

Shellbrook removes 7th Street speed curve



Shellbrook's town crew got to work removing the speed curve that connects 7th Street East with 2nd Avenue East early last week.

Shellbrook's town crews have started the work of removing the speed curve that connects 7th Street East with 2nd Avenue East.

The infrastructure project has been on the town's to-do list for a number of years now, but has been put off for a number of different reasons. Now, with Lake Country Co-op signalling that it finally plans to get to work on its proposed fertilizer plant on the east side of town this summer, the speed curve must be removed to pave the way for the business.

The speed curve has long been a feature of Shellbrook, and Mayor Amund Otterson notes that it was actually once part of the old highway from Prince Albert to Shellbrook.

"The Highway from Prince Albert, what we refer to as the old highway, has two curves in it and then more to get back up to the corridor where the bridge crosses the Shell River," he said.

One of those two key curves, located two miles north of town, has been turned into a T intersection and sees little use these days. The other, located where the highway came into town from the north and swung into 2nd Avenue, became the speed curve.

"It was for ease of traffic. That was a truck route when we had seven elevators operating and everyone was coming to town with their small, 200-bushel truckloads of grain," said, noting that the speed curve is no longer needed, as 7th Street

East isn't a truck route.

With the speed curve gone, drivers entering town via 7th Street East will now have to make use of the standard four-way stop intersection at 2nd Avenue East.

As an added benefit of removing the speed curve, Otterson says it opens up half a dozen or so business lots on the north side of 2nd Avenue East for possible development.

And, separate but related to the removal of the speed curve, town crews will also be building up 5th Avenue East and opening it up all the way through to 7th Street East to create a new service corridor.

The 5th Avenue East project has been the subject of some confusion, given that it was once suggested the road would even-

tually be developed to end in a cul de sac. It's also drawn some concern, as opening up the road means traffic will be flowing past Happy Hearts Childcare Centre.

"It's essential to services, so it will be opened as a street and we have made the commitment to making sure traffic is controlled there," Otterson said. "There won't be big truck traffic coming through there."

Sticking with a theme of land development, Otterson adds that the town is having Associated Engineering look at unused land on the west side of town to see what can be done to make it more attractive to businesses. The town's investigation will include a look at the infrastructural costs of setting up potential businesses with water and sewer services.



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Shellbrook budget maintains status quo

Restraint and maintenance are the two key words Shellbrook Mayor Amund Otterson uses to describe the Town of Shellbrook's 2021 budget.

"It's a bit of an uncertain time, so the mood was to not embark on any new, expensive projects unless we had to, and to keep a zero or minimum increase in the part ratepayers pay," Otterson said of the budgeting process. "And that's what happened."

By law, the town is required to deliver a balanced budget (yes, even during a global pandemic). The 2021 budget does that, with revenues and expenses dead even at \$4,046,840.

By comparison, 2020's budget delivered a small surplus of \$131,914, with revenues of \$4122,439 and expenses pegged at \$3,990,525.

Of most interest to ratepayers, however, the municipal mill rate and the base tax held steady at 3.98 and \$1,200, respectively, meaning no tax increases from the municipal side of the tax

equation. With 2021 being a reassessment year, and education property taxes changing (up to 4.46 from 4.12 for residential, and up to 6.75 from 6.27 for commercial), some will still see tax increases.

"We're providing the required basic services and the culture and recreational services to the same level, and we hope to continue to do that," Otterson said.

Looking to the expenses side of the budget, public works and infrastructure continue to account for a sizeable portion of the budget. The town is setting aside another \$200,000 to continue its sewer relining program, and a further \$100,000 in hopes of completing a larger paving project at some point next year.

It's also earmarking \$80,000 (including \$40,000 from 2020) for lift station repairs, and planning to purchase a transfer pump.

With Lake Country Co-op expected to get to work on its proposed fertilizer plant on the east side of

town, other infrastructure work will include the removal of the speed curve (this began last week), and the completion of 5th Avenue East all the way through to 7th Street East.

The budget also contains \$121,000 for the purchase of a loader, \$61,000 for cold mix and patching, \$56,000 for gravel, and the annual loan repayment of \$218,270 for the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

For recreation facilities, meanwhile, the budget sets aside \$66,000 for

the purchase of a dehumidifier at the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre, and puts \$20,000 into reserves for work at the swimming pool (with \$10,000 of that being dedicated to a future replacement of the liner).

Elsewhere, council remuneration was bumped to \$38,000 from \$25,248 in 2020, to reflect the increased number of council meetings as new councillors are brought up to speed.

And ever a bone of contention for council, which feels the town is not re-

ceiving adequate policing services, the contract with the RCMP increased slightly again this year, climbing to \$113,500 from \$112,000 in 2020.

Also notable in the budget are the things the town isn't spending money on, such as its original plans to spend up to \$7.8 million to upgrade the water treatment plant. While the town still needs to spend money on water treatment, it's sidelined this project in favour of exploring a partnership with the Prince Albert Rural Water Utility and surrounding rural municipalities to build a water treatment plant and pipeline.

"It's basically a maintenance and continuation of some of the projects that weren't completed last year for various reasons," Otterson said of the budget.

Apart from the all-important numbers, Shellbrook's budget is also significant for the philosophical debate it kick-started around the council table. With five new faces on council there were many new ideas brought forth, most of them aimed at codifying the way the town budgets.

On at least two of these new ideas, Otterson says the town will be looking

for public feedback to help shape its decisions.

First, there's the matter of tackling the town's culture and recreation deficit, which totals about \$450,000. Otterson says he hopes user groups will be able to find creative ways to fund recreation or lower costs, without eliminating services.

Second, there's the always sensitive topic of debt, and whether or not the town should take on long-term debt to complete major infrastructure projects in a more timely fashion rather than spreading them out over a number of years.

At his age, Otterson says he's personally not keen on the idea of saddling future generations with a huge financial burden. However, he concedes that long-term debt may not be a burden with low interest rates available — especially when compared to the cost of a catastrophic infrastructure failure.

"It's an election year, so there are new people with different backgrounds and different levels of experience [on council]. It's a year of orientation and enlightenment," Otterson said of the discussions that council will be holding over the next year as council solidifies its budgeting guidelines.

MacDougall wins May dessert



Kathleen Gatzke baked up a scrumptious looking cake for the Spiritwood Library's May Dessert of the Month. This month's winner was Iain MacDougall. Rhonda Saam (pictured) accepted the dessert on the winner's behalf.

Spiritwood Pharmacy and Grocery, located in downtown Spiritwood is accepting job applications and resumes for positions in both the dispensary and front store.

Please send a cover letter and resume to **Gary** at wilvon@sasktel.net



On behalf of the *Light of Christ Board of Education* and *Staff* we would like to congratulate our **2021 Retiree!**

Suzanne Lavoie
Library Tech. – Rivier



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

VILLAGE OF CANWOOD

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Village of Canwood is accepting resumes for one full-time term General Labourer position.

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

- Operating mowers and grass cutting equipment;
- Maintenance of municipal property and community beautification;
- Park Maintenance;
- Minor street repairs;
- Public relations;
- Other duties as requested

The Applicant must be between 16 and 30 years of age (inclusive) at the start of employment; is a Canadian Citizen; and legally entitled to work according to the relevant provincial/territorial legislation and regulations.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Valid Class 5 Drivers License;
- Ability to work in a group environment as well as independently;
- Experience with operating equipment would be an asset.

This position is a term position for the spring and summer months, however, there may be an opportunity to extend into casual position after the set term is over.

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.

Send applications to:
Village of Canwood
Box 172

Canwood, SK S0J 0K0

Fax:(306) 468-2805 or

e-mail: canwood.town@sasktel.net

Closing date for applications is June 7, 2021

Construction begins on new gas bar and C-store

The fences went up and the heavy machinery went to work the afternoon of May 19, breaking ground at the site of Lake Country Co-op's new Co-op gas bar and C-store in Spiritwood. The work is being done by VCM Construction from Saskatoon.

The work crew has been busy, up at dawn and working through until sun-down putting in long days to get the project rolling.

The new gas bar will have six state-of-the-art pumps with an accompanying C-store as well as a franchise restaurant. The franchise is yet to be announced.

Spiritwood's new addition should be an asset to the community, helping reduce the end-of-day congestion that normally happens around the current Co-op gas pumps as people try to fill up before heading home for the day. It will also be a nice feature for through travellers and could potentially provide a few extra job opportunities in the area as well.

Co-op expects the new gas bar and C-store to open this spring.



Construction crews got to work on May 19, breaking ground at the location of the new Co-op gas bar and C-store.

Some ball players return to action

Though it remains unclear how the upcoming season will play out, it's full steam ahead for minor softball in Shellbrook.

Shellbrook Minor Sports kicked off the season this month, and saw close to 130 kids register to play ball locally.

With games not currently permitted under the Saskatchewan Health Authority's (SHA) current COVID-19 public health measures, the organization, and its volunteer coaches, are setting up training groups of up to eight players and putting them through practices and drills to keep their softball skills sharp.

"The Return to Play Protocol from Saskatchewan Softball provides us with the guidelines approved by SHA and has allowed our players to participate in weekly practices," Shellbrook Minor Sports said in a statement, noting that it's important to keep the kids active over the summer.

"We have training teams in all of the age divisions including Learn to Play, U10, U12, U14, U16 and U19 divisions. You will see our Sports Grounds used almost every day of the week with all five diamonds in use from Monday to Thursday."

While games be-

tween local teams or with teams from other communities are still off the table for now, there is the possibility that this ball season will see a return to a sense of normalcy.

In an update to its roadmap to re-opening, the province announced on Tuesday morning that restrictions on outdoor youth and adult sports would be lifted when Phase One begins on May 30.

The easing of restrictions allows for league action to resume. Tournaments and interprovincial travel, however, will remain prohibited and will be reviewed when Phase Two begins on June 20.

Unfortunately, while Shellbrook ball players will at least enjoy some of the usual ball activity, the same can't be said in Debden. On Tuesday, May 18, the Debden Recreation

Board made the difficult decision to cancel the 2021 ball season.

The Board said it made the decision based on the uncertainty surrounding the ongoing public health measures. It added that it hopes to see all the players return in 2022.

In Spiritwood, meanwhile, skills training is underway for youth T-ball and softball, but there will be no slo-pitch.

**Advertising
Deadline is
Friday
4:00 p.m.**

Administrator, RM of Big River, No. 555

The RM of Big River is currently accepting applications for the position of Administrator.

The Rural Municipality of Big River is located in north central Saskatchewan, west of the Prince Albert National Park and bound on the north by lands in the Northern Administration District. The geographical features of the land provide ample opportunity for agriculture, industry and tourism which has provided landowners and developers with a wonderful canvas for a variety of business and residential developments.

The RM encompasses 30 townships and has a permanent population of 889 living in both the agriculture and residential subdivisions, primarily within 9 of the townships. The RM also fosters a strong relationship with the forestry industry and their partners and is home to the Carrier Lumber Dimensional Saw Mill.

The RM Office is located in the Town of Big River and is shared with the Town of Big River.

The Administrator, being the administrative head of the Municipality will provide organizational leadership to municipal staff. This position is responsible to Council for providing overall administration of the Municipality and will ensure the effective utilization of the financial and administrative resources. As the principle advisor to Council, the Administrator is responsible for providing to Council all relevant information necessary to make informed decisions, along with providing leadership for planning and executing a strategic vision that meets the current and future needs of the Municipality.

As the Administrator, you will have strong interpersonal and communication skills, including the ability to build trusted relationships with internal and external stakeholders. You will be a strong decision maker with high integrity and have authentic leadership skills, providing guidance and support for staff and community. As the successful candidate, you will have a thorough understanding of municipal operations, including: legislation, finance, budgeting, infrastructure, planning and economic development. In addition to your understanding of municipal operations, you will have the knowledge of business, administration, financial management, strategic planning, policy development, and implementation, resource allocation and leadership.

As the successful candidate you will have a:

- Certificate in Local Government Administration or equivalent
- Rural Class "C" Certificate or Higher; or
- Be in the process of completing the LGA Courses to obtain a Rural Class "C" Certificate
- Experience with MuniSoft software including the Tax Roll, Hail Roll, General Ledger, Accounts Payable and PubWorks
- Strong Communication, Management, Organizational and Interpersonal Skills
- Experience in Residential, Agricultural and Commercial Development
- Experience with Financial Planning and Asset Management

The RM of Big River offers a competitive salary with a comprehensive benefits package including extended health and dental benefits, short-term disability and long term disability. Salary will be determined based on qualifications and experience.

