



Aerial application: A local farmer's experience



Alex Beuchesne has been doing aerial application of crop inputs on his farm and neighbouring farms for the past four years.

By Alison Sullivan

Since the development of the tractor in the early 19th century, soil compaction has become one of farming's big challenges. Compaction carries with it a variety of negative consequences for crop yield and soil health. Reductions in crop emergence and stand, root development, and nutrient uptake caused by poor soil structure all reduce yields and overall crop energy.

Aerial spraying is one way some farmers are trying to mitigate yield losses and maintain soil health. While the technology is not new, its use has been reported as early as the 1920s, and there seems to be an increase in interest for aerial spraying as farmers learn more about the negative long-term effects of

soil compaction.

One local farmer took to the air four years ago and plans to stay there.

Alex Beuchesne grew up on a grain farm north of Spiritwood. After high school, he enrolled in a two-year commercial pilot program at Saskatchewan Polytechnic in Saskatoon. During the summers between and after his schooling, he went to work at a fishing camp as a bush pilot, flying small aircraft.

After his second summer at the camp, he went back home to work at the family operation where he has been since.

He learned about aerial spraying from a past colleague who told him "never become [an aerial] spray guy". Despite the advice not to travel down that road, Beuchesne said he was always in-

trigued by the idea.

"It took quite a bit of convincing to get my dad to let me do it," he said. Eventually, he was successful and enrolled in the Canadian Aerial Applicator Association's (CAAA) program at Battlefords Airspray in North Battleford.

The program took about a month to complete and then Beuchesne bought a plane and got to work. He typically sprays 5,000 to 7,000 acres of crop a year either on his own farm or as custom work for the neighbours. Legally, Beuchesne can spray land within 25 miles of his own farm.

Custom work helps to cover the cost of insurance he says, which is considerably higher than for ground equipment with the same function. Especially on

dry years where there is little spraying to do on the home farm.

Beuchesne uses his aerial sprayer to apply fungicides and desiccants, both of which are inputs that are used after a crop stand has been established.

Aerial spraying has economic and ecological benefits that go hand in hand.

Beuchesne says that the effects of soil compaction can easily be seen in a field. Often there is a 'memory' of combine tracks in the form of a yellowed or slow growing section of crop. Roots have trouble growing and the crop struggles to uptake nutrients from the soil. The fewer passes you need to make on the field with the tractor, the better it is for your crop he says.

Continued on page 7



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Vandalism plaguing area communities

Those who call rural Saskatchewan home are accustomed to vandalism. After all, scarcely a day goes by without word of some new act of senseless destruction making the rounds.

For Helen Dagenais, president of the Shellbrook Legion, enough is enough, after the door of the Legion Hall's shed was broken off in the early hours on April 20.

Dagenais says she learned about the act of vandalism from a concerned member of the community. When she went to check it out, she found the broken door and a missing lock, but the two barbecues and the lawnmower stored in the shed had

been left untouched.

Calling the act useless, silly, and disrespectful, Dagenais adds that the costs of this vandalism quickly add up, especially for a small community organization like the Legion.

"When they destroy something, they don't just break the door, they wreck the door. They wreck the frame and they make it almost impossible to fix it," she said, noting that it looked like a crowbar was used to pry the shed door open in this instance.

"Fortunately, we have someone who should be able to fix the door. But if we didn't, we would have to hire somebody and it would cost us money."

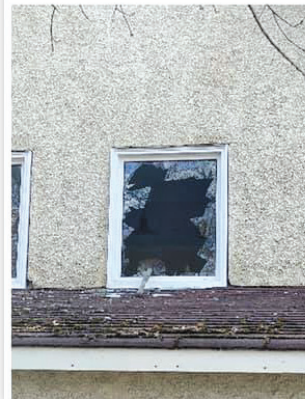
If this incident had been the first time, Dagenais might have been able to report it to the police and brush it off. However, last week's act of destruction was a continuation of a string of vandalism at the Legion Hall that spans over a number of years.

Over this period, the interior doors of the Legion Hall have been broken at least three times. The vandals in question lucked out on one of those occasions, as the Legion had just bought its supply of alcohol for its annual Christmas Party.

In that instance a crime scene investigation team made the trip out from Prince Albert, but was unable to uncover any clues to lead them to the person or persons responsible for the theft.

"They don't normally walk away with anything, because there's nothing in the Legion Hall to steal," Dagenais said.

When it's not doors being broken, Dagenais



In Big River, the CN Station had a window broken over the weekend.

says that vandals and thieves like to target the drain extenders or, more often than not, the flag at the Legion Hall.

While a flag hasn't been stolen in a couple of years, Dagenais feels it's a matter of when, not if, it will happen again, and notes that the flags cost more than \$100 to replace each time.

All of this wouldn't be so frustrating, she says, if she felt like something was being done to prevent it or hold the responsible parties accountable.

"It's just useless vandalism and when we've talked to the police, they say, 'They're just kids,'" she said. "I don't care. These kids need to be taught a lesson. They have to stop slapping them on the wrist."

It's not just Shellbrook that has a problem with vandals.

On Sunday, the Town of Big River reported

an incident where windows were broken at the local CN Station.

"Our seniors have done a lot of work to the CN Station. It is a place where they gather to play cards, games, and visit," the town said on Facebook.

In addition to this, a window was broken at the Centennial Building (Museum and Thrift Store building) a few weeks ago, and other incidents have occurred at the Regional Park buildings, the Tug Boat, the dock, and the Community Centre.

"They may or may not all be related, but if you're out and about be on the lookout and report anything suspicious," the post advised.



In Shellbrook, the shed outside of the Legion Hall was the target of some vandalism.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR THE

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Due to COVID restrictions, all registrations will be done by email. For more information, please contact Mark at shellbrooksilverfins@gmail.com or by phone or text at 306-747-9494.

Deadline for registration is May 24th, 2021

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

R.M. of Medstead No. 497

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the R.M. of Medstead No. 497 for the year 2021 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor from 8:30 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the following days: Monday to Friday, April 30th, 2021 to June 29th, 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, accompanied by a \$50.00 appeal fee which will be returned if the appeal is successful with: The Assessor, Rural Municipality of Medstead No. 497, P.O. Box 12, Medstead, Saskatchewan, S0M 1W0, by the 29th day of June, 2021.

Dated this 29th day of April, 2021.

Christin Egeland
Assessor

R. M. OF LEASK NO. 464 NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

Notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll of the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 for the year 2021 has been prepared and is open to inspection by contacting the Office of the Assessor from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the following days: Monday to Friday, April 26, 2021, to June 28, 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, accompanied by \$50.00 appeal fee per roll number with The Assessor, R.M. of Leask, Box 190, Leask, SK, S0J 1M0, by the 28th day of June, 2021.

Dated at Leask, Saskatchewan, this 26th day of April, 2021.

Riannon Nelson
Assessor

VILLAGE OF CANWOOD SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Village of Canwood is now taking resumes for one full-time General Labourer summer student position.

The successful applicant will be required to work a minimum of 35 hours per week in the maintenance department with duties that may include:

Maintenance of municipal property in the village and cemetery, street repairs, operating and maintenance of municipal equipment, garbage collection, public relations, water and sewer operations, and various other tasks as assigned.

Additionally, this position may be funded by Canada Summer Jobs Program; and as such, the successful applicant must comply with the terms and conditions as set out by the Government of Canada Summer Jobs Agreement and the Village of Canwood employment contract and policies.

For more information on this position, please contact:

Erin Robertson, Administrator

(306) 468-2016

Monday to Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Please send applications to:

Village of Canwood

Box 172

Canwood, SK S0J 0K0

Fax: (306) 468-2805

e-mail: canwood.town@sasktel.net

Closing date for Applications is May 13, 2021

Fame dance classes wrap up in Spiritwood

By Rachelle Beauchesne

Another year of dance has wrapped up in Spiritwood.

This year was certainly a very different one with groups being small and students all required to wear masks for both practices and the year-end show. The changes didn't put a damper on anyone's enthusiasm though.

Fame Dance studios out of Lloydmin-

ster sent Anthony Gervais each week, even in bad weather, to get some boys and girls moving.

With so many recreational programs having to be cancelled this year, both parents and students were especially grateful to have something to look forward to each week.

Rather than the usual year-end recital, dance-wrap up for 2021 had to

be carefully timed and planned out to make sure restrictions were being followed. Each student was allowed to have three to four family members view their dance. Spectators came in groups and dancers repeated their dances for each group.

It certainly wasn't the type of recital anyone hoped for, but it turned out great nonetheless and was a much-anticipat-

ed event. The 2020 dance season had been abruptly cut short due to the onset of the pandemic and dancers never had the chance to exhibit their hard work.

