

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

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Big River FN getting new school, arena



Attached to the new Jim Neilson Sports Complex, the Big River First Nation is also getting a new Grade 6 to 12 school, called Chief John Keenatch High School. Image courtesy of aodbt architecture + interior design.

Plans for a new arena on the Big River First Nation have received a boost to the tune of \$7,101,750, thanks to funding from the federal government's Investing in Canada plan.

The funding was announced last Tuesday, adding wind to the sails of a \$34 million project that will see the growing, on-reserve, community of more than 3,000 receive not only the new arena, valued at \$11 million, but also a brand new Grade 6 to 12 school with a price tag of \$23 million.

"These projects are huge," said Derek Klein, CEO of the Big River First Nation. "We're able to use the sports complex all day, every day. There's the possibility of having ice anywhere from 10 to 12

months a year, different camps, and a running club with the running track on the gymnasium."

The new Grade 6 to 12 school, named Chief John Keenatch High School, will replace the existing Se Se Wa Hum High School, which was built in 1972 and was beginning to show its age.

The facility, funded through Indigenous & Northern Affairs Canada, will be built to accommodate 500 students. Amenities will include a 500-seat amphitheatre, a running track on top of the gymnasium, a three-court volleyball court gymnasium with a running track and a fitness centre in it, a full cafeteria, and a large industrial arts wing.

Construction on the facility is slated to

begin in June of this year and wrap up in time for the 2022-2023 school year.

The old high school, meanwhile, will still get plenty of use from the community.

"We've kept it up, so we're going to do some repairs and renos, and keep using it for other functions," Klein said. "We're going to turn that old high school into an area for entrepreneurs. We'll also have a full community fitness centre and gymnasium in there."

While some communities might be content to begin and end with a \$23 million school build, Klein says the community also wanted to build an arena on the side, creating a large multi-use facility not unlike the Legends Centre in Warman.

The planned arena, called the Jim Neilson Sports Complex in honour of the late NHLer who was born on the Big River First Nation, will have seating capacity for 800 people.

With the federal government ponying up \$7.1 million of the estimated \$11 million costs, Klein says the community will look to leverage other available grants, and also use other sources of revenue to cover the remaining costs associated with the build.

Like the new Grade 6 to 12 school, Klein is hoping the arena will be completed in time for the 2022-2023 school year.

"The community's pretty excited," he said. "A \$34 million build is pretty big for this community."

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The advertisement features a green and white color scheme. On the left, there is a blurred image of a pharmacy bottle with pills spilling out. On the right, there is a blurred image of a shopping cart in a grocery store aisle. The central text is bold and clear, providing the business name, phone number, and address.

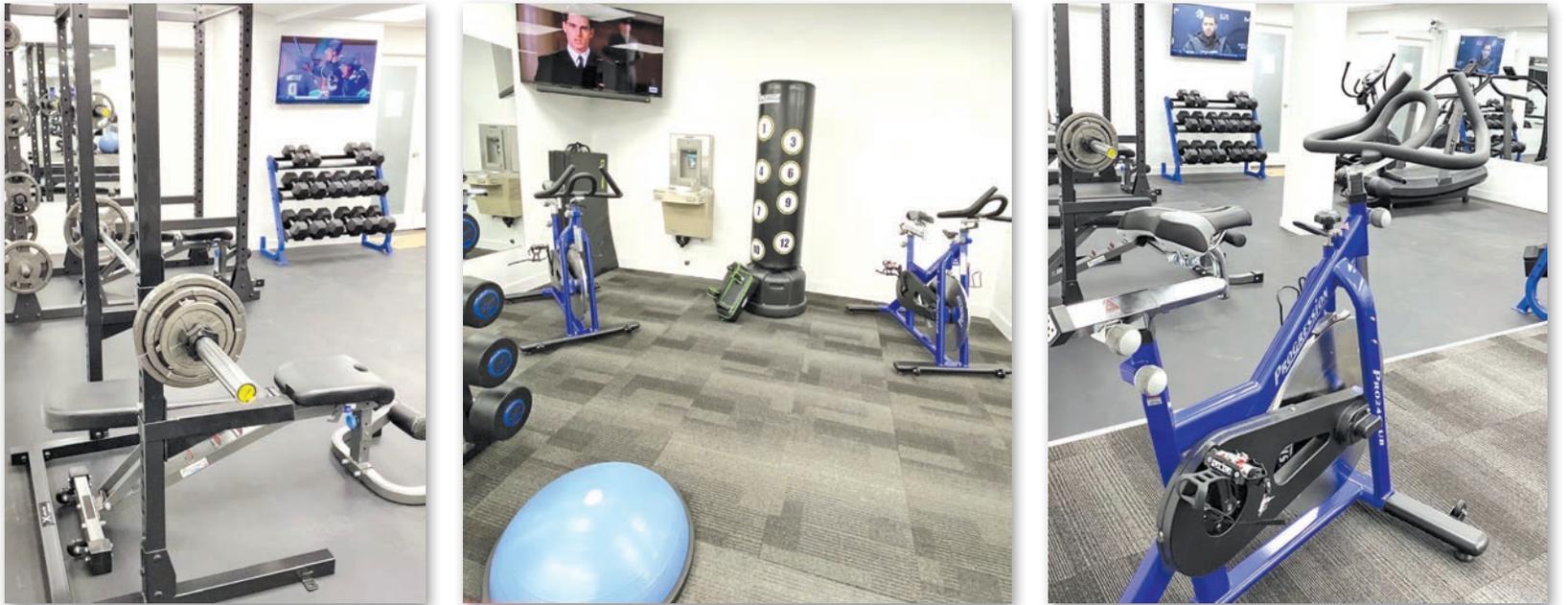
GymRX opens doors in Spiritwood

“Mental and physical fitness are an important and emerging matter of importance to many people, especially during the slow-down where there are not a lot of options for activity,” said Bevra Fee, one of the key people involved with the recently opened GymRX in Spiritwood.

The idea to open a gym was brought up at one of the Board of Northern Lakes Economic Development Corporation’s brainstorming sessions. While the idea had been around for some time, no one had moved forward with setting anything up.

In the fall of 2019, the Von Holweddes, who own the Spiritwood Good Health Pharmacy, renovated the old pharmacy building. They split the building in half, transforming the front into the ever-popular Spiritwood Artisan Boutique and styling the back into a gym. Equipment installation was done with the guidance of an experienced gym user, who provided information on the most current equipment technology that was available.

Right now, the gym is equipped with multiple levels of weight training. Dumbbells, kettlebells, fixed barbells, and adjustable barbells are all available for use. There are also two spinning bikes, a new-age treadmill, an elliptical, a punching bag, and boxing trainers. Aside from equipment, the gym is outfitted with three TVs, a Bluetooth speaker, a bottle filling station, and a wash-room.



The recently opened GymRX in Spiritwood is currently offering monthly and annual memberships for dedicated time slots.

After the setup was complete, the owners were simply looking for an interested party to take on the rental and operation. Bevra Fee and Taylor Kuffert were up for the challenge, and are the main force behind gym operations.

The gym project was set and ready to roll about a year ago, when pandemic restrictions initially came into effect and delayed the opening date.

As things start to get moving now, Fee says, “The opening is being done carefully to prevent any outbreaks from stemming from the shared space and the high touch areas.”

The gym is currently operating on a membership only basis due to COVID-19 restrictions. Members can either choose to pay on a monthly basis or sign up for an entire year, which comes with a price reduction. Members each have a one-hour dedicated time slot with key fob access.

As complies with current guidelines for gyms, only one person or people from a single household are allowed in at a time and no drop-in is allowed. Provincial guidelines are posted as well as some rules about

sanitation and masking. Members are required to sign in and sign out.

Fee says that as restrictions continue to lift, they will allow more members per time slot and a wider range of membership levels for those who only use the gym on weekends or occasionally. Eventually, they plan to add lockers and make the water fountain available for use. Other improvements to the gym will be driven by user feedback.

The gym opened with 12 memberships already sold, and has increased to 17 at this time. With the current demand and sustained interest, Fee says that they expect membership could double after more restrictions are removed.

Feedback back so far has been very positive, with many enjoying having the space to get out and get active. After all adult recreation shut down at the recreation center in November, and the onset of the extreme cold temperatures, many have struggled to find spaces to stay active.

“The gym is helping to provide a well-rounded quality of life in our small town, as well as a healthy activity space,” said Fee.

