

# Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald



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Thursday, August 19, 2021

www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

## Shell Lake Curling Rink destroyed by fire

In a small community like Shell Lake, those who don't actively participate in curling normally spend their winters at the local rink watching curling.

That won't be the case this coming winter, as the Shell Lake Curling Rink burned to the ground on Saturday afternoon, leaving the whole community devastated.

"It's lost, and everybody is upset about it," Shell Lake Mayor Anita Weiers said.

"It was an important thing in the village of Shell Lake in the winter time. It was a gathering place, and the seniors, especially, enjoyed it since they started to curl with the stick. People were curling in their 90s and it extended their enjoyable game time."

Though the fire remains under investigation and Mayor Weiers said she only became aware of it after the rink had already been reduced to rubble, one witness said the blaze kicked off late Saturday afternoon.

Meanwhile, Shell Lake councillor and fire chief Greg Ardagh said the blaze was contained by 10:30 p.m., thanks to the efforts of the Shell Lake Volunteer Fire Department, the Spiritwood Fire Department, and local farmers who supported fire suppression efforts with water trucks.

Ardagh added that battling the fire came with challenges that are perhaps unique to a small village like Shell Lake.

"There are no hydrants in town," he said, noting that the water supply hauled in by local farmers made a real difference in keeping the fire contained.

Though no one was injured in the blaze, and the community centre adjacent to the curling rink was fortunately spared, the joint effort wasn't enough to save the rink.

"The inside was engulfed in fire due to the metal on (the) outside of buildings," Ardagh said.

Though Shell Lake's original curling rink predates the facility that burned down on Saturday, the current two-sheet rink had been in operation since 1967 and seen several upgrades over the course of the past 54 years. Most recent among those improvements were aluminum-backed insulation and electric lighting to brighten up the interior, and a reverse osmosis water treatment system.

Mayor Weiers says the rink was insured. However, as of Monday, the future for curling in Shell Lake remained uncertain.



**The Shell Lake Curling Rink was consumed by a fire on Saturday afternoon.**

"I don't know [what it means for the future]," she said. "The Curling Rink is operated by the committee, not by council. That will likely be a decision involving several different parties."

On Tuesday morning, the RCMP said the fire is considered suspicious. However, the investigation is still ongoing.



Though the blaze was contained through the joint efforts of volunteer firefighters and local farmers, nothing could be done to save the rink.  
**Photo credit: Gloria Gingera**



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# SARCS first annual golf tournament a success

This past weekend, SARCS hosted its first annual golf tournament at the Spiritwood Golf Course. The tournament, which was organized by SARCS and the Spiritwood Golf Course, drew 63 participants resulting in around 17 teams out on the course.

Registration included 18 holes of golf, entry into the door prize draw and food throughout the day. SARCS Events and Recreation Coordinator Kaeli Cross was helping Spiritwood Golf Course Manager Glennalda Saam serve drinks and tacos in a bag while, Les Walker was out flipping burgers for hungry golfers.

Summer golf course workers were out and about, monitoring the greens, operating the drinks cart, and helping out in the club house. It was perfect weather for the event.

There were six special holes on the course where golfers could test their luck or skill to win prizes. Hole 4 was 'closest to the pin' and was won by Renee Wutzke. Hole 6 featured a Spiritwood Timberwolves 'closest to the net' challenge, which was won by Johnny Ardagh.

Hole 7 was a \$5,000 'Hole in One' sponsored by Martodam Motors. The hole was monitored by Frank Lendvay, who was cooking in the afternoon heat. No one was lucky enough to make the shot on Saturday, so that prize remained untouched.

Hole 11 had a 'Happy Gilmore long drive,' which was won by Delaney Lehouillier. Brad Nemish won the 'Marshmallow Long Drive' on hole 13, which was exactly what it sounds like. Hole 16 had a 'baseball toss closest to the pin,' which was sponsored by the Dirty Pitches and Blaine Lake Liquor and Hardware and won by Travis Penner.

A 'pink ball' was added into the mix for each team. The team took turns with the pink ball at alternating holes. The team with the lowest 'pink ball' score was Glen and Lee Stevens, and Renee and Elisa Tipewan.

There was a wide variety of door prizes available to be won at the end of the tournament, all of which were sponsored or donated by local businesses.

Sponsors for the event were Martodam



It was a beautiful day for SARCS' first annual golf tournament.

Family Retail, R&L Feeds & Auto, Spiritwood Pharmacy Grocery, Hujbers Market on Main, Dirty Pitches & Blaine Lake Liquor and Hardware, Thompson Agencies Ltd, Spiritwood Welcome Inn,

D.L. Construction, Spiritwood Timberwolves, Martodam Motors, and Beaulac Funeral Homes.



Some golf course employees with their friends out enjoying the tournament for the afternoon.



Golfers gathered at the clubhouse after a long day for the door prize draw.



A golfer tees off at the Martodam Motors' Hole in One hoping for a lucky shot.

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF COUNCIL INTENT TO PERMANENTLY CLOSE A STREET WITHIN THE TOWN OF BLAINE LAKE**

Please take note that pursuant to Section 13, *The Municipalities Act* the Town of Blaine Lake intends to consider the initial report on a proposed bylaw to permanently close the following municipal road or street for the purpose of construction of the Blaine Lake Community School:

**4<sup>th</sup> Avenue East from North South Road Allowance running east 648 feet**

Any person claiming to be affected prejudicially by the proposed bylaw or that person's agent has the opportunity to be heard at the next regular meeting of council to be held on September 20, 2021 at the Town of Blaine Lake Town Office 301 Main Street commencing at 4pm.

**Notice of Call for Nominations (Municipal By-election)**

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the offices of:

**Councillors (1): Village of Medstead**

will be received by the undersigned on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and during regular business hours on August 24 to September 7, 2021.

Nomination forms may be obtained at the following location:

**Medstead Municipal Office**

Dated this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021.

Coleen Kitching  
Returning Officer

**RM OF LEASK NO. 464 PUBLIC NOTICE**

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

**INTENT**  
The proposed bylaw will remove SW 31-46-07 W3 from the "No Further Subdivision" area on the Future Land Use Map.

**AFFECTED LAND**  
SW 31-46-07 W3.

**REASON**  
The reason for the amendment is to allow Council to consider for Agricultural division.

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

**PUBLIC HEARING**  
Council will hold a public hearing on Saturday, September 11, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. at the Leask Seniors Hall to hear any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaw. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing (or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing).

Issued at Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021.

Riannon Nelson  
Administrator

**FORM H**  
[Section 66 of *The Local Government Election Act, 2015*]

**NOTICE of CALL for NOMINATIONS RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF BIG RIVER, NO. 555**

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the offices of:

**Reeve:** Rural Municipality of Big River, No. 555

will be received by the undersigned on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021 from 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. local time and during regular business hours on August 19<sup>th</sup> to September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at the RM Office located at 606 First Street North, Big River, SK.

Nomination Forms must be accompanied by a completed version of the RM's Public Disclosure Statement, as required pursuant to *The Municipalities Act* and *The Local Government Election Act, 2015* and a Current Criminal Record Check required pursuant to the RM of Big River, No. 555 Bylaw 1/20. Nomination forms along with the RM of Big River, No. 555 Public Disclosure Form may be obtained from the RM Office.

Dated this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021.

Michael Yuzik  
Returning Officer

# Shoot for the Vitals hits the mark

After taking a year off due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Shoot for the Vitals was back in action as normal this summer, hosting an impressive 125 archers over the course of two days.

The archery event raises funds and awareness for organ and tissue donation, and was created by the families of community members who lost loved ones who died waiting for organ transplants (Wendell Harris died in 1993 due to complications after receiving a bone marrow transplant for Aplastic Anemia, while Clarence Harris was diagnosed with Pulmonary Fibrosis and died in 2004 while waiting for a double lung transplant).

