

# Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald



VOL. 110 NO. 6 PMR #40007604

Thursday, February 10, 2022

www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

## Hujber's Market feels supply chain pinch

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected supply chains on a global scale, and even local businesses like Spiritwood's Hujber's Market on Main haven't been immune to the struggles.

The grocery has been under its current ownership for 15 years, and Dave Hujber, who has been in the grocery business for more than 40 years, says it's been challenging since COVID first arrived in Saskatchewan.

"In the two and a half years of this pandemic, we tried to keep it together but it still seems to keep getting worse every week," he said.

The supply problems that they've been facing vary from week to week. The produce section has been very challenging to keep looking nice as their stocks ran about 25 per cent short per truck delivery. The grocery section hasn't been as much of a nuisance, but there were some "out of stock" products that they couldn't seem to get back in stock.

Hujber mentioned that it is not the delivery/truckers' fault. The problem is due to the supplies coming in and out of the warehouse in Saskatoon and Edmonton, with companies not supplying adequately.

Companies have done their own downsizing of the products they manufacture. There were known products that were on strike for months. Although some are now back online, it will take months to catch up in a small town like Spiritwood.

Hujber also added that they didn't expect this scenario to happen at all.

"We were so naive to think that it wouldn't affect us in Spiritwood, but it really has. When COVID first hit, there was a scramble and a panic with customers. Nobody knew what to anticipate and people panic bought. We heard about the toilet paper scene but it was actually really everything. We were caught down with our innocence, so we struggled mightily for the first couple of months to try and keep something on the shelves and that struggle has continued for about two years now



The staff at Hujber's Market on Main has done its best through the pandemic to keep shelves stocked with necessities.

and we never honestly caught up. We can't catch up because the product or source just isn't there."

Although there were also instances when they had to deal with mad customers, as the products they needed weren't in stock, Hujber thinks he and especially his staff have handled it well.

"Our staff has done a great job, especially in these trying times, to deal with all the issues from supplies and frustrated customers. What we're seeing is people are stressed and upset. While it's not fair, it is a fact. Our staff has been remarkably patient through all this."

Nevertheless, Hujber says the store is doing its best given the current situation, trying to catch up from week to week and month to month and focusing on bringing customers the necessities.



Empty spaces on shelves have become a common sight throughout the pandemic, even at small-town stores like Hujber's Market on Main.

**LARGE SELECTION OF BATTERIES**

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# Shellbrook Library fosters love of storytime

Growing up in the middle of nowhere, Dian Campbell never got much of an opportunity to go to the library when she was a kid. Luckily, she had a mother who was an avid reader, and who instilled a love of reading in her.

"My mother read to us constantly," she recalled. "A lot of it was reading to us, but a lot of it was made-up stories because we didn't have access to books as much."

Thanks to her mother, Campbell has carried the philosophy that reading is good and fun with her throughout her life.

It's a philosophy she's tried to impart to her own children, by taking advantage of story time at the local library in a way she never got to. And, as the librarian for the Shellbrook Public Library, it's a philosophy she strives to share with the library's youngest patrons.

"Storytime is a chance for

the youngest kids in the community to be introduced to the library, and it's something for parents to come out and do with their kids," Campbell said. "I try to teach kids that books are fun, and learning is fun."

One of many weekly programs the library offers, Storytime packs a powerful learning punch in a 30-to-45-minute timespan. Not only do kids get to listen to a story, they get to engage with other children their age and take part in activities aimed at helping them learn and develop basic skills.

"We read a little bit, then we do an activity, then we read a little bit more, and then we do a craft," Campbell said, noting that it's important to allow kids to be creative and have fun. "It's all connected, and they're learning as they're doing things."

This past Friday, Storytime at the Shellbrook Public Li-



**Lisa Krueger of PA Regional KidsFirst reads to children and parents during the Shellbrook Public Library's weekly Storytime program.**

brary packed a special surprise for the kids and parents who braved the bitter cold. Lisa Krueger of PA Regional KidsFirst stopped in to lead the reading and the activities, and also to talk with parents

about the resources they offer to help developing children.

A partnership between the Shellbrook Public Library and PA Regional KidsFirst is something Campbell has been encouraging for a few years now.

Last year, the two entities partnered on the Library's Sensory Room, which is filled with toys and objects (many of them made from simple homemade items) that allow children to explore, learn, and develop basic skills using all of their senses.

Even with the ongoing pandemic limiting how much the Sensory Room can be used (it has to be deep cleaned before each user group), Campbell says it's been received well.

In her mind, the Sensory Room is just one piece of how the library and PA Regional KidsFirst can work together to benefit local children and parents.