Candidates seeking a rewarding career opportunity with a progressive and supportive Council are invited to submit their detailed resume including related qualifications, past and present work experience to:

rm555@sasktel.net or by mail to RM of Big River, No. 555, Box 219, 606 First Street North, Big River, SK S0J 0E0, by June 9th, 2021.

We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those being considered for the position will be contacted.

Highway Patrol saga shows need for stronger oversight

When a person is placed in a position of power, there is a great deal of trust and responsibility that comes with the appointment.

Time and again, history has taught us about the corruptive influence of power. Those who have it tend to use it, often for their own personal gain or for the gain of their allies.

This is true for politics. It's true for business. And, as Saskatchewan's auditor, Judy Ferguson, found in 2020, it's true of at least some in law enforcement.

The corruption uncovered by Ms. Ferguson set in shortly after the province's Protection and Response Team (PRT) was formed in 2017 to address the province's problems with rural crime.

As part of the creation of the crime fighting unit, the Highways Commercial Vehicle Enforcement team was re-branded as the Saskatchewan Highway Patrol (SHP) and given expanded powers.

Naturally, the SHP had to be properly equipped to carry out its new role. But it didn't take long for someone (or multiple people) within the organization to abuse their newfound powers.

Between the SHP's inception in 2017, and Ms. Ferguson's damning report in 2020, an estimated \$700,000 was spent by the Ministry of Highways to outfit members of the SHP with firearms, ammunition, and protective equipment.

Ms. Ferguson's report found \$140,000 worth of this equipment to be "inappropriate," including the purchases of two fully automatic rifles, an AR-10 carbine, suppressors (silencers), drug test kits, a drone, and a high power rifle scope.

Prior to the auditor's report, the questionable purchases were originally brought to light by an internal review conducted by the Ministry of Highways.

Its review placed the blame squarely on the shoulders of then SHP Chief Rob-



JORDAN TWISS

~
News Editor

in Litzenberger, who, in a separate incident, is said to have purchased a shotgun despite being ordered not to do so.

Whether Mr. Litzenberger was a convenient scapegoat (as he alleged in a wrongful termination lawsuit he filed against the government), or a man mad with power, the inappropriate purchases and the waste of taxpayer dollars were just the tip of the iceberg.

It wasn't just a matter of an employee buying equipment the SHP couldn't even use. It

was a much deeper problem, involving a lack of oversight and accountability, and poor tracking of equipment.

As per Ms. Ferguson's report, the Ministry of Highways purchased 26 carbines without getting quotes from vendors. What's more, her report highlighted a practice of splitting up purchases to keep them under thresholds for tendering requirements, or to allow purchase cards (essentially credit cards) to be used.

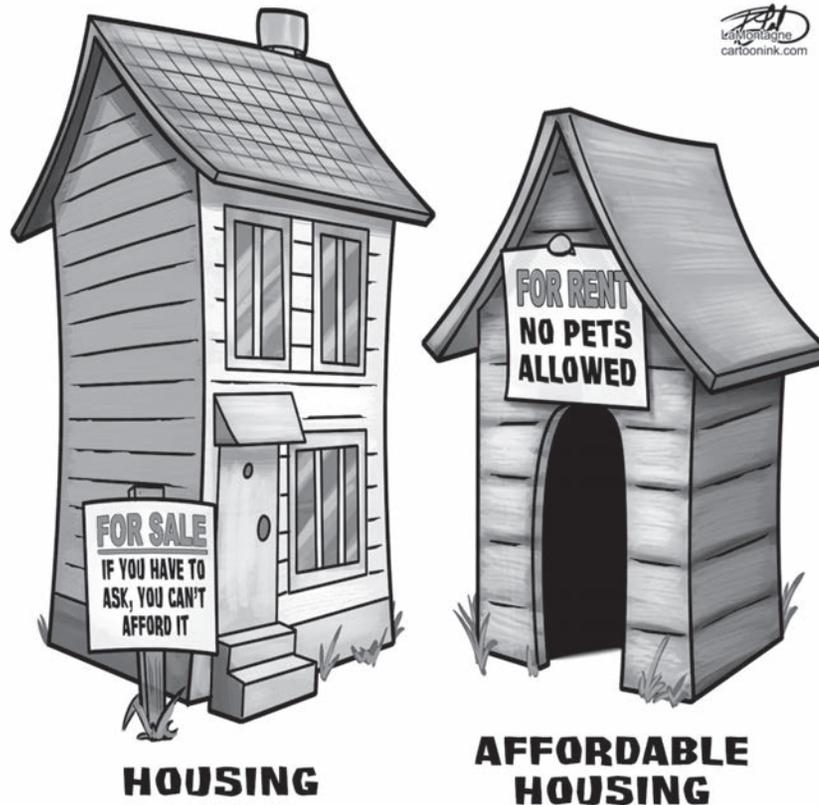
This was, in short, not an issue of a few misplaced ones and zeros. It was a deliberate abuse of power – an abuse the perpetrator did his or her best to conceal.

With any luck, however, it's also an abuse that won't be repeated, thanks to oversights put in place by the province.

Starting in June, all purchases of firearms, ammunition, and other equipment, must be authorized by the Ministry of Corrections, Policing, and Public Safety. These rules apply not just to the SHP, but to all special constables, including conservation officers and park enforcement officers.

It's the right move on the government's part. But one hopes this saga has inspired similar reviews of oversights across all government departments.

When it comes to taxpayer dollars, the government's power must always be held in check.



Sask. must control spending in wake of credit rating downgrade

By Todd MacKay,
CTF Prairie Director

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation is calling on the Saskatchewan government to control spending and get the deficit under control after the bond rating agency, Moody's, downgraded the province's credit rating.

"Saskatchewan's debt has been going up long before COVID-19 and it's time to get spending under control. There are only two options: make tough decisions to get the deficit under control now or procrastinate and make even tougher decisions later.

"A credit rating downgrade is a flashing warning sign to get spending under control now."

Moody's downgraded Saskatchewan's credit rating from AAA to AA1 on May 21. It noted the provincial government is projecting increased revenues, but spending is going up by more than seven per cent in 2021-22.

"Based on Moody's estimate, the province's net direct and indirect debt could exceed 150 per cent of revenue by 2023-24," stated Moody's release. "These levels exceed Moody's previous high estimate of 120 per cent over the next few years, and reflect a gradual shift away from the government's focus on tight debt management."

The Saskatchewan budget

projects an operational deficit of \$2.6 billion. The province's taxpayer-supported debt was \$10.8 billion in 2019, but is going up to \$25.2 billion in 2025. Saskatchewan will spend \$755 million to cover the interest on the debt this year.

"Saskatchewan has seen this sad movie before and we need to work quickly to make sure it has a better ending this time. Last time, runaway debt led to multiple credit rating downgrades, tax hikes and deep cuts.

"We can do better this time if the government does what every Saskatchewan family and business has already done: find ways to save money."

Shellbrook Chronicle

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Spiritwood Herald

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A Division of Pepperfram Limited Publications
Mail Registration #07621

Published Every Thursday Morning

P.O. Box 10, Shellbrook, Sask. S0J 2E0
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Friday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. & 1 to 4 p.m.;

Advertising Deadline: Fridays at 4:00 p.m.

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Report from the Legislature

The spring sitting of the legislature was highlighted by two things: a budget that protects, builds, and grows Saskatchewan, and a roadmap that charts a course through the end of the COVID-19 pandemic. Budget 2021-22 is designed to protect the health and safety of our people and our economy. It builds through investments in new long-term care facilities, hospitals, schools, highways, vital Crown capital and municipal infrastructure projects. It also grows the province through incentives and key investments, keeping life affordable for families.

This legislative session saw the government fulfill 14 of our commitments including restoring the Active Families

Benefit; funding to hire new Continuing Care Aides; expansion of individualized funding for those on the Autism Spectrum; increasing the Seniors Income Plan; and reducing the financial cost for those living with diabetes. Highlights from our legislative and



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policy agenda include enhancing police oversight through the creation of a civilian-led and independent model; the lowest unemployment rate in Canada and leading the nation in month-to-month job growth; and our re-open roadmap with three steps for a gradual, measured approach to easing public health measures and getting life back to normal.

Our plan to get back to a growing economy and more jobs is already working.

Urban housing starts in the province increased 113.3 per cent year-over-year, the second highest percentage growth increase among the provinces. This growth has contributed significantly to the 8,700 new construction jobs in April compared to the previous year.

Manufacturing sales in Saskatchewan have also increased by nearly 30 per cent year-over-year, the second highest percentage growth increase in Canada.



**NADINE
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MLA**
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I am proud to say that several companies have also announced large-scale economic projects right here in Saskatchewan. This includes Richardson International's expansion to double capacity of a crush facility near Yorkton; Viterra's intention to develop the world's largest canola crushing facility; Cargill developing a new state-of-the-art canola processing facility; North American Helium Inc. opening the largest helium facility in Canada; and Saskatchewan Mining and Minerals Inc. sig-

nificantly upgrading its sodium sulphate plant in Chaplin.

Saskatchewan has one of the most competitive business environments in all of Canada, and as we see with large private sector investments worth billions of dollars, our province is in an enviable position coming out of the pandemic.

While the work of the spring sitting is now complete, our government continues to fight for resource sector jobs in Saskatchewan and across North America. Saskatchewan will be filing an amicus brief in support of 21 States fighting President Biden's decision to cancel the Keystone XL Pipeline. The cancellation will ultimately make the U.S. more dependent on rail for Canadian oil imports, which costs more, emits more greenhouse gases, and presents a larger risk to the environment.

While we have no desire to wade into American politics, we must take every opportunity we can to stand up for Saskatch-



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HARRISON
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ewan's economy.

Saskatchewan's amicus brief will focus on the implications of the decision to cancel the Keystone XL Pipeline on Saskatchewan, its economy, and its people.

Thank you to everyone who is rolling up their sleeve to Stick It To COVID. Thanks to you, we now have a roadmap to re-open the province and we are well on our way. Please keep protecting yourselves and those around you by following the public health orders and – when it's your turn – get vaccinated.

R.M. of Leask No. 464 Employment Opportunity

Superintendent of Public Works

The Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 is looking for a Superintendent of Public Works to provide leadership and organization of the Public Works Department. Experience in the operation of heavy equipment and possession of a class 1A driver's license is an asset. A job description is available from the R.M. office. The successful candidate will be employed full time. Normal hours of work are from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday. Some overtime may be required. This position is not part of a union and includes a full benefit package. Please send resumes, including certifications, references, valid driver's license and a criminal record check to:

Box 190, Leask, SK, S0J 1M0, Fax: (306) 466-2091, Email: rmleask.464@sasktel.net.

Deadline for applications is 4:00 p.m., June 4, 2021.

For more information call 306-466-2000. Only those applicants chosen for an interview will be contacted.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY Village of Leask is Accepting Applications SUMMER STUDENTS

For approximately May 20 – August 28th, 2021

Qualifications:

- Works well with minimum supervision
- Works well as a team and with public
- Takes direction
- Must have a valid Saskatchewan driver's licence
- Manual labour required
- Willingness to learn new skills, willingness to operate machinery as required

Position will remain open until suitable candidates are hired, please forward cover letter and resume to:

Village of Leask

Attention: Tim Melnyk – Administrator
15 Main Street, Leask, Saskatchewan
Email village.leask@sasktel.net

The Village of Leask would like to thank all that apply for the position. Only those selected will be contacted.

Chronicle editor wins two Sask. newspaper awards

The Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association (SWNA) handed out its Better Newspapers Competition Awards last Monday, and for the sixth year in a row the Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald, and news editor Jordan Twiss, brought home some hardware.

Twiss was named a finalist in three categories, including Columnist of the Year, Best Recreation Story, and Editorial Writing Excellence, and was awarded two top honours and a third place finish.

Once again, Twiss was named the SWNA's Columnist of the Year, scoring the victory on the strength of his May 28, June 4, and June 11 columns from 2020. In claiming the title for the third time since 2016's awards ceremony, Twiss received a score of 94 out of 100 from the judges.