Over the course of eight events, Shoot for the Vitals has donated more than \$25,000 to programs, such as fitLife, organizations like the University of Alberta's Transplant Physio Department and the Saskatchewan Lung Association through its bottle drive, and individuals and families who are going through the process of organ and tissue donation.

In the same period, the event's organizers have lost another loved one, Karen Pilon, who was diagnosed with Pulmonary Fibrosis and died in 2014 while waiting for her new set of lungs. It's also had another

family member, Ralph Harris, begin his own battle with Pulmonary Fibrosis and join the waiting list for a double lung transplant.

"Being able to support those going through organ and tissue donation is important to our family as we have been through this several times," said Twyla Harris-Naciri, a Shoot for the Vitals committee member. "We know how hard and stressful it can be and helping to take away some of the financial stress is one way we can help."

As has been the case in previous years, the support seen at this year's Shoot for the Vitals archery shoot will allow the committee to continue making its annual donations to fitlife, the U of A Transplant Physio Department, the Saskatchewan Lung Association, and Saskatchewan residents going through organ and tissue donation.

Harris-Naciri says none of this would be possible without the community.

"The continued support is amazing. We continue to be blown away by all that the community does to continue to support our initiative, and we would not be able to do any of this without the attendees, archery community, businesses and other supporters," she said.

While the primary focus of Shoot for the Vitals is

raising funds and awareness, it does offer prizes to some lucky shooters, thanks to donations made by supporters. This year, Amber Lee Gervais was the winner of the bow package.



A Shoot for the Vitals participant loses an arrow at a target.



Boyd Harris and Carmen Harris present a cheque to Jim Lowes on behalf of Shoot for the Vitals.



Logan LaLonde presents the bow package to the winner, Amber Lee Gervais.

## Shellbrook Mixed Martial Arts REGISTRATION NIGHT

Tues., Aug. 31, 2021 @ 6:30pm at the Shellbrook Legion Hall (102 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. East)

Registration Fee – \$15.00 per person

1<sup>st</sup> day of class – Mon., Sept. 6, 2021 | Classes will be held every Mon. & Thurs. night

Martial Arts for all ages 5 & up

1<sup>st</sup> class Tae Kwon Do / Karate – 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm;

2<sup>nd</sup> class Tae Kwon Do / Karate – 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm;

3<sup>rd</sup> class Kick Boxing – 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Contact: Laura Lee Hatch

(306) 747-5976



## SHELL LAKE HOUSING AUTHORITY Caretaking & Maintenance Services

The Shell Lake Housing Authority is seeking a contractor for grounds and maintenance services. As an independent contractor you will report to the Board of Directors and will be responsible for routine maintenance of the housing portfolio.

The Shell Lake Housing Authority manages a portfolio consisting of a 16-unit senior housing building and 3 family houses.

The successful vendor is to provide the following services:

- Routine grounds maintenance, including snow removal and lawn care.
- Minor maintenance of common areas and rental units including repairs and/or replacements.
- Accessibility to Housing Authority tenants for emergency repairs.
- Maintenance of inventories and equipment.
- Regular building, unit and vacant unit inspections.

The contractor must have excellent communication skills and be able to provide services cooperatively to individuals and groups of varying backgrounds. A high degree of discretion and confidentiality is required.

Preference is for a single contractor to apply for both required services. However the Shell Lake Housing Authority reserves the right to consider separate submissions for grounds or maintenance services.

Interested parties can direct inquiries regarding the details of the required services and application requirements to:

Donna Strate, Chairperson  
Shell Lake Housing Authority  
PO Box 309  
Shell Lake, SK. S0J 2G0  
Telephone: 306-883-8453

Position(s) open until filled. Please include references with phone numbers.

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**Please mark reporter position.**

## Nuance doesn't change the truth of residential schools

Of the many things we have lost to the ages, perhaps nothing is worse than our complete loss of nuance.

Grey is no longer a shade that exists in our current political and social environment.

Everything is black or white – true or false – to the nth degree, and there's no room for question or debate.

For evidence of this, we need only look as far as the handling of the estimated thousands of graves found at the sites of former residential schools.

From the first reported discovery of up to 215 graves at the Kamloops Indian Residential School at the end of May, the story quickly spiralled out of control.

The graves, which were discovered using unreliable ground penetrating radar, were treated with utter certainty. There absolutely had to be 215 of them, and they absolutely had to contain the remains of residential school victims.

According to some reports, it wasn't 215 unmarked graves that were found but the remains of 215 children, all of them unceremoniously dumped in a mass grave and forgotten.

A month later, when the Cowessess First Nation reported the discovery of as many as 751 unmarked graves at the site of the former Marieval Indian Residential School in southern Saskatchewan, it fell to Chief Cadmus Delorme and band councillor Jon Z. Lerat to straighten the record.

Mr. Delorme was quick to clarify that these were unmarked graves, not a mass grave, and that the First Nation took over the former school's cemetery from the Catholic Church in the 1970s.

Citing oral stories told by elders and band members, Mr. Delorme added that the graves (or "hits" on ground penetrating radar) didn't necessarily belong to residential school children. Indeed, some of the remains may be those of adults, and some remains may belong to people who attended the church or were from nearby towns or the rural municipality.

The third "discovery," less than a week later, was reported by the Lower Kootenay Band near Cranbrook, B.C. Here, too, it fell to the Band to clarify the mat-



JORDAN  
TWISS  
~  
News Editor

ter for the public.

As former Chief Sophie Pierre said, "There's no discovery, we knew it was there, it's a graveyard."

Ms. Pierre added that the estimated 182 graves had once been marked with wooden crosses. Those crosses had deteriorated over time, making it difficult to know whether the graves contain the remains of children who attended the St. Eugene Residential School.

Had we been open to nuanced discussion from the first discovery at the Kamloops Indian Residential School, all the sensationalism surrounding these potential grave sites of residential school victims could have been avoided.

That said, the added context doesn't change as much as those who would like this issue to be tidily swept under the rug might think.

The fact remains that more than 150,000 Indigenous children were subjected to this century-long effort to assimilate them, with many of them being forcibly removed from their homes, families, and cultures.

The fact remains that at least 4,100 children died while in the "care" of Residential Schools, some due to illness and others as a result of neglect or abuse. Untold others, meanwhile, were subjected to abuse and forced to live with the trauma for the rest of their lives.

The fact remains that subsequent federal governments have talked about the atrocities of residential governments, only to turn their backs on the victims and their families.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper couldn't find \$1.5 million to help locate and identify burial sites of residential school victims, while Prime Minister Justin Trudeau took survivors and families to court to deny them reparations.

Finally, the fact remains that too many Canadians still twist themselves into knots to downplay or deny history.

In short, nuance may help us have clearer, more accurate discussions, but, in the case of residential schools, it doesn't diminish the crimes Canada has committed against Indigenous people.



## YOUR TWO CENTS

### Reaction to Iroquois Lake development is overblown

Dear editor,

I recently read your column regarding the proposed future cabin development at Iroquois lake. I have been looking to purchase a property at this lake for quite some time, and when I heard about the proposed new development, I was extremely excited! Purchasing a decent pre-owned property at either Pebble Baye or at Pelican Cove is like finding a needle in a haystack.

I must say, I was struck by many of Mr. von Dewitz's statements in your article.

He states that cabin

owners have a right to clear the environmental zone for the installation of a dock, and the right to defoliate to a depth of 8'. From the homework I've done, this is not accurate. The only right anyone has is the right to apply for an Aquatic Habitat Protection Permit from the WSA prior to undertaking this work. Failure to do so may result in hefty fines. Further to that, an application to WSA does not guarantee a permit either.

