

Shellbrook Food Bank bake sale raises \$592



Helen Dagenais stopped by Friday's food bank bake sale to make a donation.

When the calendar turns to December, and the countdown to Christmas truly begins, we think of family gatherings, delicious meals, and presents underneath the Christmas tree.

But for the nearly 1 in 5 Saskatchewan adults and more than 1 in 4 children in the province who live in poverty, these hallmarks of the holiday season aren't always guaranteed.

This is where organizations like the Shellbrook and District Ministerial Food Bank step in, to provide support for families in the form of hampers.

With the Christmas Hamper rush on, the food bank hosted a bake sale fundraiser at the Shellbrook Scotiabank on Friday, with an array of delicious baked goodies supplied by the bank's staff, and volunteers from the general public and local church groups.

Combined with the raffle of two hoodies, which were donated by anonymous community members and won

by Myrna Burgess and Everett Altstadt, the successful bake sale brought in almost \$600.

"It went really well. We're so grateful to Scotiabank for planning the event in the first place, and all the bakers and buyers," said food bank coordinator Linda Lundy.

"We can always use more help, but we're getting there," she adds when asked how the food bank is prepared to deal with the increased demand around the holidays, noting that the community is always generous around this time of year.

With many concerned about rising inflation and costs of living, Lundy says the food bank's resources are in good shape, even after demand was heavy over the summer and has remained heavy through the fall.

Lundy credits the food bank's stable position to its partnership with the Town of Shellbrook and local schools

on the Live Together Grow Together Community Garden, which allowed it to offer fresh produce in its hampers after the harvest season.

The food bank also benefited from the generosity of Shellbrook's Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) chapter, and other community groups. Early in October, the organization challenged its members and other groups to donate food to the food bank equal to the amount of weight they'd lost.

All told, this drive saw 200 pounds donated to the food bank. Lundy says, however, that there's still work to do to build public awareness.

"People just aren't aware that there's a food bank in town, since it doesn't have a location they can see," Lundy said. "We're getting more and more people to be aware of it, and to be aware of the need."

Looking ahead to Christmas, the food bank's wishlist goes beyond just

the usual non-perishable food items. Lundy, for instance, says she's always pleased to see donations of shampoo, soap, or toothpaste (and not just at Christmas).

The Shellbrook Kinettes, meanwhile, will be using their annual Cookie Walk and Twinkle Tour on Dec. 11 to collect food items for the food bank as usual, and are also putting out the call for donations of gently used toys and books, and winter coats and accessories.

Items are needed by Dec. 18 and can be dropped off at numerous locations in Shellbrook, including Naber Ford, Shellbrook Bigway, TJ Disposals, Scotiabank, the Town of Shellbrook Municipal Office, and local churches.

"We just wanted to add a little something to those in need, whether it be a gently used stuffy or some books that are no longer being used," Knette Melissa Moe said.

More photos on page 2

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Main Street, Shellbrook

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Shellbrook Food Bank bake sale raises \$592



Food Bank coordinator Linda Lundy with hoodie raffle winner Myrna Burgess.



Food Bank Coordinator Linda Lundy with hoodie raffle winner Everett Altstadt.

VILLAGE OF LEASK Acting Administrator

The Village of Leask is currently accepting applications for the Position of Acting Administrator. The ideal candidate will possess an Urban Standard Certificate or a willingness to learn.

- Experience in Microsoft Office and general computer applications is essential with knowledge of Munisoft, municipal software considered an asset.
- Must possess strong leadership and communication skills

Compensation/Benefits:

- Salary will be based on UMASS salary schedule &/or qualifications and experience.
- The village offers a full benefit package through SUMA and an excellent pension plan through MEPP.

Applications should submit a cover letter and detailed resume including three references and salary expectations by email to village.leask@sasktel.net, or Box 40, Leask, Saskatchewan S0J 1M0, prior to 4:00 pm on **December 15, 2021**. For more information, please call 306-466-2229.

Freedom parade makes stop in Shellbrook

About 20 people, some from Shellbrook, Canwood, Big River, and the surrounding area, and others from Saskatoon and beyond, took part in a peaceful demonstration in Shellbrook on Friday.

The protest was billed as a "Freedom Parade," and made no specific mention of the COVID-19 pandemic or any of the public health measures currently in place in Saskatchewan. Instead, attendees were encouraged to "make your message yours" and "let others know your truth."

Part of the parade convoy began its journey from Saskatoon Friday morning, meeting up with others in the group in the parking lot of Arnie's Grill. There, vehicles were adorned with posters and signs, nearly all of them opposing proof of vaccination requirements, the release early last week of the paediatric COVID-19 vaccine for children aged 5-11, and indoor masking mandates.

"Don't risk our children's lives with 'experimental vaccines,'" one sign read, citing the low mortality rate of COVID-19 in children.

"Say no certificate of vaccination. Keep your private medical information," read another.

Once the parade fleet of about six vehicles gathered and finished its preparations, it departed from the Arnie's Grill parking lot and made its way down 2nd Street West, before driving past the Shellbrook Pharmacy on 2nd Avenue West with horns honking and stopping to assemble with others who were already waiting outside the business.

The gathering at the Shellbrook Pharmacy, which is co-owned by Krista Moe, wife of Premier Scott Moe, was part of a separate protest event that had been announced on Facebook and labelled a "Meet and greet Scott Moe and his wife at Shelbrook [sic] Pharmacy."

The event, organized by Nicholas Ewanchuk, who wasn't in attendance on Friday, called for a "peaceful town rally" in front of the pharmacy to "make some peaceful noise and maybe get some important questions answered from her [Krista Moe]."

Ewanchuk said the protestors would then go to the premier's house, where he would play "knock knock."

While Ewanchuk called the planned event "peaceful," language he used in a "Sask. Warriors" Facebook group was anything but. In a post that has since been deleted or made private, Ewanchuk said he was "organizing a citizen's arrest on Premier Scott Moe and his wife." Other posts, meanwhile, called for the installation of a new government.

In response to the rhetoric circulating on social media, the Saskatchewan Health Authority chose to bring in three security officers and post them out front of the Shellbrook Pharmacy. RCMP officers were also on hand.

In the end, the protest remained peaceful, as demonstrators gathered in front of the security line to chat amongst themselves and hold up their signs for passing vehicles. They dispersed quietly once they were finished, concluding the parade by doing a couple laps of Main Street.



A small group of protestors staged a peaceful demonstration outside of the Shellbrook Pharmacy on Friday afternoon, voicing opposition to COVID-19 public health measures.

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SHELL LAKE HOUSING AUTHORITY
Part-Time Opportunity – Housing Manager

The Shell Lake Housing Authority is seeking the services of an independent contracted Housing Manager who will be responsible for the day to day management of 16 senior housing units and 3 family units/houses.

Some duties include:

- Application management, tenant selection, leasing and tenant management.
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- Obtaining quotes for work and administering contracts.
- All general administrative duties.
- Attending Board meetings and training sessions.

The contractor must have excellent communication skills, computer skills. The ideal candidate will have knowledge in general administration and building maintenance.

Direct inquiries or a resume, including references with phone numbers, as soon as possible to:

Donna Strate, Chairperson
Box 154
Shell Lake, SK S0J 2G0
Phone: 306-883-8453
E-mail: rdstrate@sasktel.net

Christmas Hampers

Shellbrook, Parkside, Holbein,
Mont Nebo & Canwood

Those requesting Christmas Food Hampers, pick up an application form from any church, Bigway or Parkside General Store. Complete the form and **make sure the application is sent to:**

Ministerial Association Food Bank
PO Box 97
Holbein, Sask.
S0J 1G0

Post marked by Dec. 12, 2021 (no later)

Hamper pick-up: December 20, 5:30 – 8:30

Phone Dave Bodvarson 306-747-7235
Dave Whalley 306-747-2804

Lakeland Community Church welcomes new pastor

The congregation of Lakeland Community Church in Spiritwood was pleased to welcome the Kluthe family — Michael, Erin, and their five children — as their new pastoral family this fall. Pastor Michael assumed his responsibilities at the beginning of September 2021.

Michael will be graduating with a Master of Divinity from Briercrest Seminary in the Spring of 2022 and is on-track to be ordained in the Free Methodist Church in Canada. Michael, Erin, and their children are “thrilled to be answering God’s call to minister with the people at Lakeland Community Church.”

Pastor Michael comes to the ministry from the backgrounds of construction and film production. He is passionate about studying the Bible, and equally passionate about preaching it. He placed his faith in Jesus as his Lord and Saviour at age twenty-three and for almost twenty years he has sought to know God more, and to share the message of His grace and truth.