"The fact is Jordan Twiss is a sparkling example of the SWNA's 2021 Columnist of the Year. Twiss may well be a prime example around which young journalists may wish to shape their career. And their drive to one day be recognized in a like manner," the judges wrote

"Jordan Twiss writes in a near flawless flow of opinion based on fact and bolstered by learned truths, and he injects comment/opinion based on more fact, suggesting he may be a voracious reader and possibly too a news hound in his own right. Considerate, polite, respectful and to the point," they concluded.

Twiss' other top honour came in the Best Recreation Story category. Here, he won for his April 2 story about Aaliyah Ross, a young girl from the Big River First Nation who was born with spina-

bifida and underwent a transformation by participating in the community's hockey program.

Last but not least, Twiss' third place finish came in the Editorial Writing Excellence category.



AGRICULTURE

May 27, 2021

www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald 7

Rare breeds must be protected for ag's future

There are Sundays when I sit down to fill this space for another week, roughly the 1500th-plus such effort, when an idea eludes me.

For that reason alone, I send thanks to the creators of the Internet, since a search, while at times becoming a time-sink as I follow various threads down the proverbial cyber-rabbit hole, in the end something will be the germ of an idea that ends up as a column.

This week I won't suggest I had an idea, but the search I was doing had nothing to do with

agriculture, but there was the obvious thing to write about, International Heritage Breeds Week, found without even looking for it.

The week has actually just past, running May 16-22, but the important thing is to have people think about the importance of maintaining rare breeds of livestock.

For me, this has always been an area in interest. Old breeds, those that were the foundations of the current breeds of our livestock sector, have always been an interest.

Interestingly, as a so-



CALVIN DANIELS

ciety we tend to rally behind efforts to save various wild animals from disappearing, the black-footed ferret, burrowing owl and others, but very little public attention is given regarding livestock breeds.

That is unfortunate, because there should be some pride in maintaining Lacombe hogs or Chantecler chickens, or Canadienne cows, all breeds developed in this country. They also happen to be collectively rare these days too.

They are of course only three on a rather long list of rare breeds, with numbers that make one wonder if they will exist in a decade or two.

Most are maintained by a few dedicated people raising the rare breeds in-part as a novelty, and of course in hopes of assuring they

do not go extinct.

Obviously the inherent traits of rare breeds do no match current consumer demands, or the genetic traits producers need to make a dollar in the general marketplace.

But, that is today.

Things change.

Hog production today is vastly different than when I was a youngster.

However, given some consumer pressure to move away from big confinement livestock, and the likelihood climate change is going to impact crop production, and by relationship live-

stock production too, what will be required in 10 years? Or, 25? Or, 50?

Since that question looms without a clear answer, all breeds may offer genetics we need in the future.

So preserving rare breeds is important, and more attention is needed now as worldwide, about one domesticated livestock breed every month is lost to extinction, notes www.livestockconservancy.org.

It is something we need to pay greater attention too, and the just past week is there to reinforce that need.

Minutes of an R.M. of Canwood meeting

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

A regular meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Canwood No. 494 was held at the Seniors' Room (Elks Hall), 2nd Avenue East, in Canwood on April 21, 2021, commencing at 9:10 a.m.

Present – Reeve Lyndon Pease, Administrator Lorna Benson and the following Councillors for their respective divisions: #1 Ralph Korody, #2 Dennis Benke, #3 Levi Schutte, #4 Ray Duret,

#6 Leonard Smith.

Delegations:

9:30 a.m. Dwight Diehl, Public Works Supervisor, Municipal Operations Update

11:45 a.m. Councillor Indemnity

Duret: That the minutes of the March 16, 2021, Regular Council Meeting be approved as amended. Carried

Benke: That the Statement of Financial Activities for the month of March 2021 for the R.M. General Account be approved as presented. Carried

Korody: That we approve the pay-

ments as listed on the attached account listing for a total of \$143,139.89, Council Direct Deposits for April, Payroll Direct Deposits for 2021 Pay Periods 7&8. Carried

Public Works Supervisor Dwight Diehl arrived at 9:33 a.m.

Smith: That in the matter of civic addressing, the unnamed road designated 3065A.4, 530.21-.24, 3062A.2, 530A.6, 3061.22-.23, 531A.1-.2, 532.11-.12, 3055.33-.37, 541.3-.5, 3061.32-.35, 545.2-.4, 545A.1, 3065A.5 and the road on the north end of 35-54-07 W3

shall be named Park Valley Road. We instruct the Administrator to notify the appropriate Provincial Government departments of this change. Carried

Benke: That in the matter of civic addressing, the unnamed road to the south east of Pratt Lake, at the McTavish Subdivision, shall be named Jimmy Road. We instruct the Administrator to notify the appropriate Provincial Government departments of this change. Carried

Continued on page 8

MEADOW LAKE LIVESTOCK SALES LTD.



To consign cattle or for on-farm appraisals please contact Brent, Blair or Brody

Wed., June 2, 2021, Regular Sale 9:00 a.m.

Tues., June 8, 2021 70th District 36 4H Sale 4:00 p.m.

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

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

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 31, 2021, Regular Sale 9:30 a.m.

Mon., June 14, 2021 Regular Sale 9:30 a.m.

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

Minutes of an R.M. of Canwood meeting

Continued from 7

Duret: That in the matter of civic addressing, we amend Resolution No. 27 of Dec. 15, 2020, by changing the number from Road 3081A.3, 523a.6-7 and 3084.6 to exclude 3084.6 and that road shall be named Pascal Road. We instruct the Administrator to notify the appropriate Provincial Government departments of this change. Carried

Korody: That we purchase a 2019 International HX620 Truck from Bell International, Saskatoon, Sask., for the sum of \$82,733.14 plus applicable taxes, after trade of the 2018 Kenworth T880 Truck. Carried

Schutte: That we agree to rent a 1999 Terex TS14 D11 Scraper, Serial Number S7361089 from Korpan Tractor, Saskatoon, Sask., starting the middle of May 2021, at a cost of \$15,000.00 per month up to a maximum of 200 hours a month, plus applicable taxes. Carried

Smith: That we make application for participation under the Beaver Control Program (BCP) for the year 2021 – 2022 as administered by the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) and authorize the following individuals to remove problem beavers in the Rural Municipality (*names omitted due to space restrictions*). Carried

Smith: That the Council of the R.M. of Canwood No. 494 has no objections to the sale of the following Crown Land and wishes to offer the following comments:

1. The municipality assumes no responsibility for access to the parcels of land;

2. Future development will be conditional to land abutting a developed road (Basic Planning Statement Bylaw No. 2003-6);

3. The Ministry of Agriculture shall insist on the registration of parcel ties where appropriate with Information

Services Corporation (ISC) to ensure access is not jeopardized by future land transactions;

4. The Ministry of Agriculture shall register an interest on titles that currently do not abut a developed roadway to ensure landowners are made aware of access issues; and

5. To the best of Council's knowledge, the following comments can be made with respect to the specific parcels of land in this specific lease:

Parcel 1 NE 23-54-06 W3 does abut a developed municipal roadway.

Parcel 1 and 2, NW 06-54-05 W3 does abut a developed roadway.

Parcel 1 SW 08-54-05 W3 does abut a developed municipal roadway. Carried

Pease: That we write off Invoice 2020-00034 issued to (*name omitted*), Shellbrook, Sask., dated March 27, 2020, in the amount of \$131.25 as the invoice remains uncollectable.

Korody: That we hire Michelle Altstadt, Canwood, Sask., to maintain the South Cemetery for the 2021 season at a cost of \$200.00 per cut. Further to this, trimming around the graves with a trimmer as well as cleaning off the graves is a requirement of the mowing caretaker. Cemetery maintenance is supervised by the cemetery administrator, Debbie Anderson, who will instruct and monitor cemetery activities. Carried

Benke: That we hire Beatrice Hansen, Mont Nebo, Sask., to maintain the Hawkeye Cemetery for the 2021 season at a cost of \$800. Carried

Duret: That we hire Mica Boutin, Prince Albert, Sask., to maintain the designated areas at Goldridge Enterprises Inc. for the 2021 season at a rate of \$125 per cut. Carried

Benke: That we approve the leave of absence of Councillor for Division 5 Richard De Bruijn until approximately August 2021. Carried

Schutte: That we authorize the rental of a used 2016 John Deere 870G Motor Grader from Brandt at a cost of \$11,000.00 per month until the completion of the project on the South Victoire Grid. Carried

Korody: That we authorize Zatlyn Law Office to make application to the Registrar of Titles on our behalf to be the registered owner of SW 07-50-04 W3 Ext 0 under the provisions of The Tax Enforcement Act. Carried

Benke: That we deny the request of (*name omitted*), Saskatoon, Sask., to abate interest on taxes owing as newly purchased land transactions are the responsibility of the vendor, purchaser, and legal bodies involved. Carried

Public Works Supervisor Dwight Diehl left the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Korody: That we approve the Council's Indemnity as presented. Carried

Pease: That we make the annual contribution of \$200.00 to Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers, Regina, Sask. Carried

Duret: That we designate the Human Resources Committee to review the applicants' submissions, interview the applicants and select the recipient of the Council Bursary prior to Friday, June 11, 2021. Carried

Duret: That we approve the Development and Building Permit Applications of Thomas and Cecile Collins, Debden, Sask., to complete upgrades to a cabin on Lot 4, Block 3, Plan 77B09994, Morin Lake, with approval pursuant to Section 9.1.2 of the LD – Lakeshore Development District, Municipal Zoning Bylaw 2003-7. Carried

Smith: That we approve the Development and Building Permit Applications of Andrew Aarrestad, Debden, Sask., to move in a trailer to be used as a home on the NE 22-54-06 W3, with approval pursuant to Section 5.1.3(4) of the AG – Agricultural District, Municipal Zoning Bylaw 2003-7. Carried

Benke: That we approve the Development and Building Permit Applications of Paul Gauthier, Saskatoon, Sask., to construct a cabin on Lot 9, Block 3, Plan 80PA04566, Pratt Lake, with approval pursuant to Section 9.1.2 of the LD – Lakeshore Development District, Municipal Zoning Bylaw 2003-7. Carried

Duret: That we advise the Community Planning Branch of the Ministry of Government Relations that we recommend approval of the Application to Subdivide Land of Ernest and Lori Collins, Debden, Sask., for the purpose of subdividing Parcel A from the NW-9-52-07 W3, Surface Parcel 131199228, under Section 5.3.2(3) of the Municipal Zoning Bylaw 2003-7. Carried

Korody: That we now adjourn at 1:39 p.m. with the next Regular Meeting of Council to be held May 18, 2021, at the Seniors' Room (Elks Hall), 2nd Avenue East, in Canwood. Carried

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

Budget and Re-Opening Roadmap Highlight Spring Sitting of Legislature

The 2021-22 Provincial Budget protects, builds, and grows Saskatchewan while our Re-Opening Roadmap charts a course through the end of the pandemic.

The Budget provides historic investments and economic recovery while the Roadmap leads efforts to get back to normal, bring back jobs, and get Saskatchewan on the path to strong pre-pandemic growth.



You can learn more at saskatchewan.ca

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

COVID cases identified at W.P. Sandin

It's back to the digital books for the students of W.P. Sandin High School, after the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) identified two separate cases of COVID-19 at the school.

The first case was reported by Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division (SRPSD) director of education Robert Bratvold the evening of Tuesday, May 18. At that time, only W.P. Sandin's Grade 8 cohort and any connected staff were required to self-isolate until May 28, with the rest of the school continuing with in-person learning as normal.

The next case of COVID-19 was identified just two days later.

"The health authority is working to contain some community transmission events in Shellbrook and now the schools have been significantly impacted," Bratvold said.

"Previously many WP Sandin students

were isolating because of community exposures, but now all classes (except the grade 10 class) will be under isolation orders until midnight May 31. In addition, we will be following the Local Medical Health Officer recommendation that W.P. Sandin move to Level 4 (remote learning) for all students effective May 25 to May 31 inclusive," Bratvold added, noting that students will only be in remote learning for five days.

Students are expected to return to in-person learning on Tuesday, June 1.

Despite these two cases, Bratvold maintains that the SRPSD's schools remain safe places to learn due to the protocols each facility has in place.

