Astros made their decision and I have no further comment on it," Bregman said at a recent fan-fest event, and reported by NBC Sports.

Pressed to elaborate, Bregman said: "I think in the 2020 year our actions will speak louder than our words."

So true. If the Astros' actions are positive, the heat will be reduced. If the team slumps, the wolves will be out in full force. Calls for Houston to be stricken of its



BRUCE
PENTON

2017 World Series' title, as called for recently by Blue Jays' outfielder Randal Grichuk, among others, will get louder and more vociferous.

Stealing signs the old-fashioned way, by guile, or by a runner peering in from second base, have long been accepted as part of the game. Using electronics and technology to cheat is verboten, and the fallout from the Astros' actions has only just begun.

• Spotted in Dallas on the readerboard of the Truck Yard bar: "Had a funny sign planned for this week, but the Astros

stole it."

• Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "Roy Williams labeled his 8-8 basketball team as 'the least gifted team I've ever coached' in his latest tenure at North Carolina. The Society of Those Feeling Sorry for Roy convenes at noon Wednesday in the back seat of a Kia."

• Comedy guy Brad Dickson of Omaha, on Twitter: "I just hope now Kansas City Chiefs fans don't get cocky and expect to make it to the Super Bowl every 50 years."

• Sportsnet colour guy Garry Galley, after Blue Jackets' goalie Elvis Merzlikins made a couple of quick glove-hand saves against the Jets: "He's got a hunk of burning glove."

• Scott Ostler of the San Francisco Chronicle, on Kansas City and its love for barbecue: "Kansas City also calls itself 'City of Fountains' ... admired for their beauty as well for their effectiveness in washing barbecue sauce off your hands."

• Norman Chad of the Washington Post: "The L.A. City Council passed a measure asking MLB to award the Dodgers the 2017-18 World Series titles in the wake of the sign-stealing scandal. The council — time permitting — will address homelessness, traffic, housing affordability and corrupt city agencies at its next session."

• Comedy writer Brad Dickson, on Twitter: "BREAKING: President Trump just announced he'll be sending peace-keeping troops to the next Kansas-Kansas State men's basketball game."

• Comedy writer Jim Barach: "The identity of the Hall of Fame voter who snubbed Derek Jeter may never be known. Although it can be narrowed down by finding out who had the ballots that were cast in Boston."

• From a yahoo.com headline: "The Patriots DB arrested on drug charges, Joejuan Williams, was a high draft

pick. Well yeah, obviously."

• Comedian Argus Hamilton, via Twitter, on the 49ers jumping to a 27-0 halftime lead over the Packers in the NFC Championship Game: "If Aaron Rodgers were covered by Allstate instead of State Farm, he would be protected from mayhem like this."

• Another Barach offering, after Dennis Kelly, the Titans' 321-pound tackle, became the heaviest player to ever score an NFL playoff touchdown: "They got him used to being a receiver by throwing him cheeseburgers at lunch every day."

• Vancouver's Torben Rolfsen (Twitter: @vanguy), on the NFL draft planned for Vegas, with the stage set in the middle of the Bellagio fountain and the players being ferried to the stage by boat: "The Detroit Lions war room can be decorated in a Titanic theme."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Peewee Shellbrook Elks take commanding Provincials lead

The Shellbrook Peewee Elks began their Provincial B playoffs run on Monday evening, playing host to the high-flying Nipawin Hawks in game one of a two-game total points series.

After getting off to a slow start, the Elks put themselves in a good position for game two in Nipawin, skating away with an 8-3 win on the strength of a five-goal performance by team captain Brody Anderson.

It was a sloppy back-and-forth slog for a good chunk of the first period, as the Elks and the Hawks felt each other out and worked the kinks out of their own games.

The Elks were gifted with two early power plays (thanks to Lane Keyowski drawing a couple of tripping calls), but failed to make anything of them. Still, the man advantages helped swing the momentum in Shellbrook's favour, allowing Anderson to slip past the Hawks defence and flip one over the Nipawin netminder.

Devin Cadrain and Reese Galloway assisted on the goal.

Minutes later, the Elks found themselves pinned in their own end for an extended stretch. After one turnover too many, the Hawks managed to pull even.