Another item that offended me as a potential cabin owner at Iroquois

was the statement that there will be a inundation of "high horsepower boats and toys". I don't own a boat like that and suspect that I'm not alone. My pontoon boat that my family and I enjoy (primarily for fishing) would scarcely make 16 mph if the wind was in my favour. These type of blanket statements about the potential ownership of the proposed new properties is offensive and unfounded.

In short, I will continue to search for a lake property at Iroquois Lake for myself and my family to enjoy and I hope this development is allowed to proceed.

Matt Vanderkooy,  
Saskatoon, Sask.

### Shellbrook Chronicle

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

Member of



## Report from the Legislature

Saskatchewan has seen its share of challenges, and the extreme drought conditions we are currently experiencing have been no exception. Pastures and crops have been severely affected while many dugouts are dry or have poor water quality due to a lack of spring runoff and little rainfall, combined with hot, dry weather throughout the summer.

Our government is helping producers retain their breeding herd with \$119 million in direct support under the Agri-Recovery program. This program is part of the Canadian Agricultural Partnership agreement, with funding shared on a 60-40 federal-provincial basis.

Full federal participation would deliver \$200 per head to cattle producers, and we look forward to working with the federal government to ensure producers receive the support they need. The amount of the per head payment will be finalized pending federal agreement.

The Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan have already provided an increase to the 2021 AgriStability interim benefit payment percentage, from 50 per cent to 75 per cent, so producers can access a larger portion of their final AgriStability benefit early.

In addition, Saskatchewan has announced temporary increases in the maximum rebates for livestock producers under the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program for dugouts, wells and pipelines for agricultural use, from \$50,000 to \$150,000.

Saskatchewan also introduced changes to the Crop Insurance Program



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to divert low-yielding crops to feed use.

I encourage crop producers to consider how these changes could work for their operation or enable them to help a neighbour. Across the province there is a need for feed and straw this winter and, if you have feed, many websites and social media groups can connect you with livestock producers who are in need.

The livestock sector is a vital part of our agriculture industry, and a significant contributor to our provincial economy. We know that producers are struggling and that is why we are taking action to support them during a challenging year.

The Farm Stress Line – a confidential service, available 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week – is available for support should producers need it. The toll-free number is 1-800-667-4442.

If you are not yet partially or fully vaccinated against COVID-19, immunizations are continuing through walk-in and pop-up clinics at public venues across the province, as well as through participating pharmacies by appointment. Appointments booked online will continue for some smaller centres where pharmacy immu-

nization is unavailable.

All information related to vaccines and clinics will be available at [saskatchewan.ca/COVID19-vaccine](http://saskatchewan.ca/COVID19-vaccine) or through the Saskatchewan Health Authority social media channels.

Vaccination and breakthrough data demonstrates that it is unvaccinated people who are in-hospital and facing the most severe COVID-19 illness and death.

Vaccination has proven to be the best protection against COVID-19 transmission and illness. While proof of vaccination is not required by the Government of Saskatchewan for events or venues, we know that there are some locations within Canada that are requesting that documentation. Residents who would like a record of their COVID-19 vaccinations now have access to a new one-page printable vaccination record from their MySaskHealthRecord account. This includes date and location of vaccination and brand of vaccine administered.

If you do not have a MySaskHealthRecord account, you can visit eHealth Saskatchewan at [www.ehealthsask.ca/MySaskHealthRecord/MySaskHealthRecord/](http://www.ehealthsask.ca/MySaskHealthRecord/MySaskHealthRecord/) to set one up.

On the topic of COVID-19, our appreciation



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goes out to our teachers, education support staff and families whose hard work and creativity supported students throughout the pandemic the past year.

The Government of Saskatchewan has developed a one-year Interim Provincial Education Plan to support schools as we begin to emerge from the pandemic. Nearly \$21 million in additional funding will be provided to school divisions with a focus on three key priorities:

- Additional reading supports for grade 1 to 5 students. Reading data will be collected from students in grades 1 to 5. This will allow educational professionals to create specialized reading plans where needed to meet students at their individual skill levels.
- Supportive learning opportunities for students whose educa-

tion may have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. High school students will be able to obtain credits through a variety of educational avenues, such as classes offered out of grade order, special project credits and online classes.

• Mental health supports for students and staff as they return from a challenging year. This includes nearly \$600,000, provided in the 2021-22 Budget, to support initiatives related to bullying prevention and promotion of positive mental health and student safety. It also encompasses nearly \$500,000 committed by the Government of Saskatchewan for Mental Health First Aid training to school divisions.

Using these three priorities as a guide, school divisions and participating First Nations education authorities will build their own plans to meet the unique needs of their students and schools.

A reminder for registered, non-profit veteran service clubs in Saskatchewan: the second intake of applications for the Saskatchewan Veteran Service Club Support Program are being accepted until August 31, 2021. Clubs are eligible



**HON. JEREMY HARRISON  
MLA**  
~  
Meadow  
Lake  
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to apply for grants up to \$25,000.

I'm proud to say that this program provides grants for facility projects, upgrades, renovations or repairs, access to programming, meetings, and events. Grant money can also be used toward special events, programs and activities that engage the public and advance the work of veteran service organizations. The first intake supported 39 veteran service clubs around Saskatchewan with over \$634,000 in support already delivered.

More information about the program, guidelines, applications, and eligibility are available through the Royal Canadian Legion Saskatchewan Command at 306-525-8739 or [admin@sasklegion.ca](mailto:admin@sasklegion.ca).

### Lake Country Co-op

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Join the team that offers competitive wages, a fun work environment and superior benefits.

If you have a positive, upbeat attitude apply today in person at our Shellbrook C-Store to be part of the Lake Country and Subway team.

ATTN: Sandy Finlayson  
Team Leader, Subway  
[subway@lakecountrycoop.ca](mailto:subway@lakecountrycoop.ca) or 306-747-2777

*We thank all candidates for their interest; however, only those selected to continue in the recruitment process will be contacted.*



LAKE COUNTRY



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2 years of customer service, strong computer skills and the ability to demonstrate consistent accuracy and attention to detail are essential. Insurance experience considered an asset, but not mandatory, as paid education is provided to further your career.

Please send your resume to [quinntait@taitinsurance.ca](mailto:quinntait@taitinsurance.ca) or drop it off at our #8 Main Street, Shellbrook location.

*Only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.*

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# Highlights of a Shellbrook Town Council meeting

Shellbrook's town council met for its regular meeting in the town office and via teleconference on Monday, Aug. 16.

In attendance were Mayor Amund Otterson, councillors Bruce Clements, Cheryl Ledding, Brent Miller, and Kathleen Nording, and the town's CAO, Kelly Hoare. Councillor Larry Batten was absent.

Mayor Otterson called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m., and council began with the approval of the agenda for the meeting and by adopting the minutes of its Aug. 3 meeting. After approving payment of accounts and the town's finan-

cial, council moved on to provide its oral reports.

In the public works docket, Mayor Otterson offered a laundry list of updates on smaller items. With regards to the Knox United Church, which the town acquired after the church disbanded, he said preliminary work has begun on a renovation plan for the building.

Elsewhere, Lajcon is expected to be looking at sidewalks this month, and public works will be installing new golf course signs for the Hidden Hills of Shellbrook. Revisiting the topic of birds making a mess of the town's garbage cans, Otterson said the town may approach BID

to see if they have any interest in choosing replacement bins.

Rounding out the report, Otterson said it's important to remind ratepayers that the town clears snow within 48 hours and vehicles need to be moved to allow for this. He also said the proposed relocation of the Rayside School building remains on the agenda as a potential project.

In his PARWU Steering Committee update, Councillor Miller informed council that questions about design parameters for the project are being carefully considered, including whether it should be designed for a

larger population or with future expansions in mind. Miller said the committee will take a prudent approach to keep the costs of the project down.