"The division deeply appreciates the support that students, parents and community members have demonstrated, especially as the number of cases in our region climb. We all share responsibility

to minimize the risk of COVID transmission."

Despite COVID's challenges, Bratvold says it's important that students, families and community members continue to:

- be diligent in performing the daily health screening and self-monitoring;
- stay home if ill;
- call the HealthLine at 811 if exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms;
- practice proper hand hygiene;
- maintain physical distancing as much as possible;
- wear a mask when appropriate, and;
- do whatever we can to keep each other safe.

As always, no further details about the cases will be shared, out of respect for privacy.

At the same time as W.P. Sandin High School students are returning to online

learning, the SHA is warning the public of potential COVID-19 exposures at the Shellbrook Dairy Queen location.

The SHA said in a statement that a person or persons, who later tested positive for COVID-19, attended the location at the intersection of Highway #3 and Highway #55 the following dates and times:

- May 7, 4 p.m. - 9 p.m.
- May 8, 4 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
- May 9, 4:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
- May 10, 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.
- May 14, 4 p.m. - 9 p.m.
- May 16, 3 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Any individuals who were at this location during the specified time are required to self-isolate for 14 days following the date of exposure. If they develop symptoms, individuals can call HealthLine 811, a physician, or nurse practitioner.

Funding increased for respiratory services at PA Victoria Hospital

The Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) has moved quickly to hire additional respiratory therapists, in relation to the provincial budget announcement of \$334,000 in new funding to increase services at the Victoria Hospital in Prince Albert.

"The people of Prince Albert and northern Saskatchewan rely on the important health care services of Victoria Hospital," Health Minister Paul Merriman said. "Our government is pleased to invest in the expansion of respiratory services, which also supports the operational plan for the larger Victoria Hospital redevelopment project."

The funding nearly doubles capacity

to about eight full-time respiratory therapist positions at Victoria Hospital and will provide 24/7 respiratory therapy coverage for all acute care services at the hospital. In the short-term, it will also assist the facility with patients hospitalized with COVID-19.

"Respiratory therapists are a vital part of our health care teams," SHA Executive Director of Acute Care for the North East Carol Gregoryk said. "Our therapists are involved in all of our units caring for infants to adults and they have been instrumental in caring for our patients with COVID-19. This funding allows us to have respiratory therapists available at the hospital

24 hours a day, seven days a week to assist our teams to deliver health care to a growing population in northern Saskatchewan."

Respiratory therapists are skilled health care professionals who evaluate, treat and maintain the lung and heart function of their patients.

This year's record Health budget

will ensure Saskatchewan people are protected through the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic while also continuing to build on record investments in mental health and addictions initiatives, enhancing critical care measures, improving provincial health care programs, and planning new infrastructure across the province.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Rural Municipality of Big River No. 555

Public Notice is hereby given that the Council of the RM of Big River, No. 555 intends to adopt a bylaw pursuant to Section 207 of the *Planning and Development Act, 2007* to amend Bylaw No. 1/19 known as the Zoning Bylaw.

INTENT

To amend zoning district map by rezoning 1 parcel from A – Agriculture District to CR1 – Low Density Country Residential District to accommodate a subdivision application.

AFFECTED LANDS

In NW-03-55-07-W3, a portion of land in the Rural Municipality of Big River, No. 555 shown in the sketch below within the bold dashed line.

REASON

The reason for the amendment is to accommodate a request to subdivide a yard from the balance of the quarter.

PUBLIC INSPECTION

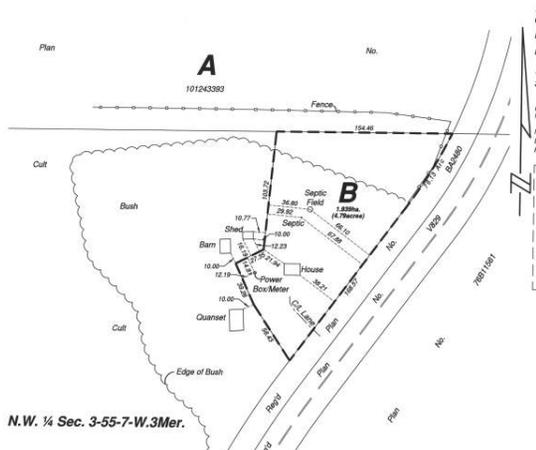
Any person may inspect the bylaw at the RM Office on any judicial day between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Copies are available at a cost of \$1.00.

PUBLIC HEARING

Council will hold a public hearing on June 14th, 2021, in the Small Hall of the Big River Community Centre at 606 First Street North, Big River, SK at 3:00 p.m. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing.

Issued at Big River this 20th day of May, 2021

Donna Tymiak
Rural Municipal Administrator



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.

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Sask. sets date for Phase Two of re-opening

Though Saskatchewan has yet to enter Phase One of its re-opening road map, the provincial government has set June 20 as the start date for Phase Two.

The province made the announcement Monday afternoon, while revealing that Saskatchewan had hit the necessary vaccination threshold to set the date for the second phase.

The three-stage re-opening roadmap was announced at the beginning of May, with Phase One set to begin three weeks after 70 per cent of Saskatchewan residents aged 40 or over re-

ceived their first COVID-19 vaccinations. This threshold was met soon after the announcement, allowing the government to set May 30 as the Phase One start date.

Phase Two, meanwhile, was scheduled to begin three weeks after 70 per cent of Saskatchewan residents aged 30 and above have received their first doses of COVID-19 vaccine, and three weeks after the start of step one. Based on the province's timeline, June 20 was the earliest possible start date for Phase Two.

"The reason we are able to do this, to lift these restrictions, is

because Saskatchewan people are getting vaccinated," Premier Scott Moe said in a statement. "And the vaccines are working. Vaccines are driving down case numbers and hospitalizations and making Saskatchewan safer."

Once Phase Two is reached, there will be no capacity thresholds on retail and personal care services, but they must maintain an occupancy that allows for physical distancing. Similarly, restaurants and bars will have no limits on table capacity, so long as there is physical distancing or barriers between tables, but dance floors and

buffets will remain closed.

Elsewhere, Phase Two sets a 150-person maximum capacity at event facilities, casinos, bingo halls, theatres, art galleries, libraries and recreational facilities. These facilities must also maintain an occupancy that allows for physical distancing, and restaurant guidelines apply at venues that serve food.

Phase Two will also see all remaining restrictions on indoor youth and adult sports lifted, private indoor gathering limits upped to 15 people, and public indoor and outdoor gathering limits set at 150 people.

Phase Three of the province's

re-opening plan will commence three weeks after 70 per cent of Saskatchewan residents aged 18 and over have received first doses, and three weeks after the start of step two.

In step three, most remaining restrictions will be lifted, but the province-wide masking mandate remain in effect.

The province says guidance on gathering sizes and indoor masking will be developed based on the progress of the first two phases. Public health orders from Phase Two on gathering sizes and indoor masking will remain in place until that guidance is finalized.

Minutes of a village of Canwood meeting

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

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council for the Village of Canwood, held at 580 Main Street (café), Canwood, Sask., on Monday, March 15, 2021, was called to order by Mayor Thompson at 9:28 a.m.

Present: Mayor – Robert Thompson, Deputy Mayor – Svend Hansen, Councillor – Lorne Benson, Ken Moar and Ron Willner,

Administrator – Erin Robertson

Willner: That the minutes of the Feb. 16, 2021, Regular Meeting of Council be approved as amended.

Moar: That the minutes of the March 4, 2021, Special Meeting of Council be approved as presented. Carried

Moar: That the Statement of Financial Activities and Bank Reconciliation for the month of February 2021 be approved as presented. Carried

Benson: That the water report for the month of February 2021 be approved as presented. Carried

Thompson: That we acknowledge receipt of Maintenance Manager Calendar, Office Assistant and Administrator Attendance Statements for February 2021 as presented. Carried

Benson: That we issue Cheques 5258 to 5274 and Other payments totaling \$23,115.52, as detailed on attached List of Accounts for Approval, Pay Period 02 and March payroll advance from the general account. Carried

Thompson: That we move to in-camera at 9:57 a.m., citing strategic planning, and ask that the Administrator remain in chambers. Carried

Thompson: That we move out of in-camera at 10:28 a.m. Carried

Hansen: That we agree to advertise for a position of a casual maintenance worker. Carried

Committee updates: Doctor Recruitment and Retention Committee – verbal report provided by Ron Willner

Hansen: That the correspondence be noted and filed:

- Highway 55 Waste Management Corporation rate change
- SGI Business Recognition assessment
- RCMP request for information on Annual Performance Plans for 2021-2022
- R.M. of Canwood No. 494 request for support on Traffic Grant
- North Central Transportation Planning Committee approved November 18, 2020, meeting minutes. Carried

Let the minutes note that Mayor Thompson left Council Chambers at 10:57 a.m. and returned at 10:59 a.m.

Thompson: That we acknowledge and accept SUMAssure Certificate of Insurance 2020-224 with a policy period ending Dec. 31, 2021. Carried

Willner: Whereas the Village of Canwood Council acknowledges that improved signage, even minor in nature, may lead to safer road conditions for motorists driving within the village limits; be it resolved that we support the R.M. of Canwood No. 494 grant application and initiative to install signage at their shop location advising drivers of their speed. Carried

Benson: That due to billing period ending error, we agree to amend the Fix Water Sewer Rate Bylaw 2017 – 03, Section 6, "penalty of two (2%) percent per month" to zero (0%) percent for the February 2021 period. Carried

Thompson: That we approve the Development Permit Application No. 2021-01 from Lots 1 & 2, Block 15, Plan 83PA09954, Ext. 0, for the commencement of a esthetics service.

Furthermore, this approval is contingent with compliance to Zoning Bylaw No. 2/1993 section 6.1.6 Standards for Discretionary Uses Home Occupations. Carried

Let the minutes note that Councillor Willner left Council Chambers at 11:38 a.m. and returned at 11:40 a.m.

Hansen: That we adjourn at 11:40 a.m., and set the next regular meeting of Council to April 21, 2021, commencing at 5:30 p.m. Carried

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



Missing: Mekayla Bali

Date of Birth: July 2, 1999
FROM: Yorkton, SK
Weight: 114 Lbs.
Eyes: Blue

MISSING SINCE: Apr 12, 2016
Height: 5' 2"
Hair: Blonde
File: 3251 U

PARTICULARS: Wearing a red gemstone ring, a teal infinity scarf, and carrying a blue plaid backpack. It is out of character for Mekayla to not be in contact with her family. Last seen in the area of Highway 16 & Broadway Street W. in Yorkton at approximately 10:30 am on Tuesday, April 12th.

Anyone with information, please contact Local Police or Child Find at 1.800.513.3463 or 306.955.0070
All calls are confidential - you do not have to leave your name

Child Find SASKATCHEWAN
A Missing Person is Everybody's Responsibility

'M' in MVP stands for McDavid

A recent story on the NHL.com website debated the merits of four candidates for this year's Most Valuable Player award. It should have been filed under 'NHL humour.'

It's funny, because there's about as much debate about this year's Hart Trophy winner as there is over which horizon the sun will rise tomorrow morning. To say there will be a competition for the Hart is hilarious, because Connor McDavid of the Edmonton Oilers ended the debate about two months ago, and has added to his resume in the final month of the season.

Undoubtedly the NHL's best player, McDavid will win the scoring title by a massive total — a near-Gretzkyan 20 points or more. Auston Matthews of Toronto finished nearly 45 points behind. Take the man known in Edmonton as Connor McJesus out of the Oilers' lineup and coach Dave Tippett is steering a ship

that might not even be a playoff team. But with McDavid in the lineup, the Oilers are a Stanley Cup contender.

Hometown favouritism will give Matthews a few Hart votes, but those voters shouldn't be able to sleep at night, because they'll know in their Hart of Harts that the vote should be unanimous. Matthews is the league's leading goalscorer, with 41, but when it comes to dominating games, and being 'most valuable' to his team, this competition is lopsidedly in favour of McDavid and should be as one-sided as Justin Trudeau running for most popular politician in Alberta.

The NHL.com story also mentioned centre Mark Stone of the Vegas Golden Knights and goalie Andrei Vasilevskiy of Tampa Bay as other contenders, but there are always three finalists for the award and ... well, the story had to be filled out.