**Resort Village of Chitek Lake
Notice of Preparation of Assessment Roll**

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Resort Village of Chitek Lake for the year 2021 has been prepared and is open to inspection at the office of the Administrator from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm, Tuesday thru Thursday and 9:00 am - 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm on Friday.

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file his or her notice of appeal with: The Administrator of the Resort Village of Chitek Lake, P.O. Box 70, Chitek Lake, SK S0J 0L0 by the 11th day of May, 2021.

Dated this 12th day of March, 2021.
Danielle Vandale, Assessor

**TOWN OF SHELLBROOK
NOTICE
ASSESSMENT ROLL**

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Town of Shellbrook for the year of 2021 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the Assessor from 8:30am to 4pm, Monday to Friday from March 19th, 2021 to May 18th, 2021.

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

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file his or her notice of appeal with: The Assessor, Town of Shellbrook, Box 40, Shellbrook, SK., S0J 2E0 by 4pm on the 18th day of May, 2021.

Dated this 19th day of March, 2021.
Kelly Hoare, Assessor

LIVING SKY SCHOOL DIVISION NO. 202
509 Pioneer Avenue
North Battleford, Saskatchewan S9A 4A5
Telephone: (306) 937-7702
Fax: (306) 445-4332

TENDERS FOR GRASS CUTTING

Living Sky School Division No. 202 is inviting tenders for three grass cutting and trimming packages. These large tender packages are for a two-year term commencing the spring of 2021 to the fall of 2022. The tenders will cover the grass areas for the following communities:

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Full tender packages, with property layout maps outlining details, can be emailed or picked up at Living Sky School Division Office, 509 Pioneer Avenue, North Battleford, SK. Tenders are to be submitted in writing or by email by 2:00 p.m., April 1, 2021, to the attention of the Facilities Department, Living Sky School Division No. 202. No late tenders will be accepted.

For additional information please contact Brad Ferguson, Facilities Manager at (306) 937-7702 or by emailing brad.ferguson@lskysd.ca.

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Highlights of a Shellbrook Town Council meeting

Shellbrook's town council met for its regular meeting via teleconference on Monday, March 15.

In attendance were Mayor Amund Otterson, councillors Bruce Clements, John Hughes, Cheryl Ledding, Brent Miller, and Kathleen Nording, and the town's CAO, Kelly Hoare.

Mayor Otterson called the meeting to order at 4 p.m., and council began by approving the agenda for the meeting and adopting the minutes of its March 1 regular meeting.

Then, after it was announced that Otterson had presented thank you gifts to former Mayor George Tomporowski, and past councillors Lyle Banda, Lois Freeman, and Dave Knight, council carried a motion to approve its accounts and financial statements and moved on to provide oral reports.

In public works, councillor Hughes reviewed correspondence from Suncor regarding a piece of land the town was interested in renting from the company to create additional parking for the Community Hall and the Sports Ground. With Suncor willing to offer the property to the town for an annual fee of \$10, so long as the town maintains it, council later decided to pursue the rental agreement.

Elsewhere, Hughes reported that a quote for a new loader came in at around the \$102,000 mark. This item will go forward to the budget committee for a final decision.

Then, discussing the old Rayside School building, and plans to relocate it to Kinsmen Park to serve as a museum and tourist booth, Hughes informed council that the quote to move the building onto a slab or a basement was about \$60,000.

Should the plan go ahead, council's ideal scenario would be to put the building on a

basement to provide storage for more artifacts. The building would also undergo exterior and interior restorations, and have a washroom installed in the upstairs.

While grant funding will be key to making the project feasible, councillor Miller said ideas are being brainstormed to make it possible to relocate the building at no cost to ratepayers.

In theatre committee news, councillor Nording reported that work is being done to arrange for possible outdoor movies, since hosting moves at the Shellbrook Theatre isn't possible with current COVID-19 restrictions.

And in hospital and clinics news, Mayor Otterson reported that the Dr. Recruitment and Retention Committee had met and decided to keep the per capita levy at \$5. Councillor Hughes said he'd like to see the levy increased, even just by \$1, so that the committee isn't just breaking even.

In other health-related news, Otterson also informed council that the Town of Big River may look to relocate its nurse practitioner position to Shellbrook, as it's having trouble filling the role within the community. Should this come to pass, the nurse practitioner would be based in Shellbrook, but still provide services to Big River.

Under the bylaw enforcement and policing portfolios, council once again discussed the need to re-evaluate the costs and benefits of having bylaw enforcement services. On the policing side, council agreed to set up a meeting with Premier Scott Moe to air its concerns about the lack of RCMP presence in Shellbrook.

In one last item, Hoare informed council that the veterinarian from Rosthern would like to set up a one-day clinic to vaccinate and deworm pets. Currently, April 24 is being eyed as the date, but a lo-

cation for the clinic has yet to be finalized.

Shifting gears to new business, council started by approving a motion to have LADR Consulting perform an HR review of position descriptions, and conduct an organizational review for the Town of Shellbrook.

Next, council gave the green light to proceed with tax enforcement proceedings, through TAXervice, on a number of properties in tax arrears, and passed a motion authorizing the company to request titles on four properties.

Council also set poll dates for the by-election to replace councillor David Knight. The advanced poll, if necessary, will be held on Saturday, April 24 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m., while the regular poll date is slated for Wednesday, April 28.

Carrying on, council passed a motion to formalize a practice of ensuring all spending is approved by council beforehand. Under this policy, any capital spending above \$5,000, prior to the adoption of a formal budget, must receive council's approval.

In a few final items, council set March 21 or 22 as

the shutdown dates for the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre, but agreed to allow rentals of the facility, using natural ice, past that date.

Council also agreed to waive the Shellbrook Legion's water bill until Dec. 31, as it has been hit hard by COVID-19 restrictions, and appointed councillor Clements to a four-month term as Deputy Mayor.

Having nothing further to discuss, council adjourned for the evening. Its next meeting is Monday, April 5.

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Shellbrook-area residents join snowman fun



Inspired by Spiritwood and Area Recreation, Sports, and Culture's recent online Snowman Contest, Mac Cashman and Alanna Carswell took advantage of perfect snow rolling and sculpting conditions to craft their own snow scene, a recreation of a *Calvin and Hobbes* cartoon strip.

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Find everything at accessiblesk.saskatchewan.ca or call 1-877-915-7468.

As Conservatives flounder, O'Toole must step up

In the history of Canada, has there ever been a time more ripe for a change in government?

We're a year into a pandemic that has claimed more than 22,000 lives, battered our economy, and taken a devastating toll on our mental health. And, thanks to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's mishandling of vaccine development and procurement, the end is much further away than it ought to be.

This, coupled with Mr. Trudeau's pandemic strategy of indiscriminately showering us with our own money, and his government's proclivity for falling face first into scandals, should have soured Canadians' opinions, regardless of their political leanings.

It's telling, then, that the latest polls tend to have Mr. Trudeau's Liberals leading Erin O'Toole's Conservative Party by anywhere from 4 to 8 percentage points.

Some may scoff, and dismiss the polls as more liberal, elitist, mainstream media propaganda. And, to be fair, polls seldom offer a perfect 1-to-1 reflection of reality.

But to discount the polls completely, or to blame the results on the so-called "sheep" who are drunk on Mr. Trudeau's Kool-Aid, is to downplay the dire straits Mr. O'Toole's



JORDAN
TWISS
~
News Editor

Conservative Party finds itself in. No one expected Mr. O'Toole to work miracles and make Canadians flock to the Conservative Party in droves.

Not overnight, at least.

However, as Mr. O'Toole approaches the seven month mark of his leadership, there should be some sense of forward momentum for his party.

If anything, Mr. O'Toole's Conservative Party seems to be stuck in a deeper rut than ever, incapable of generating any enthusiasm about its vision for the country – whatever that vision may be.

And it's not just voters the Conservative Party is struggling to connect with. The party seems unmoored from itself, uncertain of what it wants to be.

For proof of this, one need only look at the strife within the party since Mr. O'Toole took the helm.

In events eerily reminiscent of the party's 2017 leadership race, which saw Maxime Bernier fracture the party by forming the People's Party of Canada, Mr. O'Toole chose to oust social Conservative rival Derek Sloan from caucus over a "pattern of destructive behaviour."

He also demoted MP Pierre Poilievre, who



HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL



had been among the party's few standout members over the past year.

Deserved or not, moves like these point to serious rifts within the party, and are likely to alienate a broad cross-section of the Conservative base.