But the Elks would have the last laugh,



Peewee Shellbrook Elks player Lane Keyowski rifles a shot on the Nipawin Hawks goal. He didn't score here, but he did earn three assists on the night.

when Aiden Tait scooped up a loose puck in the Nipawin end and blasted it home with just two seconds left on the clock.

With a 2-1 lead to open the second frame, the Elks, led by Anderson, got back to work in the offensive end. Anderson kicked the scoring off, with an assist from Lyndon

Sasakamoose, by tucking one behind the Nipawin goalie.

The Hawks fired right back, scoring on a tricky floater that sneaked past Elks netminder Casen Keyowski. But the Elks quickly restored their two-goal lead on the hat trick goal for Anderson. Lane Keyowski

provided the lone assist in the play.

Minutes later, after hemming the Hawks in their own end for a prolonged stretch and wearing them down, Anderson struck yet again, with another solo helper from Lane Keyowski, to push the score to 5-2.

Proving they could make plays of their own, the Hawks responded with an offensive rush that ended with a perfect setup and tap in from the Shellbrook doorstep.

Once again, the Elks would close out the frame with a late goal to push the score to 6-3. This one came from Devin Cadrain, on a solo assist from Lane Keyowski.

In a comparatively quiet third period, the Elks would tack on just two more goals to claim their 8-3 victory.

The first, scored, unassisted, by Anderson, came on the heels of an extended penalty kill for the Elks. The last, meanwhile, was an unassisted marker by Kain Ahenakew.

With the 8-3 win, the Elks have plenty of cushion for game two in Nipawin. That game is slated for Thursday, Feb. 13, with a 7:30 p.m. start.

In other provincials news, the Bantam B Elks have been eliminated, losing 5-3 and 6-2 to Delisle.

Don't hibernate: 5 tips to stay active in cold weather



(NC) Sometimes all you feel like doing in winter is curling up with a cozy blanket on the couch.

But there are many health benefits to being active, including fighting the seasonal blues and getting better sleep. Here are some tips to help you start and keep moving:

1. Shift your schedule. Having turned back our clocks, we get much more light in the morning and little if any once we get home from work. If you find it difficult to get motivated once it's dark, switch

up your routine and schedule morning workouts instead of evening ones.

2. Sign up for a new class. Nothing breaks you out of the winter doldrums like learning something new. Try a hybrid fitness class, like Aqua Zumba or Yoga HIIT (high-intensity interval training). As an added benefit, a class is a financial and personal commitment, meaning you'll be more likely to follow through even when you don't feel like going.

3. Try active TV watching. If you're stuck indoors

because of a snowstorm or really don't want to miss your favourite show, incorporate some movement during commercials or slower parts of the program. You can do jumping jacks, skip or jog or skip on the spot for some cardio, and squats, push-ups or burpees for strength training.

4. Get creative indoors. If you're limited in how much time you can spend outside, try finding new, exciting ways to become active indoors. Visit your local library for free workout

DVDs, walk around exploring art and culture at a museum or check out a local indoor market or festival.

5. Reward yourself. At least half the battle is motivation, and if you set little rewards for yourself when you meet your goals, you'll be more likely to succeed. Treat yourself to a movie or that deluxe workout gear you've been craving. Or try a day at one of many Westin spas in Canada, with therapeutic massages, cleansing facials and invigorating body treatments that revive your senses.

Why roses are such a must-have on Valentine's Day

Many things are symbolic of Valentine's Day. In the 1800s, heart-shaped boxes of candy became wildly popular ways for sweethearts to express their affection for each other, and since then they have become one of many symbols of Valentine's Day. But one such symbol traces its history back even further than that.

Roses are now as symbolic of Valentine's Day as those heart-shaped boxes, and, in fact, have long maintained a connection with feelings of love.

The Ancient Greeks and Romans, for example, wore rose garlands during wedding ceremonies. But the practice of giving Valentine's Day flowers can be traced to King Charles II, who served as King of Sweden from 1809 as well as King of Norway from

1814 until his death in 1818.