"I'd like to have PA Regional KidsFirst out more often," she said, calling it a win-win for both entities. "They're a resource for all small communities, not just Prince Albert, and it's a chance for the community to see what they do."

## Kinettes, Kinsmen kick off Telemiracle fundraising

With Telemiracle 46 just around the corner, the Shellbrook Kinettes and Shellbrook Kinsmen are hard at work raising funds locally for the cause. But this year, much like last, things will be a little bit different.

For starters, though pandemic restrictions have eased up considerably compared to 2021, the groups won't be doing their traditional town canvass this year.

"We know there are those who wish to give a cash donation, and we are so thankful for everyone's generosity," said Kinette Tasha Cyr. "As we are not canvassing the town this year, we have a few alternative ways to get your donations in."

As has been the case for most years, Helping Hand boxes have been setup around town at participating businesses. Those who usually donate through the canvass are welcome to use this option instead, and can provide their name and mailing address with their donation if they'd like a charitable donation receipt.

Additionally, Cyr says the Kinettes and Kinsmen have pre-addressed envelopes available and have put

these with the Helping Hand boxes so people can slip their donations in the box or mail them to the Shellbrook Kinettes (Box 147, Shellbrook, SK, S0J 2E0).

Though a full town canvass is off the table, Cyr says the Kinettes and Kinsmen will still make one or two trips around Shellbrook on designated nights to accept donations from those who need them picked up. Anyone requiring this option is encouraged to call or text Cyr (306-747-7331) to be added to the list of stops.

Aside from these changes, it's hard work as usual for the Shellbrook Kinettes and Kinsmen, as the ladies will be heading down to Regina to work the phones for the opening shift of Telemiracle 46.

Elsewhere, the clubs' second-ever Telemiracle Online Auction got underway on Feb. 8 and will be live until 1 p.m. CST on Feb. 13. As of Tuesday, local and area businesses, community groups, and individuals had donated 134 items to the auction.

"It is super fun, and it was a huge success last year," Cyr said. "We are hoping for the same this year."

Last year's auction raised \$14,442 for Telemiracle 45, bringing Shellbrook's total donations to \$22,254.40 once personal donations, business do-

nations, Helping Hands, and funds raised by local schools were factored in.

"We really hope this is another successful year for Telemiracle," Cyr said. "This is a huge event in Saskatchewan, and all the money raised stays right here in Saskatchewan."

Telemiracle 46 will be held on March 5 and 6.

The money raised throughout the year and during the TeleMiracle telethon benefits the Kinsmen Foundation, which provides funding for Saskatchewan residents requiring special needs equipment to maintain or improve their quality of life, as well as travel assistance to those needing to leave their community to access life-saving medical treatment.

Funding is also provided to institutions and health foundations to purchase specialized, new, or innovative equipment to improve health care.

In the past, funds raised through Telemiracle have benefitted local causes.

The Canwood Bus Association was a beneficiary of the fundraiser in 2019, receiving \$20,000 to assist with the purchase and retrofit of a wheelchair-accessible van that helps people in the community and area get to medical appointments.

In 2014, meanwhile, Shellbrook's Woodland Bus Association received \$19,578 from the Telemiracle to assist with the purchase of a wheelchair accessible van. The van, and the 16-seat bus operated by the association, help residents of Parkland Integrated Health Centre's long-term care facility, and people from other communities, get to medical appointments and other social outings.

The Kinettes' and Kinsmen's online auction can be found at: [www.32auctions.com/shellbrookkin2022](http://www.32auctions.com/shellbrookkin2022).

### TOWN OF SHELLBROOK

The Town of Shellbrook is now accepting applications for the following positions:

#### Summer:

- Full Time Headguard
- Full Time Assistant Headguard
- Full Time Lifeguard/Instructor
- Part Time Lifeguard/Instructor
- Full Time Student Labourer

#### Permanent:

- Office Assistant
- Full Time Labourer – Parks/Rec/Public Works

Job postings will remain open until a successful candidate is found.

Submit resumes to the Town Office at 71 Main Street, or by

mail: Box 40, Shellbrook, SK S0J 2E0  
email: [recdirector@townofshellbrook.ca](mailto:recdirector@townofshellbrook.ca)  
fax: (306) 747-3111

For more information contact Jessica Kernohan at 306-747-4949 or [recdirector@townofshellbrook.ca](mailto:recdirector@townofshellbrook.ca)

## Telemiracle 46

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Telemiracle Online Auction  
Auction is February 8 – 13

Auction site: [www.32auctions.com/shellbrookkin2022](http://www.32auctions.com/shellbrookkin2022)

Log in to our auction to start bidding!

Photos of all auction items are on our Shellbrook Kinettes Telemiracle Auction Facebook page.