It doesn't take a hockey genius to recognize



BRUCE
PENTON

McDavid's talent. He is the fastest skater in the league and can do magical things with the puck at that break-neck speed. He has made more than a few defensemen in the league a) look foolish; b) have McDavid-related nightmares; and c) consider early retirement.

Matthews has a strong team around him, and the Leafs are favoured to win the North Division of the NHL this year, but as far as individual achievement and 'most valuable' is concerned, the competition has been long over.

• Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "White

Sox fans consume the most beers among their MLB counterparts — 4.2 per nine innings, at a cost of \$46 — according to the results of NJOnlineGambling.com survey of 2,631 fans, with Braves fans (4.0) coming in second. Phillies fans consume the fewest (2.4), further proof it's tough to swig a beer and utter an insult at the same time."

• Patti Dawn Swansson on Twitter: "Tim Tebow was a washout as an NFL QB, he was a washout at baseball, now he wants to reinvent himself as a washout tight end with the Jacksonville Jaguars. Little wonder he has a squeaky-clean image."

• RJ Currie again: "The owners of Stonehenge were seeking a general manager, one experienced in working with ancient artifacts. They asked permission to speak to Yankees GM Brian Cashman."

• Jack Finarelli of SportsCurmudgeon.com, on proposals to allow even more instant-

replay reviews in college basketball: "We need this as much as Olympic swimming events need lifeguards."

• Steve Simmons of Sunmedia: "How often has this been true? There are three Canadian men in the Top 20 of the ATP tour — Denis Shapovalov, Milos Raonic and Felix Auger-Aliassime — and no Americans in the Top 30."

• Patti Dawn Swansson again, on Twitter: "The main difference between Kentucky Derby winner Medina Spirit and trainer Bob Baffert? The horse has the good sense to shut the hell up."

• Comedy writer Eric Stangel, on Twitter: "Starting to think if I trained with Bob Baffert I'd have a decent shot to win the Kentucky Derby."

• Toronto Blue Jays twitter feed, featuring a video of Vladimir Guerrero, Jr., belting a home run: "VLADIOS!"

• Scott Ostler of the San Francisco Chronicle, on Colin Kaepernick still

unable to find employment in the NFL: "Good lord. Spouse-beaters, serial druggies, team cancers, dog killers — all are welcome in the NFL! But if you quietly take a knee, God will wreak vengeance on your team!"

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "A video shows a San Diego Padres fan knocking out a Colorado Rockies fan with one punch. The Rockies fan tried to defend himself, but as the Rockies are 13-24, he swung three times and missed."

• Dwight Perry again "Waiting for your winning Derby horse's post-race drug results: The Most Gruelling Eight Days in Sports."

• Blogger Chad Picascner, after Dodgers pitcher Trevor Bauer complained his new team isn't winning enough: "You'd think that \$34 million a year he makes would ease some of the pain."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Sask. Parks set for another great camping season after busy reservation launch

Saskatchewan Provincial Parks' annual campsite reservation launch saw thousands of successful bookings take place over a two-week period, from April 12 to 23, 2021.

A total of 43,566 nightly, group and seasonal campsite reservations were made during the 2021 reservation launch, which was an increase of 110 per cent compared to the 2020 bookings (*only 50 per cent of sites were available due to COVID restrictions) and an increase of 65 per cent compared to the 2019 bookings.

"This April, a new campsite reservation system was released," Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Laura Ross said. "With nearly 44,000 campsite reservations made during launch, the new system successfully managed a very large volume of users and transac-

tions at once and minimized the time customers spent waiting in a queue. Many campers were able to successfully secure a site this season."

Though most weekends during the summer months filled up quickly, there are still plenty of campsites available throughout the weekdays this summer, or in to September. Those who were unable to reserve their desired site are encouraged to check back to the reservation system often as changes and cancellations do happen and sites may become available. Also, new this year, a feature called 'Camping this Weekend' will help campers find a last minute spot.

As provincial park campgrounds officially opened Thursday, May 20, campers are reminded to check the current list of provincial park fire

restrictions prior to their visit. Restrictions are currently in place in a number of parks due to dry conditions. All open fires in the affected parks are prohibited, however the Canadian Standards Association's approved self-contained portable gas devices will be permitted for cooking and heating

purposes. An up-to-date list of all affected parks can be found at <https://saskparks.com>.

The health and safety of Saskatchewan residents, park users and employees is Sask Parks' priority. Additional COVID safety protocols such as enhanced cleaning, signage to ensure physical distancing

and proper mask use will be in place this season. Sask Parks will be following all public health orders put in place by the Saskatchewan Health Authority.

Saskatchewan residents are asked to follow restrictions and public health guidelines for their area. The most recent guidelines can be found on www.saskatchewan.ca.

Sask Parks is looking forward to welcoming campers back for another safe and memorable camping season. Campers are reminded if they have made a campsite reservation in advance and have received and displayed their entry permit, to proceed directly to their campsite and they will be automatically checked in. Park visitors coming out for just the day can purchase entry in advance online at <https://saskparks.com>.



OBITUARIES

*Eileene
Garner*

GARNER: It is with sadness the family of Ellen Eileene Annie Garner, resident of Saskatoon, SK announce her passing on Friday, May 14, 2021 at Turtleford, SK.

A Celebration of Ellen's Life was held on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. from 'The Garden Chapel' - 1332 - 100th Street, North Battleford, SK with Rev. Dexter van Dyke officiating. Interment took place at the Medstead Cemetery, Medstead, SK.

Memorial Donations are requested to the Burn Fund/Saskatoon Firefighters, Unit 201-220 20th Street West, Saskatoon, SK S7M 0W9 or to that of the donor's choice. Due to COVID-19 restrictions attendance was by invitation only. To access the live streamed/recorded service and send condolences please visit www.eternalmemoriesfuneral.ca Arrangements were entrusted to Robert MacKay of Eternal Memories Funeral Service & Crematorium (306-446-4200).

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Lawrence Gary Hart

Lawrence Gary Hart
February 7, 1940 - May
13, 2021

We are saddened to announce the passing of Lawrence Hart at the Spiritwood Long Term Care Facility at the age of 81.

Lawrence was born and raised in the Shell Lake area. After completing his rural education he worked on the family farm and for some local farmers.

He then moved to Alberta where he was employed for ten years. His first job was at the Air Force Base in Cold Lake managing the vending machines. Shortly after, he moved to Grand Centre where he was employed with Primrose Produce. The next eight years he had his own trucking business, "Hart's Beverage" delivering Pep-

si products to communities in and around Grand Centre.

He returned to the family farm and helped farming and gradually taking over the farming operations by clearing and breaking more land for cultivation. He also ran a successful pig and cow-calf operation. He continued to farm as long as he was able to and then turning it over to his nephews, Shane and Travis.

Lawrence's farm home was always opened to family and friends. He welcomed them from near and far and took time to enjoy visits with them.

Lawrence enjoyed seeing his nieces and nephews. He was interested in where they were and how they were doing. He was a "fatherly figure" to his nephews Shane and Travis.

Lawrence always found time to enjoy the fellowship with his circle of bachelor friends. There were many visits, celebrating each other's birthdays, going to a smorg, a fall supper, a buffet or a good restaurant.

He was always available to lend a helping hand when needed and was thankful to receive a help-

ing hand.

Lawrence is survived by his brothers, Albert (Gayle), Leonard (Mary), Gordon and his sister Rita (Henry) Leoppky also many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents Albert and Helen Hart, brothers Bill and Edward Hart, sister Gladys Barber, sister-in-law Rose Marie Hart and brother-in-law Alfred Barber.

The family would like to thank the staff at the Spiritwood Long Term Care Facility for their care and compassion.

A private family graveside burial will take place. Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Beau "Lac" Funeral Home & Crematorium, Mark Muir Funeral Director, Spiritwood, SK (306) 883 - 3500.

God gives a farmer in heaven a job, he goes to work where there is no weeds or stones, just sunshine, no repairs, no stress and no worry, no need to rush or hurry, with a smile on his face, that's how we picture our brother in God's heaven's place...

Darrel Blaine Nordquist

Darrel Blaine Nordquist passed away peacefully at home next to his loving wife Heather on May 17, 2021. Darrel was born on June 2, 1960 in Shaunavon, SK to Lorrington and Joey Nordquist. Darrel spent his life doing what he loved. His life's passions were spending time with his family, driving tow truck and

semi. Darrel married his soul mate on July 14, 1990 in Saskatoon, this is also where the children were born.

In June of 2001 Darrel and Heather moved their family to the Nordquist homestead where he wanted and knew he would spend the rest of his life.

Darrel is survived by his loving wife Heather Nordquist, his children Devin Nordquist (Ashley) and daughter Ryker; Jessica Peters (Jordan) and children Kelly, Josie, Liam, and Elizabeth; Nicole Buckingham (Justin) and their children Madalynn and Westin; Jordan Nordquist (Maxine); Shyla Gundrum (Rob) and their children Chance, Kobe, Carter, Robert, Kali, Mia; His father Lorrington Nordquist

(Doris); His siblings Lorre Nordquist, Jerry Nordquist (Bernice), Julie Nordquist, Eric Nordquist (Sharleen), Brad Nordquist. As well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, family and friends.

Darrel is predeceased by his mother Joey Nordquist, his grandparents, aunts and uncles.

At Darrel's request there will be no funeral. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Darrel's name to The Lung Association Saskatchewan, 2308 Arlington Ave. Saskatoon, SK S7J 3L3.

Family and friends wishing to send online condolences may visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home and Crematorium, Shellbrook SK, 306-747-2828.

School-based COVID-19 vaccine delivery to begin in June

The Saskatchewan Health Authority will begin administering COVID-19 vaccines in elementary and high schools across the province in June. Delivery dates are currently being finalized with local education officials. Once dates are confirmed, they will be communicated directly to parents through individual schools.

"Saskatchewan has been leading the country with one of the most aggressive vaccination programs and now we are building further on that with the addition of a school-based vaccination program," Health Minister Paul Merriman said. "The option of school vaccinations provides greater convenience for parents who want to see their children provided protection through vaccination."

There will be more than 90,000 vaccines in total for individuals 12 years of age and older. Children in this age group will only receive the Pfizer brand of vaccine. This is the last group currently approved for immunization, with the hopes of expanding to younger populations in the fall, as vaccines are nationally approved for their use.

SHA drive-thru, walk-in and booked appointments will be reduced during the school immunizations over the course of approximately three weeks to ensure this group is immunized prior to the end of the school year.

Pharmacy booked appointments will continue to be available to all eligible age categories.

"Our public health teams are skilled and equipped to deliver immunizations within the school system," SHA's CEO Scott Livingstone said. "We want to utilize this well-established system over the next three weeks, before school is out for the summer, to vaccinate as many eligible youth as we can and protect them and their families."

Written consent will be required for all ages 12-17, primarily for tracking purposes, in case the child receives one dose at school and one elsewhere. There will only be one consent required for both doses. Parents are encouraged to talk directly with their children about consent and the importance of receiving their COVID vaccination.

Information about Pfizer and frequently asked questions are available at <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/covid19-youth-vaccine>.

Additional options are available for students who are home-schooled, for students who wish to access immunization sooner, or if parents wish to accompany their child to their appointment. These options include:

- Any participating pharmacy in Saskatchewan;
- By attending a drive-thru or walk-in clinic - note that these clinics will operate on reduced schedules in June in order to support school-based immunization during the week days;
- Online booking is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week; or
- By calling 1-833-SASKVAX (727-5829).

**CHECK IT OUT!**

Shellbrook Chronicle Website
www.shellbrookchronicle.com

Spiritwood Herald Website
www.spiritwoodherald.com

More plants for dry shade

By Sara Williams

Here are another half dozen plants that do well in shade that's on the dry shade. Just remember to keep them evenly moist during their first year. And to mulch them to a depth of at least four inches with post peelings or clean straw.

Strawberry

(*Fragaria virginiana*)

The genus name is from *fraga*, the classical Latin name for strawberry, derived from *fragans* meaning fragrant, alluding to the delightful smell of the fruit. Virginia is one of its many native habitats that include the temperate regions of both North and South America.

Strawberries are stoloniferous plants, which makes them so effective as ground covers. They have attractive compound leaves, white flowers in early summer, and of course, delectable fruit, mostly red. Our native strawberry, 10 to 15 cm (4-6 in.) high, makes an excellent ground cover with numerous runners.