Michael is an excellent communicator, both at the pulpit and as a counsellor. The congregation of Lakeland Community Church consider themselves truly blessed to have Michael and his family with them.



New Lakeland Community Church pastor Michael Kluthe and his family.

Sask. extends public health order through Jan. 31, 2022

Saskatchewan is maintaining the status quo with its public health orders through the holiday season and beyond.

With the current public health order set to expire at the end of November, the provincial government chose to heed the advice of the province’s chief medical officer, Dr. Saqib Shahab, and extend the order until Jan. 31, 2022.

The extension of the current order means masks will still be mandatory in all indoor public spaces, including schools. Additionally, proof of vaccination or negative test requirements will still be required for people to gain access to certain establishments, businesses and event venues.

The policy, which was implemented as of Friday, Oct. 1, covers indoor dining at restaurants; nightclubs, bars, taverns, and other licensed establishments; event and entertainment venues, including conference centres, casinos, movie theatres, concert venues, live-music venues, museums, and indoor facilities hosting ticketed sporting events; and indoor fitness centres, and gyms.

Retail businesses, including grocery stores, and places of worship are exempt from the mandate. So, too, are fast food restaurants offering takeout or delivery; healthcare services, professional services, or personal services; hotels or other lodging; facilities hosting non-ticketed amateur sporting events, including youth athletics and recreational leagues; business meetings and places of business closed to the general public, unless otherwise directed

by the business or employer; and private gatherings held at an indoor public residence.

The provincial government notes that municipalities, businesses, workplaces and event organizers may also require proof of vaccination or negative testing beyond those places that are described in the public health order.

Anyone who needs proof of a negative COVID-19 test will have to get their results through a private provider at their own expense.

At-home self-tests won’t be accepted as

proof of a negative test.

The order will be re-examined at the end of January.

Though this holiday season will see masking and proof of vaccination mandates still in place, Premier Scott Moe has already ruled out the possibility of imposing gathering limits for the holiday season.

“We’re in a very different place this Christmas season versus last Christmas,” Moe said at a November COVID-19 briefing, citing the presence of vaccines and restrictions imposed in September — including indoor public

masking and the proof-of-vaccination system — that he said have helped reduce case numbers.

“What we are doing is working collectively across this province but we need to keep doing it a little longer.”

The news of the public health order extension comes as the fourth wave of COVID is waning in Saskatchewan.

Over the past month, active cases have dipped to just under 1,000 from more than 2,800, while hospitalizations have similarly declined to 142 from 293, and ICU admissions have fallen to

38 from 71 (excluding six patients who are receiving care out of province).

The seven-day average of new daily cases has seen a similar drop, falling to 95 from 259.

With the recent procurement of paediatric COVID-19 vaccines for children aged five to 11, the province continues to push vaccination as

the best way for residents to protect themselves against COVID.

The Saskatchewan Health Authority is holding vaccination clinics throughout the province with vaccinations now available for children five to 11 years of age.

Clinic locations and times are listed on the SHA website.




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Get those Christmas lights up!

Register your light display & decor by **Wednesday, December 8th** by call/text: 306-747-7085 or shellbrook_kinettes@hotmail.com

Come Tour the Town with us **December 11th**

Meet on Elevator Rd @ 5:15pm (line up by sports grounds & follow Santa) | **Tour starts @ 5:30pm**

Voting **December 12th & 13th** by text or email

– Choose your top 3 favourite displays!

Food bank donations will be collected along the tour. Have your bright coloured garbage bags out that night, so we can grab them. To donate ahead of time, contact one of your local Kinettes or find a collection gift box around town.

We will be bringing a little cheer to our long term care residence, and a drive by thank you to our essential workers.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Rural Municipality of Big River No. 555 invites applications from qualified individuals for the position of **Foreman**.

Applications stating previous experience, expected salary and references will be received at the municipal office by mail, fax or email. The qualified candidate will possess: computer skills, effective communication skills, experience in supervision, strong organizational skills, exemplary skills operating heavy equipment, mechanical aptitude, possess a valid driver’s license, be able to lift 50 lbs. and have extensive working knowledge of all aspects of the repair and maintenance of the transportation network in a rural municipality. The qualified candidate must have a willingness to work with council and follow directions as initiated by council or the administrator and be prepared to work evenings and weekends when necessary. The municipality offers a comprehensive benefits package, pension plan and competitive wages.

Further information may be obtained by phoning the municipal office at 306-469-2323. **Applications close December 10, 2021 at 4 p.m.** Please forward resumes to:

Rural Municipality of Big River No. 555
Box 219
Big River, SK S0J 0E0
Fax: 306-469-2428
Email: rm555@rmofbigriver.ca

Justice and equality for some, but not yet for all

Famed novelist and social commentator George Orwell wrote in his classic work, *Animal Farm*, that “All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others.”

The line was a critique of governments and their tendency to confer power and privileges on the elite few, even in supposedly egalitarian societies. However, it could just as easily apply to society at large.

In an age when we seem more acutely aware of societal inequities and injustices, and more willing than ever to fight against them, equality and justice still feel so far away – especially where our neighbours to the south are concerned.

These past few weeks have been a litmus test for justice and equality. And we're not doing so hot.

First, in New York state, 20-year-old Christopher Belter



JORDAN
TWISS
~
News Editor

avoided a prison sentence after admitting to raping and sexually assaulting at least four teen girls while he was himself a teenager.

In sentencing Mr. Belter to eight years of probation, the presiding judge said he “prayed on it” and found prison time to be “inappropriate” in the case.

The ruling came after Mr. Belter had initially been sentenced to just two years of probation, and very swiftly violated the terms of that sentence.

One wonders, did the judge in this case pray for the victims who will have to live forever with the trauma inflicted upon them?

The very next day, Kyle Rittenhouse was acquitted on all counts for killing two men and wounding another at the 2020 anti-police brutality protests in Kenosha, WI.

The verdict was the correct one, according to the letter of the law,

and the failure of the case rests squarely on the shoulders of an overambitious prosecution.

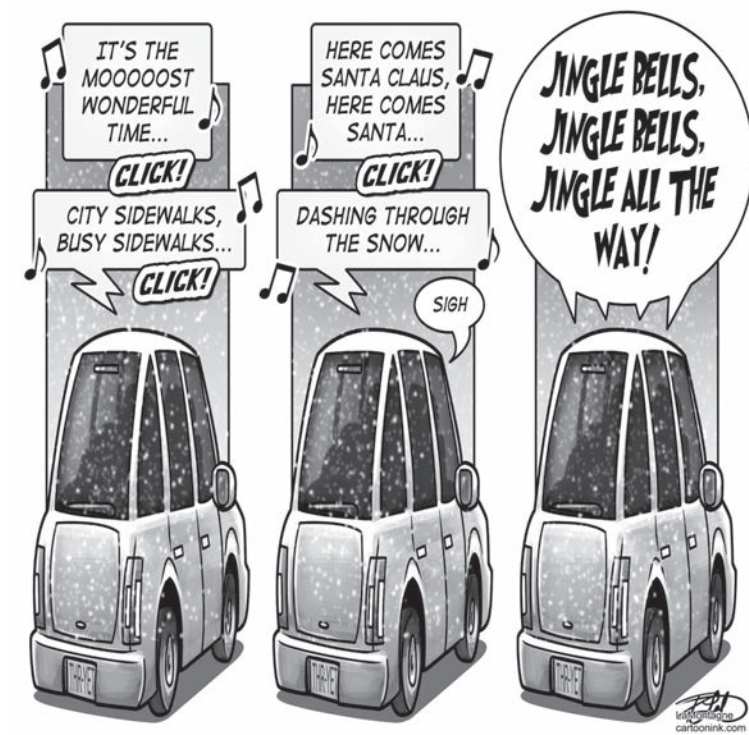
Yet, even if the outcome was just, it hardly feels like justice. The injustice feels even more egregious, when one sees how Mr. Rittenhouse is being celebrated and lauded as an American hero.

Fortunately, the cosmic scales tipped back towards balance last week with the guilty verdicts handed down to the three men responsible for the murder of Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia in February 2020.

Mr. Arbery, a black man, was chased by the three men, all white, and eventually shot while jogging through their neighbourhood.

His killers tried, and failed, to claim they were making a citizen's arrest, believing he had committed a robbery. The frightening part is that if one district attorney's viewpoint had prevailed, no charges would have been laid.