People can also make personal donations – Pre-addressed envelopes will be available around town at our Helping Hands boxes, or call 306-747-7331 for pick up options.

### SHELLBROOK KINSMEN & KINETTES

invite everyone to join us at the outdoor rink,

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### NOTICE OF CALL FOR NOMINATIONS RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF CANWOOD NO. 494

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

- Councillor for Division No. 3
- Councillor for Division No. 5

will be received by the undersigned at the municipal office during regular business hours until Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. local time.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the municipal office located at 641 Main Street in Canwood.

Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2022.

Lorna Benson  
RETURNING OFFICER

# Sask. set to scrap vaccine mandate on Feb. 14

Saskatchewan's proof of vaccination or negative test mandate will end effective Feb. 14.

Premier Scott Moe made the announcement at a Tuesday morning COVID-19 update, noting that eHealth Saskatchewan will continue to make vaccination documents available to those who need them for travel in other jurisdictions.

"Proof of vaccination has been an effective policy, but its effectiveness has run its course," Moe said. "The benefits no longer outweigh the costs. It's time to heal the divisions over vaccination in our families, in our communities and in our province. It's time for proof of vaccination requirements to end."

The province's public health order requiring indoor public masking will remain in place until the end of February, and rapid test kits will continue to be widely available throughout the province.

"As we shift to living with COVID-19, there is a continuing need for personal responsibility for self-monitoring, self-testing and self-management," Moe said. "It will be important for individuals to assess their own risk and comfort levels, and to take appropriate action if they are unwell."

The long-awaited announcement about the province's remaining pandemic restrictions comes just days after two other key pieces of the province's COVID-19 strategy found themselves on the chopping block.

As of Feb. 7, COVID-19 PCR testing is now only available through Healthline 811 and is only being offered to priority populations.

Priority populations include hospitalized patients, care home residents, congregate living facilities, international travellers or those from areas of concern, healthcare or essential workers, symptomatic residents or workers in First Nation and Métis communities.

It will also include surgical patients with symptoms or a positive rapid antigen test if scheduled or expecting to receive surgery within the next 90 days and those with chronic illness.

Additionally, pregnant patients who are symptomatic and more than 30 weeks gestation, newborns born to COVID-19-positive parents, and symptomatic immunocompromised individuals including all transport donors and recipients prior to and post transplant, all oncology patients prior to receiving or post chemotherapy.

Medical health officers may also order PCR testing as part of outbreak investigations, particularly in at-risk settings like long-term care and personal care homes, and other congregate living facilities.

As part of the shift in strategy, which will see public health manage COVID-19 like other respiratory illnesses like the flu, the province has also started to shutdown all drive-thru and walk-in test sites this week.

Residents who require PCR test results for travel, insurance claims including potential Workers' Compensation Board claims, or in lieu of proof of vaccination, will be required to purchase a test from a private lab service provider. And to assist the public with self-monitoring for COVID-19, rapid antigen tests will continue to be distributed through 600 locations across the province.

With PCR testing eligibility focused on at-risk populations, the SHA says it is "adjusting PCR testing locations to ensure access while returning front-line health care workers to home positions to support post-pandemic service delivery."

In addition to the changes to PCR testing, the province also ended its long-running practice of providing daily COVID-19 data this week.

Instead, the province will issue weekly COVID-19

epidemiological reports on Thursdays.

The new weekly data will include new laboratory-confirmed cases, deaths, tests and vaccination information across the province and by each health zone.

Hospitalizations and ICU numbers were not included in the list of information that would be provided in the weekly updates.

However, a statement from the Ministry of Health said it will continue reporting hospitalizations.

"We are currently determining how that will occur as part of the new reporting system," the statement said.

In one final change, public health will continue to investigate severe cases and shift resources to focus on outbreak management in settings where the risk of severe health outcomes is highest.

Public health will continue to investigate outbreaks in acute care settings, long-term care and integrated facilities, personal care homes, correctional facilities, and congregate living settings including shelters and group homes. Outbreaks in long-term care and personal care homes will continue to be publicly reported at [saskatchewan.ca/covid-19](https://saskatchewan.ca/covid-19).

While outbreaks related to public mass gatherings/events, places of worship, workplaces, daycares, and educational settings will no longer be investigated, the province says these venues and organizations will continue to be supported by local public health with transmission mitigation planning and standard surveillance protocols.

In a video posted to Twitter last week, Premier Moe said these changes, as well as the promised lifting of the province's vaccine or proof of negative test mandate, need to happen so the province can return to normal.

"Both vaccinated and unvaccinated people are getting (COVID-19), and they're getting it at virtually the same rate," Moe said.