And, if grumblings from Conservative MPs about Mr. O'Toole's shift to the centre, and his failure to reverse the party's flagging for-

tunes, are anything to go by, things may be worse than they seem.

As the Conservative Party enters its annual convention, it falls to Mr. O'Toole to demonstrate leadership, articulate a clear vision for Canada, and unite his party.

Canadians deserve a strong official opposition. It's time for Mr. O'Toole and the Conservative Party to prove they're up to the task.

Trudeau needs to tell Canadians his plans

By Warren Steinley,
MP, Regina-Lewvan

The pandemic and lockdowns are now almost one year old. Despite all the advances we've seen in other countries, such as rapid testing, improved therapeutics, and vaccinations, Canadians are forced to endure lockdowns for longer. One of the reasons for this is Justin Trudeau betting on a half-baked vaccine plan that relied on partnering with the Chinese Communist Party, instead of working with companies right here in western Canada. Countries like the United Kingdom, Israel, and the United States are talking about full vaccination rates as early as May. Meanwhile, Justin Trudeau is taking vaccines from developing nations to cover up for the fact that Canada will be months behind other countries.

This pandemic has been hard on people. It has hollowed out our economy. It has cost tens of thousands of jobs and has taken a toll on the mental health of countless Canadians. We need a plan to bring an end safely and responsibly to lockdowns. Justin Trudeau needs to be completely open with Canadians about his plans for a post-COVID recovery.

My colleague, Michelle Rempel-Garner, Conservative Shadow Minister for Health, has launched a House of Commons petition that takes action on this important issue. This petition calls on Justin Trudeau to come clean and be open and honest with Canadians about his plans for Canada's future.

Justin Trudeau's record during the pandemic has been terrible. Under the Liberal government, Canada has had a re-

cord economic decline, the highest unemployment in the G7, and the worst economic growth per capita since the Great Depression. The fact is Canada spent more per capita in this crisis and is achieving the worst outcomes in the G7 when it comes to employment, vaccine rollout, and business confidence.

Justin Trudeau has failed to present a budget for over two years and now holds the record for the longest period in Canadian history without a budget. He has also failed to be transparent on his massive spending during the pandemic. Conservatives will continue to call on Justin Trudeau to come clean and finally tell Canadians what his plans are when we eventually emerge from the pandemic, well after most developed nations.

Shellbrook Chronicle

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Phone 306-747-2442 or Fax 306-747-3000

Editorial: chnews@sbchron.com
Advertising chads@sbchron.com

C. J. Pepper, Publisher

Jordan Twiss, Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter
jordan@sbchron.com

Alison Sullivan, Spiritwood Herald Reporter
(306) 841-8317 or ali.sully81@gmail.com

Meghan Penney, Composition/Pagination
& Advertising Sales chads@sbchron.com

Karen Stene, Bookkeeping/Reception
accounting@sbchron.com

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.;

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Member of



Bilodeau soon to celebrate 103 years

On March 29, Henriette Bilodeau will celebrate her 103rd birthday. She has spent her whole life in Debden. She currently lives in the Debden Heritage Manor.

Birthdays of that nature call for gatherings and feasting. But for the second year in a row, Henriette will be confined to the Manor, without the visit of her loved ones. Six of her twelve children live in the Prince-Albert – Shellbrook - Debden area. They will gather underneath her window, sing Happy Birthday, and wave her kisses. She will barely see them because of her failing eyesight. Knowing that they are there for her, will soothe the suffering of being deprived of visitors.

Henriette no longer has the resilience to face COVID-19; it is mentally and physically too much for her. It makes her sad.

Her family hopes the birthday party at the Debden Heritage Manor bring her warmth on this special day.



Family of missing Indigenous man to hold vigil in Spiritwood



Brandon Sakebow has been missing since March 21, 2020. He was last seen leaving police custody in Mission, B.C.

A year after 23-year-old Brandon Sakebow disappeared in Mission, B.C., his family is still looking for answers regarding his whereabouts and what happened to him.

In hopes of raising awareness about his disappearance, and finding answers to these questions, family and friends will be holding a Missing and Murdered Indigenous People walk and vigil on Saturday, March 20.

The walk will begin at Capsin Road, along Highway 24, at noon, with attendees making their way to the Spiritwood RCMP detachment.

There, at 6 p.m., the vigil will be held, including statements from Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN) Vice Chief Dutch Lerat, FSIN Director of Justice Jason Stonechild, Pelican Lake First Nation Chief Peter Bill, and others.

All family members and friends of Missing and Murdered Indigenous People, and community members, are invited to join. Drivers, meanwhile, are cautioned to take extra caution while travelling along Highway 24.

According to the Mission RCMP, Brandon Sakebow was last seen leaving police custody on March 21, 2020, after being picked up by officers at a Dewdney, B.C. dairy farm in the early morn-

ing hours.

Three days later, police say, Abbotsford police officers found his bag, cell phone, and clothes in a stolen van in Mission. The vehicle was reportedly stolen from Abbotsford on March 20.

In the year since Sakebow's disappearance, his mother, Laurie, and other family members from the Pelican Lake First Nation, have made six trips to B.C. to search for him and press the Mission RCMP for answers about his disappearance.

Sakebow's family says the RCMP's story has been inconsistent, and that it hasn't always been forthcoming with information regarding his case or willing to meet with family.

This prompted the family to turn to the FSIN, which has provided its own investigators to aid in their efforts to find answers.

Brandon Sakebow, 23, is described as five-foot

nine-inches tall, weighs 190 pounds, has black hair and brown eyes. He was last seen wearing a black shirt and jeans and a blue rain jacket.

Anyone with information, or those wishing to provide anonymous tips, can contact Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or online at solvecrime.ca. Mission RCMP can also be contacted directly at 604-826-7161.

MARTINS LAKE REGIONAL PARK HELP WANTED/REQUEST FOR TENDERS

Martins Lake Regional Park is accepting resumes/tenders for the 2021 camping season for the following positions:

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- 3) **PARK MAINTENANCE:** 2 positions open - Full time hours. May - September. General park maintenance for campground and golf course including grass cutting, tree trimming, equipment maintenance, janitorial upkeep of washrooms/shower room, painting, beach maintenance, maintaining water system, testing water and other duties

For more information call Rick at 306-321-5824 or Christie at 306-221-4457. Email resumes or tenders to martinslake@sasktel.net by March 30, 2021. (Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.)

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The Saskatchewan Small Business Emergency Payment, Strong Recovery Adaptation Rebate, the Re-Open Saskatchewan Training Subsidy, and the Saskatchewan Tourism Sector Support Program are all in place to support businesses. If you have questions or require assistance accessing these programs, please contact my office.

Nadine Wilson
MLA for Saskatchewan Rivers
saskrivers@sasktel.net

Hon. Jeremy Harrison
MLA for Meadow Lake
jharrisonmla@sasktel.net

Hon. Scott Moe, Premier
MLA for Rosthern-Shellbrook
scottmoe.mla@sasktel.net



Shellbrook eyes industry for growth

While taxes may be one of the few certainties of life, Town of Shellbrook councillor Brent Miller says council's focus looking forward is to find ways to make municipal taxes less of a financial burden for ratepayers.

"There are two ways we can do that. First, we can cut spending, which is not easy to do, but is something we need to be really diligent about," he said, referencing motions he brought forward at council's March 1 meeting.

Among Miller's motions were calls for council to decrease overall budgeted expenses for the 2021 fiscal year by 7.5 per cent, including in that reduction a \$150,000 contingency fund to be used in case of an emergency, and recommendations regarding the use of budgetary surpluses and municipal reserves.

Though these motions have yet to be passed by council, Miller is confident there's fat that can be trimmed, so long as council commits to a change in its budgeting philosophy.

"It has to be written in a way that we can't deviate from it, and a way that makes it written

in stone, so to speak," he said.

Should cutting costs fail to deliver the desired downward pressure on municipal taxes, Miller says the town's second option is expand the town's tax base by attracting industry and people.

This was a consistent focus of former Shellbrook Mayor George Tomporowski and the councils he chaired. And, based on council's recent formation of a subcommittee on commercial and industrial development, it will remain a priority going forward.

However, if history is anything to go by, there's no guarantee this push to lure developers to town will bear any fruit. That's because council has no control over the conditions that create a favourable climate for developers.

"Bringing development would add to our tax base immensely, and attract people the area, to the Rural Municipality and the town, to live, and add to the tax base that way as well," Miller said.

"For us to take advantage of upswings and timing, we need to be ready when they happen."