Miller also advised council that the hope is to have the final authorization for expenditure, which will cover the whole project, in front of PARWU's board by October 2022. If authorization is given, it's estimated that the project will take 18 months to complete.

Looking at items from the facility supervisor's report, a leak at the swimming pool was fixed, but the liner needs replacing and

a leak under the concrete still needs to be addressed. Councillor Clements also noted that local ball parents put a lot of work into cleaning the Centennial Building at the Sports Grounds and did a great job.

In a final item about the golf course, Councillor Miller noted that the course ran into some issues with water this summer. He said it is currently in talks with some rural landowners, who may help out by releasing some upstream water.

Shifting gears, council began by approving the recreation committee's recommendation to increase

ice rates at the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre by 2 per cent. Councillor Ledding said this keeps the local rink in line with other communities' rinks.

Moving on, council carried motions to allow local funeral homes to perform open and close on the columbarium, and also agreed to charge a \$400 perpetual care fee on all internments.

Council then carried a motion to pay the outstanding school tax on a pair of lots, in the amount of \$1,085.09, and add them to the town's inventory, as well as a motion to obtain Office 365 licenses for any councillors who are interested (only for as long as they're on council).

Up next, council agreed to redirect remaining MEEP funding, totalling \$158,665.81, to obtaining video footage of remaining clay sewer lines, spot repairs, and relining. The money was originally intended for the water treatment plant upgrades, but with the town having chosen a different route, it needs to be spent on something else or the town will lose it.

In a final item of new business, council discussed a request from Rosthern business owner, Anant Brahmhatt, to apply for a retail cannabis store permit in Shellbrook. Council had no opposition but agreed that it should meet Brahmhatt in person prior to anything proceeding.

Going around the table one last time, Councillor Clements suggested that council set up a meeting with Premier Scott Moe. He also said council should look at setting up a public meeting with residents for late January or early February of 2022.

Hoare, meanwhile, advised council that the swimming pool will be closing on Aug. 27, and the rink will be opening on Sept. 7.

## 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

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 Klumpenhowe

### 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 9 a.m.  
St. Henry's - Leask  
Mass - Sunday - 11 a.m.  
Mistawasis  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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

## WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT

*Candace Pepper & Geoffrey Reed*



Candace Joan Pepper and Geoffrey Arlen Reed were married July 23, 2021 at the Wascana Bandstand, Wascana Park, Regina, SK. The ceremony was followed by a reception at the Turvey Centre attended by many friends and family members.

The couple honeymooned in Niagara Falls and Niagara-on-the-Lake region.

Candace is daughter of Clark and Lenore Pepper of Shellbrook and Geoff is the son of Arlen and Marnie Reed of Regina.

## Second Intake of Applications for Veteran Service Club Support Program Underway

The Saskatchewan Veteran Service Club Support Program is strengthening service clubs that provide support for veterans, their families and communities in our province. Registered, non-profit veteran service clubs based in Saskatchewan are eligible to apply for grants of up to \$25,000. The first intake supported 39 veteran service clubs with over \$634,000 in support already delivered. The second intake of applications are now being accepted until **August 31, 2021**.



**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

## Crop yields feeling the heat

While there are other influences on commodity prices, government posturing and import barriers among them, supply and demand is still the biggest and the truest element affecting prices.

And this fall the supply of cereal grains and oilseeds certainly appears destined to tighten significantly.

We are of course aware of the impact of the long hot, dry summer has had on crops on the Canadian Prairies. We have seen the stunted crops in the fields and experience told us yields were going to be

down.

Now, as harvest is beginning, that is being confirmed by how much crop is coming off the fields.

The United States Department of Agriculture, (USDA), recently chopped its Canadian wheat and canola production estimates.

And in this country we've seen government acknowledge the drought situation with programming dollars already announced to help producers deal with the financial impact of lower than anticipated production.

If it were just Canada impacted this year it



CALVIN DANIELS

would cause a ripple in terms of supply and demand since this country is a major exporter of cereals and oilseeds.

But the impact of weather is hitting more than Canada.

The USDA has recently cut its crop production estimates for two of the key American crops. The government department has stated corn and soybean production will be smaller than previously anticipated because of dry soils in key western growing areas.

Drought has also hit Kazakhstan lowering that country's wheat production estimate for 2021.

Reports also point to weather-related harvest

issues in the European Union which has producers there facing reduced prospects for wheat and barley harvests.

Interestingly, in a related sense, coffee prices may be going skyward too because of frost hitting that crop in Brazil, another weather impact on supply, and since Canadians love their coffee we can well-understand the demand side.

When you look at major production areas which include Canada, the US, the EU and Kazakhstan, all facing production lower than anticipated, the

message to the market has to be tightening supplies, and that generally means prices heading upwards.

The more data that comes out as harvests continue, the tighter supplies may be, and the greater the surge in prices.

It will be a situation that will certainly mean some good returns for those producers who were lucky to get a rain or two to help yields.

But, what higher prices do much for the general farm sector is less easy to anticipate.

## AgriRecovery funding to help Sask. livestock producers

Agriculture Minister David Marit has announced \$119 million in direct support for drought-affected cattle producers under the AgriRecovery program. The program will provide a per head payment to help maintain breeding stock. This financial relief will help producers with extraordinary costs caused by drought, such as accessing feed and water.

AgriRecovery is part of the Canadian Agricultural Partnership agreement, with funding shared on a 60-40 federal-provincial basis. The federal government is requested to provide an additional \$178 million for a total program of \$297 million.

"We are acting swiftly to support Saskatchewan producers in retaining their breeding herd," Marit said. "This program will provide immediate relief and help producers make decisions that are

best for their operations. The livestock sector is a vital part of our agriculture industry, and a significant contributor to our provincial economy. We know producers are struggling and that is why we are taking action to support them during this challenging year."

In addition to cattle producers, funding will be available to producers of other ruminant animals.

The Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) will deliver the AgriRecovery program to Saskatchewan producers.

"Right from the start Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association (SCA) recognized that the challenges of this drought are many and varied. Water availability, water quality, feed for the short term and feed for winter among many others. That's why we requested a per head pay-

ment that will allow producers to manage their specific challenges. I am glad that working with Minister Marit has led to the Government of Saskatchewan responding to SCA's request and hope to see the federal government come through with their matching funds," Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association Chair Arnold Balicki said.

"We welcome the announcement of Saskatchewan's AgriRecovery program and we thank the Government of Saskatchewan for their continued support of the livestock industry," Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association President Kelcy Elford said. "This support will help producers navigate these unprecedented times and help level the playing field with other jurisdictions (provinces/states) that we are competing with for feed sources."

The amount of the per head payment

will be finalized pending federal agreement. With full federal participation, it would be \$200 per head to cattle producers, with a portion provided as an immediate per head payment and the remaining amount issued later in the fiscal year based on year-end herd numbers. The Government of Saskatchewan looks forward to working closely with the federal government to ensure that our producers receive the support they require.

The province plans to issue an initial payment of \$100 per breeding female with the remainder being available when the agreement is finalized and after confirmation the breeding herd is retained. The federal government on August 6 committed \$100 million in federal AgriRecovery dollars to be shared across all affected provinces.

*Continued on page 8*

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

Wed., Sept. 1, 2021

Special Yearling & Regular Sale 9:00 a.m.

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A division of Northern Livestock Sales



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Mon., Aug. 23, 2021

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Mon., Aug. 30, 2021

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



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

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Brent 306-240-5340 • Glen 306-960-4732 • Boyd 306-841-7998 • Frederick 306-227-9505

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

For market info visit: www.northernlivestocksales.ca

# Bones fly at Rabbit Lake bunnock tournament

It seems unlikely that there is anything the residents of Rabbit Lake enjoy more than a good bunnock tournament.