Moe did, however, encourage vaccination and the use of rapid antigen tests. He also addressed personal risk assessment, something medical officials and politicians alike have been encouraging residents to do when deciding how they should interact during the Omicron wave.

"Travel, go to work, have dinner with your friends, go to the movies, go to your kids' games — most importantly. You should do these things without constantly assessing if your every activity is absolutely necessary," Moe said.

"What's necessary is your freedom. What's necessary is getting your life back to normal, and it's time."

## New charge laid in sex assault investigation

As a result of continued investigation by the Saskatoon RCMP General Investigation Section and the Blaine Lake RCMP, a man on trial for multiple sexual assault charges has been charged with an additional offence.

Cecil Wolfe, 60, is now facing seven charges of sexual assault, linked to his work as a supposed traditional healer or medicine man.

The Saskatoon Police Sex Crimes unit laid the first charge against Wolfe in September 2021. As more victims came forward, the Saskatoon Police partnered

with the Saskatoon RCMP General Investigation Section, as other offences were believed to have occurred in RCMP jurisdiction.

The additional charge laid last Thursday is the sixth to be laid in RCMP jurisdiction related to this ongoing investigation. RCMP collaboration with the Saskatoon Police Sex Crimes Unit continues.

Investigators say they still believe there may be additional victims from over the past twenty years in the communities of Loon Lake, Blaine Lake, Muskeg Lake Cree Nation, Sas-

katoon, and surrounding areas. The investigation remains active and victims are encouraged to contact their nearest RCMP Detachment or Police Service if they have information to share.

Information for sexual assault survivors, including what will happen when you report the assault to police, is available at: <https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/relationship-violence/information-sexual-assault-survivors>

The Saskatoon Sexual Assault and Information Centre's Crisis Line can be reached at 306-244-2224.

Wolfe is scheduled to appear in court on Feb. 16, at which time he's expected to elect how he wants to be tried.

The charges against Wolfe haven't been proven.

**PICK OF THE WEEK**

(LR955A)

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Qualified individuals are invited to submit a resume and cover letter detailing how their qualifications match those listed above by 4:00 p.m., **Wednesday, February 16, 2022.**

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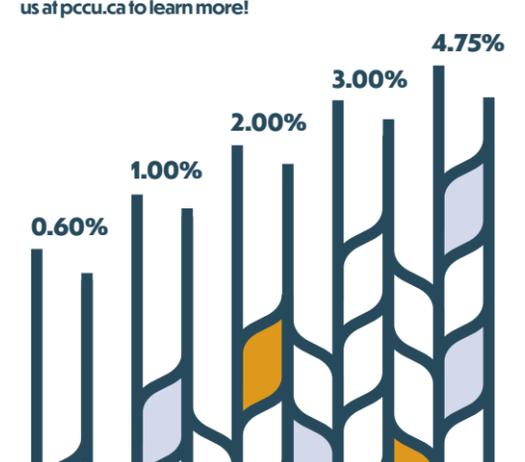
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## O'Toole's ouster leaves void in Conservative leadership

For the second election cycle in a row, it's one and done for the leader of the Conservative Party.

The decision to oust Erin O'Toole as leader, after just 17 months and one snap election at the helm, came at a virtual Conservative Caucus meeting held last Wednesday.

The secret ballot vote was triggered by Mr. O'Toole's own colleagues, who, in the end, voted decisively to dethrone him by a tally of 73 votes to 45.

The end of Mr O'Toole's reign was far more unceremonious than that of his predecessor, Andrew Scheer, who faced no such open revolt from his fellow Conservative MPs and was allowed to gracefully bow out despite delivering near-identical results at the polls in 2019.

Of course, the differences between the campaigns the two leaders ran couldn't be more stark.

In his two years as Conservative Party leader, Mr. Scheer studied the script of former Prime Minister Stephen Harper and tried his



JORDAN  
TWISS  
~  
News Editor

best to execute it line for line – albeit without any of Mr. Harper's gravitas or soft-spoken air of authority.

Mr. Scheer's failing was in his inability to make the Conservative Party his own, and to answer basic questions about his position on prickly social conservative issues like abortion and LGBTQ rights.

Mr. O'Toole, meanwhile, won the Conservative Party leadership by pitching himself as a "True Blue" Conservative, differentiating himself from top rival Peter MacKay's more liberal leanings.

Once he was elected, however, he shifted to the left and backtracked on his promise to scrap the Liberal carbon tax (though, he proposed a much derided alternative of his own) and repeal the ban on "assault-style" guns. The 2021 election campaign saw him roll out even more progressive policies, from a tax credit for childcare, to a rebate on dining out, to a month-long GST holiday at retail stores.

Mr. O'Toole was also crystal clear

about his stances on the issues that dogged Mr. Scheer in 2019.