Lest we think we occupy the moral high ground in Canada, consider the case of a B.C. woman



whose alleged rape in 2019 was dismissed and deemed “unworthy” of one Kelowna RCMP officer's time. Two years later, the RCMP has finally apologized for the mishandling of her complaint and re-opened the case (along with a number of similar cases the detachment deemed to be “unfounded”).

Consider, too, how swiftly we seem to have moved on from the

discoveries made at the sites of former Residential Schools over the summer – and how quick some of us still are to dismiss and excuse the legacy of these racist institutions.

The late Martin Luther King Jr. once said, “The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.”

Too many years later, too many are still waiting for the bend.

Op-ed: Violence is OK for the left

By Warren Steinley
MP, Regina-Lewvan

Climate hypocrite and perpetual mass emitter David Suzuki is up to his old tricks. Emerging from the shadows of irrelevance from one of his many houses after jet setting from junket to junket, Suzuki has the audacity to threaten the livelihoods of tens of thousands of Canadians and the infrastructure that provides energy security for our country. A security that nations across the globe envy.

Hinting at forthcoming instances of domestic terrorism should industry not change course, Canadian's from across our country should be calling these asinine comments for what they are; dangerous and illegal. For some reason the media believes that threats from left wing radical activists are less of a crime than utilizing our abundance of natural resources, and don't come with repercussions.

This recent example of environmental extremism begs the question. Why does the death of a welder on a pipeline mean less? Why is the permanent disability of a backhoe operator performing maintenance on a pipeline easement less important? Imagine one of Suzuki's acolytes follows through on his threats and a working-class operator isn't able to walk his daughter down the aisle because of it. Is that the price that the left is willing to pay in order to satisfy their climate objectives?

Violence and the threat of violence should never be tolerated in public discourse, but for some reason it seems the mainstream media looks the other way for their favoured sons and daughters. What can't be ignored is the deafening silence from climate activists and federal leaders, who have failed to even comment on the threat, let alone unequivocally condemn it.

These comments by Suzuki are a stark

example of the shifting goal posts for those deemed by the national media to be “well intentioned”. Apparently threatening domestic terrorism to achieve a desired policy aim is an acceptable course of action so long as it saves a seal or prevents a drop of oil from hitting the ground. I would venture to guess that being a draw in various capacities for CBC radio and TV since 1975 has its benefits when it comes to the coverage of inflammatory comments you make - as the host of “The Nature of Things” is currently enjoying. This hypocrisy is bad for public discourse and bad for Canadian politics.

Worse still is the implication that further development of pipeline projects is automatically and unequivocally against the interests of the environment. This misconception that continues to be spread with comments like Suzuki's is misleading at best and was eloquently summarized in a tweet by Indigenous B.C. MLA for Skeena,

Ellis Ross, in reply to a Leonardo DiCaprio comment condemning a gas pipeline development. “You have no idea what you're talking about. Give me a call. I'll tell you the other side of the story as an aboriginal leader who was on the front of this project from day one”. According to Leo, pipeline bad, no pipeline good, in any and all scenarios.

These types of comments are unfortunately becoming more common and will continue to be made more frequently by a radical left that is emboldened by the leniency afforded to them by the media for their aforementioned good intentions. With tensions continuing to rise around environmental issues, largely brought about by the federal government's dismissiveness towards our natural resource sector, I pray that a “well intentioned” climate freedom fighter doesn't decide that David Suzuki has an excellent point and choose to put a stop to a pipeline themselves.

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



Shellbrook students become published poets

Two students from Shellbrook Elementary School can add published poet to their report cards.

Grade 4 student Caleb Philp and Grade 5 student Elayna Thiel have both been named prize winners in Polar Expressions Publishing's 2020-2021 National Student Poetry Contest.

Competing against entries from across Canada, Philp's poem, titled *Seasons*, was awarded second prize in the contest, earning him \$40 and a certificate. Philp also received a copy of the book *I'm Giant!*, in which his poem appears alongside the works of other top entrants.

Shellbrook Elementary School was presented with a matching prize.

In similar cross-Canada competition, Thiel's poem, titled *Farms*, scored a third prize finish at the Grade 5 level. For her third-place entry, Thiel was awarded \$25, a certificate, and a copy of the book, *Fate and Fortune*, which contains her poem and the works of her fellow entrants.

Once again, Shellbrook Elementary School received a matching prize.

Philp and Thiel were the only Saskatchewan students to place in the contest.

Headquartered in Maple Creek, B.C., Polar Expressions Publishing is a "small Canadian publisher dedicated to the task of creating books showcasing the very best poems and short stories written by Canadians of varying backgrounds, ages, and occupations."

YOUR TWO CENTS

Moe's climate policy rants are not what people want

Dear Editor,

I was glad to see your editorial in the November 25 issue of the paper, in which you took Premier Moe to task for his failure to take action on climate change. As you suggest, it is time for the Saskatchewan government to stop its rant against federal climate policies and start to work on solutions that will protect us from further climate crises. If droughts, floods, and wildfires don't waken him to the climate emergency, what will?

Saskatchewan has some of the highest per capita greenhouse gas emissions in the world. Not only has the

Moe government failed to seriously reduce GHG emissions, it is actively promoting an expansion of oil production from 500,000 barrels/day (pre-pandemic) to 600,000 barrels/day by 2030. Meanwhile, climate science tells us that we need to switch to a low-carbon economy. We need to reduce our production and consumption of fossil fuels in order to prevent catastrophic climate change.

Saskatchewan people are concerned about climate change. We want to see real action and cooperation between the federal and provincial governments. It's time to plan for a just transition away from fossil fuels – a plan that will offer jobs and new opportunities for individuals and communities affected by the changes that are coming.

Let's start to build a healthy future.

Kay Willson,
Spiritwood, Sask.

Premier keeps playing pretend

Dear editor,

Our premier likes to "Pretend". So, let's pretend our premier, health minister, and education minister are not here in Saskatchewan but are administering British Columbia and are discussing matters:

We want our children to have a normal life, so we will pretend there is no flooding.

Okay sir, but some parents think it is flooding and have given their family life jackets to wear, and others refuse to have life jackets.

No matter. It would be "normal" if they were all playing together in the school yard so make it so.

Sir, the maintenance man says there is nine feet of water in the school yard.

Doesn't matter, it would be normal for them all to be there.

The phys-ed teacher says can he just send out the kids who have life jackets on?


No, they must all play together like "normal".

I ask, is it a better idea to tell children to behave as you pretend things are or to behave according to how things really are? Soon, we will have a generation that decides it's okay to pretend there are no stop signs or pretend there is no law against driving while drinking.

During the first year of life children believe only what they can see at any given time is what exists. When they can't see it, it no longer exists. This is why they get so alarmed when mommy leaves the room and are so happy when she returns.

Our present provincial leaders can't see a COVID virus so think it doesn't exist and life is "normal". I can only surmise that their brains are functioning at the pre-age-two level. Perhaps it is a clever political strategy aimed at a pre-two-year-old voter base.

Jim Jensen,
Mont Nebo, Sask.



Summary of Candidate Election Expenses

Saskatchewan's 29th General Election was held on October 26, 2020. In compliance with *The Election Act, 1996, Sections 261 and 262*, all candidate election expense returns must be made available for public viewing and a summary of the returns published.

Candidate election expense returns contain details on receipts (for contributions, donations of goods and services, proceeds from fundraising events, etc.) as well as expenses incurred (including candidate personal and campaign expenses, hire of premises, advertising, services, goods supplied and travel). Complete returns and a summary of those returns can be found on the Elections Saskatchewan website at www.elections.sk.ca/2020candidateexpenses.

Elections Saskatchewan is the province's nonpartisan election management body and an independent office of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan. Elections Saskatchewan directs and supervises the administration of provincial electoral events, including Saskatchewan's next general election scheduled, by legislation, for October 28, 2024. Information for voters, workers, media, candidates, and parties at www.elections.sk.ca.

elections.sk.ca

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COMMUNITY CHURCH

"Jesus is the gift that perfectly fits the size of every heart."

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— Pastor Michael Kluthe

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Children and Youth Classes ~ Video Sessions for adults (no classes December 12 – January 2)

Sunday Morning Worship Services weekly – 11 a.m.
Seniors' Coffee Time every 1st & 3rd Tuesday – 10 a.m.

Celebrate Christmas with us!
Children's Christmas Pageant – December 12, 11 a.m.
Christmas Eve Service – December 24, 4 p.m.