Spiritwood's dance program would not have been a success this year without the diligence of Fame Dance studios, Mr. Anthony, organizers, parents, and dancers who have made the most out of a difficult year.



Spiritwood's dance classes put on a year-end performance for family members to wrap up their dance year.

YOUR TWO CENTS

Vaccine concerns must not be dismissed

Dear Editor,

One definition of "objective" is: "not influenced by personal feelings or opinions in considering and representing facts." Objective reporting has been slowly dying. Almost extinct are journalists covering both sides of the facts impartially in debatable issues, allowing the viewer/listener to weigh the facts and make an informed decision.

Case in point is the April 8th article, "The vaccine lies must end," by Jordan Twiss. Jordan entered our homes (via this newspaper) cutting a swath with these words, "skeptics in the audience are no doubt preparing any of the half-dozen or so arguments they trot out every time the topic of vaccines come up." He publicly cut down the "hardline vaccine skeptics," wrongly assuming that if they disagree with the "everyone must be

vaccinated" narrative, they must have gotten their research "from some internet conspiracy theorist."

Many reputable doctors have had great success treating patients with cost effective alternatives to the vaccines. They deserve to be heard. Instead, they have been maligned and ridiculed. Some have even lost their license to practice. Why has silencing their message become such a frenzied goal?

Within my family, much credible research has been shared and dissected. Even knowing the vaccines have not been tested long enough for thorough findings on long-term effects—good or bad—some have chosen vaccination, partly out of concern for the travel and other limitations that threaten to inhibit the activity of those without a vaccination passport.

One American report cited that FDA vaccine approval normally takes about 15 years; a process

that has not been remotely possible for these vaccines. Thus, logically, many do have legitimate questions and reservations concerning the "It is safe" narrative we constantly hear.

COVID-19 is real, but is there truthfully only one way to stop it? Media plays a big role in shutting down the voices of doctors who offer true, tested solutions. Why the overcharged concern in silencing these doctors who offer alternatives proven to work?

There is a saying, "If you want the truth, follow the money." Following the vaccine money and reporting the findings would be a worthy journalism project. Jordan Twiss, are you up for the challenge?

I agree, "The vaccine lie must end."

Betty Taylor

Spiritwood, Sask.

RM of Leask No. 464 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 intends to adopt a bylaw under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* to amend Bylaw No. 2/20, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

INTENT

The proposed bylaw will amend Section 10 Lakeshore District 2 (LD2), subsection 10.3 Regulations to lesser minimums and setbacks.

AFFECTED LAND

The Lakeshore District 2 amendment will apply throughout the entire municipality.

REASON

The reason for the amendment is to allow Council consideration for the development under Lakeshore District 2 (LD2) proposed at Iroquois Lake.

PUBLIC INSPECTION

Any person may inspect the bylaw at the municipal office between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Monday through Friday excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available at cost.

PUBLIC HEARING

Council will hold a public hearing on May 8th, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. at the Leask Community Hall to hear any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaw. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing (or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing).

Issued at Rural Municipality of Leask No 464 this 16th day of April, 2021.

Riannon Nelson
Administrator

RM of Leask No. 464 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 intends to adopt a bylaw under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* to amend Bylaw No. 1/20, known as the Official Community Plan.

INTENT

The proposed bylaw will remove Iroquois Lake from sub-clause 3.8.2 (l) and 3.8.3 (h).

AFFECTED LAND

The affected lands surround Iroquois Lake.

REASON

The reason for the amendment is to allow Council to consider for the development under Lakeshore District 2 (LD2) at Iroquois Lake.

PUBLIC INSPECTION

Any person may inspect the bylaw at the municipal office between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Monday through Friday excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available at cost.

PUBLIC HEARING

Council will hold a public hearing on May 8th, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. at the Leask Community Hall to hear any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaw. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing (or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing).

Issued at Rural Municipality of Leask No 464 this 16th day of April, 2021.

Riannon Nelson
Administrator



Novus Law Group

To our valued clients in Shellbrook, Big River, Spiritwood, Debden and surrounding areas:

As COVID-19 re-opening considerations continue, our dedicated lawyers at Novus Law Group continue to provide legal services to the communities of Shellbrook, Big River, Spiritwood and Debden and surrounding regions.

While our branch offices in these communities are currently unavailable for in-person client meetings, we have in place a work management plan that enables the Novus Law Group team to continue to deliver legal services with minimal disruption.

For assistance during this time, please make arrangements by contacting by phone or email Bill Cannon (for Shellbrook/Debden/Big River), Shelley Cannon (for Spiritwood), or any of our firm's partners or other associate lawyers.

Contact us:

By Phone: 306-922-4700 (Monday to Friday 9am-5pm)

By Email: Bill Cannon at bcannon@novuslaw.ca
Shelley Cannon at scannon@novuslaw.ca
OR princealbert@novuslaw.ca.

Federal budget gives overdue credit to ag sector

At long last, after two seemingly interminable years, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's Liberal government has deigned to present us lowly peons with a budget.

Though, budget is used in the loosest sense of the term.

At a whopping 739 pages – 29 per cent larger than the next longest budget – Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland's playbook is more a glorified doorstop than a budget.

After all, budgets are meant to be documents that keep governments (and people) accountable. They set limits on spending and ensure every nickel and dime is accounted for, always with the goal of ending up in the black.

As has been the case since his government rose to power, this year's "budget" offers no indication that the word restraint exists in Mr. Trudeau's vocabulary.

Leveraging the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic as an excuse for largesse, the "budget" includes everything but the kitchen sink (and the plan to pay for all the goodies it promises).

After the government's plans to spend \$101.4 billion on COVID supports and post-pandemic economic recovery initiatives, \$30 billion on a \$10 per day childcare plan, and \$17.6 billion on green investments, Canadians are left with a deficit of \$354.2 billion.

This is lower than the projected deficit of \$381.6 billion, and the budget also outlines a path to shrink the deficit to \$30.7 billion in the 2026 fiscal year. However, deficit projections from a government that quickly abandoned its pledge to balance Ottawa's books should be taken with a whole shaker full of salt.

With as much red ink as is contained in Mr. Trudeau's budget, it's hard to interpret the document as anything other than his next election platform. Still, the budget did do one thing right, by



JORDAN
TWISS
~
News Editor

recognizing Canada's agriculture industry as a pillar of the Canadian economy.

The 2.3 million people employed in Canada's agriculture sector are among the hardest working people in the country. In 2018 alone, the industry contributed \$143 billion to the Canadian economy, accounting for 7.4 per cent of Canada's GDP.

Despite this, agriculture has often seemed like an afterthought in federal budgets, regardless of who's in office.

For everything it lacks, Mr. Trudeau's budget is at least a long overdue first step in correcting this historical oversight.

Though it stops short of exempting the natural gas and propane used by farmers, it does introduce a rebate that could pay out \$100 million to producers.

Working through the lens of green technology and climate change policy, the budget adds a further \$50 million to a \$165.5 million Agricultural Clean Technology Program, which will prioritize helping farmers buy more efficient grain dryers.

It also includes \$200 million over two years for an Agricultural Climate Solutions Program. This program aims to reduce emissions by improving nitrogen management, increasing adoption of cover cropping, and normalizing rotational grazing.

There's also \$60 million over two years to protect wetlands and trees on farms, \$10 million to power farms with clean energy and reduce the use of diesel, and \$1 billion for the Universal Broadband fund.

And these initiatives are joined by more spending on supports for industry, employers, and temporary foreign workers.

It's a lot of red ink, yes. But at last, Canada's agriculture sector is receiving some long overdue credit.



Volunteers make a difference

Dear editor,

National Volunteer Appreciation Week is April 18 to 24, 2021.

Saskatchewan Health Authority's Volunteer theme is "The Value of One The Power of Many." We acknowledge the work of the many Volunteers that help our community be the best it can be. And although we have not been able to invite volunteers into our home during the pandemic, we have not forgotten them!

The following thoughts were shared by Esther Strate and Mae Atkinson on behalf of all of us living at Parkland Integrated Health Centre:

V is for "very good people, from very young to seniors themselves"

O is for "other than family, they are an important part of or life"

L is for "they are our link to the community"

U is for "they give us their undivided attention"

N is for "they are a necessity we are missing"

T is for "they know they are wanted and needed and they mean so much to us" "they are also so very thoughtful-sending cards and letters"

E is for "everything they do with us like painting classes, teaching us music, playing table games and bingo, and going on outings"

E is for "extras like entertaining, worship services and skits, visiting and being a friend, helping make pies for the Farmer's Market and other Fund-raisers"

R is for "we really hope get back to life as we knew it before the pandemic and to re-acquaint with you soon"

S is for "so many ways, big or small... Volunteers make a difference"

Though we can't be together as normal, your countless contributions truly embody the theme of "The value of one the power of many."