In hopes of being prepared to hook potential developers, Miller says council is looking at doing an RFP to find out how much it would cost to bring water and sewer to the west side to the Shell Brook and develop the land to the north, west, and south of the Hidden Hills of Shellbrook Golf Course.

Of particular interest to council is the land immediately around the town's sewage lagoon, which can never be used for residential developments due to existing regulations which prohibit such developments being within 600 metres of the facility.

The next key piece of bringing in developers is to have the necessary infrastructure in place, especially when it comes to water.

"Bringing water is one of the big issues," Miller said. "Our water hasn't been good, but by bringing a pipeline here... there's a really strong possibility that we can have a nice water supply for industry."

One of the prospective developers the town currently has its eye on, is a plant that transforms agriculture and

forestry waste into burnable pellets. Such a facility, if built in Shellbrook, would have a 10-acre footprint, creating plenty of jobs and economic spin-offs for the community and broader region.

Without a doubt, says Miller, Shellbrook is in the right location for such a plant.

"This whole belt, from Meadow Lake right through to Hudson Bay, is a good zone," Miller said. "But what makes Shellbrook a greater location is because it's so centrally located, and it's a hub for all the different highways that are hauling all these different types of product."

While geography is working in Shellbrook's favour, the big-

gest questions are those about the potential markets for a pellet plant.

In search of these answers, council has initiated very preliminary talks with those who have connections in the industry. Miller, meanwhile, has approached SaskPower about their potential use as a fuel that would reduce the province's carbon footprint.

This early in the game, however, nothing is certain.

"That's really where we're at. We're just at the stage where we know we'd like to bring something like that here," Miller said. "It's a dream, at this point, more than a reality. But every reality has to start with a dream."

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Strong Recovery Adaptation Rebate

Application deadline is **March 31, 2021**



Re-Open Saskatchewan Training Subsidy

Application deadline is **March 31, 2021**



Saskatchewan Small Business Emergency Payment

Application deadline is **April 30, 2021**



Saskatchewan Tourism Sector Support Program

Application deadline is **April 30, 2021**

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"Métis means a person, who self identifies as Métis, is distinct from other Aboriginal peoples, is of historic Métis Nation Ancestry and is accepted by the Métis Nation." Métis Nation-Saskatchewan Constitutional definition of Métis

AGRICULTURE

March 18, 2021

www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald 7

Cattle trends highlight changes in beef consumption

When it comes to any agriculture commodity there is an ebb and flow to production levels, typically tied to returns.

When prices are higher, producers up production to try and grab a piece of the better returns.

When you are looking at cereal grains, oilseeds and pulse crops, the ebb and flow results in more, or less, acres planted, which of course reflects in overall production.

On the livestock side of things, increasing production means keeping more females to produce offspring, and when you want to

reduce production you send some of the producing females to market.

Of course the ups and downs in production are typically relatively short-lived, as prices tend to react to production in an opposite fashion. Increased farm production sends a message to markets there is a greater supply, and prices tighten, which in turn tell farmers to reduce supply.

So when Statistics Canada releases numbers in terms of livestock herds, or crop acreages, increases and declines are the norm. And while they



CALVIN DANIELS

help farmers formulate plans, if you see a big increase in numbers, you might want to hold off expansion in that area because you can see prices may be declining in response to bigger production, the more telling numbers are in long term trends.

For example when Statistics Canada released the 2020 livestock inventory March 1, a one per cent decline in the Canadian cow herd, all of the decline in the west as numbers actually inched higher in the east, was not extremely significant past maybe sending some market inklings to producers.

Far more telling is that the one per cent drop in the national cattle herd is part of a general decline that has been happening since 2005.

When numbers have generally moved lower for 16 years it is a trend and one that will not easily be turned around

in a significant way.

The situation suggests some producers have simply quit the cattle business, and depending on location, their land base may well be in grain production now, meaning fences have been pulled up, and the likelihood of cattle ever returning is slim.

Once a fence gets pulled, it takes a serious shift in agronomics over a period of time to see the investment of putting it back as worthwhile.

The question then becomes what the long term decline means?

It would suggest the consumer looks to beef

less often these days. When demand is steady, production rarely declines.

It may also mean those wanting a good steak will see regularly higher prices. Lower supplies tend to push up end product prices.

It also likely suggests cattle production is moving back to the fringe lands best-suited to grazing, with land where crops can reasonably be grown being used for planting.

And, certainly the trend of cattle numbers will be one producers and consumers will want to watch in the years ahead.

Agricultural safety week proclaimed in Saskatchewan

The Government of Saskatchewan has proclaimed March 14-20, 2021, as Agricultural Safety Week in Saskatchewan.

"Agricultural Safety Week provides the opportunity to remind everyone that agriculture safety matters year round, on and off the farm," Agriculture Minister David Marit said. "Physical and mental health are of the utmost importance and everyone must do their part to ensure we are all able to return

home to our loved ones at the end of each day."

"Using safety precautions year round is incredibly important to ensure that those who work on a farm return home safely," Labour Relations and Workplace Safety Minister Don Morgan said. "Having safe farms in our province will help us continue to grow our agri-food exports here in Saskatchewan and build stronger families and communities."

Saskatchewan recognizes Canadian

Agricultural Safety Week annually in conjunction with the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association. Canadian Agricultural Safety Week is focused on helping producers, families and communities lead the agricultural industry in safety and sustainability.

This year's theme, Lead an Ag Safe Canada, is the second of a three-year farm safety campaign; Safe and Strong Farms. This year, virtual AgSafe ribbons are available for download from

the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association website.

Please visit www.saskatchewan.ca/farmsafety for more information about farm safety and for access to the Farm Safety Guide.

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Producers wishing to market cattle prior to sale day please contact the office 306-236-3411 for delivery.

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Sat., Mar. 27, 2021

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Black Angus Bull Sale 2:00 p.m.

Mon., Mar. 29, 2021

Presort Sale 9:30 a.m.; Regular Sale 1:30 p.m.



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

For market info visit: www.northernlivestocksales.ca

Minutes of a Town of Spiritwood meeting

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

The regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Spiritwood was held via Sasktel Teleconference Call on Feb. 9, 2021 at 7 p.m.

In attendance were Mayor Gary von Holwede, Councillor Bryan Wingerter, Councillor George Pretli, Councillor Kiera Andres, Councillor Brad Nemish, Councillor Shannon Beaulac, Assistant Administrator Brenda Beaulac, and CAO Rhonda Saam. Absent was Councillor James Bedi.

A quorum being present, Mayor Gary von Holwede called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

George Pretli: That the agenda be adopted as presented. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That the Accounts for Ratification, Cheque No. 31272 to 31274 & CAFT Payments #264 to 284 in the amount of \$38,324.05 be approved as presented. Seconded by George Pretli. Carried.

Councillor Beaulac declared a conflict and left the council meeting at 7:10 p.m.

George Pretli: That the Accounts for Approval, Cheque No. 31275 to 31307 and On-line Payments #285-287 in the amount of \$57,820.76 be approved as presented. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Councillor Beaulac returned to

the council meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Brad Nemish: That we acknowledge that the offer to purchase submitted by the Town of Spiritwood the Office Building on Lot 9 & 10, Block 3, AP518 wasn't accepted by the vendor. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That we approve forwarding the outstanding utility accounts past due 90 days as of Feb. 18, 2021 to the Tax Roll as attached to form part of the minutes. Seconded by Shannon Beaulac. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That we approve Building Permit #02-2021SW for Lot 19 & 20 Block 5 Plan AP518 with the condition of approval from the building inspector. Seconded by Brad

Nemish. Carried.

Shannon Beaulac: That the last day the arena ice plant will be operational at the Spiritwood Recreation Facility is Friday, March 12, 2021. This will ensure there is not a Saskpower demand charge incurred from the meter read between March 13-18, and will enable both minor hockey and skate club groups to conclude their seasons at a mutually accepted date. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

George Pretli: That we accept Councillor Shannon Beaulac's resignation from Town Council effective March 1, 2021 and we hold a by-election on May 19, 2021 that will address the vacant position. Seconded by Kiera An-

dres. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That in the event that a poll is necessary for the 2021 municipal by-election, daily remuneration for Returning Officer and Deputy Returning Officer will be the regular hourly rates and Poll Clerk will be \$185/day, and that it be acknowledged that the polling place will be the Town of Spiritwood Civic Centre for May 19, 2021, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and the advanced poll will be at the Town of Spiritwood Civic Centre on May 13, 2021 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Seconded by George Pretli. Carried.