The trouble was, this shift in political strategy was seen as a betrayal of the people who voted him into the leader's chair, putting him at odds with his own party. What's more, his liberal policies rang hollow to the left-leaning voters he was hoping to lure into the Conservative tent and failed to attract the level of support he'd hoped for.

For these reasons, and the fact that Mr. O'Toole has done little to endear himself to his colleagues since last September's election, it's no surprise he was ousted as the party's leader.

The question, now, becomes who will take his place? Who can lead the Conservative Party back to power when more than half of voters in 2021 expressed a desire for progressive policies? Who can bring more liberal-leaning voters to the party, while staying true to Conservative values?

For many, Pierre Poilievre is seen as the heir apparent, given his high profile as the eloquent critic-in-chief of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's Liberal government. Mr. Poilievre opted to skip the last leadership race. But this time, he



was first in line to announce he's running to be prime minister (not just the Conservative Party's next leader).

One supposes Mr. MacKay could come back for another kick at the can. But given the current mood of the Conservative Caucus, it's hard to imagine the party embracing him any more than they did Mr. O'Toole.

Rookie MP and former leadership candidate Leslyn Lewis will likely have her name tossed around. She was a standout in the 2020 leadership race, but has since

receded from the spotlight. Could she take centre stage more emphatically in a second attempt?

If not Ms. Lewis, then perhaps Michelle Rempel Garner, who has been one of the party's other standouts as both a moderate and a vocal advocate for Western Canada, could fit the bill.

In ousting Mr. O'Toole (whether deserved or not), the Conservative Party has made its life more difficult. Going forward, someone – anyone – needs to step up and show the party, and Canadians, they have what it takes to win.

## YOUR TWO CENTS

### Premier's double standards should be questioned

Premier Moe,

I saw that you supported the truckers in Regina – glad-handed – as they exercised the right to peacefully protest.

I support that right also; it is the cornerstone of a democracy. I do wonder, however, about the double standard in what you say and what you do.

It is my understanding that, as the Premier of Saskatchewan, your sworn duty is to your constituents. And because you are the Premier and run the province, you are sworn to protect the rights of the people of Saskatchewan.

These specific examples are just the ones I have been thinking about. As we all remember, a young Indigenous male walked hundreds of kms from the north hoping to speak to the government about needed changes to prevent further death by suicide.

You refused to speak to him. The reason stated was he was breaking the law. His stated crime "trespassing". You had him cited by RPS.

What about his right to have meaningful discourse with his government?

He wasn't in a truck, but he had walked hundreds of kms not to talk about mandates.

No, he wanted meaningful dialogue from someone who swore an oath to protect his rights.

Several years ago, after some well known provincial Indigenous tragedies, people set-up Tipis on the legislature grounds to protest the treatment of their children by your government.

Instead of your government welcoming their right to a peaceful protest, and their right to express civil discourse with their government, you had them physically removed by the Regina Police Service.

If my memory is correct, you directed the

Regina Police Service to once again forcefully remove them, and the Regina Police Service refused because they decided to allow them to exercise their right to peacefully protest.

If we both agree that people have the right to peaceful protest, and you have sworn an oath to protect every citizen in this province, then why the double standard Scott Moe?

I will allow people to determine their thoughts on Scott Moe's honesty when he states that he supports citizens' rights to peacefully protest.

Karen George,  
Biggar, Sask.

### Shellbrook Chronicle

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

### Spiritwood Herald

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

A Division of Pepperfram Limited Publications  
Mail Registration #07621

Published Every Thursday Morning

P.O. Box 10, Shellbrook, Sask. S0J 2E0  
Phone 306-747-2442 or Fax 306-747-3000

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

### C. J. Pepper, Publisher

Jordan Twiss, Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter  
jordan@sbchron.com/chnews@sbchron.com

Natasha Cabase, Spiritwood Herald Reporter  
(306) 914-3890 or tashacabase@gmail.com

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

Karen Stene, Bookkeeping/Reception  
accounting@sbchron.com

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.;

Friday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. & 1 to 4 p.m.;

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

websites: www.shellbrookchronicle.com  
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Member of



## Report from the Legislature

There have been many discussions lately on how we, as a community and as a province, learn to live with COVID-19. While this view might seem radical to some, it is important to remember that the Public Health Measures the government put in place two years ago to slow the spread of COVID-19 were never meant to be permanent restrictions.

We understand that eradicating COVID-19 is not a realistic goal and that achieving zero COVID-19 in our communities will not happen. This does not mean we stop the precautions that have become so natural, like washing our hands, using a rapid antigen test from time to time, staying home if you are sick, or getting vaccinated. These are the steps



**HON. SCOTT MOE, PREMIER**  
~  
MLA for Rosthern - Shellbrook  
Toll Free: 1-855-793-3422  
scottmoe.mla@sasktel.net

that will allow us to normalize the reality of living with COVID-19.