The street in front of the Rabbit Lake Hotel and Liquor Store was sectioned off and lined with enthusiastic players and spectators last Saturday who were taking in the tournament put on by the hotel.

Joan Dzialo and Dave Kowerchuk were the main organizers of

the event that drew 24 teams from the area. Registration fees went back into prize payouts for the A, B, and C pools. The Shawn Nelson team took the top prize, raking in \$480, followed by the Clint Cheney team who took home \$288, and finally by the MacDonald team who brought home \$192.

The Rabbit Lake Senior Sunrise Circle hosted a BBQ lunch, serving up hotdogs and

hamburgers throughout the early part of the afternoon. The Hall Board put on a roast beef supper in the evening.

The Rabbit Lake Outdoor Market ran through the morning until 1 p.m., as vendors showed off their wares which ranged from home baking to woodworking, to needlepoint.

The local museum was also open for part of the afternoon.



The Streets of Rabbit Lake were lined with bunnock players and spectators for an enjoyable Saturday event



Shelly Laughlin, Larry Hujber, Shirley Hujber, and Alan Laughlin were trying to keep cool as they keep the grill running for the Rabbit Lake Seniors Sunrise Circle's BBQ fundraiser.

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Shellbrook Chronicle  
& Spiritwood Herald

## AgriRecovery funding to help Sask. livestock producers

### Continued from 7

Pastures and crops in many areas have been severely affected by drought. Across the province, many dugouts are dry or have poor water quality due to a lack of spring runoff and little rainfall, combined with hot, dry weather throughout the summer. As a result, Saskatchewan previously announced temporary increases in the maximum rebates for livestock producers under the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program for dugouts, wells and pipelines for agricultural use, from \$50,000 to \$150,000.

In addition to the AgriRecovery program, the Governments of Saskatchewan and Canada previously announced an increase to the 2021 AgriStability interim benefit payment percentage from 50 per cent to 75 per cent, so producers can access a larger portion of their final AgriStability benefit early.

Saskatchewan also introduced changes to

the Crop Insurance Program to divert low-yielding crops to feed use.

"I encourage crop producers to consider how these changes could work for your operation or enable you to help a neighbour. Across the province there is a need for feed and straw this winter and, if you have feed, many websites and social media groups can connect you with livestock producers who are in need," Marit said.

AgriRecovery is a federal-provincial-territorial disaster relief framework under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, and is intended to work together with the core business risk management programs of Crop Insurance, AgriStability and AgriInvest to help producers recover from natural disasters.

Details on how producers can apply for the program will be made available in the coming days.

## 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 - 9:00 a.m.  
Leoville - 11:00 a.m.  
Chitek Lake - Closed for  
the Season  
Everyone Welcome  
SATURDAY  
Shell Lake - 8:00 p.m.  
Medstead - 6 p.m.  
Father Ramel Macapala

### PARTNERS IN WORSHIP

Shell Lake  
Worship Services  
Sunday 9:00 a.m.  
Pastor Sarah Urano  
306-841-7333

### 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 - 10:00 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

# Bearpaw Archers host 97 for annual 3D shoot

An African lion on the prairies of Saskatchewan?

Such sights have become commonplace at the Holbein Ball Diamonds each year, where the Shellbrook Bearpaw Archers host their annual 3D shoot event.

The club, which was started by a small

group of people who were interested in archery and bowhunting, has been a part of the community for the past 29 years.

With help from the Shellbrook Wildlife Federation in the form of an interest free loan, the Bearpaw Archers were able to get up and running just as life-sized 3D targets were taking off. The club quickly became self-sustaining, and hasn't looked back since.

"A lot of the original members are still members. They're quite a bit older now and they're not as active now, but they're still around and they're always there to help out with the organizing," Shellbrook Bearpaw Archers member Chris Bates said.

After losing a year to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's event, which ran Aug. 14 and 15, marked the 28th annual 3D shoot. If it was proof of anything, it's that the enthusiasm around the club hasn't tapered off over the years.

All told, 97 archers, ranging in age from five years old to 80+, took part in the shoot, some local and some from farther afield. One archer hailed all the way from Edson, Alta., and another couple decided to make the long trip from Battleford to shoot on both days.

Billed as a "family friendly" shoot, the event doesn't focus on scores or trophies.



**Brielle Nahorniak takes part in the Shellbrook Bearpaw Archers' 28th 3D Shoot.**



**Kelsea Haduik takes aim at her target with help from an adult.**



**Kenislee Nahorniak prepares to loose her arrow.**



**Travis Haduik, Gunner Haduik, and Travis Jess stand with a rare prairie lion at the Bearpaw Archers' 3D Shoot event.**

Though, there are some bragging rights involved, and some prizes to take home thanks to generous sponsors and donors.

Among the sponsors were Sask. Lotteries, Broda Group, and Riverside Dodge, which donated a fridge to be raffled off. Shoot for the Vitals also supplied raffle prizes, and so did Paula Bates of Thirty-One Gifts.

The same generosity was seen in the 50/50, with day two winner Craig Jones donating his winnings back to the club.

Bates says this generous spirit is what has made the club and the 3D shoot successful for nearly three decades.

"Without all of the volunteers and the

people who participate, we wouldn't have the event. They donate a lot of time and they're there all weekend collecting fees and putting the targets out," he said.

With the community's support, this year's 3D shoot managed to rake in about \$2,500. Bates says all of this will go right back into the club to help replace targets as they wear out. This, along with the number of new young shooters who came out this year, will ensure the club keeps going.

"You get these young kids involved, and they're hopefully the ones who are going to take over and volunteer down the road to provide it for the community," Bates said.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**SPIRITWOOD:** Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 9 am - 5 pm; Wednesday 9 am - 5 pm; Friday 9 am - 5 pm

**LEOVILLE:** Wapiti Regional Library - Wednesday 10 am - 4 pm; Thursday 10 am - 3 pm

**SHELL LAKE:** Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 12:30 pm - 4 pm; Wednesday 12:30 pm - 4 pm

**BLAINE LAKE:** Wapiti Library - 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 - 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. Tuesday 10 am - 4 pm; Thursday 10 am - 4 pm; Friday 12 pm - 4 pm.

**DEBDEN:** Wapiti Library hours: Tuesday 10 am - 3 pm; Wednesday 3 pm - 7 pm. Librarian: Aline Hannon

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

**MARCELIN:** Wapiti Library - 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: 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.

**SHELLBROOK:** Shellbrook Minor Sports Annual General Meeting - Tuesday, September 7, 2021, 7 pm @ Shellbrook Seniors Hall

**CANWOOD:** Walter Willoughby Horticultural Society's 58th Annual Show will take place Thurs., August 19, 2021, 2 to 4 pm @ Canwood Community Hall. Kids/Adult Showbooks Available, Canwood Leask Shellbrook Libraries/Flowershop. For more info: 306-747-3301.

## Bursaries handed out to local nurses



**The Shellbrook Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee has handed out bursaries to another crop of local nurses. Here, Shellbrook Mayor Amund Otterson presents a \$500 LPN preceptorship bursary to Shanna Dumais (left), and a \$1,000 bursary to RN Miranda Enns on behalf of the Committee.**

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# Dirty Pitches host 8 teams for Slo-Pitch Tourney

The Dirty Pitches brought back their annual Slo-Pitch tournament a little later this year due to pandemic restrictions early in the season. The 4th instalment of the tournament was sponsored by Blaine Lake Hardware and Liquor.

Despite the busy season, eight teams came out to play. Two were local teams from Spiritwood, while six were from out of town.

A canteen was run by SARCS with the help of a few volunteers, serving up hamburgers and tacos in bag as well as some ice treats to keep players going all day.

The Amigos from Big River were the tournament winners taking home the payout prize.

A men's and women's home-run derby took place late in

the afternoon. Sponsors for the event were G-mac's Ag Team and Martodam Motors, which each purchased a bat as a prize for the winners.