Shannon Beaulac: That this meeting be adjourned at 7:46 p.m. Seconded by Kiera Andres. Carried.

Saskatchewan needs strengthened municipal transparency

By Todd MacKay
CTF Prairie Director

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation is calling on the Saskatchewan government to strengthen transparency for municipal governments by proactively posting basic financial documents online. The recommendation comes as the Canadian Taxpayers Federation has released a report detailing spending in hundreds of

Saskatchewan municipalities.

"Taxpayers always have the right to know how their leaders are spending their communities' money and that information should be absolutely accessible online," said Todd MacKay, Prairie Director for the CTF. "Many municipalities are proactively posting basic financial documents, but others, for a variety of reasons, are struggling.

"Alberta and Ontario post municipal documents and hundreds of First Nations communities provide this transparency. The Saskatchewan government already has financial statements from every municipality – it's time to put them online so that everyone can hold their local leaders accountable."

Saskatchewan cities are already providing transparency online with 16 out of 16 cities posting their financial documents. The CTF was able to secure financial statements from 146 out of 296 rural municipalities; 59 out of 147 towns; 23 out of 41 resort villages; and, only 30 out of 248 villages.

The Ministry of Government Relations has publicly stated that it is working on a web portal where municipal financial documents can be published, but it has yet to be done.

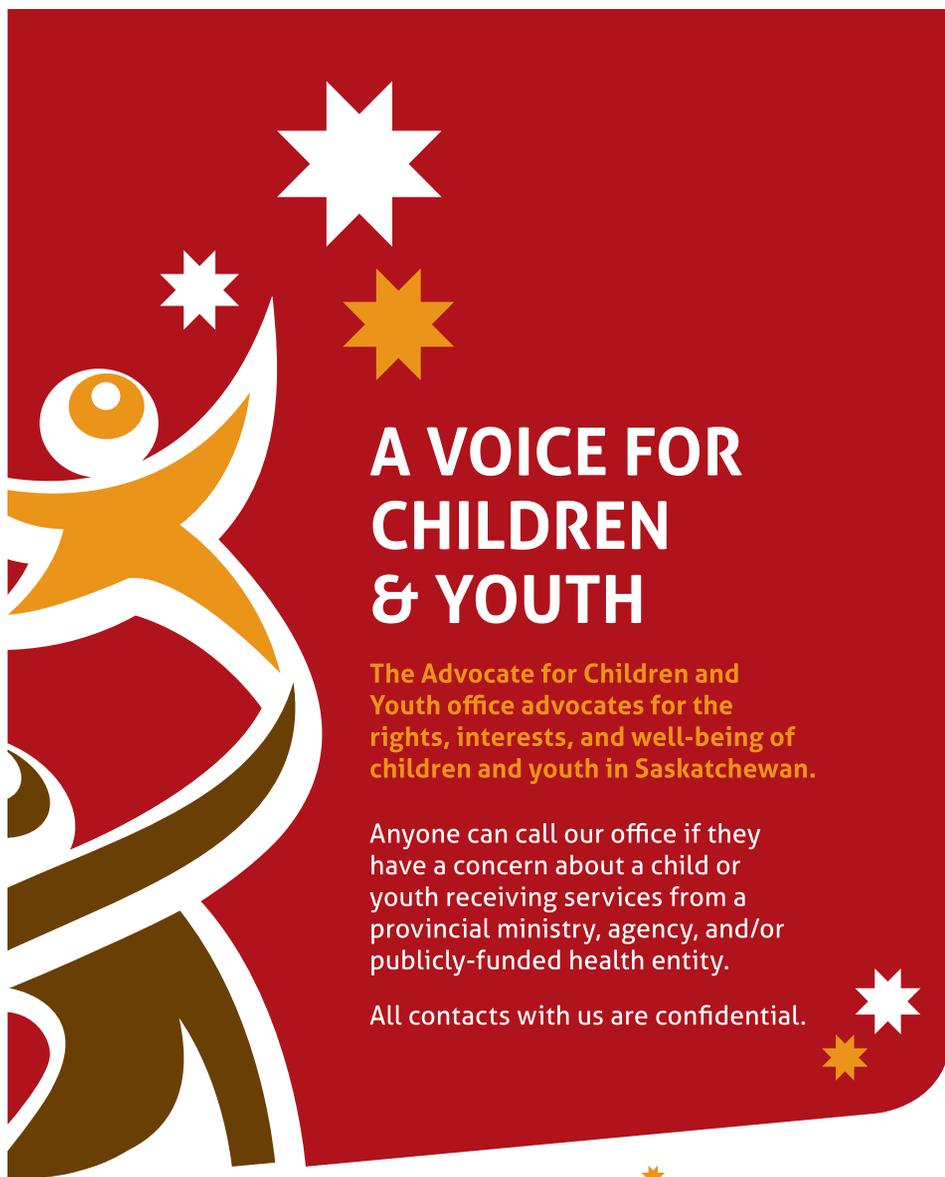
The two municipalities that spent the most in Saskatchewan were the RM of Heart's Hill, No. 352, and the RM of Oakdale, No. 302, who spent \$17,838 and \$17,283 respectively per person in

2019. The lowest spending RM over the past three years was the RM of Lake Lenoire, spending only \$740 per person in 2018.

Between Saskatchewan's two largest cities, Saskatoon annually spent more per person than Regina, with \$2,977 spent in 2019 compared to \$2,766 in Regina. However, Regina's annual per-person spending increased by about 26 per cent since 2015, compared to six per cent for Saskatoon. Among medium and small cities, Swift Current had the highest spending at \$3,070 per person in 2019.

"Municipalities really need to be careful on their spending especially while taxpayers are struggling through the pandemic," said MacKay. "Citizens can't afford any more tax increases, so municipalities should be spending very carefully in the years to come."

The CTF's full report on Saskatchewan municipalities can be found at: <http://www.taxpayer.com/media/Municipal-Spending-Saskatchewan.pdf>



A VOICE FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

The Advocate for Children and Youth office advocates for the rights, interests, and well-being of children and youth in Saskatchewan.

Anyone can call our office if they have a concern about a child or youth receiving services from a provincial ministry, agency, and/or publicly-funded health entity.

All contacts with us are confidential.

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Nominations close March 31, 2021

Province ups vaccine pace, eases restrictions

After getting off to a slow start due to supply backlogs, the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) is ramping up its COVID-19 vaccination efforts in hopes of meeting its goal of giving all Saskatchewan residents their first jabs by June.

On Thursday, March 11, the SHA launched online and over-the-phone appointment booking, starting with Saskatchewan residents over the age of 85 who had yet to receive their first dose.

The same day, after receiving 3,000 appointment bookings within the first few hours, the eligibility was expanded to include those over the age of 80. Over the course of 24 hours, the number of appointments booked rapidly climbed above 10,000, and the eligibility was further expanded to adults aged 76 and over.

By Saturday afternoon, with more than 22,000 appointments booked, eligibility was extended to the 72-plus age group. And on Sunday, Adults aged 70 and over, and aged 50+ in the province's far north, were told they'd be able to begin booking

their vaccination appointments.

Vaccination appointments can be booked online at www.saskatchewan.ca/covid19-vaccine; or by calling 1-833-SASKVAX (1-833-727-5829) between the hours of 8 a.m. and 11 p.m. Those booking appointments must do so using their health cards.

At this time, eligible vaccine recipients between the ages of 50 and 69 in the far north can only make appointments by phone. Those older than 70, however, may book online.

Currently, immunizations are being administered via appointment only, though the SHA anticipates there will be drop-in and mobile clinics, as well as availability through participating pharmacies, in the future.

As always, availability of appointments will depend on the province's supply of vaccine doses, and the SHA says the "existing demand for vaccine far outweighs our available supplies."

At this time, bookings are for first doses only, meaning those who have al-

ready received their first dose cannot book appointments. Those who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past 90 days, or who have received another vaccine in the past 14 days, are also ineligible.

While the province is accelerating its vaccination program, steadily and slowly declining numbers of new daily COVID-19 cases allowed the government to ease public health restrictions around family and faith gatherings last week.

The restrictions, which had been in place since December and were set to expire March 19, have been loosened to allow up to three families, or a maximum of 10 people, to gathering in a single household.

"But we still need to be very careful," Premier Scott Moe said during a briefing.

"The fact remains that the more close contacts each of us has, the more chance we have of contracting and spreading COVID-19."