Keep well and stay safe,

The residents & staff of PIHC long-term care

Shellbrook Chronicle

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

Spiritwood Herald

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

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: In the interest of readers of this newspaper, we will publish opinions of our readers. Letters To The Editor are most welcome; however, they must be signed and include writer's contact information and will only be published with the writer's name on it. Letters should be limited in length and be typed or clearly written. We reserve the right to edit letters depending on available space.

Member of



Report from the Legislature

Saskatchewan's vaccination rollout is going well and we're getting COVID-19 vaccine into the arms of residents as quickly as we're receiving them. In fact, we are leading all Canadian provinces in vaccine doses administered per 100,000 of the population. If we are going to keep up this pace, we need the federal government to procure more vaccines ASAP.

Thank you for being patient, understanding, and for observing public health orders to keep our friends, families, and communities safe. Thanks also for doing everything you can to keep our province moving. Health professionals, emergency responders, service providers, business owners and employees have all worked tirelessly to adapt and, thanks to these efforts, Saskatchewan will be stronger than ever once the pandemic is over.

Our government is actively working on a plan to re-open Saskatchewan safely in a post-COVID world – but we aren't there yet. The best thing we can do right now to protect ourselves, others, and to get back to doing the



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things we love is by following public health orders and getting the COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available to us.

Residents ages 40 and over who have contracted COVID-19 have seen the most severe outcomes, accounting for 84 per cent of total hospitalizations and 96 per cent of total deaths. To reduce the risk of these severe outcomes, we are working towards opening vaccine eligibility to all residents ages 40 and over. AstraZeneca is being integrated into the vaccination rollout plan and will be used to immunize adults 40 years and older.

Once vaccine eligibility has been opened to all residents ages 40 and over, we will prioritize

access through mass-vaccination settings to remaining prioritized first-responders along with additional front-line workers ages 16+, depending on vaccine product, including police officers, firefighters, front-line health-care workers with direct patient contact employed by the SHA or private employers (including dentists, optometrists, chiropractors), teachers and educational staff working directly with students, correctional staff, and border security officers.

Countries further along than Canada in their vaccination rollout are seeing significant reductions in both their case numbers and hospitalization numbers, and I am confident we will see the same results here. Thank you to all staff working at clinics across the province. Every shot, in every arm, makes Saskatchewan a little safer. The vaccines work, the vaccines are safe, and when it's your turn, I strongly encourage you to roll up your sleeve and stick it to COVID.

While COVID-19 accelerated the use of virtual health care technology, its expansion



**NADINE WILSON
MLA**
~
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Rivers
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is improving access to care for residents in rural and remote areas, and providing convenience for patients who need to connect with a physician for basic concerns.

The Ministry of Health and eHealth are developing an action plan to enhance virtual services, focusing on security, privacy, and user experience. Priorities will include video-conferencing, remote patient monitoring, and MySaskHealthRecord. In support of this, Saskatchewan has signed a bilateral agreement with the Government of Canada to expand virtual care services.

Saskatchewan is leading Canada's economic recovery from COVID-19, something

that is reflected in a remarkable 25 per cent increase in wholesale trade growth. Strong wholesale trade numbers, a leading economic indicator, coupled with the best vaccine rollout plan in the country, shows our province will see a quicker economic recovery than other jurisdictions.

As the spring sitting of the legislature rolls on, our government continues to deliver on its commitments as part of this year's provincial budget, including increased funding for the Veteran Service Club Support Program from \$100,000 to \$1,500,000. This will continue supporting veterans and their families in Saskatchewan by helping to keep Legions operational and make the necessary improvements to continue serving our heroes.

Recent legislation includes amendments to further support agricultural technology development by providing authority for Innovation Saskatchewan to make investments in ag tech startups through a Venture Capital fund. The changes will allow for new investment into game-changing tech-



**HON. JEREMY HARRISON
MLA**
~
Meadow
Lake
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nology for farmers and producers that will help accelerate our economic recovery and become a significant economic driver for our province.

Other changes include a move to restrict the sale of flavoured vapour products to adult-only vape shops and limiting marketing and availability to youth. Building upon the legislation this government introduced to regulate vape products as we do tobacco, we want to provide our youth with every opportunity to choose to be tobacco and vape-free.

As always, if you have questions, concerns or feedback about provincial government programs or services, please contact my Constituency office.

North West College

North West College is Currently Accepting Applications for the Following Position:

Shellbrook: Instructor, Continuing Care Assistant Posting #07-SB-2122

This in-scope position is responsible for organizing and delivery of education curriculum and content of the Continuing Care Assistant program. This part-time, term position is 81 days running from August 26, 2021 – May 25, 2022.

Salary Range: \$308.47 – \$467.86/day based on level of education and years of relevant experience.

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

Applications will be received until noon, Monday, May 10, 2021.



www.northwestcollege.ca

RESORT VILLAGE OF CHITEK LAKE

NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that the Council of the Resort Village of Chitek Lake intends to adopt **Bylaw #153/2021** under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* for the sale of dedicated lands, subject to Ministerial approval.

INTENT The proposed bylaw will allow for the Resort Village of Chitek Lake to sell the land listed below (see AFFECTED LAND) with the sale proceeds to be posted to the Dedicated Lands Account for future expenditure on other dedicated lands.

AFFECTED LAND The affected land is legally described as Lot no. MB4, Plan no. 01B14904 as shown on a plan of proposed subdivision dated 03/23/2021 and signed by Regan Rayner. The land is immediately between Lot 10 Blk L Plan no. 83B13932 and Lot 11 Blk L Plan no. 01B14904 as shown on the following map.

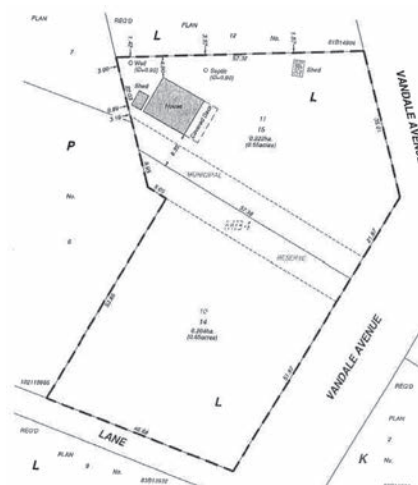
REASON The reason for the new Bylaw is to provide for the sale of dedicated lands at fair market value under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*.

PUBLIC INSPECTION Any person may inspect the Bylaw at the Chitek Lake village office between 9am to 12pm, 1pm to 4pm Tuesday to Thursday, and between 9am to 12pm, 1pm to 3pm on Friday, excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available at cost.

PUBLIC HEARING Council will hold a public hearing on 05/20/2021 at 6:30pm at the Chitek Lake Community Hall to hear any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaw(s). Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing (or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing).

Issued at the Resort Village of Chitek Lake this 04/29/2021.

Signed: *Danielle Vandale, CAIB,*
Acting Chief Administrative Officer



CHECK IT OUT!
www.shellbrookchronicle.com
www.spiritwoodherald.com

Sask. extends COVID measures to May 10

In a quick about-face, the Saskatchewan government has extended the current COVID-19 public health orders to May 10.

The extension comes just two weeks after the end date for the measures was pushed to April 26, and about a week after the province tightened restrictions on household gatherings and places of worship.

As of publication, households were restricted to only immediate members, but individuals who live alone may gather with a consistent household of fewer than five people. Places of worship, meanwhile, are limited to a maximum of 30 people.

Under the remaining measures, casinos and bingo halls are still closed, while personal services, such as hairdressers and barbers, massage therapists, and tattooists, are still limited to 50 per cent capacity. Restaurants and bars, meanwhile, are limited to seating four people per table and licensed establishments must stop selling alcohol at 10 p.m.

On the retail side, smaller stores must reduce their capacity to 50 per

cent, and large retail locations, identified as stores with more than 20,000 square feet, are limited to 25 per cent capacity.

Event venues, conference facilities, arenas, arts venues, museums, movie and live theatres and banquet facilities may still have events up to 30 individuals. However, all guests must be seated for the duration, and food and drink are not permitted unless explicitly stated in the order.

Concurrent services may not occur within multiple locations in one facility.

Elsewhere, sports leagues and activities remain suspended, but those aged 18 and under may gather in groups of eight for practices, with a maximum of two coaches also in attendance.