Lakeland Community Church
420 1st Ave. East, Spiritwood, SK
306-883-2380
office@lakelandcommunitychurch.net
www.lakelandcommunitychurch.net

Lakeland Community Church is part of the Free Methodist Church in Canada. We believe in the Holy Trinity, the Incarnation of the Son of God, and the authority of the Holy Scriptures. We endeavour to make Jesus Christ primary and central in our lives and worship, and to proclaim the truth of who He is and why He came, as revealed to us in God's holy Word.

Medstead Mustangs fall short of volleyball bronze

The Medstead Mustangs boy's volleyball team travelled to Fox Valley and Maple Creek over the weekend, where they competed in 1A Provincials action against nine other competitors. Joining the Mustangs at Provincials were teams from Rouleau, Lafleche, Annaheim, Vanguard, Yellow Grass, Muenster, Fox Valley, Ogema and Beechy. The teams were separated into two pools, and the tournament opened with round robin matches. Opening its tournament against the squad from Muenster, the Mustangs fought hard to a first set loss of 25-22, before rallying to take the second set 25-19. This forced a third and deciding set, which Muenster won with a score of 15-8. After an hour of rest, the Mustangs returned to action against Ogema, cruising to a narrow 25-21 victory in the opening set. The team was more dominant in the second set, topping Ogema 25-16 to take the match. Capping off a busy opening day, Medstead found itself against a tough opponent in Fox Valley. The Mustangs were unable to find their footing throughout the match, losing in two sets with scores of 25-13 and 25-10.

On day two of Provincials, the Mustangs finished their round robin run against Beechy. The team opened strong, winning a hotly contested set with a score of 26-24. Beechy rallied in the second set, winning 25-18, then claimed victory in the third and deciding set with a score of 15-9. With a 1-3 record through the round robins, the Mustangs advanced to the playoff brackets against Lafleche. The Mustangs easily took the first set by a score of 25-12, before dropping set two 25-20. They pulled out the victory, 15-7, in the final set

to advance to the next round. In a rematch against Muenster, the Mustangs came close in the first set, losing 25-23, before dropping the second set by a score of 25-15 to be relegated to the bronze medal match. Facing off against Annaheim, the Mustangs just didn't have enough left in the tank. Annaheim was able to claim the bronze medal over two sets, with scores of 25-18 and 25-21. Meanwhile, Muenster went on to win 1A Provincials gold, topping Rouleau in a back-and-forth match that took three sets to decide. Muenster dropped the first set 25-15, before rallying and claiming sets two and three with scores of 25-22 and 15-10, respectively.

Meota Combines motor past Spiritwood Timberwolves

The Spiritwood Timberwolves hosted their second home game of the season on Nov. 27 against the Meota Combines. In contrast to their previous game with the Perdue Pirates, where they were able to trample their opponent, the undefeated and league-leading Combines were certainly more challenging for them. With that in mind, the Combines were able to meet the odds, dominating the game to deliver an 8-3 defeat to the home team. During Saturday evening's match-up with Meota, Jeff Caffet and Colton Poulin provided the main offensive highlights for Spiritwood, each scoring a goal and a helper apiece. Either Dalton Bill or Aiden Nielson-Clark scored the Timberwolves third goal (there was an assist marked as a goal on the score sheet) while Colin Buban tallied an as-

sist. On the Meota Combines' scorecard, Justin Waskewitch scored a triple-triple, with three goals and three assists. Elsewhere, Calvin Koczka scored two goals, while Riley Albert scored a goal and three assists. Gavin Nolin was able to net a goal and a helper, with Myles Baptiste scoring a goal. In the assists column, Jayden Nachtgaele and Tyler Gamble both attained two, while Ty Anderson and Michael Pylypow each recorded one apiece. It might have been a woeful game for the Timberwolves but, nevertheless, the team is hoping to come out and put on a better performance in the next game. The next scheduled match will be a home game this coming Friday, Dec. 3, against the Turtleford Tigers.



Meota Combines netminder Zach Noble looks on while his team puts serious power play pressure on the Spiritwood Timberwolves.

Shellbrook Chronicle
Spiritwood Herald

Office will be closed from
December 23/21
@ Noon
to
December 31/21

Regular office hours
will resume on
January 3, 2022.

Advertising
Deadline
is
Friday, Dec. 17/21
for December 23rd &
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New Policing Team to Fight Illegal Weapons and Human Trafficking

The new Saskatchewan Trafficking Response Team (STRT) is a specialized intelligence-led enforcement team dedicated to addressing illegal weapons, drugs and human trafficking often tied to the evolution of organized street gangs.

For more information visit saskatchewan.ca/news



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

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

Fertilizer shortage forces farmers to gamble

One thing about farming as a career is you will need to be adaptable to change, for change is the one constant of the agriculture sector.

The weather can change in a matter of hours, and a big change need not happen outside the front door to have a significant impact.

A major weather event in any of the grain growing regions with significant export sales can ripple throughout the market.

Stock market jumps and declines, war and

skirmishes, anything that hits the energy sector, the ups and downs of Canadian currency and various governmental issues on the international stage, can all change things on the farm rather dramatically.

At present, farmers have to be keeping a rather close eye on the nitrogen fertilizer market.

There is a global shortage of nitrogen fertilizer. And anytime there is a shortage, prices climb, — in this case to record levels, which will certainly

limit the impact of high grains and oilseed prices, given lower yields this fall due to drought conditions.

The high fertilizer prices have to be a real



CALVIN DANIELS

head scratcher for farmers coming out of a dry year, and while prices have been high, those high prices always come down.

The fall rains and early snow hint at better moisture conditions, but it's a long way until seeding and the impacts of much-talked about climate change, whether cyclical or long-term, are an unknown.

Prices are always a bit of a wild card, too, and in some cases production is already allocated to cover 2021 contracts,

so what the returns in 2022 might be is perhaps harder to determine than most years.

So how great a risk do farmers wish to take in terms of spending on fertilizer?

Do you invest in the usual fertilizer quantities which will mean added costs, in order to maximize production if the moisture comes?

Or do you trim back inputs to lower costs with uncertain moisture conditions ahead?

And, of course there is the potential for current

pressure on nitrogen fertilizer to tighten even more by spring, pushing prices even higher.

The uncertainty surrounding fertilizer is major, since it is a primary element in production. Given production pressures at the farm level this past fall, you know farmers would like to make sure they have the foundation for top yields in 2022 to make up some of the shortfall, and to grab some prices which may decline but will likely still be better than usual.

APAS releases first results of grain contracts survey

The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS) has released preliminary results from its producer survey on their experiences with grain contracts in 2021.

About 75 per cent of respondents were unable to fulfill their grain contracts because of the drought that covered significant areas of the province. The survey also found producers unable to fulfill their contract this fall due to historically low yields are paying penalties and administrative fees between \$20,000 and \$300,000 to grain companies. Many of the respondents also said the interest on their unpaid contracts was as high as 19 per cent.

About 25 per cent of respondents also said they had trouble contacting the grain buyers resolving issues arising from production shortfalls, and many of the respondents said they will not be working with the same grain company in the future or will not be signing a contract again. Some respondents included that they are facing bankruptcy due to drought and contract shortfalls.

After hearing repeated concerns from producers throughout the summer about the stress and financial burdens of not fulfilling their grain contracts, APAS released a survey for Saskatchewan producers to explain

their experience dealing with grain companies.

"When mother nature has already given producers a tough year, contract provision made production problems even more serious," APAS President Todd Lewis said.

"We developed this survey to get more information about producers' individual experiences with the grain companies, so we can develop ideas around improving provisions in future contracts. It's in the mutual interest of both producers and grain companies to develop a more workable system."

The survey collected results from Aug. 26 to Dec. 1, and more than 200 Saskatchewan

producers completed the survey. The survey is still open for Saskatchewan producers at apas.ca/graincontracts.

APAS also wants to advise Saskatchewan producers to

seek legal advice if needed and if anyone is experiencing significant stress, to reach out to the Farm Stress Line at 1-800-667-4442 or help@farmstressline.ca.

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Shellbrook Legion hands out 2021 contest awards

A trio from the Shellbrook Legion stopped by Shellbrook Elementary School, WP Sandin High School, and Wild Rose School on Monday morning to hand out the branch prizes in the 2021 Remembrance Day Poster and Literary Contest.

Awards for these Remembrance Day submissions are given out across four age groups: primary for students from Kindergarten to Grade 3, junior for students from Grade 4 to Grade 6, intermediate for students from Grade 7 to Grade 9, and senior for students from Grade 10 to Grade 12.

The entries are also part of a broader Canada-wide competition. Winners at the branch level move on to a larger zone contest, and, if successful, have the opportunity to go all the way to the national level.

Beginning with the primary category, Camerin Smart topped the entries in the colour poster contest, with Drayden Niechziol in second, and Hannah Nordin in third.