Health officials say household bubbles should remain consistent and contained

to the same individuals, and cautioned that those aged 50 and older should stick to their own households until they've received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

For places of worship, meanwhile, gathering limits are being expanded to 30 per cent of capacity, or up to 150 people, whichever is smaller. These new regulations go into effect March 19.

All other public health measures remain in place, and Moe hinted that those measures may last a while longer.

"Most Saskatchewan businesses are open and operating safely under the current public health orders that we have had in place for some time," he said.

"Those public health orders will remain in place for the time being, but our goal is to remove some restrictions on businesses in the coming weeks."

Moe also said health officials are working with sports organizations on allowing seasonal sports and recreational activities, but gave no target date for those to start.

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,
Live-stream worship
service on Facebook,
Worship Sunday, 9 a.m.
Rev. Emmanuel Aristide

PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Parkside
10:30 a.m. Worship
Pastor Daniel Mooseely
306-747-3572
Shellbrook
Adult Study
9:30 a.m.
Sun., 10:30 a.m. - Worship
Pastor David Bodvarson
306-747-7235
Canwood
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
Leask 306-466-4498
Marcelin 306-226-4615

PRESBYTERIAN

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

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

Parkside
11 a.m. - Worship

ANGLICAN CHURCH

Leask - All Saint's
Sunday, 9 a.m. - Service
St. Andrew's - Shellbrook
Sunday, 11 a.m. Service
Re-opening for services
Sun. Mar. 14, 2021, 11 a.m.
Canwood - Christ Church
Sunday, 11 a.m. - Service

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

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. Dong Doan
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. Dong Doan
St. Agatha's - Shellbrook
Mass - Sunday 11 a.m.
St. Henry's - Leask
Mass - Sunday - 9 a.m.
Mistawasis
2nd & 4th Sundays, 1:30 p.m.
Fr. Phong Tran

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
306-747-3398

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SPIRITWOOD: Wapiti Regional Library - Limited Capacity. Tuesday 9 am - 5 pm; Wednesday 9 am - 5 pm; Friday 9 am - 5 pm

LEOVILLE: Wapiti Regional Library - Appointment only. Wednesday 10 am - 4 pm; Thursday 10 am - 2 pm

SHELL LAKE: Wapiti Regional Library - Curb Side Pickup. Tuesday 12 pm - 4 pm; Wednesday 12 pm - 4 pm

BLAINE LAKE: Wapiti Library - Appointment only. Wednesday 11 am - 6 pm; Friday 11 am - 5 pm; Saturday 10 am - 4 pm. Contact us for more info 306-497-3130, www.wapitilibrary.ca.

BIG RIVER: Wapiti Library - Curb Side Pickup. Monday 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm; Wednesday 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm; Friday 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm

CANWOOD: Canwood Branch of Wapiti Regional Library. Appointment only. Tuesday 10 am - 4 pm; Thursday 10 am - 4 pm; Friday 12 pm - 4 pm. Call 306-468-2501 to book a slot.

DEBDEN: Wapiti Library hours: Appointment only. Monday 2 pm - 7 pm; Tuesday 10 am - 4 pm. Librarian: Aline Hannon

LEASK: Wapiti Library & Legacy Gallery Hours - Limited Capacity. Tuesday 10:30 am - 5 pm; Friday 10:30 am - 5 pm; Saturday 1 pm - 4 pm

MARCELIN: Wapiti Library - Appointment only. Tuesday 2 pm - 7 pm; Thursday 2 pm - 8 pm; Saturday 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: Limited capacity - Monday 2 pm - 6 pm; Tuesday 12 pm - 8 pm; Wednesday 2 pm - 8 pm; Thursday 12 pm - 6 pm; Friday 9 am - 4 pm.

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Tiger's new target: Ben Hogan

For his entire professional golfing career, Tiger Woods has been chasing the legendary Jack Nicklaus's major-title record of 18. Now, he has another immortal to try to emulate — Ben Hogan.

Hogan famously returned to championship-calibre golf after being critically injured in an automobile-bus crash in 1949. Hogan's injuries sidelined him for close to a year in the prime of his greatness. But Hogan returned to glory, winning six major championships, including the 1950 U.S. Open at Merion 16 months after his brush with death.

Now, Woods faces a similar challenge, although it presents a less likely successful result. Hogan was 36 and in peak physical form at the time of his crash, while Woods, who suffered severe leg and ankle injuries Feb. 23 after his car hit a median, crossed the other lane and left the Los Angeles road, rolling

multiple times down an embankment, is 45 and inhabits a body held together thanks to multiple back and knee surgeries.

Woods, likely the most prominent individual athlete in the world, has enjoyed growing global fame since breaking into professional golf in 1996. A cave dweller in the depths of Mongolia may not know a thing about Tiger Woods, but he'd be in the minority. Have you heard of the Pope? Paul McCartney? Muhammad Ali? Albert Einstein? Same fame deal.

Woods was entertainment. People who knew or cared little about golf were likely to turn on their TVs if Woods was in contention in a major tournament. He made millions of dollars for the television networks. His popularity resulted in skyrocketing purses on the PGA Tour.

He was once the best golfer in the world. He isn't anymore. He won't be again.



BRUCE
PENTON

He was once a great husband, until his aura of a role model came crashing down when he was outed as an adulterer and a philanderer in 2009. He was a dotting son and apparently a great father to his two kids, Samantha and Charlie, but he nearly left them without a dad due to his recklessness.

He has dealt with at least three dangerous driving events — two crashes and a third when he was stopped by police for drugged driving — at the wheel while under the influence of post-surgery pain-killing drugs. Someone as wealthy and vulnerable

behind the wheel as Tiger Woods should hire someone to transport him safely, day or night.

What Tiger Woods did Feb. 23 in L.A. was no accident. The word 'accident' carries with it no culpability. Woods was reportedly speeding and obviously reckless behind the wheel. He is lucky, very lucky, to be alive.

Corporate America will continue to feed him millions, and he'll recover while bathing in sympathy and well-wishes for successful rehab. But he won't catch Jack and he won't equal Hogan's accomplishment. But he's alive and that's good enough.

• *Headline at the on-ion.com:* "Hockey Hall Of Fame Debuts Interactive Exhibit Letting Fans Play With Game-Used Teeth."

• *Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times:* "NFL owners are pushing to implement a 17-game schedule for this coming season. 'As you might suspect, we have

our reasons for playing Seventeen," said one."

• *Jamison Hensley of ESPN.com,* after Ravens coach John Harbaugh paid the entire \$2,000-plus restaurant bill during a Baltimore charity event: "Harbaugh covered the spread."

• *Phil Mushnick of the New York Post:* "In Charles Barkley's latest commercial endorsement ads, he appears huge, his stomach standing guard over his toes. He's bigger than a bread box ... factory."

• *Comedy writer Brad Dickson of Omaha:* "Dish Network and DraftKings just struck a deal that will allow fans to place bets on sporting events from their televisions in the middle of games ... OK, we're going to need another \$1.9 trillion bailout very soon."

• *RJ Currie of sports-deke.com:* "NBA star Joakim Noah announced his retirement, finishing his pro career 0-for-16 in three-pointers. Big surprise: a guy

named Noah preferred his points two by two."

• *Headline at fark.com:* "Calgary celebrates 7-3 win over Senators by firing coach."

• *Another fark.com headline:* "J.J. Watt has gone from being a saint in Houston to being a Cardinal in Arizona."

• *Dwight Perry again:* "Sure sign we've been in lockdown too long: The Milwaukee Bucks unveiled a 'Hand Sanitizer Cam,' featuring a superimposed bottle 'squirting' fans in the stands."

• *Bucs QB Tom Brady, 43,* when chubby 42-year-old CBS 'Late Late Show' host James Corden asked if Corden could be drafted into the NFL: "You might be able to play for the Jets."

• *Nick Canepa of the San Diego Union-Tribune:* "Players hate going to the NBA All-Star Game — as they should — and get upset when they're not invited."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Big River Recreation Improvement Association suffers losses

Submitted by Maisie Krienke

The Big River & District Recreation Improvement Association (RIA) continues to strive, even with all the COVID-19 restrictions which have curbed some of the major fundraisers in the community.

This association, instituted originally for the purpose of constructing a new arena and curling rink for the community, went on to build our beautiful Community Centre which also houses the local municipal offices, library, board room and fitness room. It's a Community Centre like no other in the country.