Finally, visits to long-term care and personal homes are still suspended, except for compassionate reasons.

These restrictions will be reviewed on April 26, and eased, extended, or tightened depending on current COVID-19 transmission rates.

Though it's business as COVID-19 usual for much of Saskatchewan, the

province has released revised guidelines for outdoor activities in advance of the spring warm up.

While the government is still recommending that child and youth day camps continue to offer online activities, it is easing restrictions to allow for multiple groups of eight to participate in activities for sport, music, art, dance, drama and educational program day camps, where space is available.

Parks and campgrounds, meanwhile, will be open to 100 per cent capacity for overnight stays and limited-term campsites.

Park, playground and aquatic access will be permitted, while all events must comply with the current public health orders. Laundry services will also be permitted, in accordance with guidelines for face coverings and maintaining physical distance.

Finally, golf courses will be able to open once again, and tee times will only be required to be a minimum of eight minutes apart, a change from 10 minutes at the end of last golf season. Additionally, tournaments will be permitted, so long as awards ceremonies

and receptions are held virtually.

In an earlier update, the government had said additional guidelines will be announced over the next couple of weeks, including guidelines for youth and individual sports activities. Those have still not been released.

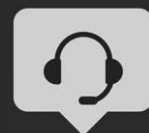
In the meantime, Premier Scott Moe and Chief Medical Officer Saqib Shahab have said the goal is to have all Saskatchewan adults receive their first vaccines by the end of May (an improvement on its earlier timeline of mid-June).

To help reach this goal, the province is also hoping to begin administering doses in pharmacies. The initial plan is for a small-scale pilot rollout to 14 communities, with vaccines being sent to these locations start April 29.

The province has yet to name the communities that will participate in the pilot. However, it has said up to 63 pharmacies will receive vaccines to administer. This, of course, is contingent upon vaccine supplies being available.

To stay up to date on the latest public health guidelines, visit saskatchewan.ca/covid19

Connect to Your Highways



Reach out to the Highway Customer Service Centre at **1-844-SK-HIWAY** or **saskatchewan.ca/skhiway**.

Remember — don't drive distracted

AGRICULTURE

SHELLBROOK CHRONICLE & SPIRITWOOD HERALD

7

APRIL 29, 2021 • SPRING AGRICULTURE EDITION

Federal budget's ag offerings difficult to gauge

The federal budget dropped last week, and how the document did in terms of supporting agriculture is rather difficult to determine.

Certainly there has been reaction to it from various farm and rural-base groups, but therein lies the problem of knowing whether the federal Liberals did a good job of supporting the overall agriculture sector.

When it comes to farm groups there are many, most focused on bite-sized sectors of the overall industry, cereal grains, or canola, or pulses, or fruits, or, well you get the idea. The seem-

ingly fractured landscape has evolved for perfectly good reasons. What is good for canola producers, might not be the best for cereal growers.

Of course the difference becomes even more significant when you consider what a fruit grower in British Columbia might want compared to a beef producer in Alberta, a canola grower in Saskatchewan, vegetable producers in Ontario, a dairy farmer in Quebec or a potato grower in Prince Edward Island.

Programming needs to be hugely diverse to help all, and when a group looks at legislation, like a



CALVIN DANIELS

federal budget, they are viewing it to see if it helps the farmers they represent, and given the diversity within agriculture the needs can be rather specific to a commodity and widely variant from what others are hoping for.

So there was frankly zero chance the budget would be viewed as a positive by all producers.

It gets more complicated when you overlay the rhetoric of politics too.

Voters on the Prairies have not exactly flocked to the Liberal banner in recent federal elections, and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is not particularly popular among many in the agriculture heartland, to the point a few on the political fringe as calling for western separation.

So to expect a lot of support for the budget from out west would be folly.

And, there is also the reality that farming no longer carries the votes it once did. Rural depopulation has lessened the voice of farming in parliament.

That has an impact. For example, the mere idea of a carbon tax has Prairie farmers shuddering, worried about added costs, and no counter-balancing added returns. But, among eco-friendly voters worried about things such as climate change and what the earth might look like in a few decades for their children, a carbon tax may be viewed in a more friendly fashion.

Ultimately, federal gov-

ernments, of any stripe, must appease the urban voters in our biggest cities because their vote fills so many seats in Parliament, and that means agriculture may not be a budget priority.

In the end, each farmer needs to delve into the budget on their own, hopefully without too many preconceived notions based on where they live, or what they produce, and from there determine if the budget was good, or bad, for Canada as a whole. That is after all what a federal budget should strive to achieve – being good for the country.

Aerial application: A local farmer's experience

Continued from 1

According to Beuchesne, when using ground equipment, in order to apply crop inputs after a field has been established, sprayer tires need to be switched to the narrow type and the field needs to be dry to help reduce ruts and compaction. Timing inputs correctly becomes a challenge and as a result, on their own farm, they sprayed very little fungicides in the past as a result.

Aerial application, on the other

hand, doesn't require the extra labour of switching out tires and can be done the morning after a rain. Beuchesne says that it makes it easier to manage application timing and get the crop the input when it is most beneficial.

Additionally, there is no trampling, which would happen if ground equipment was used. Beuchesne said that crop losses due to trampling are estimated around 2 per cent.

Other benefits to aerial application include fuel savings, as ground is cov-

ered quicker and there is reduced 'wear and tear' on equipment. "Unless you land hard," Beuchesne joked.

Of course, there are some challenges and downsides to aerial spraying, one of which is the increased insurance costs. While these are easily recuperated on a wet year when the need for fungicide application is high, on dry years, Beuchesne says that he needs to do a fair amount of custom work to make up that difference.

Another major challenge is obstacles,

which are different when you are up in the air. Trees and power lines pose a bigger threat and replacement costs if something is hit tends to be higher.

Beuchesne says he has adapted and adjusted over the years to overcome challenges. Power lines have been buried, the runway was extended, and he learned not to overfill the sprayer when the conditions were not ideal.

While aerial spraying definitely has some added challenges, this is what Beuchesne says he likes best.

PRINCE ALBERT LIVESTOCK SALES
A division of Northern Livestock Sales



To consign cattle or
for on-farm appraisals
please contact Brent,
Glen, Boyd or Frederick

Mon., May 10, 2021

Presort Sale 9:30 a.m.
Regular Sale to follow



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

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

For market info visit: www.northernlivestocksales.ca

MEADOW LAKE LIVESTOCK SALES LTD.



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for on-farm appraisals
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Brent, Blair or Brody

Wed., May 5, 2021

Regular Sale 9:00 a.m.

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

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Brent 306-240-5340 • Blair 306-240-9883 • Brody 306-240-6504

Office 306-236-3411 ~ Fax 306-236-3412

Email: mlstockyards@sasktel.net ~ market info visit: www.mlstockyards.com

Idylwild Women's Institute remembered

Submitted by Dave Hyndman

With surviving membership down to just two, Alma Latus felt that the now-defunct Idylwild Homemakers Club should have its due place in the history of the area, and that tribute needed to be paid to the many women who devoted countless hours over many decades to contribute to rural life.

The Club folded in 2013, and lately was down to just two former members – Alma and Fern Millar.

The Idylwild Homemakers Club was formed in 1936 with 23 members, most of whom had come to the area from the drought-stricken parts of the province. Money was tight, so one of the first fund-raising projects carried out was a supper of baked beans, brown bread, pickles, pie, cake and coffee, all for the princely sum of fifteen cents.

Despite the difficulty of raising money, the Club was successful in raising enough to support many activities and causes over the years. Because there were no health nurses or government funding, money raised was used locally. For example, donations of books, a first aid kit, a camp stove (for lunches in the winter months), playground equipment, a record player and Christmas treats.

Since the thirties were pre-Medicare days, the Club pitched in to help with health care. The club paid for children's dental work, and

they sponsored a tonsil and adenoid clinic.

The Club also took on the job of making improvements to the Idylwild Cemetery. A caragana hedge was planted, the site was fenced, and a gateway was erected, complete with a sign over the cemetery. They also bought a lawn mower, as well as headstones for unmarked graves.

Members took turns writing letters to the men from the district who were overseas during the war, and they participated in all war funds.

They even built a skating rink. The men hauled and sawed the logs, and the women built the rink. Mrs. Wyman Parker and Minnie Moore crocheted hockey nets out of binder twine.

There is a much longer list of contributions of time, money and food, but the point seems to be that the Club was active in the area and visibly making a difference in people's lives.