The perpetual state of crisis is having harmful impacts on everyone. People who did everything right and took precautions feel guilty for getting the Omicron variant. To be clear, if you get COVID-19,

you did nothing wrong; it is impossible to eliminate all risks. Thankfully, those who are vaccinated are not getting very sick. It is possible we may see COVID-19 morph into different variants and forms in the coming months and years.

Over the past two years, we have come to understand COVID-19 better; we can now assess our personal risks and move to a more normal way of life. In Saskatchewan, there is widespread access to vaccinations and booster doses, as well as free, at-home rapid testing. Vaccinations, including the third/booster dose, have dramatically decreased the risk of severe outcomes for most residents. At-home rapid testing has enabled individuals to self-man-

age, given the frequency of asymptomatic or mild illness for the majority of those who contract Omicron. The province of Saskatchewan has requested more than four million rapid antigen tests from the federal government for each of February and March to ensure a secure supply.

Residents now have reasonable self-management tools to navigate day-to-day activities safely.

In the coming days and weeks, the Government of Saskatchewan will take steps to manage COVID-19 in the same manner as other communicable diseases or seasonal viruses we deal with every year.

Based on information from all jurisdictions, public health will be work-



**HON. JEREMY HARRISON, MLA**  
~  
Meadow Lake  
Toll Free: 1-877-234-6669  
jharrisonmla@sasktel.net

ing to realign resources to manage the current variant while providing other essential public health programs and services and support throughout of the health care system.

This transition is necessary as Saskatchewan prepares to manage COVID-19 in the

long-term. Necessary COVID-19 surveillance and public health planning will continue, particularly as potential new variants may emerge.

The current Public Health Orders remain in place for now but are subject to review. This includes mandatory masking in all indoor public spaces, including schools; mandatory self-isolation for all confirmed cases; and proof of vaccination or negative test requirements for public access to a list of establishments, businesses and event venues.

I want to thank you for the sacrifices you've made over these past two years. I know the people of Saskatchewan are ready for these next steps, and you will be hearing more in the days ahead.

## Highlights of a Shellbrook Town Council meeting

Shellbrook's Town Council met for its regular meeting in person and via teleconference on Monday, Feb. 7.

In attendance were Mayor Amund Otterson, Councillors Larry Batten, Peter Halayka, Dave Knight, Cheryl Ledding, Brent Miller, and Kathleen Nording, and the town's CAO, Kelly Hoare.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Otterson at 5 p.m., and council began by approving the meeting's agenda and adopting the minutes of its Jan. 17 meeting. With no business arising from said minutes, council approved pay-

ment of the town's regular accounts, then moved on to provide its reports.

Providing update on the PARWU Steering Committee's work on a proposed intermunicipal water pipeline, Councillor Miller said all the contracts are in place that need to be in place to gather technical data and get the project tender-ready by fall.

The main outstanding issue, he said, will be funding and financing structures. Miller added that the Steering Committee recently received correspondence from the Sask. Water Authority that may prove helpful with finalizing ownership and financing structures.

Moving on, council discussed the airstrip and agreed that it needs to be made clear that the current council has no plans to make any further investments in the facility. Council is of the opinion that there's no business case for more investments, given the proximity of the airport in Prince Albert.

In recreation discussions, Councillor Miller renewed his calls for the town to gather more data on facility usage, so plans can be developed to make the best use of the facilities, lower expenses, and generate more revenue.

Providing the hospital and clinics report, Mayor Otterson informed council that one doctor has left the community after completing the standard three-year service agreement.

Rounding out the reports, council briefly discussed the RCMP and wondered whether it would be able to enforce

municipal bylaws.

Shifting to new business, council began by approving the reversal of interest payments on a number of accounts for a number of reasons (payments received but not processed, bills invoiced twice, etc.).

Next, council carried a motion to greenlight transfers to a number of reserves, including: Rec Centre Steering Committee - \$55,840.51, revenue from Field of Dreams - \$47,130.35, sign revenue - \$6,170.00 (all from the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre), funding received for the feasibility study for the Parkland Swimming Pool Steering Committee - \$10,000, swimming pool donations - \$2,645, Public Works discretionary fund - \$5,757.08, Cemetery Niche sales - \$1,575.00, and perpetual care fees collected - \$5,600.

In other items, council agreed to recommend Councillor Halayka to fill a vacant position on the Shellbrook Housing Authority board, and carried motions to allow TAXervice to proceed with tax enforcement on a number of properties in arrears.