Paying off that debt ahead of schedule, this board moved on to assist with improvements at the local Golf Course and Ski Hill. In the past 6 years more than \$73 000 has been donated to each of these groups for the purpose of capital improvements at each facility. Take the opportunity to visit these seasonal facilities to appreciate what our community has to offer. In addition to these supports, a 'dream fund' of \$40,000

was also created in that time.

2020 was off to the usual start with the selling of 100 Monthly Lottery tickets and advertising of our 20th Annual Ice Fishing Derby. Then the world changed. COVID-19 hit, and the Fish Derby forced to cancel, but many of our very generous sponsors who graciously suggested we keep their donation for use at later event. However, losses were still incurred as advertising expenses were lost.

The attitude of this RIA Board remained positive and they fought on, coming up with some creative measures to be able to host its next major fundraising event, the Community Auction. Only being able to have 30 people in the Community Centre would not fly for this event, which traditionally attracted several hundred donors and bidders. Many visitors travelled especially for this fun night out, to challenge their old neighbour or teacher or perhaps even their sister or brother, causing bids to soar. In true Big River fashion, some who were unable to at-

tend even arranged for phone-in bids.

No spirit was lost in this group of local enthusiasts. They joined forces even, more determined to meet the challenge posed by COVID-19. The Community Auction took on a new face. A drive-by supper was hosted, a gateway "Toonie Box" sale took place along the street several evenings, and the auction of more than 100 items went viral online. The result: Yes, much the same profit was gained, but the social life for the annual auction lovers was lost.

We fought on. 2021 arrived and not much had changed, so once again regular efforts were made for the sale of the 100 Monthly Lottery tickets. And once again it was a sell-out. COVID-19 can't stop this!

In fact, if you are thinking you would like to get in on the lottery opportunity, get your name on the 'wait list' by texting Maisie at 306-469-7818. There will be a 2022 Lottery event, and only 100 tickets are sold.

The fight continued as Project Fish Derby was looking grim. And grim

was the result. Guidelines did not allow such an event to happen. So what do we do? The only aspect of this event that we'd be able to host would be the 50/50. So, that's what we are doing... only this year it is the "Super 50/50." A limited number of tickets are being sold. If it is a sell-out, our winner gets \$10,000.

For information about tickets, email bigriverria@gmail.com, or contact Maisie, or Arlene at 306-469-7961.

Oh, yes, will there be a Community Auction? It certainly is our hope, and if we all practise the guidelines and get our vaccines as soon as they are made available, things could be normal before too long. Watch for updates.

Also, one of our board members has donated her SGI rebate of approximately \$285 to the RIA and has put up a challenge for you to do the same. These rebates are a surprise to us all, so not money in our budgets. So why not donate it to this worthwhile cause?

Each donor will receive a tax receipt in the amount of the donation.

OBITUARY

Allan Ray LaCharity

LACHARITY – Allan The family of Allan Ray LaCharity sadly announce his passing on March 7, 2021 in Shellbrook, SK.

Allan grew up in Hudson Bay, SK, with his parents, Ray and Caroline, his brother, Ralph and his sister, Gloria. Allan quit school at age 15 to work on the railroad and later continued his education to become a Journeyman Welder, as well as teach the welding program in Prince Albert. He purchased a mobile welding rig and worked in oil and gas maintenance and construction for many years. Allan enjoyed the

outdoors and spent much of his time hunting, fishing and camping. He loved going for drives to check out yard sales as well as going for coffee with his friends, with his faithful dog Rocky, always by his side. Al was a kind and outgoing person who went out of his way to help his friends and neighbors fix anything and did the snowblowing for many of his neighbors during the winter months. He had an artistic side and enjoyed making ornamental steel trinkets. He will be dearly missed by his family, his friends and anyone he met.

Allan is lovingly remembered by his wife, Sandra; his son, Dean and grandchildren, Brandon, Ashton and Kimberly; his daughter, Tanis (Joel) and grandchildren, Sierra, Kianna and Caeden, and great-grandchildren, Cassie, Levi and Cade; his son Scott (Casey) and grandchildren Elias, Asa and Leo; his daughter, Nicole (Brady) and grandchild, Weylin;

his son, Tyson and grandchildren, Ashley, Raydin and Sage; his son Jesse (Randi) and grandchildren, Carson, Colt and Dallas; his step daughter, Carmella (Chad) and granddaughter Michela; his step daughter Nicole (Guy) and grandson Odin; his brother, Ralph (Cathy); as well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives.

Allan was predeceased by his son, Rae; his parents, Ray and Caroline; his sister, Gloria; and his brother-in-law, Leo.

Private family interment will be held at a later date. Memorial tributes in honor of Allan may be directed to the Canadian Cancer Society. Family and friends wishing to send online condolences may do so by visiting www.beaulacfuneralhome.com Arrangements are entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home, Tammy Smart, Funeral Director, Shellbrook (306-747-2828).

GOOD NEWS

THINGS I LEARNT FROM HOCKEY

I got a late start playing hockey. I don't think I would ever have played if it weren't for Dr. Steven King, who encouraged my mom to let me play. I guess starting in 13 and under is better than not starting at all. The team I was on was called the Hay River Polar Bears. What a time to play. We got to go to a big tournament in Quebec City. We drove to Edmonton and took the train to eastern Canada. That was some train ride. We ended up in the nation's capital and even got into the Prime Minister's office, the 15 or so hockey players, to have a private audience with him. I still have his autograph.

I continued playing hockey into bantam (15 and under) and was finding some improvement. I made the second line and wasn't riding the pine as much. The wonderful thing about hockey was we got to travel to tournaments. We played in some Alberta towns, like Peace River and Hines Creek, and even got to play in Kamloops and Fort St. John, B.C.

When we began to pastor Native New Life Church in Saskatoon, it was decided we should join an NHL (no hit league). It was good way to connect with other churches, and at the same time reach out to players we were able to recruit. There was some good competition in that league. It took us a while but we did find our footing. I recall one year we won the B side!

When Marlene and I moved to Semans, Sask. I met a fellow who could play goal. He asked if we could start a pick up team. We did, we picked up some First Nation players and some R.C.M.P. hockey players. The corporal attended the church and he was a great recruiter.

At the same time our boys were getting into hockey. All three of them. Well that made life interesting. When we moved to Rocanville, Sask. our boys continued to play and I was content watching them.

I get it when people say the rink is the centre of the community. The happening place. I learnt some things from hockey, like learning how to take defeat gracefully. For that matter, winning gracefully as well. I learnt that one can improve one's skill if you don't give up. I learnt to respect authority. I always had great coaches. I learnt to get along with others, after all hockey, like church, is a team sport.

I saw a couple of pro hockey players up close. One was Bobby Orr who actually showed up in our gym class in Hay River N.W.T. I can't say I cheered for Boston, but I always admired Bobby Orr. The other one was Paul Henderson who I saw a couple times in Saskatchewan as he talked about scoring the winning goal in the series against the Soviet Union. I loved Henderson's passion for hockey, but also his passion for Christ.

The best lessons in life are learnt by experience. I realize people gain experience and learn lessons a lot of different ways. I'm glad I learnt some from hockey.

Hey, there are some basic rules that are taught to a hockey player. Rule one 'keep two hands on the stick.' Rule two 'keep your stick on the ice.' Rule three 'always keep your head up.'

I'm just wondering, as of late, if these are good rules to follow as we're 'stick handling' through life.

Blessings,
Pastor David Bodvarson
Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly

PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

PARTNERS IN FAITH

Lutheran/United/
Christchurch Anglican,
137-2nd St. W.
Spiritwood
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Rev. Sarah Urano

UNITED /ANGLICAN

Worship Services
Glaslyn
Time is on the sign
Rev. Kun Kim
Rev. Don Skinner

CATHOLIC
SUNDAY

Spiritwood - 11:15 a.m.
Leoville - 9:30 a.m.
Chitek Lake - Closed for
the Season
Everyone Welcome
SATURDAY
Shell Lake - 2:00 p.m.
Medstead - 6 p.m.
Father Ramel Macapeia

PARTNERS IN
WORSHIP

Shell Lake
Online Worship
306-841-7333
Pastor Sarah Urano

SEVENTH DAY
ADVENTIST

407 - 2nd Ave .E.,
Shellbrook
Sat., 9:45 am -
Sabbath School
Sat., 11:00 am - Worship

Broadcast on
VOAR 92.1 FM
Pastor Liviu Tilihoi
306-747-3398

MENNONITE
BRETHREN

Glenbush
10:00 am - Sunday School
Worship 10:50 am

FIELDS OF HOPE
(HOFFNUNGSFELDER)
MENNONITE CHURCH

Glenbush
Worship - 11:00 am

BETHEL

Medstead
1st Sunday, 10 am -
Worship
Pastor David Jensen
3rd Sunday - 10 am
Worship
Pastor David Jensen

Gideons International
of Canada

Battlefords Camp
Phone Art Martynes
(306) 389-4633

EVANGELICAL FREE

Mont Nebo
Wed., 7:30 pm -
Bible Study & Prayer
Sun., 10:30 am - Worship
Pastor Bill Klumpenhower

LAKELAND
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Spiritwood
Sun., 11 am - Worship
Service & Sunday School

BELBUTTE FULL
GOSPEL

11 am Worship Service
1st Sun., 7:30 pm
- Hymn Sing
Pastor Floyd Berg

COWBOY CHURCH

Spiritwood
Every Wednesday Night
7 pm
Spiritwood Legion Hall
Pastor Rick Martin

LOCAL MATTERS.