Homemakers Clubs and Women's Institutes sprang up throughout the province, supported and encouraged by the Department of Women's Work at the University of Saskatchewan. The Homemakers Clubs of Saskatchewan came into being in 1911 and expanded over the years as new clubs were created.

Women often joined the Homemakers in order to overcome their loneliness on iso-

lated farms. The Club provided camaraderie and helped to build a sense of community. Newcomers to the area were welcomed and able to get off to a good start in their new homes.

Over time, though, the world changed. Communication improved, travel improved, health care improved, and there was no longer the role to be played by Women's Insti-

tutes.

Thus, the Idylwild Homemakers, who had become the Idylwild Women's Institute, decided to fold. They turned their \$4,647.84 bank balance, plus a \$2,500 term deposit, over to the newly formed Idylwild Cemetery Committee, bringing to an end an organization that had once played a vital role in the lives of the people of the Idylwild District.



(Homemakers more recent) Idylwild Homemakers, possibly about the time the Club folded in Nov, 2013. L. to r., back: Alma Latus, Lorna Pearson, and Fern Millar. Front: Jean Walker, Anna Garrison, Eileen Holm, Mary Jenks, and Mae Moore.



(Homemakers 1961) Idylwild Homemakers Club, about 1961. Back row: Minnie Moore, Mae Moore, Clara Parker, Gran Taylor, Mary Jenks, Vella Moore, June Thomas, Jeanette Hare. Front: Ellyn Clark, Mary Purdy, Shirley Parker.

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Saskatchewan
Provincial Budget | 2021-22

The 2021-22 Agriculture budget will fully fund business risk management programs, provide a record level of per-acre coverage under the Crop Insurance Program, continue last year's record investment in agriculture research, and make important investments in irrigation expansion.

You can learn more at saskatchewan.ca/budget

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



Minutes of a Town of Blaine Lake meeting

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

Minutes of the regular meeting of the council of the Town of Blaine Lake held at the Blaine Lake Curling Rink Monday, March 15, 2021 at 4 p.m.

Deputy Mayor Bev Breland at 4:02 p.m.

Attending: Deputy Mayor Bev Breland, Rodger Pederson, Darlene Harder, Melissa Johnson, Jennifer Gutknecht and Jason Weber and Administrator Brenda Lockhart.

Weber: New Business: By Election Officials Wages, Old Business: TJ Disposal – Fire Invoices

And that the Agenda be approved as amended. Carried

Johnson: That the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of Feb. 22, 2021 be accepted as amended. Carried

Pederson: That the Minutes from the Special Meeting of March 10, 2021 be accepted as presented. Carried

Harder: That the Financial Statement for February 2021 be accepted as presented. Carried

Johnson: That the February 2021 Affinity & CIBC Bank Reconciliations be approved as pre-

sented. Carried

Harder: That Affinity Credit Union cheques numbered 1565 to 1599 and “Other (EFT)” payments Affinity and CIBC totaling \$423,394.13 be approved for payment. Carried

Johnson: That the reports be accepted and filed. Carried

Breland: That we request Highways to conduct a traffic assessment on Main Street to address speed and to install speed signs and change speed limits. Carried

Weber: That we invite Alan Autet of Autet Construction to our next meeting to discuss options for the flat roof section on the Town Office. Carried

Delegates:

Maintenance Foreman Russ Krysak – Not in Attendance

Jack Hill & Wally (Remax Agent) - 4:55 p.m. to 5:12 p.m.

Breland: That we advise Jack Hill that his request to have his property at 302 2nd Avenue W rezoned as Commercial has been denied. Carried

Breland: That we agree to monitor the water usage at Kyle Onishenko's residence at 410 James Street with regular me-

ter readings in April and August and review his January 2021 bill in the amount of \$838.29 at that time and that we stay any interest in the interim. Carried

Weber: That GIC #23 held by the Affinity Credit Union and maturing on March 22, 2021 in the amount of \$375,000 plus earned interest be deposited to the Town of Blaine Lake's operating account at the Affinity Credit Union. Carried

Pederson: That GIC #24 held by the Affinity Credit Union and maturing on March 22, 2021 in the amount of \$375,000 plus earned interest be deposited to the Town of Blaine Lake's operating account at the Affinity Credit Union. Carried

Weber: That we agree to transfer the Martins Lake Fire Agreement Funds to fire department reserves annually. Carried

Gutknecht: That we agree to open the campground on May 1, 2021 implementing any provincial guidelines and restrictions in place at that time due to COVID-19. Carried

Breland: That we reimburse the library for 2020 cleaning costs in the amount of \$1,200.

Carried

Pederson: That we agree to send a letter to the North Sask River Basin Council in support of their interprovincial nomination of the North Saskatchewan River as a Canadian Heritage River. Carried

Councillor Jason Weber and Rodger Pederson declared Conflict of Interest with respect to the following resolution and left Council Chambers at 6:46 p.m.

Johnson: That we acknowledge the Expression of Interest submitted by Weber Excavating with stated services and rates in effect for 2021 for work performed for the Town of Blaine Lake and accept same as presented.

Carried

Weber: That we agree to send all documentation available with respect to the damage done to the curb stop at 202 2nd Street East to the Town of Blaine Lake's solicitors for a legal opinion. Carried

Breland: That that By-law No: 2021-001 a bylaw to establish a code of ethics for Council Members be given First Reading at this meeting. Carried

Breland: That we agree to refer fire Invoice 1191 issued to TJ's Disposal to the Blaine Lake & District Joint Fire Department Committee for review and advise of decision. Carried

Breland: That we approach the Blaine Lake

School and inquire as to interest by students and staff to assist with flower planting this year. Carried

Breland: That we advise [name omitted] that we will agree to stay further interest and allow account to be paid in three monthly payments provided the account at 108 1st Avenue East is paid in full by June 30, 2021. Carried

Harder: That we advise Kristina Komanant that Council agrees with the importance in having houses properly numbered and will be reviewing different means of doing so over the next several months. Carried

Weber: That this meeting adjourns. Carried

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 - Appointment Only. Wednesday 11:30 am - 4:30 pm; Thursday 11:30 am - 4:30 pm. Phone # 306-469-2152

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.

PARKSIDE: Honeywood (Dr. A.J. Porter) Heritage Nursery Inc. *Provincial Heritage Site* Parkside, SK SEASON OPENING: SATURDAY, MAY 8. Open daily 9 am - 5 pm. Canadian Tire Annuals & Garden Tools, New and old lily varieties, assortment of perennial plants. NEW: Gift/Garden Shop - Honeywood Jellies, Early's Heritage Seeds, Seed Potatoes & Much More! COVID-19 GUIDELINES WILL BE IN PLACE. Ph: 306-747-3307, email: honeywoodn8@gmail.com.

SHELLBROOK: Registration is now open for the Shellbrook Silverfins Summer Swim Club! Due to COVID restrictions, all registrations will be done by email. For more information, please contact Mark at shellbrooksilverfins@gmail.com or by phone or text at 306-747-9494. Deadline for registration is May 24th, 2021.

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Shellbrook crews finish levelling 2nd Street West

Shellbrook's town crew was busy tearing up 2nd Street West last week. The work was part of planned project to lower the road so that it's level with the secondary access to Parkland Integrated Health Centre (Dr. Fung Drive) and the Hidden Hills of Shellbrook Golf Course's parking lot.

Town of Shellbrook CAO Kelly Hoare said the plan is for the road to remain a gravel surface for the time being, as the town has a small budget for paving.

Though the work is mostly done, the town crew may have to add more gravel at some point.



Minutes of an RM of Spiritwood meeting

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

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Spiritwood No. 496 was held on Tuesday, March 9, 2020.

In attendance were Reeve Shirley Dauvin, Division 1 Larry Vaagen, Division 2 Al Steinhilber, Division 3 Terry Wingerter, Division 4 Dennis Laventure, Division 6 Bevra Fee, Administrator Colette Bussiere, and Foreman Darcy Laventure. Absent was Division 5 Jerome Tetreault.

A quorum being present the meeting was called to order at 8:07 a.m. by Reeve, Shirley Dauvin.

Dennis Laventure: That the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried.

Terry Wingerter: That the bank reconciliation for the month ending Feb. 28, 2021 be accepted as presented. Carried.

Al Steinhilber: That the "List of Accounts" as listed on the attached Schedule "A" forming part of these minutes be passed for payment. Cheque No. 12915 -12948, Payroll File No. 318 & 319, EFT - Grader Lease Payment. Carried.

Larry Vaagen: That the Statement of Financial Activities for the month ending Feb. 28, 2021 be approved as presented. Carried.