Jordon Henri was the winner of the men's derby, while Mackenzie Seidle was the best in the women's.

The Spiritwood Ball Diamonds have seen a lot of changes over the past few years, as volunteers on the Restoration Committee have spent hours on fundraising projects.

Improving field drainage and replacing backstops, among other things, has given the diamonds a facelift with much of the heavy lifting being credited to Paul Duret who has spent hours of volunteer work at park.



The Amigos of Big River took the top prize at the 4th annual Dirty Pitches Slo-Pitch tournament.

## Canada goes to the polls September 20

Ending months of speculation about his plans to launch an early federal election, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau dropped the writ on a campaign that will end with Canadians heading to the polls on Sept. 20.

The prime minister and Liberal leader visited Gov. Gen. Mary Simon at Rideau Hall Sunday morning, where she accepted his request to dissolve the 43rd Parliament and draw up the 338 writs, triggering a summer election.

With voting day scheduled for Sept. 20, the campaign will be 36 days, the shortest possible election period under federal law.

In announcing the start of the federal campaign, which is widely seen as an opportunity to push for a majority mandate for his government, Trudeau billed the upcoming election as a vital opportunity for Canadians to have their voices heard as Canada begins to

emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The decisions your government makes right now will define the future your kids and grandkids grow up in. So in this pivotal, consequential moment, who wouldn't want a say? Who wouldn't want their chance to help decide where our country goes from here? Canadians need to choose how we finish the fight against COVID-19 and build back better," Trudeau said while facing a series of questions from reporters about why he called the vote after he and his caucus stated multiple times a pandemic election was not in their plans.

"Canadians deserve their say, and that's exactly what we are going to give them," Trudeau said.

Signalling the true start to a campaign that nearly two-thirds of Canadians didn't want, Trudeau took the opportunity to take a jab at his oppo-

nents with his next comment.

"After making it through 17 months of nothing like we've ever experienced, Canadians deserve to choose what the next 17 months, what the next 17 years and beyond, will look like. And I know that we have the right plan, the right team, and the proven leadership to meet that moment," he said. "So to the other parties: Please explain why you don't think Canadians should have the choice? Why you don't think that this is a pivotal moment?"

Though a federal election has long been expected, the local candidate rosters are currently looking a little sparse.

In the Prince Albert Riding, Conservative incumbent Randy Hoback will have a rematch against Liberal Estelle Hjertaas, who announced her candidacy at the end of May. While the NDP and Green Party have yet to select can-

didates, the upstart Maverick Party, which is focused on advancing the interests of Western Canada, has tapped Heather Schmitt to run.

In Desnethé-Missinippi-Churchill River, Conservative incumbent Gary Vidal is the lone candidate to be announced, as the Liberals, the NDP, the Green Party, the People's Party of Canada, and the Maverick Party have yet to make their official selections.

Looking at the Carlton Trail-Eagle Creek riding, Conservative incumbent Kelly Block, Maverick Party nominee Diane Pastoor, and People's Party of Canada candidate Andrew Yubeta are the candidates on the bill so far.

Finally, in the Battlefords-Lloydminster riding, Conservative Rosemarie Falk will look to hold on to her seat. Thus far, Liberal nominee Larry Ingram, and Maverick Party candidate Ken Rutherford, are her challengers.

## Op-ed: Canadians deserve better than five decades of deficits

By Franco Terrazano  
CTF Federal Director

The Parliamentary Budget Officer has finally answered the burning question: will Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's budget balance itself? The answer: yes, it will – but not for another almost 50 years. According to data published by the PBO, under status quo policies the federal government will balance its budget again in the year 2070.

By then, Ottawa will have added another \$2.7 trillion to its debt tab. That's on top of its current \$1 trillion of federal debt.

More deficits mean more debt that Canadian kids and grandkids will need to pay back. A baby born this year owes more than \$26,000 in federal government debt. By the time the budget is balanced a half-century from now, newborns will be on the hook for about \$67,000.

Not to mention the interest charges that will eat away at \$3.8 trillion worth of taxpayers' money by 2070. Starting in 2043, interest charges will exceed the government's budget deficits. This means that over the next five decades, Canadian families and businesses will lose out on trillions of dollars that can't go to hospitals, grocery bills or hiring more workers. Instead, the money will be going to the owners and managers of bond funds to service the

debt.

The PBO estimates that once the feds finally do balance the budget in 2070 it will take at least another two decades to pay off the debt.

This is already alarming news, but here's the scariest part: the PBO assumes the effective interest rate will eventually settle in at 2.84 per cent, which would be lower than it was at any time between 1991 and 2014. The PBO also estimates that Canada's economy will embark on a steady upward climb. What happens if reality isn't as rosy? What happens if interest rates spike or Canada stumbles into another downturn? Will any of today's taxpayers ever live to see a debt-free Canada?

These are just status quo projections, of course. There is nothing to stop politicians from balancing the budget well before 2070, other than summoning the spine to make it happen.

Unfortunately, the federal government continues to take taxpayers in the wrong direction. The 2021 budget increases permanent federal government spending by \$100 billion by 2026 with no plan for how to pay for it.

Since the beginning of July, we've seen the government announce \$440 million for aerospace companies, \$420 million for Algoma Steel, \$1.3 billion for the SkyTrain in British Columbia, an additional \$1.4

billion for its climate-change fund and a \$5.2-billion bailout to Newfoundland and Labrador. No wonder Postmedia columnist Chris Nelson concluded that "we are no longer being bribed with our own money. We're being bribed with our great-grandchildren's money."

Perhaps the most important question for Canadians worried about the cost of living during the next election is: "How are you going to pay for all of that spending?"

It's important to remember that this new spending is on top of an already bloated, pre-pandemic budget. The federal government spent more money in 2018, before COVID, than in any single year – wartime, peacetime, recession year or depression year – according to the Fraser Institute. Yes, that's after accounting for inflation and population growth.

The PBO projections paint a stark picture for taxpayers. If politicians don't change course, we will have to endure nearly 50 more years of deficits. It's as if in 1971, the year Justin Trudeau was born, his father's government had set Canada on a path of not balancing the budget until this year.

The infant Justin Trudeau would have deserved better. Canadian taxpayers today deserve better. It's time for our politicians to take deficits seriously again and tighten their belts like the rest of us.

## Ignore 'forgettable' — Canadian Olympians shine

Time to backtrack after lamenting last week about the 'forgettable' Olympic Games in Tokyo.

Canada had a spectacular second week. Let's call it unforgettable.

Swimmer Penny Oleksiak made Canadian Olympic history, winning three more medals to boost her career total to seven, making her the most decorated Canadian Olympian ever.

Damian Warner of London, Ont., now lays claim to being the greatest male athlete in the world after breaking the 9,000-point barrier for an Olympic record and winning gold in the decathlon, the event that truly separates the men from the boys, or the true athletes from the pretenders.

"When you go through the whole battle of the decathlon and finally finish and you get the result you were looking for, there is no greater feeling," Warner said in a Sportsnet.ca story. "This is a dream come true."

Still on the track, we're calling Andre De Grasse

of Markham, Ont., the world's fastest man after he finished third in the 100-metre sprint, and took gold in the 200 metres. Normally, the title of the world's fastest man goes to the 100-metre gold medal champ, but since the Italian winner, Lamont Marcell Jacobs, has had some steroid rumours swirling around him, we're going to anoint De Grasse with that title.

And finally, the Canadian women's soccer team followed up its emotional semi-final victory over the United States by beating Sweden in the gold medal game on penalty kicks, putting a bow on the fabulous career of 38-year-old Christine Sinclair who, if she lived in a soccer-mad country, would be enveloped in Gretzky-Jordan- or Messi-type hysteria.