Discussing a recommendation from the recreation director, council agreed to allow the setup of a pickleball court at the Shellbrook Curling Rink during the summer months. The town will charge a rental fee of \$100 per month.

In a couple final items, council set the start time for its Tuesday, Feb. 22 meeting at 9:30 a.m., and also agreed to renew its signature on the memorandum of understanding with the Prince Albert Regional Economic Development Alliance at a cost of \$5,000 per year.

## Kennedy celebrates 104th birthday



On Jan. 27, 2022, Grace Kennedy was delighted to celebrate her special day in the Great Room. A small group of family members greeted her, and healthcare workers dropped in to sing Happy Birthday before she enjoyed her Dairy Queen Ice Cream Cake. When Grace was asked what the key to celebrating her 104th birthday was, she simply said, with a twinkle in her eye, "I don't believe you."



For over the past four decades The Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association, in partnership with SaskPower and the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, have recognized the youth of Saskatchewan through the Junior Citizen of the Year Award.



**JUNIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR SCHOLARSHIP CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**




**These prestigious awards are given to youth who:**

- Have a positive lifestyle
- Have had the ability to overcome life's challenges
- Have a strong sense of caring and responsibility
- Are dedicated to community and school
- Inspire others
- Are between the ages of 8 to 18

This year four deserving youth will receive a **\$3000 bursary**, provided by SaskPower, to use towards their post-secondary education. Someone you nominate could be one of them.

Visit [www.swna.com](http://www.swna.com) for further information and nomination forms. **Nominations close March 31, 2022**

# Stars bag victory against Terriers

The North Battleford U15 Northwest Stars travelled all the way to the Spiritwood Arena on Feb. 5 to face-off against the Yorkton Terriers.

The Northwest Stars' roster includes players from across the northwest communities such as Meadow Lake, Cando, Edam, Maidstone, Vawn, North Battleford and Spiritwood. Local talents on the team include first-year player Brady Hujber, and second-year

player Linken Fisher.

Before the game started, both teams were welcomed to the arena and introduced. For the Yorkton Terriers, the players were Riley Stewart, Ty Sleeva, Cameron Allard, Ryan Schuster, Alex Morrison, Kolby Weinheimer, Boston Melnyk, Kashton Gillis, Tanner Wiens, Dylan Brass, Wyatt Evans, Max Threinen, Meric Poncelet and Vincent Macgillivray, and goalies Brady Kitzul

and Carson Ostapovich.

On the Northwest Stars' side, players dressed for the game were James Norman, Linken Fisher, Henry Thunderblanket, Kash East, Louis Regnier, Kade Lehman, Brady Hujber, Seth Bapiste, Colton Parker, Tanner Corrigan, Caleb Pockrant, Millar Kramer, Nathan Lepp and Lukamus Lehman, and goalies Brady Carr and Nicholas Grunerud.

During the first period, both teams jumped out to an exciting start but didn't score any goals.

Moving to the second period, the Northwest Stars scored their first goal, with Kade Lehman getting his team on the board thanks to assists from Millar Kramer and Louis Regnier.

This paved the way for another goalless period in the third frame, allowing the Northwest Stars to claim a 1-0 victory.



**Spiritwood's Brady Hujber is a first-year player with the North Battleford U15 Northwest Stars.**



**Spiritwood's Linken Fisher is a second-year player with North Battleford U15 Northwest Stars.**

## 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 - 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:** Shellbrook Kinsmen and Kinettes invite everyone to join us at the outdoor rink, Sunday, February 20<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 am to 2 pm for our annual Day of KINDness. This year celebrates the 10<sup>th</sup> year of Day of KINDness! FREE hot dogs & hot chocolate! Come skate with us!

**SHELLBROOK:** Telemiracle 46 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Telemiracle Online Auction. Auction is February 8 - 13. Auction site: www.32auctions.com/shellbrookkin2022 Log in to our auction to start bidding! Photos of all auction items are on our Shellbrook Kinettes Telemiracle Auction Facebook page. People can also make personal donations - Pre-addressed envelopes will be available around town at our Helping Hands boxes, or call 306-747-7331 for pick up options.

### TRIPLE YOUR ADVERTISING

We'll advertise your important community event in our Community Calendar FREE for two weeks prior to the event with purchase of a 2 column x 2" Display ad for only:

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The North Battleford U15 Northwest Stars stopped in Spiritwood for a game against the Yorkton Terriers on Saturday afternoon.

## Timberwolves open playoffs with loss

Fresh off a 2021-2022 regular season in which they managed to score just two victories, the Spiritwood Timberwolves entered the Saskatchewan Prairie Hockey League playoffs as clear underdogs against the undefeated Meota Combines.