Dennis Laventure: That the following three reserve accounts be consolidated into one reserve account for capital infrastructure and that monies in the amount of

\$240,748.00 be transferred from the general operating account into a capital trust fund reserve account: 310-100-200 Reserve – Patchwork \$75,148, 310-100-300 Reserve – Gravel \$150,000, 310-100-400 Reserve – Construction \$15,600, Total Reserve \$240,748. Carried.

Bevra Fee: That \$22,581.99 be transferred to the Organized Hamlet of Spruce Bay Reserve Account for the year ending Dec. 31, 2020. Carried.

Foreman, Darcy Laventure re-joined the web conference at 10:20 a.m.

Al Steinhilber: That the request to improve an access road to Section 01-51-11-W3 be tabled. Tabled.

Al Steinhilber: That the RM Shop Tender be tabled. Tabled.

Terry Wingerter: That the gravel haul tender for 2021 be awarded to Kustaski Enterprises Ltd. & Bedrock Sand & Gravel Inc. Carried.

Larry Vaagen: That the custom work rate for a grader be increased to \$200 per hour. Carried.

Al Steinhilber: That the RM of Spiritwood No. 496 request that the main focus for the RCMP Annual Performance Plan be break & enter, theft, drug use and speeding violations. Carried.

Dennis Laventure: That the regular meetings of Council for the RM of Spiritwood No. 496 convene at 8 a.m. for the months of April through October of 2021. Carried.

Bevra Fee: That inventory for pest control

supplies, culverts & gravel as of December 31, 2020 be accepted as follows: Pest Control Supplies - \$2,221.02, Culverts - \$14,901.47, Gravel Inventory - \$301,610.34. Carried.

Larry Vaagen: That the Council for the RM of Spiritwood No. 496 has no objections to the SaskPower Line Install to ser-

vice Parcel A located on SW 04-49-08-W3. Carried.

Larry Vaagen: That a special meeting of Council be scheduled for Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 2 p.m. to discuss the following: RM Shop Tender, Seasonal Operators, Budget Discussion and, that the meeting be adjourned at 11:05 a.m. Carried

Innovation Saskatchewan supports agtech growth

The government has introduced *The Innovation Saskatchewan Amendment Act, 2021*, to further support agricultural technology development in the province. This legislation provides the authority for Innovation Saskatchewan to make investments in agricultural technology (agtech) startups through a Venture Capital fund.

"As our economic recovery continues, our government remains committed to supporting growth and investment in the technology sector," Minister Responsible for Innovation Saskatchewan Jeremy Harrison said. "The changes we are making to *The Innovation Saskatchewan Act* will allow for new investment into game-changing technology for farmers and producers that will help accelerate our economic recovery and become a significant economic driver for our province."

As part of the 2021-22 Provincial Budget, the Government of Saskatchewan announced it will be investing \$15 million -

\$3 million per year over five years - in an agtech Venture Capital fund. The fund, which will be privately managed, will provide a mechanism to leverage millions more from private investors to make investment into Saskatchewan agtech companies that require Venture Capital to develop beyond the startup phase. This Venture Capital investment will enable companies to scale up their operations and manufacturing in Saskatchewan.

The Innovation Saskatchewan Act changes will allow Innovation Saskatchewan to continue to administer programs and supports to bolster the agricultural and technology industries in Saskatchewan including programs such as the Saskatchewan Advantage Innovation Fund, the Saskatchewan Agtech Growth Fund, and the Saskatchewan Technology Startup Incentive. Doing so will be critical in meeting the goals set out in the value-added strategy and the Saskatchewan Growth Plan 2020-30.

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

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

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Dual-threat Ohtani making big-league splash

One day, the most interesting player in baseball will be ripping a home run over the fence with an exit speed rivalling a jet plane at takeoff; the next day, he'll be confounding hitters with his pitching delivery that will bring Cy Young into the discussion.

Shohei Ohtani of the Los Angeles Angels is for real, and it's been a good month for Japanese athletes. Hideki Matsuyama is one of the most talked-about golfers after his victory at the Masters, and the 26-year-old Ohtani is definitely the talk of baseball with his dual-threat skills that haven't been seen since Babe Ruth about 100 years ago.

The Ohtani talk before he arrived in North America in 2018 was near mythological in scope. Here was this young Japanese phenom who was

not only a slugging terror at the plate, but the best pitcher in his country. Ha!, said North American fans. Wait'll he gets here and faces some real major leaguers.

Well, he's here, and the real major leaguers are in awe. One night in the first week of the season, the Angels held a 3-0 lead in the fifth inning over the White Sox thanks to Ohtani's one-hit pitching and first-inning home run. A television graphic pointed out that his home run was the hardest-hit ball recorded by anyone all year, and that one of his pitches, a 101-mph fastball, was also the fastest of any MLB pitcher.

Later, however, Ohtani suffered a minor injury in a freak collision at the plate, was removed from the game, and did not get the win. However, his bat



BRUCE
PENTON

hasn't been affected and through the Angels first 11 games, he was among the American League leaders in batting average (.364), home runs (4) runs-batted in (12) and OPS (on-base percentage plus slugging average), with 1.076.

Angels' manager Joe Maddon is a big fan of his Japanese star, saying "He's a threat to hit it out on any pitch and on any swing." Best of all for the

Angels, the team is off to a fast start and may finally get superstar Mike Trout and his team-mates back into the playoffs for the first time since 2014.

If that were to happen, no small amount of credit will go to Ohtani, who underwent Tommy John surgery on his right elbow in 2018 and had his left knee operated on in late 2019. "My lower body is there and I'm feeling strong," Ohtani told MLB.com. "I think that's the biggest difference from last year."

Ohtani's pitching arm and powerful swing are back to normal and the most interesting player in baseball may be on the verge of taking the Angels to baseball heaven.

• Vancouver comedy guy Steve Burgess: "I have a tax question. Charitable contributions are deductible but does (Canucks GM) Jim Benning get credit for giving away Adam Gaudette?"

• Patti Dawn Swanson, aka the River City Renegade, on rare lapses by Jet goalie Connor Hellebuyck: "Monday night in Ottawa, for example, he was on his knees playing Whac-A-Mole on the Sen-

ators' winning score, and he waved at another shot like someone trying to flag down a cab in the rain."

• Another one from Swansson, on TSN analyst Craig Button's black eye: "(Button's) face looks like he lost an argument to Ryan Reaves' fists. Turns out he's a pickle ball casualty."

• Mike Bianchi of the Orlando Sentinel: "New England Patriots receiving great Julian Edelman announced his retirement earlier this week. Translation: He'll be playing with Tom Brady and the Bucs next season."

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg, on the Johnson & Johnson vaccine halting production: "Johnson & Johnson is owned by the same guy who owns the New York Jets. Is anyone surprised they would have to stop?"

• Greg Cote of the Miami Herald, on viewing numbers for Wrestlemania 37: "The pay-per-view gate would have been much greater if they'd taken my advice and arranged for somebody to body-slam Tom Brady."

• RJ Currie of sports-Whac-A-Mole on the Sen-

me for a seven-letter N.Y. Times Crossword answer for 'sound of heartbreak.' All I could think of was 'Go Leafs.'"

• Headline at Theonion.com: "Little League coach thinks right fielder has potential to be a great novelist."

• Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "A Dodger fan sitting in the bleachers caught Justin Turner's home-run ball Wednesday night — and wound up with nacho cheese all over his hoodie. So, to sum it up: one run, one hit, one error and a whole bunch left on."

• Masters runner-up Will Zalatoris, to the Pat McAfee Show, on why he gave up baseball for golf: "The only thing I could hit was low and away, which is where a golf ball is, so I was like, the hell with this."

• Doug Robinson of Salt Lake City's Deseret News, not looking forward to Zach Wilson's possible NFL-draft destiny: "The Jets are to quarterbacks what Larry King was to marriage."

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OBITUARIES

Arthur Crawford



Arthur Crawford
1933 – 2021

Arthur Crawford of Mont Nebo, SK passed away peacefully on April 22, 2021 at Parkland Integrated Health Centre in Shellbrook, SK at the age of 88. Arthur was born in

Canwood, SK on February 13, 1933. He grew up near Mont Nebo, SK and resided in that area for the majority of his life. Arthur married Lorraine Lapesky on November 7, 1959 and they raised five children on their farm. Arthur was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. He had a great love of horses and rodeo and he and Lorraine travelled to several Canadian Finals Rodeos in Edmonton. Over the years he liked to hunt and fish and enjoyed campfires by the lake or in the backyard. His favourite trips were to the mountains and he often spoke of the beauty

of Lake Louise.