In the black and white poster contest, Avery Wallin earned top prize, followed by Kenislee Nahorniak and Jack Robin in second and third, respectively.

At the junior level, Nguyen Phan won the colour poster contest, with Julia Shindle finishing second and Adyson Wallin finishing third. On the black and white side, Bella Ledding had the top entry, with Myla Henry and Tyler Van Hereweghe finishing just behind her.

Looking at the intermediate contests, Reese Galloway surprised no one with her first place finish in the colour poster contest. Emerson Nahorniak finished second, with Hayley Van Hereweghe in third.

For black and white posters, Kyleigh Schmalz was the top prize winner, followed by Marcail Philp, and Abigail Borden from Wild Rose School.

On the literary side, Marcail Philp topped the field in both the poem and essay contests. Payten Keyowski's

poem finished in second, while Mackenna Davis from Wild Rose School finished in third, and also scored a second-place finish in the essay contest.

At the senior level, Sophia Kolodychuk was the colour poster winner, with Tegan Naumann finishing second and Mason Falcon coming in third. For black and white posters, Alexis Wood

won the top prize, with Grace Kolodychuk and Amy Larsen finishing in second and third place, respectively.

In the senior poem contest, Abigail Kyliuk finished first, followed by Abby Ledding and Ben Lafond. On the essay side, Storm Rudolph was the winner, with Jade Keyowski finishing in second, and Ben Lafond in third place.



Wild Rose School student Abigail Borden accepts her Remembrance Day Contest prize from the Shellbrook Legion's Helen Dagenais, Brett Ethier, and Henri Dagenais.



Wild Rose School student Mackenna Davis accepts her Remembrance Day Contest prize from the Shellbrook Legion's Helen Dagenais, Brett Ethier, and Henri Dagenais.



Students from WP Sandin High School accept prizes for the 2021 Remembrance Day Poster and Literary Contest from Shellbrook Legion members Henri Dagenais, Brett Ethier, and Helen Dagenais.



Remembrance Day Contest winners, back row l. to r: Jack Robin, Julia Shindle, Myla Henry, Gwyn Phan, Kenislee Nahorniak, Avery Wallin, Tyler Van Hereweghe, and Adyson Wallin. Front: Drayden Niechziol, Hannah Nordin, and Camerin Smart. Missing: Bella Ledding.

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CATHOLIC SUNDAY

Spiritwood - 11:15 a.m. Leoville - 9:30 a.m. Shell Lake - 2:00 p.m. Chitek Lake - Closed for the Season

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Worship - 11:00 am

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Sun., 11 am - Worship Service & Sunday School Pastor Michael Kluthe 306-883-2380

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Spiritwood

Every Wednesday Night 7 pm Spiritwood Legion Hall Pastor Rick Martin

Silvertips split weekend home games

The Shellbrook Silvertips were busy on home ice this weekend, hosting the Dalmeny Sabres on Friday night and the Allan Flames on Sunday evening in re-matches from the previous weekend.

Where the Tips escaped its road games against both teams with wins last weekend, they weren't so lucky this time around. The team fell 9-8 in overtime to the Sabres and secured an 11-3 win over the Flames.

Tips (8) vs Sabres (9) OT

The Dalmeny Sabres were sharp out of the gate, but the Tips were able to match them and get the better of the early offensive opportunities. When the Tips took a penalty around the midway point of the opening frame, the Sabres were able to apply pressure and wear down the Tips defence to draw first blood. Chance Adrian scored the game opener, with assists from Craig Leverton and Terrin Belosowsky.

Though the Tips continued to generate more offensive opportunities, the Sabres were able to grow their lead to two on a rush that was almost broken up but instead ended with a weak shot squeaking through the pads of netminder Todd Bazley. The Sabres' extended their lead shortly after, scoring on a tricky wrist shot on an offensive rush.

With time ticking down, the Tips finally cashed in on their many scoring opportunities, when Daryl Blais scooped up a rebound on a late power play. Jody Blais and Cody Belair assisted on the goal.

Picking up where he left off in the second frame, Daryl Blais scored his second of the evening with a sniper shot off a harmless looking opening rush. Belair earned the lone assist on the goal. Blais followed up a few minutes later, earning a hat trick on a beautiful setup from Dylan Smith to knot the game at 3-3.

Continuing a theme of getting into penalty trouble, the Tips surrendered their second power play goal of the night a few minutes later to fall behind again, only to pull even with a late power play goal of their own to send the action to the third period. Gage Helm netted the goal, with assists from Brendon Canaday and Smith.

With the lion's share of a five-minute power play to start the third stanza, the Sabres made the most of their opportunities by scoring two more goals, one on a textbook deflection in front of the goal, and the other on a perfectly placed wrist shot.

The Tips clawed their way back into the game on the penalty kill, when Smith stole the puck from the Dalmeny netminder's pads and tapped it home.

Nathaniel Martin and Helm assisted on the play.

The Sabres were able to strike right back, with a perfect setup in front of the Tips goal, then extend their lead to three on yet another power play marker with a screened floater from the point.

Finding themselves shorthanded yet again, the Tips pulled within two on another shorthanded goal by Smith. Justin Kerr and Helm assisted on the play.

The Tips continued to apply the pressure late in the frame, with Jody Blais scoring on a beautiful redirect in front of the Dalmeny goal. Evan Williams and Belair assisted on the play. With their netminder pulled, the Tips netted the game-tying goal with 33 seconds left on the clock to force overtime.

Smith netted the goal, his hat trick marker, with assists from Kerr and Jody Blais.

In a short overtime period, the Tips came out of the gate firing on all cylinders and getting the best of the initial opportunities as they had through much of the match.

In the end, the Sabres were able to swing the momentum in their favour, outplaying the Tips in their defensive end and tapping home the game winner. Craig Leverton netted the goal, with an assist from Rogan Petryshyn.

Tips (11) vs Flames (3)

After Friday night's overtime heart-breaker, the Silvertips showed no signs of being discouraged when they hosted the Allan Flames on Sunday evening.

The Tips scored early and often in the opening frame, taking a commanding 6-0 lead over the Flames after 20 minutes of play.

Dylan Smith opened the scoring on what would go on to be a first period hat trick and a four-goal performance. Austin Lamotte and Gage Helm earned assists on the game-opener.

Austin Lamotte followed up less than a minute later, with assists from Helm and Smith, then Daryl Blais found the back of the net on the penalty kill. Jody Blais and Brendon Canaday earned helpers on the goal.

Late in the frame, Smith struck again, this time with help from Helm and Canaday, and Daryl Blais scored his second of the night on helpers from Jody Blais and Justin Kerr. Smith rounded out the period's score sheet with his hat trick goal, with assists from Mathew Kutnikoff and Austin Lamotte.

After a first-period thrashing, the Flames found a spark early in the second period and managed to tally twice. Brodie Senger scored first, with an assist from Cody Brossart, and Jaden Schew-

chuk struck a few minutes later on helpers from Landon Volk and Devon Geib.

The Tips nipped any hopes of a comeback in the bud, scoring two goals of their own in retaliation. Nathaniel Martin struck first, with assists from Dorin and Brendon Canaday, and Smith followed up with a unassisted goal to send the action to the third stanza.

Even with an 8-2 lead, the Tips didn't let up in the final period. Evan Williams scored early, on assists from Dorin Canaday and Braidon Turner, and Jody Blais struck pay dirt less than two minutes later on assists from Daryl Blais

and Kerr.

The trio would combine for another goal past the midway point of the period to push the score to 11-2, but with less than a minute left on the clock, the Flames scored one last goal. Brady Scheu netted the marker, with a solo assist from Brossart.

With the overtime loss and the win, the Tips now sit at 4-1-0-1 on the season, good enough for third place in the Twin Rivers Hockey League standings.

This weekend, the team hits the road to play the Clavet Cougars on Saturday, Dec. 4 at 8:30 p.m.