During his travels, King Charles visited Persia, where he learned about the use of flowers to express certain emotions. Red roses were used to express deep love, and King Charles shared the language of flowers when he returned home to Europe. It soon became quite popular.

But Europeans were learning about the symbolic power of flowers even before King Charles' visit to Persia. In fact, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, the wife of a British ambassador to Turkey, began sharing the practice of assigning meaning to objects via letters she wrote home to England in 1716.

Lady Montagu noted how the locals had assigned meaning to various colors, flowers and plants in order to send secret love

letters to one another. However, Lady Montagu was incorrect in her interpretation, as historians would later note.

Despite her misinterpretations, Lady Montagu's perception of the flower language would spread, and many people still

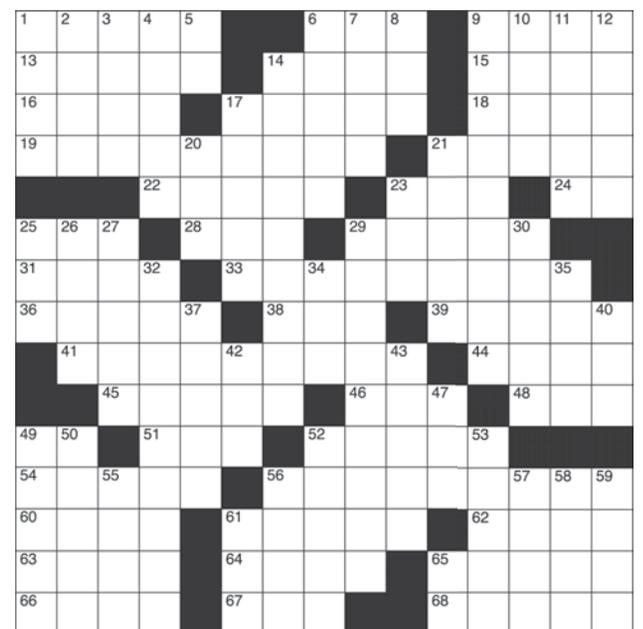
associate certain flowers with certain emotions.

Never is that more apparent than on Valentine's Day, when red roses remain a popular way for lovers to express their deep love for each other.

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Indicates number of days
- 6. When you hope to get there
- 9. Hairstyle
- 13. Black (Spanish)
- 14. Expresses pleasure
- 15. Away from wind
- 16. Tech pros organization
- 17. Wile E. Coyote is familiar with it
- 18. Clean
- 19. Saints' signal caller
- 21. A way to hunt
- 22. Poetries
- 23. Automobile
- 24. Secondary school (abbr.)
- 25. Indicates before
- 28. Male parent
- 29. Short-billed rails
- 31. It pays to keep yours
- 33. On occasion
- 36. David ___, US playwright
- 38. Slang for cigarette
- 39. Vaccine developer
- 41. Returned to health
- 44. Toni Morrison novel
- 45. Period between eclipses
- 46. Veterans battleground
- 48. Gang
- 49. A radio band



- 51. Jaws of a voracious animal
- 52. Elaborate garments
- 54. Chinese province
- 56. Checks
- 60. Horizontal passage
- 61. Steep hillsides
- 62. Fertility god
- 63. Dried-up
- 64. Signs a name
- 65. ___ Winger, actress
- 66. German river
- 67. Gov't lawyers
- 68. Take something somewhere

CLUES DOWN

- 1. ___ Blyton, children's author
- 2. Colleague
- 3. "The African Queen" writer
- 4. Crater on the moon
- 5. Toward
- 6. Overhang
- 7. Identifies something close at hand
- 8. Sign language
- 9. Unbroken views
- 10. Ancient Greek City
- 11. Stretch out to grasp
- 12. Alcohols that are unfit for drinking
- 14. Humorous stories
- 17. Long song for a solo
- 20. Barrels per day (abbr.)
- 21. City of Lights
- 23. A place to sleep
- 25. Advanced degree (abbr.)
- 26. The back
- 27. Furniture-makers Charles and "Ray"
- 29. Songs to a lover
- 30. Gland secretion
- 32. 10 meters
- 34. Disfigure
- 35. Stores grain
- 37. Sacred book of Judaism
- 40. Catch
- 42. Promise
- 43. Challenges
- 47. Russian space station
- 49. Banking giant
- 50. Served as an omen
- 52. Drenches
- 53. Type of sword
- 55. Minor planet
- 56. Messenger ribonucleic acid
- 57. Japanese ankle sock
- 58. Obtain in return for services
- 59. Waste matter
- 61. A proposal to buy at a specified price
- 65. Unit of loudness