He is loved and remembered by his son Clayton Crawford of Winnipeg and his children Chelsea, Ashley, and Kyle; his daughter Carolyn Crawford of Shellbrook and her children Matthew (Sara Bosch), Taylor (Bobby Young), Sarra, and Michael and her grandchildren Tucker, Jameson and Arlo; his son Arnold Crawford (Michelle) of Osler, their children Danielle (Sheldon Taylor), Mikaela, Colby, Madison, Cassadie, Dacie, and Anika, and their grandchildren Kyra, Jaela, Ameya, Kazlynn, Ellawyn and Orianna; his daughter Connie

Crawford of Shellbrook and her children Jessica and Riley; and his daughter Laurie Smith (Gerald) of Shellbrook and their children Brayden, Ryan, and Kallie. He is also survived by his sister Joyce Fusick, brother Roy Crawford, sisters-in-law Bernice Crawford, Eileen Levasseur, Emily Davio, and Evelyn Hamm (Dale), brothers-in-law; Allan Lapesky and Dale Hamm, and numerous nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

Arthur was predeceased by his wife, Lorraine, his parents, Lloyd and Joan Crawford, parents-in-law Anthony and Lena Lapesky, brothers Donald Crawford and Raymond Crawford, sisters Lucy Betker, Della McKay and Vera Crawford, brothers-in-law Rudolph Betker, Vern McKay, Joe Fusick, Alphonse Levasseur and Art Lapetsky, and sister-

in-law, Clara Crawford, nieces and nephews; Maurice Betker, Roy Betker, Marvin Betker, Gloria Dawson, Alan Crawford, and Anton Davio.

Arthur will be lovingly remembered for his willingness to help family and neighbours, devotion to family, and sense of humour. A Private family service with Rev. Rick Reed as officiant, will be held at the Mont Nebo Community Hall. Following the service there will be a video link available for family and friends of the service on the Beau "Lac" Funeral Home website. Michelle Crawford and Gerald Smith will be the scripture readers, and the family members will share many fond memories. The Honorary Pallbearers will be all of Arthur's Grand Daughters. The Honor Guard will be the wonderful

caregivers at the PIHC Long Term Care House B who looked after Dad. The Pallbearers will be; Matthew Feige, Brayden Smith, Kyle Crawford, Ryan Smith, Colby Crawford, Riley Crawford and Michael Crawford. Arthur will be laid to rest by his family at St. Luke's Anglican Church in Mont Nebo.

For those wishing, memorial donations may be made in Arthur's honour to Shellbrook & Districts Health Services Foundation – Long Term Care (Box 33 Shellbrook, SK S0J 2E0). Family and friends wishing to send condolences may visit our web site at www.beaulacfuneralhome.com

Arrangements have been entrusted to Beau "Lac" Funeral Home & Crematorium, Donna Lovberg & Tammy Smart – Directors – Shellbrook, SK .306-747-2828.

Orest Joseph Krushelniski



KRUSHELNISKI – Orest Joseph

The family of Orest Joseph Krushelniski sadly announce his passing on April 13, 2021 at the age of 71 years.

Orest was born July 1, 1949 at the family farm in the Junor District. Orest was the fifth of ten children born to Pete and Mary Krushelniski. The family farm would come to play a central role in Orest's life.

The entire family was sports oriented and softball and baseball became the sport of choice for Orest. This led him to become a prominent "southpaw" pitcher for the Leoville district fastball teams. Orest was also an avid curler and spent many winters attending bonspiels in the surrounding communities.

Orest attended Pearl School in the Junor District and then completed high school in Leoville. Orest

then went on to pursue further education at the U of S, obtaining his degree in agriculture. During these years of pursuing higher education, some lifelong friendships were formed. The "syndicate" as this circle of friends is referred to have been a source of many great stories, great laughs and great memories that will be forever cherished.

While attending university, Orest met his wife Verna. They were married in August 1971. Upon completing his education, Orest returned to the family farm with Verna and together they built a life there for the next 30 years. Orest and Verna were blessed with two sons, Marty and Curtis. The boy's activities kept Orest very involved in the community with 4H, hockey and fastball to name a few.

During his farming years Orest fell in love with horse racing, eventually becoming a part owner in a few horses. One of which won the Saskatchewan Derby in 1990. He was always up to watch a race on television and even made a few trips to some prominent race tracks in Kentucky and California.

Upon moving to town, Orest took up golf on a more regular basis and always enjoyed a round or two with his brothers, friends,

sons and grandchildren. His grandchildren kept him very active. He was always there to watch a dance recital, hockey game or baseball game.

Orest is survived by his wife of 49 years, Verna of Leoville, SK his sons Marty (Kyla) and their children Makayla, Dominic, and Brynn. Curtis (Robin). His mother Mary, siblings, Mike (Monique); Walter (Terri); Bill (Joan); Jim (Rose), Ruth (Wally) Siemens; Mary Ann (Don) Uebell, Doreen (Earl) Christopherson, Kory (Rich) Scott, brothers and sisters in law, Lorne (Lois) Anderson; Hugh (Shirley) Danberg; Doug (Rhonda) Steffes; Darren (Tina) Anderson, also numerous nieces and nephews.

Orest was predeceased by his father Pete Krushelniski, brother John Krushelniski and his father and mother-in-law Alden and Evelyn Anderson.

Orest's final resting place will be in the Leoville Cemetery.

Memorial donations in memory of Orest Krushelniski may be made to the Leoville and District Curling Club Box 389, Leoville, SK S0J 1N0.

Those wishing to send online condolences are invited to visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Mark Muir of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home, Spiritwood, SK (306) 883-3500

Norma Jean Warwick



WARWICK – Norma Jean

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Norma Jean Warwick, after a short but courageous battle with a COVID-19 related illness, at the age of 54 years.

Norma was born in Saskatoon on January 29, 1967 and adopted into the family of Robert (Bob) and Shirley (nee McMillan) Warwick of Midnight Lake, SK. She grew up on the family farm in the same yard as her grandparents, Remington and Olive Warwick. She attended Glaslyn Central High School and graduated with

her class in 1985, after which she moved to North Battleford and attended Expressions Academy where she completed a hairdressing course. She met her husband, Mike, the night before her sister Patty's wedding, where he told the bride and groom he would be moving to NB because he was "going to marry Patty's sister". After living in NB for 9 years, her and Mike relocated to Lloydminster in 2002. Their daughter Mikayla was born in 2003. Having worked at the Scotiabank in NB, she was afforded the opportunity to work at the Lloyd Scotia location. There, her "gift of gab" and love of people made her a customer and coworker favourite. Due to her love of sun and sand, they bought a cabin at Meota, where she could still be close to friends and family. Thanks to her genuine interest in her customer's lives, she was able to find her biological family in Shell Lake, SK, in 2018.

Norma Jean was predeceased by: paternal grandparents, Remington

and Olive Warwick; maternal grandparents, George and Marjorie McMillan; her loving mother, Shirley Norma Warwick; uncles, Ian, Doug, Bill and Fred; aunts, Francis and Irene; brother-in-law, Paul Scovell; father-in-law, Ian Scovell; and biological Father, Harold Kjerstad.

Left to cherish her memory: husband, Mike Scovell; daughter, Mikayla; father, Robert (Florence Jeancrat) Warwick; sister, Patty Blair (Doug); uncle, Joe Warwick; nephews, Jordan Brink (Janeen) and Sidney Blair; mother-in-law, Joan Scovell; brothers-in-law, Andrew and Dean Scovell; aunts, Isabell and May; biological mother, Darlene Schock; as well as numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Norma Jean's friends and family would like to thank The U of A Hospital doctors and staff for the exceptional compassion and care she received.

Donations in Norma's memory may be made to the University of Alberta Hospital Foundation or Lloydminster & District SPCA.

OBITUARY

Marion Yaremchuk



YAREMCHUK, Marion
1949 – 2021

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Mrs. Marion Agnes 'Mary' Yaremchuk of Red Deer, Alberta, peacefully at home, with family at her side, on Sunday, April 11, 2021 at the age of 71 years.

Mary was born on July 12, 1949 in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, to Graydon and Georgina Kinnaird. She was raised in Shellbrook, Saskatchewan and lived at Kamloops, British Columbia. She spent time farming in

Shellbrook, Saskatchewan, and then moved to Red Deer, Alberta.

Mary completed her Nursing Education at SIAST and was employed in various hospitals throughout her Nursing Career, in British Columbia and Saskatchewan. Her longer terms were at the Shellbrook Union Hospital and the Shellbrook Nursing Home, as Director of Care. She also worked at Victoria Union Hospital and the Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre.