Remember that time when **Amazon** sponsored your church fundraiser?



Remember when **Facebook** bought a case of Girl Guide cookies to support your daughter?



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Subscriptions
\$75.00 + \$3.75 (GST) = \$78.75/year

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Contact the Shellbrook Chronicle

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or Email:

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All prices plus applicable taxes.

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This newspaper accepts advertisements in good faith. We advise that it is in your interest to investigate offers personally. Publications by this paper should not be taken as an endorsement of the product or services offered.

TAX ENFORCEMENT

TAX ENFORCEMENT LIST

VILLAGE OF MARCELIN PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

Notice is hereby given under *The Tax Enforcement Act* that unless the arrears and costs appearing opposite the land and title number described in the following list are fully paid before the 19th day of May, 2021, an interest based on a tax lien will be registered against the land. Note: A sum for costs in an amount required by Section 4(3) of *The Tax Enforcement Act* is included in the amount shown against each parcel.

Lot 12 Blk 3 PL P5206 Title 115935723 \$321.00

Lots 13-14 Blk 4 PL P5206 Titles 128513044 & 128513099 \$1,438.36

Lots 11-13 Blk 5 PL P5206 Titles 145898274, 145898285 & 145898296 \$550.64

Lot 2 Blk 8 PL 73PA02321 Title 142418864S4,834.51

Lots 1-2 Blk B PL 76PA00208 Titles 145122522 & 145122724 \$2,454.52

Lot 9 Blk B PL 76PA00208 Title 134247562 \$2,056.38

Dated this 18th day of March, 2021.

Leanne McCormick, Treasurer

1-11

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the estate of MARY TREMAIN, late of Shellbrook, 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 30th day of April, 2021.

Robert Tremain

Eunice Cutting

Executors for the estate

Box 1126, Shellbrook, SK S0J 2E0

2-11

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the estate of Lawrence Louis Nelson, late of the Rural Municipality of Shell Lake, 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 30th day of April, 2021.

Thomas J. Orr,

Lawyer for the Executor

New Era Law

Box 1863

Warman, SK S0K 4S0

2-11

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BLACK ANGUS BULLS FOR SALE

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21-25

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8-18

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15-24

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Friday

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SW-31-51-10-W3rd

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NE-28-51-10-W3rd

SW-27-51-10-W3rd

SW-28-51-10-W3rd

SW-15-52-11-W3rd

SE-16-52-11-W3rd

NE-9-52-11-W3rd

NE-26-51-11-W3rd

NW-26-51-11-W3rd

NE-25-51-11-W3rd

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NW-08-50-10-W3rd

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CARD OF THANKS

The family of Leslie Boyle would like to thank all those who helped in Les's care over the past months.

Special thanks to the Home Care nurses and aides for their gentle and loving care. Without your help, he would never have been able to stay at home. Nurse Practitioner, Nancy Tenkink and the staff at the Canwood Community Clinic. Woodland Pharmacy in Canwood and Shellbrook. Shellbrook Hospital doctors and nurses. Neighbours, Robert and Carol Svendsen. Our Church Family that held Sunday services from June to Oct. on our front lawn so Les could attend. Our extended family especially Mary, Susan, James, Ryan and Doran. All those who visited, called, texted, and prayed for Les. Doris Wideen Bazley for presiding over a touching and thoughtful graveside service. Beau Lac Funeral Home for their professional and caring assistance. And finally to all those who made memorial donations to Whispering Pine Place in Leslie's memory. Sandra, Mervin, Cindy, Sheryl, Brad and their families.

SERVICES



For all your accounting and Income Tax needs contact:

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Chartered Professional Accountant

(306)747-3346

marni.danberg@gmail.com

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Chad 306-441-9837

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What happens when you don't advertise?

Very little.

To till or not to till

By Bernadette Vangool

No-till gardening is a technique in which the gardener mimics nature by adding organic matter to the surface of the soil. In nature, leaves fall and grasses and flowers die off. They are incorporated into the soil by millions of little creatures, fungus, bacteria and others large and small. These organisms work continuously to turn dead organic matter into nutrients which feed the new growth of plants in the immediate area.

In contrast, the till method incorporates organic matter into the soil directly by tilling or manual digging. Tilling disrupts the cycle of fungal, bacterial and insect activity

and thus creates an imbalance in the existing ecosystem. In the short term, the till method results in more immediate greater productivity, while the no-till method enriches the soil with organic matter over a longer period of time.

No-till gardening is a relatively new phenomenon. Traditional gardening has usually depended on the till method. People who grew up with the till method, which has been very successful for them, are reluctant to change and adopt new ways. Both methods have pros and cons and perhaps the best course of action is to adopt a portions of both methods in your garden practices.

Soil is improved over time when covered with at least 4 inches of organic material which decomposes slowly and is incorporated naturally. However, it is difficult to germinate small seeds in a deep mulch. Mulched soils tend to warm up more slowly in spring, an advantage in perennial gardens as it protects plants from late spring frost damage. For the vegetable gardener, facing an already limited number of frost free days in our climate, it shortens the growing season even further. For those of us with heavy clay soils, it may take years to "soften" the soil.

The major disadvantage of simply tilling soils is that they do not retain moisture as well. It can also lead to water runoff, resulting in the leaching of soil nutrients, and general erosion. Tilling, while breaking up the soil structure, may bring the larvae of beneficial and not so beneficial insects to the surface, thus eradicating pests by interrupting their life cycle. But weed seeds will also be disturbed and given an opportunity to germinate and flourish in the upcoming growing season. Either method of gardening will see a reduction of unwanted weeds over time, assuming that weed control is practiced by pulling, deadheading and mulching.

Making the transition from conventional tilling to a more sustainable method of gardening may take some adjustments. It helps to define your garden beds by creating permanent pathways. These should be covered

with mulch to discourage weeds. In a smaller garden, planting boxes can be constructed to easily define the vegetable beds. Defining these areas gives you the freedom to mix it up a bit. For example, vegetables with large seeds such as corn, peas and beans as well as crops that are transplanted into the garden, can be planted in the no-till beds with the heavy mulch. The small seeded crops such as lettuce, carrots and spinach can go in the tilled beds that provide easier germination. The tilled beds can be rotated throughout your garden to discourage pests from invading sections of your garden over time. This includes the dreaded slugs, which seem to be more prevalent as more and more people are switching to no-till. Pick a sunny day in spring or fall, till your garden and let the pests bask in the sunshine until the birds find them.

Whichever method of gardening you decide to embrace, don't skimp on the inputs. Every garden benefits from copious amounts of well rotted manure and compost, and a good regimen of watering. Happy gardening everyone!

The opinions expressed above are those of the writer, a long term member of the Saskatchewan Perennial Society.

This column is provided courtesy of the Saskatchewan Perennial Society (SPS; saskperennial@hotmail.com). Check our website saskperennial.ca or Facebook page (facebook.com/saskperennial).

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Two of four planting boxes in my back yard.
Photo credit: Bernadette Vangool.



Missing: Courtney Jennelle Struble

Date of Birth: Nov 22, 1990 MISSING SINCE: July 9, 2004
FROM: Estevan, SK Height: 5' 3"
Weight: 125 Lbs. Hair: Brown
Eyes: Hazel File: 3137 V

PARTICULARS: Last seen at 1:00 am on 9 July, 2004. When last seen, she was wearing a grey bunnyhug, orange shirt and blue jeans. Courtney has a birthmark on the nape of her neck and a 1 1/2 inch scar on her left shin.

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