Plant them in full sun to partial shade in a loamy soil rich in organic matter. Our native strawberry is quite drought tolerant once established. It is best used as ground cover and is easily propagated by runners and (more patiently) by seed.

False Solomon's seal, star-flowered Solomon's seal
(*Maianthemum stellatum*,
syn. Smilacinastellata)

Native to moist woodlands of a large portion of North America

including parts of the Canadian prairies, false Solomon's seal is surprisingly undemanding and moderately drought tolerant once established. It is best purchased from a nursery specializing in native plants. Accidentally transplanted, it has grown under pines on sandy soil in Sara's garden for years.

The botanical names are descriptive. *Maianthemum* is from the Greek *Maios*, May, and *athema*, bloom, while *stellatum* means starlike and describes the form of the flower. About 30 cm (12 in.) high, plants produce single stems of alternate, lanceolate, stem-clasping leaves. Star-shaped, white flowers form on terminal racemes in May. Only 30 cm (12 in.) in height, the light green leaves turn golden in fall.

It spreads by creeping rhizomes to form colonies and is very much at home in a shade or woodland garden and also works very well as a ground cover in shade. Propagate by division.

Siberian barren strawberry
(*Waldsteinia ternata*)

This is a plant that deserves much greater availability in our garden centres and nurseries. It's tough, good looking, hardy, and adaptable to sun or shade. The common name, Siberian barren strawberry, speaks volumes: it's ruggedly hardy, barren (do not expect it to produce fruit) and its leaves resemble those of the strawberry (glossy green leaves in clusters of three). Only 10 to 15 cm (4-6 in.) in height, it's equally



Fragaria in Iceland wild strawberries.

Photo credit: Sara Williams

at home in sun or shade, with or without water. Small, bright yellow flowers bloom from late spring to early summer.

Western Canada violet

(*Viola canadensis*)

Native to the woodlands of the prairie provinces, this is a hardy, enduring and attractive ground-cover of 15 to 30 cm (6-12 in.) tall for dry shade. Fragrant white flowers with a yellow eye and distinct purple-pink veins appear in late spring and early summer above heart-shaped foliage.

'Sem' false spirea

(*Sorbaria sorbifolia*)

A tough, hardy shrub, 'Sem' is a fairly recent addition to our arsenal of ground covers. It survives in deep shade with little water once established. It emerges in the spring with startling pink-or-

ange-golden foliage mingled with lime green, brightening even the gloomiest shade. Pinnately compound leaves and white feathery flowers in late summer add to its landscape value. Up to 1 m (3 ft.) in height, it eventually forms a continuous understory (ideal below taller trees) through suckering. As attractive as the foliage appears in a nursery pot in spring, don't be fooled into thinking that it will be well behaved in a shrub border. It will be out of bounds within a season. Use it as intended: as a ground cover.

Virginia creeper

(*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*)

The genus name echoes the common name: parthenos is the Greek word for virgin and kisos means ivy. (It was first in-

troduced to England from the Virginia colony in 1629.) The species name describes the foliage: quinque means five and folia, leaf, thus the five leaflets that make up the compound leaf.

Although a vine, Virginia creeper also works as a ground-cover, particularly on slopes. It is most admired for its brilliant scarlet fall foliage which will be somewhat subdued in shade. Hardy, fast growing and vigorous, it is drought-tolerant once established. It grows in sun or shade in most soils. Leafhoppers are sometimes present and powdery mildew can be a problem during periods of high humidity if air circulation is poor.

The large leaves (5-15 cm / 2-6 in.) are palmately compound, each with five toothed leaflets. The inconspicuous flowers are followed by small blue berries resembling grapes.

Sara Williams is the author and coauthor of many books including Creating the Prairie Xeriscape, Gardening Naturally with Hugh Skinner and, with Bob Bors, the recently published Growing Fruit in Northern Gardens. She continues to give workshops on a wide range of gardening topics throughout the prairies.

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).

GOOD NEWS

~

GOD IS BIGGER THAN WE REALIZE

By Pastor Daniel Mooseley,
Parkside Pentecostal

In a time where everything seem to be crumbling, falling apart, a lot of us are turning to the most supreme being: God. Some don't believe He exist, others believe that He does and He is responsible for ALL disasters that happen to us. Very few believe that He is a loving, caring God. But what does the Bible say about Him.

The story begins in Genesis 1:1 "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Verse 3, He said, "Let us make man in Our image."

Our view of God is sometimes limited. We believe He is a tiny, tiny God who is incapable of great things. But Psalm 19: 1 says, "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows the work of His hands."

In a sense, for us to understand a little bit of the grandeur of God, we should look at His creations: THE heavens and the earth. As we do, we have an idea of a huge, massive God of grace and glory.

My prayer is that, after reading this article, your perspective of God will be expanded.

I love science. It helps us a lot in our understanding of God's creation. The Hubble telescope circles the globe at 360 miles above the earth taking amazing images of the galaxies, which are way beyond our earth. Science confirms the existence of these galaxies. It also confirm that one galaxy contains 300 billions stars: just in one galaxy. And that there are hundreds of billions of galaxies in the known universe.

It just reminds us again that this God we worship and praise is enormous, bigger than anything we can ever dream in our wildest imagination.

Our sun, which is one of the many stars that God created,, Gen. 1:16, is believed to be one million times bigger than the earth. We will need 1 million earths to fit in the sun. Listen to the words of the Psalmist in Psalm 33:6-7, "By the words of the Lord were the heavens made and all the stars He created by the breath of His mouth... He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap."

In other words, God didn't lift a finger when He made the universe.

He is a star breathing God. And that's not

all. The sun is one of the billions of stars in the milky way.

It is important to understand that, when we approach the neighborhood of God, the mile, the yard, the ruler and measuring tape are not going to help. But we have a "ruler" called light years.

There are other stars which are much bigger than the sun. So, it's not twinkle, twinkle little star, I wonder who you are. Who you really are is so massive.

But scientists agree we are living on a privileged planet.

But all these great things are not God's greatest miracle. Listen to what God says in the book of James 4:14: "Though we are but a vapor, and tiny and frail, we are marked with majesty. Gen. 1:26 says, "We have been created in His image. Psalm 139: 14 says, "We are fearfully and wonderfully made."

You and I are a miracle. We are incredibly special.

In fact, miracles starts in the womb. One cell from your mother met with one cell from your dad, each one carrying 23 chromosomes from each parent. They form a brand new DNA code. They have the character description of who you are, written in the language of God. They describe what God has ordained you to be: all of that in the womb.

In the womb, more miracles happen. Millions of optic nerves will match with millions

of other nerves to form what scientists call the most technological thing on the earth: the eyes. But, by that time, you had a little piece of skin completely covering your eye balls. But miraculously and mysteriously, at 6 months old, a little cutting device will appear and will cut perfectly that little piece of skin. And then, you have eyelids for the very first time, In your mother's womb. This is why, God knows everything about you. He knows your name. And He has made us a promise for those who trust in Him, Ps. 139: 10 He says, "He will hold us in the palm of His hands and carry us all the days of our lives. He says that the eyes of the Lord are upon all those who fear Him, that to those who trust in His unfailing love, He will deliver them from death and to keep them alive in the midst of famine."

Friends, this life is full of hurting people, with pain they have never asked for. But God says that no matter what you are going through, Col.1:16 says, "I will hold you together, I will carry you through any circumstance of life.. that may come your way."

And He added in Isaiah 40: 27-28 "Do you not know, have you not heard, the Lord is the everlasting God, He never grow tired, never grow weary."

And that "He give strength to the weary and to those who hope in Him, he will renew their strength." (Isaiah 40: 31.)



Renovation trends that figure to be popular in 2021

Home renovation trends are ever-changing. Renovations that might have been de rigueur 20 years ago may seem dated now. Recognizing the potentially popular trends of tomorrow is a great way for homeowners to give their homes a fresh new look and put themselves in position to capitalize on popular trends when they put their homes on the market. That's especially so after 2020, a year when millions of people spent more time at home than ever before. All that time working from home and relaxing at home gave millions of homeowners ideas about what they like about their homes and what they hope to change. The following are some renovation trends that various experts suspect could emerge in 2021.

· **Eco-friendly living:** Climate change, and how to combat it, was a hot button issue during the 2020 presidential election in the United States. So it should come as no surprise that urdesignmag.com, a web magazine that showcases creative trends in design, architecture, art, technology, and fashion, predicts that eco-friendly living solutions figure to be hot commodities in 2021. Eco-friendly appliances, fur-



niture and designs can help to conserve energy and reduce waste, which environmentalists and government agencies like the Environmental Protection Agency note are two critical components in the fight against climate change.

· **Large windows:** Large

windows can provide stunning views of the outdoors and allow ample natural light into a home. It may not be a coincidence if large windows prove to be a hot trend in 2021. The COVID-19 pandemic that dominated much of 2020 forced many people to

spend considerably more time at home. Darker homes without much natural light can adversely affect mood, especially when people are spending more time at home. HGTV predicts that homeowners will seek ways to bring more natural light into their homes

in 2021, and large windows naturally brighten homes while making rooms appear bigger, helping people feel less cramped. That's an especially beneficial characteristic when spending more time indoors at home.

· **Minimalism:** The anticipated popularity of minimalism in 2021 may also be connected to the pandemic. As professionals were forced to work from home and many families spent more time together inside their homes than ever before, they may have recognized a need to cut back on clutter, including extra furniture. A minimalist approach is both simple and clean, which can make homes feel less claustrophobic.

· **Multi-functional spaces:** Homeowners asked a lot of their homes in 2020, as rooms were transformed into multi-functional spaces seemingly overnight. HGTV notes that spending more time at home showed homeowners that it may not make sense to dedicate entire rooms of a home to a single purpose. Renovations that can help homeowners transform rooms into multi-functional spaces figure to be hot commodities in the years ahead.



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Spring HOME EDITION



The dos and don'ts of fire pits

Many homeowners relish any opportunity to retreat to their backyards, where they can put up their feet and relax in the great outdoors. That retreat-like escape is made even more relaxing when sitting around a fire pit.

Fire pits can be found in millions of suburban backyards across the globe. Fire pits have become so popular that a 2016 survey of landscape architects conducted by the American Society of Landscape Architects revealed they were the most sought after outdoor design element. Fire pits remain wildly popular a half decade after that survey. Homeowners who are only now joining the fire pit revolution can keep these dos and don'ts in mind as they plan their summer s'mores sessions.

DO keep the fire pit a safe distance away from the home. Fire pits should be located a safe distance from the home at all times, but especially when they're in use. Home design experts recommend keeping fire pits a minimum of 10 to 20 feet away from a house or other structure, such as a shed or a detached garage. The fur-

ther away the fire is from houses and other structures, the less likely those structures are to catch on fire.

DON'T place the fire pit beneath trees or next to shrubs. Though fire pits should be kept safe distances away from a house and other structures, it's important that they're not placed beneath trees or next to shrubs. Shrubs and low hanging branches can easily catch embers and be lit ablaze, so make sure fire pits are not placed in locations that increase that risk.

DO clean out seasonal debris. It can be tempting to let seasonal debris resting inside the fire pit burn away during the season's first s'mores session. But burning debris poses a serious safety risk, as embers can easily be blown out of the fire pit and catch nearby trees or shrubs or even a home on fire. The National Fire Protection Association advises homeowners that embers blowing from a backyard fire pose the same threat to homes as if they are from a wildfire.

DON'T let fire pits burn near flammable materials. Store firewood piles

a safe distance away from the fire pit while it's in operation. It may be convenient to keep firewood right next to the fire pit while the fire is burning, but that increases the risk that embers will land on firewood and start a fire outside of the pit.

DO check the weather report prior to starting the fire. Windy weather increases the risk of embers blowing around and potentially landing on the house, other structures around the property or trees. If the weather report is calling for gusting winds, burn a fire on another night.

DON'T leave a fire pit fire burning. Unattended recreational fires are illegal and incredibly dangerous.

Homeowners should never leave fire pit fires burning unattended or allow fires to slowly die out overnight. Always extinguish the fire before going inside and stop adding wood to the fire roughly one hour before you plan to go inside. Water or sand can be poured on ashes to extinguish the fire. Once homeowners are confident a fire has been extinguished, ashes can be spread around to ensure there are no hot spots still burning. If there are, start the extinguishing process over again.