So yes, the 2020 Olympics held in the summer of 2021 has been rather spectacular for Canada, which finished with 24 medals and stood an impressive 11th in the overall standings, ahead of



BRUCE  
PENTON

such countries as Brazil, Cuba and Spain. Overall, Canada finished with seven gold, six silver and 11 bronze medals, the most ever by our country.

So, unforgettable? You bet. Our athletes did us proud and Canadians get to watch them in action again in three years' time, in Paris, France.

• Janice Hough of leftcoastsportsbabe.com, on the Dodgers' burgeoning payroll: "Will LA start selling beer on the installment plan?"

• RJ Currie of sportsdeke.com: "According to a U.S. study, outdoor activity may improve mental health. Unless the activ-

ity is watching the Baltimore Orioles."

• Golfer Phil Mickelson, in a tweet to Olympic gold medallist Xander Schauffele: "Can't wait for you to mark your ball with the Gold Medal in one of our matches! I'll totally respect it cuz that's something I would do."

• Humourist Steve Burgess of Vancouver, on Twitter while travelling across Saskatchewan: "It's part of Canadian history that every Prairie town has its Chinese restaurant. In Val Marie, Sask. (home of Bryan Trottier) it's in the Val Marie Hotel. Food is good and there's optimism the TV will be fixed in time for Friday's Riders' game."

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "Damian Warner set an Olympic record 9,018 points to be the first Canadian winner of Olympic Decathlon. Being Canadian, Warner spent his time during the medal ceremony apologizing to the silver and bronze winners for beat-

ing them."

• Kaseberg again: "In Tokyo, Bruce Springsteen's daughter, Jessica, did not make the Olympic equestrian jumping finals. It turns out, when it came to jumping, Jessica's horse was born to run."

• Norman Chad, on his Gambling Mad offering on Twitter: "Synchronized swimming is a Broadway musical underwater."

• Chad again, on the Olympics ignoring his favourite sport: "No bowling in the Olympics? No Olympics in my home."

• Bob Molinaro of pilotonline.com (Hampton, Va.): "The Buffalo Bills apparently are threatening to threaten that they'll shuffle off to Austin, Texas, if the city doesn't use taxpayer money to cover the entire cost of a new stadium. That's a bad bluff. Austin already has a pro football team — the Texas Longhorns."

• RJ Currie again: "Happy Birthday to Angels' all-star outfielder Mike Trout. It seems like

only yesterday you were a minnow."

• Another one from RJ Currie: "The CFL season kicked off last night without preseason games, with the expected mistiming, bad reads, botched calls and confusion over Canadian rules. And that was just TSN play-by-play man Rod Black."

• Headline at theonion.com: "Loyal Russell Westbrook Fan Tired Of Buying New Jersey, Relocating Whole Family Every Year"

• Another theonion.com headline: "I Want To Be In The Olympics Someday,' Says Delusional Kindergartner Already 4 Years Behind In Elite Training"

• This really happened, from fark.com: "Astros' Alex Bregman, en route to a game, sees a broken down car on the side of the road. Stops to help the driver who happens to be wearing, wait for it, an Alex Bregman jersey."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

## Sask. to deliver \$10-a-day childcare by 2026

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development Ahmed Hussen, and Saskatchewan Education Minister Dustin Duncan have announced an agreement that will support an average of \$10 a day early learning and childcare for Saskatchewan families by the end of 2025-26.

By the end of 2022, Saskatchewan families will see a 50 per cent reduction in average parent fees for children under age six in regulated childcare.

"The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to investing in affordable, accessible and quality early learning and childcare options that provide flexibility and choice to Saskatchewan families," Duncan said in a statement. "We are pleased that this deal creates 28,000 new regulated spaces, makes life more affordable for Saskatchewan families and enhances the wages of Early Childhood Educators who support children across our province."

In addition to significantly reducing the cost of childcare,

federal funding of close to \$1.1 billion over the next five years will lead to the creation of 28,000 new regulated early learning and childcare spaces to help ensure Saskatchewan families with children under six years old can access childcare spaces that meet their needs. Federal funding will support the expansion of these new childcare spaces in not-for-profit childcare centres, small childcare facilities and home-based childcare.

The agreement will also fund critical services and attract, retain and grow a strong and skilled workforce of early childhood educators, including through the creation of a wage grid that will ensure early childhood educators are well paid for their work. The agreement also supports future early childhood educators with their studies and provides them with professional development opportunities.

The agreement includes a clear commitment to continue to work collaboratively with Saskatchewan First Nations and Métis Nation communities to ensure Indigenous children

have access to affordable, high-quality, and culturally appropriate early learning and childcare.

It also supports an early learning and childcare system that is fully inclusive of children with disabilities and children needing enhanced or individual supports, and ensures all families have equitable access to high-quality, affordable early learning and childcare.

"Ensuring that all Canadians have access to high-quality and affordable early learning and child care makes sense," Freeland said in a statement. "Not only does it give our children the best possible start in life, it ensures that parents - especially mothers - can work, and it creates good, well-paying jobs for educators. Today's announcement with the Government of Saskatchewan is another important step in making this a reality for families everywhere in Canada. It is part of the government's plan to make sure that Canada's recovery from the COVID-19 recession leaves no one behind."

Along with today's landmark agreement, the governments of

Canada and Saskatchewan have also reached an agreement to extend the Canada-Saskatchewan Early Learning and Childcare Agreement.

The Government of Canada will provide over \$68.5 million over the next four years to increase access to affordable, inclusive and high-quality childcare spaces. In addition, the Government of Canada will provide Saskatchewan with a

one-time investment of over \$17 million in 2021-2022 to support the early childhood workforce.

The Government of Canada will continue to work with provinces, territories, and Indigenous partners across the country to make life more affordable for families, grow the middle class, create jobs, help parents return to the workforce, and give each and every child the same head start.

## Belbutte history comes to Spiritwood Museum

Submitted by Marion Gatzke

The Belbutte Community recently donated a display case to the Spiritwood Museum. This display case originally appeared in the Belbutte General Store (established in 1929). It was later used in the Belbutte Community Hall until that was closed in 2020. It will now display memorabilia from the Belbutte Community at the museum.

Two local craftsmen, Dave Senum and Willis Larson, donated time and material to restore a transparent top to the cabinet, while Marion Gatzke volunteered time and art supplies to refurbish the existing base, sliding glass doors, shelves, and other components.

If you have mementos of Belbutte worthy of display, please contact Marion or Connie Gatzke.

## OBITUARIES

*Melba Dolores Souch*

Melba Dolores Souch  
1937-2021

Melba was born on April 26th, 1937, to John and Effie Ward in Kinistino, Saskatchewan. Her mom was almost 45 years old when she was born. She had 3 older sisters (Mable, Velma, and Dorie) and 2 older brothers (Harold and Earl) with the oldest sister being 23 years her senior. She was of the generation of some of her nieces and nephews and the baby of the family.

Melba graduated from teacher's college in 1956 and taught grade 1-7 for 1 year at Crescent Hill. She went back to university. She then taught primary school for 5 years at Buffalo Narrows and 1 year at Valleyview, Alberta at an opportunity room. She enjoyed and often talked about her years up north fondly and has kept lifelong friends from her time teaching.

In 1960, Melba met Ar-

chie Souch after a July 1st celebration. They got married on October 23rd, 1965. She moved to Shellbrook. She had said Archie had told her he didn't have much family. Once here she found quite a different story, as it seemed he was related to half the town.

On August 17th, 1968, Cynthia Louise was born and then Colleen Joy on March 17th, 1970. She worked hard on the farm with chickens and selling eggs, planting a huge garden to last through the winter, and having many cats. In teaching the kids, she enjoyed playing card games to improve math skills. Melba enjoyed looking after her grandchildren as well. Grandkids are Tiffany, Evan, Natalie, and Adrienne in Shellbrook and Andrea in Winnipeg. They were treasures to her.