Mary loved to travel; some of the places that she enjoyed were Brazil, England, Ukraine and Egypt, just to name a few. She also enjoyed camping and quadding in the Alberta Back Country. She was recognized by the Red Deer Photo Club for her photography, and also enjoyed painting and gardening. Mary and Ken were happy to host exchange students from Brazil and Thailand.

Mary will be lovingly

remembered by her husband, Ken Yaremchuk; their children, Kathy Yaremchuk (Dean Lunde), Rebecca (Brett) McCutcheon and Matt (Samantha) Yaremchuk; and her six grandchildren. Mary will also be sadly missed by her brother, Francis (Brenda) Kinnaird and her sister, Anne (Andy) Gaboury; as well as numerous family members and dear friends. Mary was predeceased by her parents, Graydon and Georgina and a sister, Ellen Jean Kinnaird.

A Private Family Memorial Service was held on Saturday, April 17, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. Cremation entrusted to Parkland Funeral Home and Crematorium, Red Deer, Alberta. If desired, Memorial Donations in Mary's honor may be made directly to the Central Alberta Cancer Centre at www.albertacancer.ca. Condolences may be sent or viewed at www.parklandfuneralhome.com. Arrangements in care of Parkland Funeral Home and Crematorium, 6287 – 67 A Street (Taylor Drive), Red Deer. 403.340.4040.

GOOD NEWS ~ ALL HEART

We raised three boys. The deal was I would name the boys and my wife Marlene would get to name the girls. Marlene and I actually agreed on the name of our eldest. His name is Kenneth Paul, and I understand Kenneth means "handsome." We selected that name because he is named after our pastor Ken Bombay when we lived in Calgary.

Our second son is Timothy James, Timothy means "honouring God" or "honoured by God". I remember calling my dad the day that Tim was born and told him I named our middle boy after his dad. Grandpa Tim Bodvarson lived in Manitoba and we lived in the N.W.T. and being the youngest I can't remember ever meeting him.

Our third son and last child I named Jonathan David. Jonathan means "God's gift." When Jonathan was growing up he was known as J.D.

I got thinking of the Hebrew name Caleb. I never studied Hebrew in college so I have to rely on other scholars here. There is a couple of meanings of Caleb that is offered. The one I like is "all heart."

Caleb's life has been divided up this way. He was zealous in his youth, consistent in mid life, and adventurous in old age. The closer I get to my 62nd birthday the more I admire our friend Caleb. You can search the Scriptures and I don't think you will find another one who presented such an inspiring view of getting old.

Someone put it this way "The hero of forty is no less a hero at eighty-five." I read that preacher William Barclay received a letter that was signed "Yours, eighty- three years old still growing." Sounds like another Caleb.

One has to love Caleb's patience. He waited some 45 years for God to fulfill the promise given to him. Read Joshua 14:9. Caleb had been through a lot. But the 40 years in the wilderness that Ca-

leb went through, to his credit, didn't dampen his spirit.

Caleb is 85 and he stands before Joshua, and I love his confession. He says " As yet I am as strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me; just as my strength was then, so now is my strength for war, both for going out and for coming in." (Joshua 14:11)

One preacher pointed out, "Few (eighty year olds) are so fortunate as he! But it must be borne in mind that his victory was one of the spirit, not of the body."

At 85 Caleb says "Now therefore, give me this mountain of which the Lord spoke in that day..." (Joshua 14:12)

I read recently "Most are content with the good. Only few are prepared to pay the price for the best... Satan disputes our way the most fiercely, not on the plains of average blessings but on the heights."

Missionary Benjamin Ririe retired at 70 years of age. When he reached 80 years of age he found time hanging on his hands that is the way someone described it. So he decided to take on learning New Testament Greek. At 90 he decided to take a refresher course in Greek at a seminary. A friend of his caught up to him at 100 and said it was his practice to carry in his pocket a small well -worn Greek Lexicon that he used to brush up his Greek as he traveled on the subway. It was noted "He was in the true succession of Caleb."

What was the secret of Caleb? Well it is likely seen in seven words, Caleb's own words "I followed the Lord my God wholeheartedly"(Joshua 14:8)

I trust you are inspired by Caleb as you read this article. Jesus said in John 10:10 "I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."

One writer said The message of (Caleb's) life is "The best is yet to be."

Blessings,
Pastor David Bodvarson
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New facilities add bright prospects for canola

By Jordan Twiss

With market analysts forecasting the global canola oil market to surge to \$43.34 billion (USD) by 2027, it's clear that vast fields of yellow will remain a common feature of the landscape in rural Saskatchewan in the years to come.

Producing 20 million metric tonnes of canola each year, Canada's canola industry contributes almost \$30 billion to the Canadian economy per year and employs 207,000 people across the country. Saskatchewan is the backbone of this world-leading industry, accounting for just over half of Canada's total canola crop.

However, with the industry having set a lofty goal to increase canola production to 26 million metric tonnes by 2025, the question becomes how it will manage to reach these levels in the next four years. There, too, Saskatchewan might hold the answer, if four recent canola industry announcements yield the anticipated outcomes.

First, in Yorkton, Richardson International has announced plans to expand its canola crushing site. The upgrades, scheduled for completion at some point in 2024, will double the facility's crushing capacity, creating jobs and helping the province reach its Growth Plan goal of crushing 75 per cent of Saskatchewan-grown canola right here in the province.

Second, Cargill has announced

plans to build a \$350 million canola crushing facility of its own near Regina. If all goes according to plan the facility will be up and running in 2024, employing 50 people full-time and processing 1 million metric tonnes of seed each year.

Third, just days after Cargill made its announcement, Viterro revealed plans to build its own canola crushing facility in Regina. The plant is expected to process up to 2.5 million metric tonnes of seed each year. Construction on the facility is slated for 2022, with production beginning in 2024.

Finally, near Estevan, the initial groundwork is being laid for a proposed renewable diesel refinery, which would use canola as its primary feedstock. While this is only in the preliminary stages, Bernie McLean, chair of SaskCanola, calls it an obvious win.

"It's good for agriculture in the sense that it's going to give us more markets, and this is a home-grown market. It's value-added, so we're not going to be faced with trade barriers," he said.

Canola producers are no strangers to trade barriers, having been the target of retaliatory trade measures imposed by the Chinese government in 2019. Those barriers slashed canola exports to China by half, to 2 million metric tonnes from 4 million.

While producers were able to make up some of this loss by filling the de-

mand of the European biofuel sector, McLean says incidents like these only highlight the dangers of becoming reliant on a single market, or a handful of markets.

The Richardson canola crushing plant expansion in Yorkton, the announced plants for Regina, and the proposed renewable diesel refinery near Estevan, are ways to circumvent these trade obstacles, and they also provide a rationale to increase canola production.

Though, when he talks about increasing canola production, McLean is quick to clarify that he doesn't mean seeding more acres of canola. Instead, he feels the goal should be increasing the output per acre, and that research and innovation, spurred on by the growth in demand for canola, is the way to reach the goal.

"It's good for agriculture, it's good for the economy, and it's good for the environment," McLean said.

Fuelling the future

Running a 14,000 acre farm near Macoun, Sask. with his father and brother, Josh Gustafson is deeply entrenched in the agriculture industry, meaning he's no stranger to the highs and lows of farming.

It was in 2018 and 2019, when canola prices were low and profit margins were tight, that he began to wonder about the possibility of developing some value-added processing for the

agriculture industry.

"I was praying about it. Then, I came across renewable diesel, and straightaway it made sense and I saw the huge potential for it," he recalled. "I was given the idea for the refinery, and the product, and what it would mean for Saskatchewan and Canadian farms, and the canola industry in general."

Armed with the answer he'd been seeking, Gustafson founded Covenant Energy in 2019 with the goal of making Canada's first standalone renewable diesel refinery a reality.

His work to advance the idea caught the attention of the City of Estevan, which was looking to soften the economic blow of the closure of two coal-fired power plants, scheduled for this year and in 2024. Tapping into provincial funding, the city provided Covenant with \$200,000 to perform a feasibility and market study for the proposed refinery.

As for what that refinery will look like, Gustafson says the vision is for a 6,500 barrel per day facility, employing up to 60 people full-time and beginning production at some point in 2023.

The refinery will use canola oil as the primary feedstock, with soy oil, carinata oil, or camelina oil as possible other feeds. The end product will be sold to fuel distributors like Husky, Shell, or Co-op.

Continued on page 15

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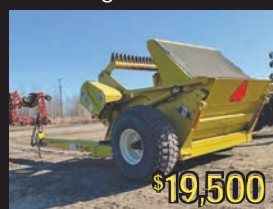
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