A night around the fire pit is a summertime tradition in many households. Safety must be as much a part of such traditions as s'mores.



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Leaves that fall from trees can be a marvel to behold. But leaves can stain exterior surfaces when they eventually settle on vehicles, concrete driveways, patios, and other surfaces, become wet and/or are not cleaned away in a timely fashion. Leaf stains are caused by tannins in the leaves. The pigments can be absorbed by porous materials like concrete and leave stains behind. While these stains may wash away over time, homeowners may prefer a faster way to get rid of unsightly stains. To remove moderate leaf stains, mix oxygen bleach with hot water and apply to stains using a scrub brush. Dark stains may require a tougher cleanser, such as one that contains trisodium phosphate. Some homeowners find success using a pressure washer to clean away leaf stains, while others rely on commercial leaf-stain removers.





Variables to consider when choosing a media room

The term “home theater” once made homeowners who love movies and sports dream of the day when they could dedicate a large area in their home to watching the big game or their favorite films. Such rooms are now widely referred to as “media rooms.” Though the terminology may have changed, media rooms are not all that different from home theaters.

Before choosing an area of their home as their designated media room, homeowners must consider a host of variables to ensure they get as much out of the room as possible.

· **Location and shape:** Of course the location of the room is of the utmost importance. Media rooms tend to be more social settings than traditional home theaters, which were often designed to be isolated from the rest of the home so noise and natural light did

not adversely affect the film-watching experience. Homeowners may not want their media rooms to be in high traffic areas of their homes, but they needn't be completely secluded, either. The renovation experts at the DIY Network note that the shape of a room should be considered before designating it as the media room. In general, square rooms are not ideal, as such rooms can produce harmonic distortions. A rectangular room likely won't produce such distortions, especially when homeowners place their screens and primary speakers on short walls. It's important that homeowners do not downplay the importance of sound, as media rooms, unlike traditional home theaters, may be used for listening to music just as much as they are for watching films or sports. Viewers may not recognize



distortions when watching something, but homeowners may notice these abnormalities when listening to music.

· **Windows:** Media rooms are multi-purpose rooms, so homeowners don't need to remove rooms with windows from consideration. But the experts at the DIY Network note that windows are

hard surfaces that can reflect sound and distort audio, and the light that gets in through windows can produce reflections on the viewing surface. Each of those factors can adversely affect your listening and viewing experience. A room with windows can still make for a good media room, but you may want to invest in

some blackout curtains to mitigate some of the disadvantages of having windows in the room.

· **Wall colors:** The colors of the walls in the room is another variable homeowners will have to consider. Homeowners won't want to host guests for the big game in rooms with darkened walls, as that can create a dreary atmosphere and potentially make people tired. But especially bright colors will reflect light and adversely affect the viewing experience. Neutral colors should not affect the colors on the screen, making them the ideal color choice for media room walls.

Media rooms are high on many homeowners' renovation lists. Considering a host of variables prior to designating an area for a media room can ensure the finished product is as enjoyable as possible.



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Should I DIY?: 3 questions to determine if it's best to renovate on your own

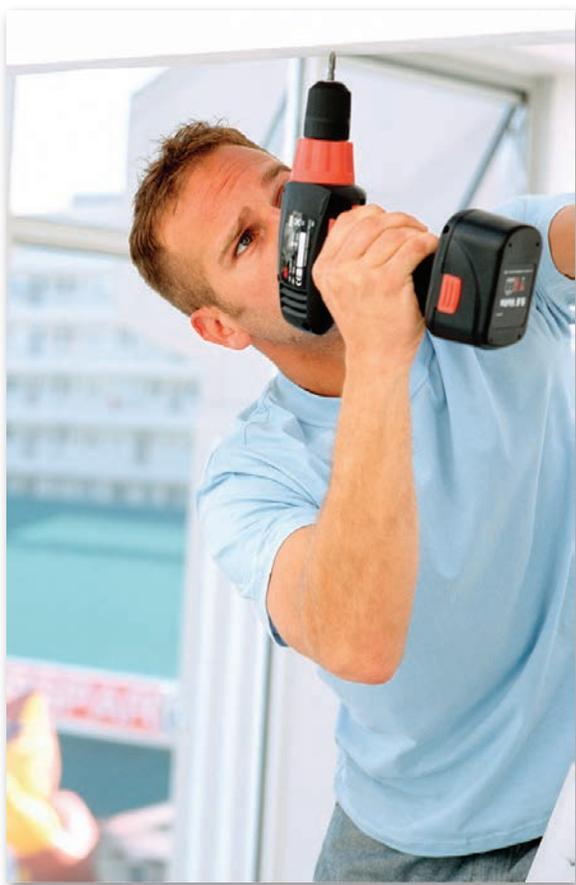
A do-it-yourself mentality has taken hold in millions of households across the globe. Popular television channels like HGTV and DIY Network as well as accessible home improvement content on apps like YouTube has inspired many homeowners to tackle renovation projects around their homes. Taking such initiative is admirable, though it also can prove costly if homeowners end up biting off more than they can chew.

Home improvement videos and television shows have a tendency to oversimplify renovation projects, potentially giving homeowners a false sense of confidence in their DIY abilities. A concerted effort on the part of homeowners to determine if it's best to renovate on their own or hire a professional should always be the first step of any renovation project. No two homeowners are the same, but the following three questions can help homeowners determine if DIY is their best option.

1. Can I afford to DIY?

Professional home improvement projects are costly for a variety of reasons. Materials can be costly, but so are the

tools and labor necessary to do the job right. Homeowners may not have the tools necessary to complete complicated projects. Specialty tools can be expensive to purchase or even rent, and the cost of acquiring such tools should be included in any DIY project cost es-



timates. Labor also factors heavily into professional projects, and for good reason. Talented contractors have unique skills that have been developed and perfected over many years. Those skills can ensure projects are completed quickly and correctly. Labor may seem costly, but such costs may ultimately prove to be a bargain compared to the cost of fixing DIY mistakes. Projects that are minor in scope and don't require the use of potentially costly specialty tools may be better suited for weekend warriors than more complicated renovations.

2. Do I have the time?

Homeowners must determine how much time they have to complete a project before deciding to do it themselves. No one wants to spend months staring at an unfinished renovation project. Homeowners who are already pressed for time may not be able to complete projects in a timely fashion, which can make homes less comfortable and even less safe.

3. Can I pull this off?

DIY projects can instill homeowners with a sense of pride in their homes, but it's imperative that homeowners considering the DIY option conduct an honest assessment of their skills. A lack of renovation experience does not necessarily mean a homeowner cannot successfully complete a DIY project. But in such instances, it may be best to start with small, straightforward projects and then gradually move up to bigger, more complicated projects as skills are fine tuned. And homeowners who have never been at their best with a hammer in hand should not be ashamed to leave the work to the professionals.

Television shows and online tutorials can make renovations appear easier than they actually are. Homeowners considering DIY renovations can ask themselves a handful of questions to determine if they're ready for the challenge of renovating their homes on their own.

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Techniques to revitalize a lawn after a long winter

Pristine, snow-covered landscapes can be wonders to behold. While that blanket of white is idyllic, a lawn's delicate blades may be paying a hefty price beneath the cold, heavy piles of snow.

Snow plows push salt and sand up on the grass while subterranean animals like mice and moles dig burrows beneath piles of snow as they try to find food and stay warm. Such conditions are not favorable for thriving landscapes. When the spring thaw arrives, lawns may be in dire need of some TLC. The following techniques can mitigate winter-related lawn damage.

- Clear out debris. Remove any scattered leaves, branches and other debris that has been strewn across the property due



Remove any debris from the lawn after snow thaws to see what you're working with.

to storms or snow-laden trees. This will give you a clean canvas to work on.

- Dry out snow mold. The Family Handyman says snow mold is a cold-season fungus that causes gray-colored circles or patches on the lawn where there has been snow. To alleviate snow mold, rake the lawn to loosen matted grass and facilitate the drying-out process.

- De-thatch the lawn. Heavy snow can compress the grass and cause some of it to die off. De-thatching helps to remove dead grass blades and separate any matting. This enables water, nutrients and air to reach the lawn's roots more effectively. Thinning out old organic matter also helps encourage new growth.

- Aerate the soil. Coupled with dethatching, aeration involves loosening the soil or poking holes to allow nutrients to move freely to the roots.

- Kill weeds before they spread. Weeds may be the first to

start growing when the weather begins to warm. Address them promptly by manually pulling them or applying an herbicide.

- Overseed the lawn. Chances are there are some bare spots that have formed over the winter. Overseeding can help to fill in the lawn. Make sure that frosts are largely a thing of the past and soil temperature is around 10 C to 16 C before seeding. Water daily until grass fills in.

- Apply nutrients. Fertilizer and compost can restore nutrients to the lawn that may have been used up over winter. A soil test at a nearby horticultural center can tell you which nutrients are needed, according to the Chemistry Cachet, a guide to using chemistry secrets for healthy living, beauty, cleaning, and gardening.

Lawns can be restored to their pre-winter glory after some sweat equity and about five to six weeks of consistent sunshine and warm weather.

How to care for perennials

Perennials can add color and vibrancy to any garden. One of the more desirable components of perennials is that they come back year after year, meaning homeowners do not have to invest in a gardenful of new flowers every year. That can add up to considerable savings. Perennials often form the foundation of beautiful gardens.

Annuals only grow for one season, produce seeds and then die. However, perennials die back to the ground every autumn and their

roots survive the winter. So the plants reemerge in the spring, according to The Farmer's Almanac. Some perennials are short-lived, meaning they will come back a few consecutive years; others will last for decades.

Though planted perennials require less maintenance than annuals, they are not completely maintenance-free. Certain care is needed to help perennials thrive, and that starts with the soil. In fact, soil is the single most important factor for growing

healthy plants. Penn State Extension says most perennials grow ideally in well drained, fertile soil with a pH of 6.0 to 7.0. In addition, organic matter can improve soil texture and water-holding ability.

When including perennials in the garden, make sure you wait for the right time to plant them. The ideal time is during the spring or fall. Perennials come as container-grown perennials, which already have been established in the soil. Bare-root perennials are just roots that are often packed in peat moss. In order to plant bare-root perennials, soak the roots in water for several minutes before gently planting in the ground, indicates the how-to resource Tip Bulletin.

Perennials should be watered deeply, especially during the first growing season. However, the soil should never be overly dry or wet. Most perennials do not need to be fertilized heavily. A single application in the

spring typically is all that's needed.

Care along the way can include deadheading spent flowers so that plants can use their energy on seed production and reblooming. Perennials should be divided when they grow large, every three to four years when the plants are not in bloom. Perennials produce fewer flowers or may look sickly when the time has passed to divide them. Early spring often is a good time to divide perennials, advises The Farmer's Almanac.

A thick layer of mulch can help perennials to overwinter successfully. Perennials planted in containers will need to be transplanted into the garden before it gets cold because most containers cannot thoroughly insulate perennial roots.

Apart from these strategies, perennials pretty much take care of themselves. As long as sunlight requirements match plant needs, the perennials should thrive.



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Put safety first with DIY electrical work

Home improvement projects can help homeowners transform their homes. Such projects are costly, but many homeowners save money by doing some, if not all, of the work themselves.

The Electrical Safety Foundation International, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting electrical safety, recommends that homeowners leave electrical work to the professionals. Licensed electricians are well-trained, whereas homeowners may not be skilled enough to avoid accidents or injuries, which can prove fatal when working with electricity.

Homeowners who take the do-it-yourself route with electrical work should consider these safety tips, courtesy of the ESFI, before beginning a home electrical project.

- Learn your home electrical system. Home electrical systems may include power lines, electric meters, service panels, subpanels, wiring, and more. These systems are complex, and homeowners who intend to do some DIY electrical work should familiarize themselves with their home electrical systems prior to beginning any work. The ESFI notes that knowledge of their home electrical systems can help homeowners more safely navigate them and make maintenance easier.