Melba was always active in the church and the community. She was a Sunday school teacher, choir member, a member of United church women (UCW), Royal Purple and library board member. She also enjoyed working as a casual librarian. She was an avid sports spectator. She followed hockey, curling, baseball, and other sports. Melba also liked to knit and crochet. In her later years, she enjoyed doing art-work, singing, cards, and

bingo. She enjoyed seeing new places when she had the chance and took the opportunity to go on several bus tours in her later years.

Melba enjoyed visiting and people. She always greeted people she knew with a smile or how are you. She enjoyed visiting with friends regularly on the phone. She talked to her sister Dorie regularly on the phone daily. She enjoyed going to jam night on Saturday nights at Arnie's restaurant.

In her later years, she enjoyed doing artwork, singing, cards, and bingo.

Melba passed away in Shellbrook at Parkland Integrated Health Centre Long Term Care on August 10th, 2021. Predeceased by her mom and dad, John and Effie Ward. Siblings: Mable Meacher, Velma Porter, Dorothy (Dorie) Loden, Harold Ward and Earl Ward.

Funeral will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church, Shellbrook on Saturday, August 14th, 2021, at 2pm. Followed by interment at Shellbrook cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Shellbrook and District Health Services Foundation - Longterm Care-Recreation Department or Saskatchewan Brain Injury Association. Family and friends wishing to send online condolences may visit [www.beaulac-funeralhome.com](http://www.beaulac-funeralhome.com).

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau"Lac" Funeral Home and Crematorium, Lynn Anderson, Funeral Director, Shellbrook, SK. 306-747-2828.

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*Gerard "Jerry" Watier*

Gerard "Jerry" Watier  
September 4, 1922 ~  
August 8, 2021

Gerard Serge Watier was born September 4, 1922 in Marcellin, SK to Edward Watier and Mary (Fournier) Watier. In the evening of August 8, 2021, Jerry passed away at the Shellbrook Care Home, Shellbrook, SK.

Jerry is survived by six of

his eight children: Margaret Watier Chobotar of Canora, SK, Gary (Diane) of Canora, SK, Ron (Rhonda) of Warman, SK, Lionel (Colette) of St. Albert, AB, Neil of Shellbrook, SK, Carol (Bob) Waters of Saskatoon, SK; eighteen grandchildren; seventeen great-grandchildren; one great-great grandchild; sister Cecile Delisle of Williams Lake, BC; brother-in-law Leo Godin; two sisters-in-law Terry and Nettie; as well as numerous other relatives and friends.

Jerry was predeceased by his second wife Armancia Joubert; two daughters Mary Jean at infancy and Shirley at the age of 48 years; and two grandchildren Lorena and Leonard.

Jerry met in his later years and married his second wife, Armancia

Joubert. He enjoyed working with his hands and was well known for his excellence in stucco work, passing on his trade to his sons. He enjoyed carpentry and tried his hand at logging, but it was not for him. Jerry was the happiest when working. He loved his garden and tending to his yard. Also going fishing when he could. He will never be forgotten for the many pranks and practical jokes he enjoyed pulling on family and friends. Jerry will be missed by all that knew and loved him.

At Jerry's request no formal service will be held. Interment will take place at a later date. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.grays.ca](http://www.grays.ca). Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Gray's Funeral Chapel, (306) 922-4729.

## GOOD NEWS

## WHAT IS WRONG CANNOT BE RIGHTED; IT IS WATER OVER THE DAM

Solomon is some writer. In the later years of his life he wrote Ecclesiastes. There are definitely some verses in that Book that people can identify with. One is Ecclesiastes 1:15, which says in the New King James, "What is crooked cannot be made straight, And what is lacking cannot be numbered."

I like the way Ken Taylor paraphrased that verse. He said, "What is wrong cannot be righted; it is water over the dam; and there is no use thinking of what might have been." (TLB)

Marlene and I have lived in Saskatchewan for 40 years now. Prior to that I spent some time in Alberta, but my growing up years was in Hay River N.W.T. You could imagine my farming experience was pretty limited.

In the 37 years of pastoring the majority of those years have been spent in rural Saskatchewan. I remember being in Southern Saskatchewan and being asked by a farmer to help with his harvest. His goal was to teach me to cut peas and lentils. He had an open cab swather with a pickup reel. When I was on the swather being trained to cut the lentils, I turned to the farmer and said, "I don't think I am up to this."

"Yes you are," he said. He had more confidence in me than I had in myself.

The longer I live, the more I can look back and laugh at myself. As the harvest went on we got to some fields that had sloughs. I remember the day we stood on the field and my farmer friend said I was to square up the field. I thought about what he said and thought well the field looks pretty square to me.

What he meant was that I was to go around the slough one way and back another and then start squaring it up. Well, I didn't catch what he was saying on the first field. He left and I swathed. By the time he got back I had gone around that slough several times.

It wasn't my finest hour. No real harm was done; it just meant it would take more time harvesting. So I look at Solomon's words and he is telling me as someone put it, "The past can't always be changed, and it is foolish to fret over what you might have done."

God doesn't change our past, but He can change how the past affects us. One preacher put it is this way: "For the lost sinner, the past is a heavy anchor that drags him down; but for the child of God, the past — even with its sins and mistakes — is a rudder that guides him forward. Faith makes the difference."

Blessings,  
Pastor David Bodvarson, SPA

## FUNERAL NOTICE

## *Sunni June Hubbard (née: Davies)*



Sunni June Hubbard  
(née: Davies)  
December 22, 1932 –  
April 1, 2021

A Funeral Service for the late Sunni June Hubbard will be held Sunday, August 29, 2021 - 2:30 pm. at the Leask Gos-

pel Tabernacle, Leask, SK with Lorne Valuck officiating. Interment will follow in the Leask Cemetery. Donations in memory of Sunni June Hubbard may be made to the Shellbrook & District Health Services Foundation House "C", Box 33, Shellbrook, SK S0J 2E0. Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit [www.beaulac-funeralhome.com](http://www.beaulac-funeralhome.com). Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home, R. Mark Muir Funeral Director, Spiritwood, SK 306-883-3500.

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## RCMP capture suspect in pair of area robberies

What began as a simple response to reported truck theft for the Prince Albert RCMP detachment, turned into a nearly week-long manhunt involving officers from multiple detachments before a suspect was captured.

On Wednesday morning (Aug. 11), the RCMP issued a release advising the public of an increased police presence on the Sturgeon Lake First Nation as officers investigated an ongoing incident in which two potentially armed individuals fled from police. At the time, the RCMP was urging the public to avoid the area.

In a later update, the RCMP said the investigation was linked to the theft of a white truck involving a firearm in the RM of Buckland.

According to a release, police received a report about the armed theft at 9:50 a.m. and immediately deployed to the area. Though they located the suspect vehicle quickly, they were unable to stop it and were forced to continue their efforts to locate the suspects, expanding their search area to include the Sturgeon Lake First Nation, the City of Prince Albert, and the surrounding area.

At this time, the police said they believed the incident was related to an armed robbery on the Little Red River First Nation on Aug. 7. Police also identified one of the suspects as Glen Frederick Halkett, 25, of the Sturgeon Lake First Nation, and issued a warrant for Halkett's arrest.

The RCMP continued its search for Halkett and the second suspect involved in the armed theft of the white truck through Thursday and Friday, and, as of Friday evening, they hadn't succeeded in locating either.

After providing no new updates over the weekend, the RCMP reported that Halkett was located and arrested in the City of Prince Albert and arrested by the Prince Albert Police Service on Monday morning.

The RCMP promised that further information on the investigation would be released in collaboration with the Prince Albert Police Service. No further updates were provided prior to publication.



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### Missing: Courtney Jennelle Struble

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

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

Anyone with information, please  
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