Answers on page 14

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

EDUCATION RESOURCE CONSULTANT

North West College is currently accepting applications for the following Full-Time, Permanent Position:

North Battleford: Education Resource Consultant Posting #75-BC-1920

This in-scope position is responsible for planning, organizing, supervising and delivering academic assessment services, remedial instruction and learning strategies or accommodations to assist Instructors encountering students with learning challenges. The Education Resource Consultant (ERC) will develop and deliver programs/strategies to students who need additional academic support to ensure they possess the tools needed to take charge of their own learning. The ERC provides knowledge and leadership in promoting the best opportunities for student academic success. The ERC works 200 days from late August to end of June each year.

As the Education Resource Consultant, you will hold a Bachelor of Education and a specialization in a relevant program area, including Psychology, Education Psychology, Special Education or Learning Disabilities Programming.

Salary Range: \$279.70 – \$443.02/day based on level of education and years of relevant experience.



For a complete position profile, and application visit www.northwestcollege.ca.

Posting will remain open until filled

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Permaculture: a more sustainable earth

By Patricia Hanbidge

A new year, a new decade and thus some thoughts on ways to become more sustainable. So, let's chat about permaculture.

It was in the seventies that this term was coined and simply means permanent agriculture.

To take that definition a bit deeper, it is a system of agricultural and social design principles that simulate the patterns that can be observed in

natural ecosystems. In fact, it is a creative design model that is based on whole-systems thinking.

When we think about any type of environment what we see a complex aggregate of nature - both plants, animals and humans along with other aspects of our world that coexist and in fact affect each other in a multitude of ways.

When we think permaculture is an important

element of this environment, we adopt the ethics and principles that change us from being dependent producers to becoming responsible producers.

Making this journey will build more resilience at home and at work and make us better able to prepare for an uncertain future with perhaps much different energy sources.

Depending on where we live geographically,

our climatic conditions and in fact available resources are different, however we can still approach permaculture holistically.

The ethics of permaculture are earth care, people care and fair share. Join me in reviewing the guidelines that surround permaculture.

Permaculture is a philosophy. Within that philosophy it is important to take the time to engage with nature as it will give



us insight into understanding what is happening in the system.

It also should help us to embrace that in nature, there is no right or wrong but there is much variability and differences.

Another guideline is very much based in true prairie philosophy - make hay while the sun shines! What this means is that we have limited time to catch and store energy so when resources are abundant, it is important to collect these resources to utilize when they are not so available.

Secondly, everything is nature and our lives follows patterns. It is important to observe these patterns and understand the closer we get to something, the more distracted we are from the big picture.

It is important to put things in the best place as the sum of a whole being is greater than the sum of its' individual parts.

Also, it is important to recognize that to instigate good change, inter-

vention needs to happen at the proper time.

The next guideline is a really great thing to remember.

None of us work well on an empty stomach! We need to ensure that we do get some immediate rewards as those truly useful rewards allow us to continue that journey to true sustainable life.

Now in saying that, we also need to be selective in ensuring we reduce our natural tendency to consume and try to be less dependent on non-renewable resources.

We cannot control nature in any way - not even with high technology and overuse of resources.

Last but not least, a stitch in time saves nine. So timely maintenance and using what is available to us is always the best practice.

The final guideline is how important it is for us to discourage inappropriate activity if we wish to continue to function well.

We need to be a self-regulating entity which responds efficiently to negative feedback as it is often very slow to appear.

Diversity is always a great choice. Don't put all your eggs in one basket!

So, we hope that you take away some of these guidelines to not only embrace permaculture, but embrace quality of life. Move slowly but surely like the turtle and enhance diversity as well as all the appropriate decisions to make your path the right path!

Hanbidge is the lead horticulturist with Orchid Horticulture. Find us at orchidhort.com



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