- Honestly assess your skills. An honest assessment of skills is absolutely necessary prior to working on an electrical system. According to the National Safety Council, injuries relating to electrical incidents typically fall into one of four categories: electrical shock, electrocution, falls, and burns. Each of these injuries is significant. For example, electric shock, which occurs when electrical current passes over or through a person's body, involves burns, abnormal heart rhythm and unconsciousness. Given the potential for serious injury, the ESFI urges homeowners to make an honest assessment of their skills before they begin working on their home's electrical systems. Little or no experience working with electrical systems should be considered a significant hurdle to any DIY project.

- Turn the power off. It's essential that the power to the circuit that will be worked on be turned off prior to starting any work. This can be accomplished by switching off the

circuit breaker in the main service panel. Similarly, when working on appliances or lamps, make sure the products are unplugged prior to working on them.

- Do not touch plumbing or gas pipes when doing electrical work. The experts at the Indiana Electric Cooperative note that the risk for electrocution is significant when water comes in contact with electricity. It's imperative that homeowners do not touch plumbing and gas pipes when performing a DIY electrical project. Professionals know

how to work around such pipes while minimizing their risk for electric shock or worse, and homeowners must familiarize themselves with the techniques professionals rely on to stay safe if they intend to begin DIY electrical projects.

Homeowners are best served by leaving electrical work to the professionals. However, those who insist on doing such work themselves should do their homework and get to know their systems and safety protocols prior to beginning a project.



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How to choose the right lighting inside your home

Lighting in a home serves both practical and aesthetic purposes. It's easy to maneuver around a well-lit home, reducing the risk of slips and falls, and the right lighting can help homeowners create their desired ambiance, which typically changes depending on which room you're in.

When choosing lighting for their homes, homeowners must walk a fine line between appearance and functionality. A fixture in the foyer that instantly impresses visitors likely won't prove as awe-inspiring if it's installed in the living room. When choosing lighting for a home, some general rules about what works in each room can help homeowners make the most informed decision.

Kitchen

Kitchens are often the busiest room in a home, so lighting here can be especially important. A kitchen often benefits, both practically and aesthetically, from different types of lighting. For example, pendant lighting above kitchen islands can make meal preparation easier and safer, but such lighting likely won't work in breakfast nooks and informal dining areas in the kitchen. Recessed lighting works best in such areas. In kitchens with no island,

under-cabinet lighting can be used to illuminate countertops and simplify meal preparation.

Formal dining room

Many people enjoy the look of chandeliers in formal dining rooms, and such fixtures can be installed directly above the dinner table. The interior design experts at Better Homes & Gardens advise hanging chandeliers roughly 33 inches above the table in dining rooms with eight-foot ceilings, adding three inches for each additional foot above eight feet. Darkened dining areas may be ideal in restaurants, but homeowners may want to split the difference at home and choose dimmable chandeliers for their dining rooms. This allows homeowners to dim the lights for romantic dinners but turn them up for family gatherings with lots of people around the table.

Living room

Adaptability also is important in the living room, where homeowners may host anything from movie nights to book clubs to parties for the big game. It can be a tall order to accommodate such a wide range



of activities, and many homeowners come down to deciding between recessed lighting and track lighting. If the living room currently has neither style, homeowners should recognize that it will cost considerably less to install track lighting than recessed lighting. Better Homes & Gardens notes that flexible track lighting provides ambient, task or accent lighting, and track lights can even be moved to change lighting schemes at any time, making them a budget-friendly option for homeowners whose living rooms are multi-purpose spaces. Recessed lighting also works well in living rooms, especially ones with low

Bedroom

ceilings. That's because recessed lighting is installed into the ceiling, meaning it does not take up any visual space in the room. That can help living rooms feel bigger. The home improvement experts at BobVila.com note that bedroom lighting should provide enough light when getting dressed, but also be able to be toned down as residents prepare for their bedtime routines. Both portable and installed lighting can be used in

bedrooms to serve these various functions. Recessed fixtures that dim can ensure there's ample light to get dressed in the morning, but they also can be dimmed at night as residents try to get ready to sleep. Portable nightstand lights can make it easier for couples sharing a bedroom, allowing one person to stay up and read while the other goes to sleep.

Homeowners have many options and many needs when choosing lighting for their homes. A professional consultation with a lighting expert or interior decorator can help homeowners find lights that provide both practical and aesthetic appeal.

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Manitoba market	\$189.00
BC market	\$395.00
Ontario market	\$439.00
Western Ontario	\$155.00
Central Ontario	\$129.00
Eastern Ontario	\$145.00
Northern Ontario	\$90.00
Quebec market	
English	\$240.00
Atlantic market	\$200.00
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CAMPER FOR SALE

FOR SALE - 1977 Pace Arrow Motor Home 25', 52,800 miles. Mint condition. Ready to go camping, everything works. New tires in front, back tires very good. New batteries. Call Leon 306-883-3016. 4-21

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MIDNIGHT STAR RANCH - PB Black Angus Bulls, Private Treaty. Low to moderate feed ration, extensive vitamin and mineral program, semen tested, up to date vaccinations, low to moderate birthing weights. 4km south of Shellbrook Campground on pavement. Watch for signs! West side. We don't just raise bulls, we develop them. Special thanks to past and present customers Cell: 306-747-9559 Home: 306-747-3321 14-25

BULLS FOR SALE - Big Valley Charolais, polled yearlings & long yearlings, breeding for calving ease, good temperaments, milk and hair coats. Contact Ervin Lavallee at Mayfair: 306-246-4673 or call/text 306-549-7485. 5-21

BLACK ANGUS BULLS FOR SALE - by Private Treaty. A good selection of responsibly bred and fed 2 year olds, ready to work for you. Also developing a pen of yearling bulls for those interested for later use, new bloodlines from Power Weight; First Class; Big Time; Tour of Duty; Resource; and Upward. Reasonably priced. Please call Christopher @ West Cowan Apiaries 306-469-4970 or 306-469-7902 18-25

BLACK AND RED Angus Yearling and 2 yr. old Bulls on moderate growing ration. Adrian or Brian and Elaine Edwards, Valleyhills Angus - Glaslyn, SK. PH: 306-441-0946 or 306-342-4407. 21-25

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Advertising Deadline is
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4:00 p.m.

It's Easy

to place
a classified!

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Fax:
306-747-3000

Email:
chads@sbchron.com

HELP WANTED

The SHELLBROOK POST OFFICE is looking for a **Cleaning Contractor** starting June 2021. Duties will include interior cleaning and some snow removal. For more information contact the Post Master or email ranpreetbal@yahoo.ca

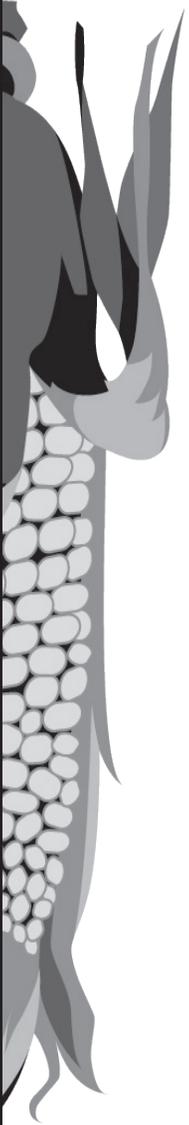
DELARONDE RESORT IS HIRING a Resort Assistant. \$17.50/hour 35 hrs/week starting July 1/21. No experience necessary. Email resume to rhsafeselfstorage@gmail.com 1-21

SHELLBROOK MOTEL hiring for one laundry and one housekeeping position. Please call or drop off resume at motel. 306-747-2631 TF



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Send resume and work references to: Bryden Construction Box 100, Arborfield, Sk. S0E 0A0; Fax: 306-769-8844 Email: brydenconstruct@xplornet.ca www.brydenconstructionandtransport.ca

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FORAGE SEED FOR SALE: Organic & conventional: Sweet Clover, Alfalfa, Red Clover, Smooth Brome, Meadow Brome, Crested Wheatgrass, Timothy, etc. Star City, SK. Birch Rose Acres Ltd. 306-921-9942.

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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 April 27, 2021 at 7 p.m.

In attendance were Mayor Gary von Holwede, Councillor Bryan Wingerter, Councillor George Pretli, Councillor Kiera Andres, Councillor James Bedi, Councillor Brad Nemish, and CAO Rhonda Saam.

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.

SARCS Finance Administrator Brenda Beaulac entered the meeting at 7 p.m.

Brenda discussed the 2020-2021 SARCS Financial Season Summary since the COVID-19 pandemic began.

Brenda Beaulac left the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Scott Haggarty entered the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Scott discussed ideas regarding the possibility of a permanent outdoor skating rink facility that could potentially be used year round for other recreation uses. Scott will work on options

and pricing to present to council for such a facility.

Scott Haggarty left the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Bryan Wingerter: That the Accounts for Approval, Cheque No. 31408 to 31428 in the amount of \$19,615.83 be approved as presented. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

Jim Bedi: That the Bank Reconciliation for the month of March 2021 be approved as presented. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Jim Bedi: That the Financial Statement for the month of March 2021 be approved as presented. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Kiera Andres: That we purchase the 2021 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 4WD Crew Cab Work Truck from Shellbrook Chevrolet as per their quote in the amount of \$40,285.95. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Brad Nemish: That the permanent outdoor rink request be postponed until a future meeting after further investigation is done and plans and pricing are organized. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That the Spiritwood Recreation Facility Ice Plant Operations request for the 2021-2022 season be postponed until a future meeting when we have more informa-

tion regarding SARCS financials from the previous season and a better understanding of what the situation of the pandemic will be at that time. Seconded by George Pretli. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That Bylaw No. 536/21, a bylaw to borrow money for sewage pumping station replacements, be read a first time. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

George Pretli: That Bylaw No. 536/21, a bylaw to borrow money for sewage pumping station replacements, be read a second time. Seconded by Kiera Andres. Carried.

Jim Bedi: That Bylaw No. 536/21, a bylaw to borrow money for sewage pumping station replacements, be given three readings at this meeting. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried unanimously.

Jim Bedi: That Bylaw No. 536/21, a bylaw to borrow money for sewage pumping station replacements, be read a third time and finally adopted. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That we ratify the decision to instill a fire ban advisory for the Town of Spiritwood effective 4 p.m. on the 24th of April, 2021 that will continue until further notice.

All open air and outdoor fires are banned including controlled burns, recreational fires, burning barrels, fire pits & fireworks. Propane or natural gas BBQs are allowed. This advisory does not apply to fires which are contained in cooking and heating appliances which are fuelled by propane or natural gas. A person who sets a fire not allowed under this advisory shall be responsible for the costs of extinguishing the fire.

Jim Bedi: That we approve Rhonda Saam to attend the 2021 Virtual UMAAS Convention June 9 & 10, 2021 and the Town will provide the conven-

tion fees of \$170 plus tax. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That we approve the quote from Triple S Transport in the amount of \$3,474 plus tax to provide and apply calcium chloride to the gravel roads for dust control in town as determined by the town foreman.

Bryan Wingerter: That Council doesn't send anyone to the 2021 Town, Village, and Northern Sector Virtual Meeting on May 19, 2021. Seconded by George Pretli. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That we approve the temporary closure of a portion of roadway located on Parcel S1 Plan 102351473 for the 2021 year to accommodate a weigh scale for Lake Country Cooperative Association Ltd. Seconded by Jim Bedi. Carried.

Jim Bedi: That we approve the renewal of the rental agreement for heated storage lease with Northview Ventures Ltd. effective March 1, 2021 to Dec. 31, 2021. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

Kiera Andres: That we purchase the new FD300 desktop folding machine from Success Office Systems in the amount of \$1100 plus taxes. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Jim Bedi: That we approve the following vacation days for Rhonda Saam (CAO); July 12 to 16 & Aug. 9 to 13, 2021. Seconded by George Pretli. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That we contact the insurance provider Aon Reed Stenhouse Inc. to handle the claim for water damage at 229 Second Street East. Seconded by Jim Bedi. Carried.

Jim Bedi: That we contribute a voluntary payment of \$200 to the Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers Program for 2021. Seconded by Kiera Andres. Carried.

Kiera Andres: That this meeting be adjourned at 9:13 p.m. Carried.

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Please take only as many newspapers from our newspaper bins as need to be read.

If you're looking for newsprint paper, please contact us and we can arrange a bundle(s) of recycled paper for your use at no charge.

Contact us at **306-747-2442**.

Thank you for your understanding.

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