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 1 pm - 5 pm. Kids Club is Fridays 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm, Crafter's Choice is the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.
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 & AREA: Christmas Hampers (Shellbrook, Parkside Holbein, Mont Nebo & Canwood) Those requesting Christmas Food Hampers, pick up an application form from any church, Bigway or Parkside General Store. Complete the form and *make sure* the application is sent to: Ministerial Association Food Bank, PO Box 97, Holbein, Sask., S0J 1G0, post marked by Dec. 12, 2021 (no later). Hamper pick-up: December 20, 5:30 - 8:30. Phone Dave Bodvarson 306-747-7235 or Dave Whalley 306-747-2804.
PARKSIDE: The birth of Christ Nativity Parade. Saturday, December 11, 2021 - 7pm, Parkside. For more information find us on Facebook, phone (306)714-0150 or email parksideparade@gmail.com

BLAINE LAKE: Homemade Goodness, Crafts & Trade Show - December 4th, 2021, 10am - 3pm, Blaine Lake Skating Rink. Chili & a Bun Lunch To-Go. Gift Baskets, Baking, Art, Honey, Wood Signs, Macrame, Crochet, Jewelry, Ornaments, Suncatchers, Chimes, Tupperware, Norwex, Pampered Chef, Tumblers, Skin Care and much more! Pictures with Santa - 10:30 to 12:30. Hosted by the Blaine Lake Community Association
MARCELIN: Marcelin M tis Local #113 - Annual General Meeting. Saturday, December 11, 2021 - 10 am, Marcelin Senior's Hall, Marcelin, SK. All Marcelin M tis Local members and local M tis citizens are invited to attend. For more information, please check out the Marcelin M tis Local #113 Facebook page
SHELLBROOK: The Shellbrook Kinettes welcome you back to The Annual COOKIE WALK. Saturday, December 11 - Christmas cookies & treats 10am - 2pm or until goodies are gone! Royal Canadian Legion Hall Branch 111, 102 2 Ave E, Shellbrook. Photos with Santa from 11am - 1pm - please bring a non-perishable food item & take your own pictures with Santa!
SHELLBROOK: Brought to you by the Shellbrook Kinettes - The second annual *Twinkle Tour & Hamper Haul* - Get those Christmas lights up! Register your light display & decor entries by Wed., Dec. 8th by call/text 306-747-7085 or shellbrook_kinettes@hotmail.com. Come Tour the Town with us December 11th! Meet on Elevator Rd @ 5:15pm (line up by sports grounds & follow Santa) | Tour starts @ 5:30pm. Voting December 12th & 13th by text or email - Choose your top 3 favourite displays! Food bank donations will be collected along the tour. Have your bright coloured garbage bags out that night, so we can grab them. To donate ahead of time, contact one of your local Kinettes or find a collection gift box around town. We will be bringing a little cheer to our long term care residence, and a drive by thank you to our essential workers.

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A scoring opportunity for Gage Helm just misses the top corner, during Friday night action against the Dalmeny Sabres.

Bringing the spirit of Christmas to PIHC elders

The holiday season is upon us once again, and there are many ways to make a difference in the life of an elder.

For instance, you can join in the spirit of the season by being a Secret Santa just like Hudson. It's easy. Just stop by Woodland Pharmacy and pick up one of the 34 cards with gift ideas on them. Then, purchase a gift (local or otherwise), wrap it, and attach the secret labelled card, then drop it off at Woodland Pharmacy by 1 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 10.

Another way to give to elders this Christmas (or throughout the year) is to team up with family members or a group of people to sponsor a special meal ordered in for residents once a month.

Or you can help bring the Kinettes' Twinkle Tour to PIHC by signing up, like the Shellbrook and District Chamber of Commerce, the BID, MJW Chartered Professional Accountant, and local sports groups did, to set up outdoor

Christmas lights and scenes before the tour on Saturday, Dec. 11.

Numerous locations have been identified to provide visual delight to patients, residents, and people working or visiting the Health Centre. Display examples include, but are not limited to, seasonal welcome arrangements, wreaths and hangers, nativity scenes, lit up words of encouragement (hope, joy, and peace), snowmen, lit up cross/deer/Santa and Christmas lights on trees or fence to name a few.

There are several outdoor plugs available. Please note, due to power surges and wind, blow up displays are discouraged. Interested family members, businesses, groups, and individuals can work together to sponsor and set up. Contact Trina Chamberlain, recreation coordinator, PIHC at 306-747-6841 for more information.

While these are examples of how you can bring the holiday spirit to PIHC's elders, some have already gotten into the giving spirit.

Pre-pandemic, the Kinettes and elders looked forward to paint nights with thanks from Saskatchewan Lotteries grants. Although the Kinettes are not able to join the elders in person they are still supporting the arts

as they recently donated seasonal supplies for elders' creative enjoyment.

Kinette Amber Larson spearheaded the initiative. This is the second time Larson has delivered art supplies for the elders.



Hudson is one of this year's youngest secret Santas.



Leona Willoughby accepts arts supplies from Shellbrook Kinettes member, Amber Larson.

Van Eaton shares tales at Canwood Library

Submitted by Gerda Bruner

On Thursday, Nov. 25 at 2 p.m., Canwood's Wapiti Library Branch welcomed Jim Van Eaton, and Marjorie and Kim Bradley for a book reading of *Tales and Memories of the Past*, Jim's stories of his family's history, his own history, and the history of surround-

ing communities. Marjorie scribed Jim's stories through weekly Face Time discussions during this pandemic time.

As Jim and Marjorie discussed the designing of the book's cover, featuring the background of a map of Saskatchewan with historical pictures featured on the front and back, Kim manned

the projector. Jim talked about choosing the large print format and coil binding to make it easier to read for people with vision challenges.

Former farm neighbours and other attendees could totally relate to the pictures of huge woodpiles, melting snow for washing clothes, baths, and daily clean-

ing, plus pictures of early washing machines. Some pictures revealed the inventiveness of farmers, such as driving the tractor from the seat of the binder that it was pulling.

With Jim's pictures, we quickly recalled hand cranking the cream separator and then having to carefully clean the many pieces after each use, following milking morning and night. Jim shared a picture of their Cessna Cardinal 177 and spoke of his and wife, Inez's, memorable flights.

Jim brought a smile to our faces when he spoke of his days doing photography in his farm home studio. One day, he had just taken wedding pictures for a newly married

couple and the other involved group members. Because celebrations were going to happen at the couple's home, everyone, including the bride's family from the United States, hurriedly got into their vehicles and left the studio... everyone except the bride.

She was changing out of her wedding gown into more comfortable attire in preparation for celebrations. When she came out of the dressing room, luckily Jim was still in the area. He drove the abandoned bride to her new home in a town nearby. He asked her to remain in his vehicle while he went to her new husband and asked him, "Where's your wife?"

Through socializing and celebrating, with new relatives and friends, they hadn't realized the bride's absence. With no cellphones in the mid seventies, what would the bride have done out in the country if Jim had left the yard, too? Most of us at the presentation have treasured, precious photos taken by Jim Van Eaton at his home photo studio through the years.

Book signings and purchases, as well as coffee, juice, dainties, and visiting, concluded our enjoyable gathering.

Proceeds from Jim's book sales are generously donated to The Parkland Integrated Health Centre to help pay for bus out-ings for residents.

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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

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 Service - 9 a.m.
St. Andrew's - Shellbrook
Sunday, 11 a.m. Service
Canwood - Christ Church
Sunday, 2 p.m. - Service
Rev. Wendell Brock
306-460-7696
H.C. Service with Rev.
Brock - 1st Sunday of the
month

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Blaine Lake
306-497-3316
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Sunday, 10:30 a.m.
Worship

EVANGELICAL FREE
Big River
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Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.
Summer: 10:30 a.m. - 12
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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.
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Mass - Sunday - 11 a.m.
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Ducks, 'Canes early surprises in NHL

The National Hockey League may be getting lost in the shuffle of Canada's men's national soccer team (more on that squad in January as they continue their run toward the 2022 World Cup), but the shinny game is still No. 1 in our country and the NHL season is already 20 per cent complete, so here's a few observations from the virtual press box:

Why is Dallas Eakins in the running for NHL coach of the year? "Who is Dallas Eakins?" might be your first thought, but people in Anaheim, Cal., certainly know who he is. Eakins has guided the Ducks to the upper echelon of the Pacific Division after the team finished dead last in 2020-21, and the 'worst to first' scenario should be enough to garner some coach-of-the-year votes. Flames' fans might not be aware that their former coach, Geoff Ward, is Eakins' assistant.

If you've been paying

only casual attention to the NHL, you might be shocked to learn that the best two teams east of the Mississippi this season are the Carolina Hurricanes and the Florida Panthers. Guided by Rod Brind'Amour, the Hurricanes won 14 of their first 16 games while Florida, which endured the resignation of coach Joel Quenneville after seven games in the fallout from the Kyle Beach sex scandal, went 13-2-3 in their first 18 games.

Calgary Flames will be a Cup contender because coach Darryl Sutter has his focus on defence paying dividends. The Flames posted six shutouts in their first 17 games, five of them by Jacob Markstrom, and were giving up around two goals a game, the best record in the league.

COVID-19 is still a 'thing' in the NHL. Even though cross-border travel and full stadiums are back in vogue, the pandemic is still serious.



BRUCE
PENTON

The Ottawa Senators had three of their games postponed in mid-November, when the virus swept through their locker room.

The Seattle Kraken are acting like a true expansion team, winning only four of their first 17 games. Vegas Golden Knights set an impossibly high standard for first-year clubs in 2017-18 by contending immediately and reaching the Stanley Cup final in Year One.

Alex Ovechkin appears unstoppable as he slapshots his way toward Wayne Gretzky's all-time

NHL career record of 894 goals. The Washington superstar scored 14 goals in his first 18 games, giving him 744 for his illustrious career. At age 35, he could have three or four more good years left. Assuming a 40-goal season this year, that leaves him just 124 away, easily attainable in three years. If he plays four more, Ovechkin's almost a certainty to displace the Great One atop that goal-scoring list.

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "Parents were charged with bribing their child into USC as a phony water polo player. USC should have become suspicious when the picture of their child playing water polo showed him wearing water wings."

• Patti Dawn Swanson, on Twitter, on the stalwart Blue Bombers' defence: "They give up points in the fourth quarter about as often as Charles Barkley passes on second helpings."

• Atlanta Falcons' Cor-

darrelle Patterson, who plays receiver, running back and returns kicks, in the New York Post: "If my mom could go out there and work three jobs, I can go out there and play three positions."

• Alex Kaseberg again: Julia 'Hurricane' Hawkins set the world record for the 105-year-old 100 metres. She replaced The Kentucky Derby as the fastest two minutes in sports."

• Comedy writer Brad Dickson of Omaha: "A 105-year-old woman just set an age group world record in the 100-metre dash —1 minute, 3 seconds. Hey big deal, it was wind aided."

• Headline at theonion.com: "Mariners Promise Fans They'll Be Back To Finish 2022 Playoff Race In Even More Heart-breaking Fashion"

• Bob Molinaro of pilotonline.com (Hampton, Va.): "Until we see a vaccine-avoiding athlete in a lab coat and huddled over a microscope, the phrase

'I want to do my own research' is this year's best punch line."

• Alex Kaseberg again: "Aaron Rodgers is listed as having a toe injury. After all the ivermectin he has taken, I am just glad it is not hoof and mouth disease."

• Greg Cote of the Miami Herald: "Jon Gruden is suing the NFL saying he was forced out as Raiders coach. Dear Jon: Who wrote those hateful emails? The NFL? Or you?"

• Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "You think the Angels' Shohei Ohtani was happy to win the American League MVP award? Last March 19, a bettor at Caesars Sportsbook in Nevada placed a \$30,000 bet on Ohtani to win it at 30/1 odds."

• Comedy writer Paul Lander, on actor Ralph Macchio turning 60: "Damn, you've gotta be 'Karate Kidding' me!"

Care to comment? Email brucepen-ton2003@yahoo.ca

Parkland Elks drop three more over weekend

After scoring their first win of the season — a 2-1 victory over the North East in a battle of attrition — in a rare Tuesday night game, the Parkland U18 AA Elks capped off a busy week of hockey with back-to-back-to-back road games on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

The team returned to its losing ways in all three matches, tallying only one goal through 180 minutes of action.

Travelling to Prince Albert for a showdown against the Prince Albert

Lakeland Towing Vulcans, the Elks fired just 16 shots on goal throughout the game en route to an 11-0 defeat. Shae Stewart earned the start between the pipes, surrendering five goals on 29 shots, before Carson Ledding took over and gave up six goals on 11 shots.

The Elks made the journey to Saskatoon the following night, where they were on the receiving end of an 8-1 beatdown against the Saskatoon Icehawks. Brendan Aug supplied the

only highlight for the Elks, who tallied a more respectable 24 shots on goal through the game, scoring on the power play with an assist from Jake Boettcher.

Shae Stewart started in net again, saving 43 out of the 51 shots he faced on the evening.

With less than 24 hours to recover, the Elks headed to Warman to faceoff against the Warman Wildcats in an afternoon match-up. In another 16-shot

performance, the Elks fell by a score of 6-0. Stewart started in goal again, turning away 49 out of 55 opportunities for the Wildcats.

With the win and the trio of losses through the week, the Elks now sit at 1-17-0-1 on the season. This weekend, the team gets to breathe a little easier, playing just one match on home ice against the Martensville Marauders.

That game is on Friday, Dec. 3, with puck drop scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

SaskPower announces mass smart meter deployment

SaskPower is set to begin installing smart meters on residences across Saskatchewan. This follows a successful pilot that saw 17,000 volunteers receive residential smart meters this year.

"Smart meters are an important part of our efforts to build a modern power grid in Saskatchewan," Minister Responsible for SaskPower Don Morgan said. "These meters will allow SaskPower to respond to outages faster, ensure accurate billing, and provide

customers with detailed information about power use to help them save on their bills."

Smart meters will allow SaskPower to detect when an outage occurs. Currently, SaskPower relies on customers to report outages. The visibility provided by smart meters will allow the company to respond more quickly.

"We are pleased with the results of the pilot and are looking forward to making the benefits of smart meters available to everyone in Saskatch-

ewan," SaskPower President and CEO Mike Marsh said. "We are beginning the program with a number of farm and rural customers because they typically receive a meter reading once a year, unlike SaskPower's urban customers, whose meters are typically read every three months."

Customers across the province will receive their smart meters during the next few years as supply allows. SaskPower's deployment plan is scalable and responsive to the availability of

meters, which has been affected by the ongoing global microchip shortage.

In addition to the 17,000 meters deployed during the residential pilot, an additional 45,000 commercial and industrial (C&I) smart meters have been installed province wide. There have been no issues with any of the smart meters, which were built to SaskPower's industry-leading specifications.

For more information about our power future, visit saskpower.com/smartmeters.



OBITUARIES

Reine Beaulac



BEAULAC – Reine

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Reine Beaulac on November 4, 2021, at the age of 95 at Whispering Pine Place, Canwood, SK.

Reine was born in Ormeaux, SK on January 5, 1926, to Alphonse and Marie-Anne Duret. She was raised on a farm with her two sisters, Rose, and Marguerite.

Reine married Raymond Beaulac on October 24, 1949. Together they raised 8 children on a farm in Eldred.

Mom took great pride in homemaking, gardening, baking, cooking, sewing and great pride in her family. Her greatest joy was spoiling her grandkids.

Raymond and Reine retired in Debden where they enjoyed golfing, camping, fishing, and

travelling to visit family. She also loved crafting and crocheting. All her grandkids received an afghan for grad gifts.

She will be remembered for her “sucre à la crème” her hugs, her welcoming smile, and her strong faith.

Reine is lovingly remembered by her children: Ghislaine (Guy) Cyr of Debden, SK and family: Daniel (Cora-Lee); Lisanne; Norman (Amanda); Julien (Tasha), Daughter-in-law, Kathy (Claude) Dumais of Debden and family: Jason; Leah (Dean); Tiffany (Johnathon); Kaylie

(Jesse), Roger of Prince Albert, SK and family: Renée (Tim); Kirk (Lise); Adam (Raeleen), Paulin (Elise) of Debden, SK and family: Leslie (Christine); Luke (Stacy); Alain (Kaylie), Florent of Bonnyville, AB, Elise (Nil) Lajeunesse of Debden, SK and family: Rayanne (Lanny); Jolan (Stacey); Riley (Kaylin), Céline (Jeff) Sipes of Canwood, SK and family: Joel (Kristina); Jordan (Mason), Marie-Anne (Gerald) Grimard of Canwood, SK and family: Kelcie; Dylan, 37 great grandchildren and 3 great great grandchildren, her sister:

Marguerite (Jean-Louis) Bilodeau of Saskatoon, SK, her sisters-in-law: Evelyne Durette of Saskatoon, SK; Lucille Tremblay of Debden, SK; also numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

She is predeceased by her husband: Raymond, her son: Alain, her grandchildren: Damien and Alyssa, her parents: Alphonse and Marie-Anne Duret, her parents-in-law: Rodolphe and Delvina Beaulac, and her siblings: Rose and Jean.

A Celebration of Life was held Wednesday, November 10, 2021, at 1:00 pm at St. Jean Baptiste Roman Catho-

lic Church, Debden, SK with Fr. Dong Doan as celebrant.

Reine's final resting place is with her husband Raymond in the Debden Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Reine may be made to the Debden Heritage Manor.

Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau “Lac” Funeral Home and Crematorium, Delores Beaulac Funeral Director, Debden, SK (306) 724-4474.

Vern Campbell



CAMPBELL – Vern

Vern Melvin Campbell was born May 27, 1950, in Prince Albert, Sask., first child of George & Stella Campbell. His first years of life the family lived in the Sutherland area of Saskatoon. In 1960 the family moved back to the family farm in the Stump

Lake area. Stump Lake was home for him for over 54 years. The last 7 years of Vern's life he called Big River Health Centre Long Term Care his home.

Vern's first years of education started in Saskatoon. Back on the farm he continued his education at Rabbit Bluff Country School until Grade 8. In 1966 Vern started his Grade 9 at Debden School, but soon dropped out to help on the farm.

Vern worked various jobs over the years. He owned and operated school buses with routes to Debden from the Rabbit Bluff & Park Valley districts. He was a farmer and loved work-

ing with the cattle. In the spring he would often drive Anhydrous trucks for different fertilizer suppliers. His final days of work was with the RMs of Shellbrook & Canwood.

Vern fell in love and married Ada Rusk in 1988. He then had an instant family, complete with grandchildren. Vern loved children. As their house became an empty nest, they became foster parents, having several children stay with them over the years.

Vern was very competitive, and he liked to win. He played Old Time Hockey for many years, Vern enjoyed fishing and hunting. He liked competitive activities in Long

Term Care, such as curling, shuffle board, horse racing, bingo and cribbage were some of his favorites. A challenge to arm wrestling was always fun for him.

Vern and Ada loved to go to coffee row at Frodo's. Vern received a scooter from Telemiracle in 2014, that gave him some freedom to travel around Big River! One of Vern's weaknesses was ICE CREAM, no baby cone for him either, make it the biggest you have!

Vern will be deeply missed by all those who shared in his life's journey.

Vern will be remembered by his mother, Stella Campbell; his stepson, Shawn Rusk

and granddaughters, Jordan & Morgan; his step-daughters, Norine (Howard) Fonos, and Judy (Ross) Willington; his siblings, Bert (Donna) Campbell, Darlene (Garry) Newton, Marlene Bickert, Joan (Tony) Lukan; his sibling-in-law, Lloyd Bather; as well as his aunt & uncle, numerous grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Vern was predeceased by his wife, Ada Campbell in 2013; his father George Campbell in 1996; his sister Shirley Bather in 2006; his brother-in-law Ed Bickert in 2017; his stepchildren Bonita Cook in 1995 and Everett Rusk in 2021.

Vern's final resting

place will be at the Stump Lake Hillside Cemetery on May 27, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. in a Graveside Ceremony. Fellowship with family to follow. In lieu of tributes, memorial donations may be made in memory of Vern to either the Big River Health Centre LTC – Activities Dept. (Box 100 Big River, SK S0J 0E0), or to the Canadian Diabetes Association.

Family and friends are welcome to share messages of condolence to www.beaulacfuneralhome.com Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau “Lac” Funeral Home & Crematorium, Big River, SK. Tammy Smart, Funeral Director, 306-469-2277.

Softwood lumber tariffs hurt northern Sask., MPs say

A pair of area MPs is calling on Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the federal Liberal government to take action to protect the interests of Indigenous communities in Northern Saskatchewan, after the United States made good on its plan to effectively double the tariffs on softwood lumber imports.

In a statement released last Friday morning, Gary Vidal, MP for Desnethé-Missinippi-Churchill River, and Randy Hoback, MP for Prince Albert, said the trade relationship between Canada and the U.S. has deteriorated since Trudeau's government came to power.

Now, with the U.S.'s deci-

sion to nearly double softwood lumber tariffs to 17.9 per cent from 8.99 per cent, Vidal and Hoback say the declining relationship poses a serious threat to the forestry sector in Northern Saskatchewan, and in particular to Indigenous-owned business, and to Canada's economic recovery from the pandemic.

“Mr. Trudeau continues to say that there is no more important relationship to him than that with Indigenous peoples, but his actions speak louder than his words,” the MPs said in their statement.

Canada exports about \$8 billion worth of softwood lumber to the world every year, according to official government

data, with the U.S. being the largest single buyer.

For years, the U.S. has claimed that Canadian lumber producers dump their product into the U.S. at a lower price than American lumber companies can because they are subsidized. This claim has been used to justify the tariffs, which also encourage consumers to purchase American wood.

Canada has long rejected these allegations, and various trade tribunals on the matter have ruled in Canada's favour.

Vidal and Hoback aren't the only ones who see the decision as a threat to Indigenous communities in Northern Saskatchewan.

Al Balisky, President & CEO of Meadow Lake Tribal Council Industrial Investments LP, stated, “As of 2021, NorSask has paid approximately \$20 million in countervailing/anti-dumping duties to the US Department of Commerce. The Canadian government is responsible for matters related to international trade and, as such, has a special duty of care with respect to the interaction of international trade disputes and impact to Indigenous communities.

“These self-generated funds that have been unfairly paid as duties to the US represent foregone revenue to MLTC's First Nation communities that could be used for significant

social benefit.”

While the federal government expressed “disappointment” with last week's decision, Vidal and Hoback are calling on it to do more.

“Mr. Trudeau's approach to these threats has been to play down their seriousness and to sound hopeful,” they said in their statement. “Downplaying these threats and being hopeful is not a plan to protect jobs and investment in Northern Saskatchewan.”

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All I want for Christmas: Part 1

By Bernadette Vangool

As I was perusing my bookshelf, I thought I would share with you the many book gift possibilities for you, your resident gardener, or gardening friends.

For the cut flower grower among them, consider Cultivated, The Elements of Floral Style by Christin Geall. This book delights with photographs of beautiful flower arrangements interspersed with pertinent information on contrast and composition. It is well written, easy to digest and pleasing to the eye. Erin Benzakein, flower farmer and floral designer, says it best: "Christin Geall is the rare talent who has an eye of the artist, the pen of a poet, and the heart of a gardener". Christin takes you from supplies, to flower selection through colour and design, always with great bouquets, beautifully photographed, to illustrate her points. The author is a designer, writer and gardener in Victoria, British Columbia who teaches floral design through her company Cultivated by Christin.

Complement the book on floral design with Mastering the Art of Flower Gardening,

a Gardener's Guide to Growing Flowers, from Today's Favorites to Unusual Varieties by Matt Mattus. Here, you'll learn how to grow cut flowers for the express purpose of making these beautiful arrangements. Matt gardens in Massachusetts. Although he discusses perennials and bulbs, the majority of plants covered are annuals, for which the differences in growing zones are negligible. He shares his experience with seed germination of various flowers, as well as the time to sow and when and how well seedlings transplant.

I'm unsure about the availability of the above books in local bookstores, so order early or obtain them on line. The following books are available locally.

Backyard Bird Feeding, A Saskatchewan Guide by Trevor Herriot and Myrna Pearman is an excellent introduction for beginner bird watchers. In just a few years, I have increased the number and variety of bird-feeders in my back yard and the feathered friends visiting have been a great delight and form of entertainment. Originally written by Myrna

Pearman and first published by Ellis Bird Farm in Alberta in 2015, it has now been adapted to Saskatchewan. Many of the photographs were submitted through the Sask Birders Facebook page and credits are noted. It covers feeders, types of feed, individual bird preferences, bird baths, feeders to discourage four legged critters and bully birds. Chapter 7 describes a large number of birds that may frequent the backyard feeder. It includes a photograph and discusses their habits and preferred feed, such as suet, cracked corn, millet, sunflower seeds etc. This could also be a great gift for the grandkids.

One little book that has been around since 2001 is Best Bulbs for the Prairies by Liesbeth Leatherbarrow & Lesley Reynolds. Still as relevant today as the day it was published, it includes information on the many bulbs available, from spring flowers such as crocus, fritillary and tulips to iris, lilies, gladiolus and much, much more. Beautiful photographs accompany the descriptions of cultivars and their use in the landscape.

"Perfect partners" for particular bulbs are also discussed.

Last but not least is Native Plants for Prairie Gardens by June Flanagan (2005). I just revisited this book, and of course found some new to me native plants to incorporate into my landscape. Each plant featured includes its natural range (eastern prairie, widespread across northern prairie), its habitat (dry slopes, rocky hillsides, stream banks, woodlands) and type of plant (grass, herb, upright perennial) along with hints that will help you best place it within your own perennial border. I discovered that the prairie coneflower (Ratibida columnifera) which I planted last year is a short-lived perennial that will self-seed. So, I'll have to replace it if I decide to mulch my new border!

More bookshelf favourites to follow.

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

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