They certainly didn't disappoint the oddsmakers in game one of the best-of-five series, which opened in North Battleford on Sunday evening, suffering a 13-1 steam-rolling at the hands of the Combines.

For the Timberwolves, Delano Tipewan managed the only point: an unassisted goal.

Meanwhile, Combines forward Jayden Nachtgeale had a strong outing, scoring four goals on the night. Calvin Coczka was right behind him with three goals and an assist, while

Bryce Gatzke scored two goals and two assists, and Aaron Cadrin netted two goals.

Rounding out the goal sheet, Justin Waskewitch scored a goal and tacked on two helpers, and Michael Pylypow earned a goal and an assist.

As for assists, Ty Anderson supplied three, Taylor Tatchell earned two, and Kyle Gregoire and Ty Steacy had one apiece.

With game one done and dusted, this weekend could spell the end of the hockey season for the Timberwolves.

On Friday, Feb. 11, the team will host the Combines for game two of the series. Puck drop for the match is scheduled for 8:30 p.m.

The next night, the action returns to North Battleford for game three. Puck drop is set for 8 p.m.

## Campsite Reservation Dates Announced for 2022

Reservations for the 2022 camping season in Saskatchewan Provincial Parks are set to begin April 18 for seasonal campsites and April 19-26 for nightly, Camp-Easy and group campsites.

To start planning your camping season visit [SaskParks.com](http://SaskParks.com) for the full schedule.



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

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

# AGRICULTURE

February 10, 2022

www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald 7

## Sustainability, research go hand-in-hand

Earlier this month, the Government of Canada announced that it would be making an investment in clean technology “focused on supporting farmers through the challenges of today – from droughts to extreme weather – while taking climate action to build a healthy future for generations to come.”

Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Marie-Claude Bibeau, announced the first wave of 60 approved projects under the Agricultural Clean Technology (ACT) Program. With \$17.9 million for projects across Canada, farmers and agri-businesses

will have access to the latest clean technologies. This will help farmers adapt to a changing climate and boost their long-term competitiveness, all while cutting emissions. This funding is focused on three priority areas: green energy and energy efficiency; precision agriculture; and the bioeconomy.

But will the investment be effective?

Certainly, farmers are going to welcome anything that supports the idea of sustainability, since to have a business to pass on to another generation, or sell, the land must still be productive.

So, most farmers have



CALVIN DANIELS

tried to be sustainable.

Of course, how that is accomplished is a matter some will debate.

Some see a need to return to a system that looks to build soil through crop residue and crop rotations.

Others simply see the an-

swer to sustainability being the use of fertilizer, albeit most would be quite happy to fine-tune applications to save money.

But is continual use of fertilizer sustainable? Are the processes of fertilizer production energy efficient in a changing world?

Then again there are certainly those who think of the warnings of climate change as being little more than someone crying wolf when it's really just the wind howling. They reason that climate change has always occurred through the centuries, and this is simply that process happening again.

That would be a reasonable way to look at it, but it suggests that the massive human population of earth today, the garbage we produce, the emissions our machines produce, the impact of what we do daily, has no effect on our world.

At best, that suggestion would seem wishful thinking, and at worst it is outright folly – a case of the ostrich with its head stuck, in this case, in the pile of refuse we create daily.

That is why farmers, researchers, and governments need to take the idea of climate change to heart. It will be too late to adapt if we

don't start changing processes now.

If, in the end, change is a mirage, we have simply instituted better practices.

But if the changes predicted are real, farmers need to know how to best adapt to a climate that in Saskatchewan may well be hotter, drier, with more severe weather events mixed in, than we are currently used to.

That is where sustainability will need the hand of research, in developing crops better suited to changed conditions, with fertilizer regimes that work in a system different from the one we use today.

## The 2022 balancing act: growth, innovation, risk management

Canadian producers are encouraged to lean into their strategic planning skills this year to meet what's ahead. According to the FCC economic outlooks, challenges impacting the food supply chain will continue but the demand for commodities and food means there is opportunity for growth, indicating a need for farms, agribusinesses and food processors to innovate and manage risk.

The latest FCC outlook for the grains, oilseeds and pulses sector suggests prices will remain strong into 2022, due in part to the low national and global supply of these commodities amplified last year by the drought in western Canada.

“There is plenty of optimism for this sector looking at the year ahead; however, two of the biggest economic trends that could impact profitability are rising crop input costs and the impact of global political tensions on

trade,” said J.P. Gervais, FCC's chief economist. “I can't emphasize enough the value of farm management and strategic thinking. Producers need to continue to plan for disruptions like we've seen in the past year.”

These elevated prices mean seeded acres of soybeans and canola are projected to climb in 2022, while corn acres are likely to come down because of the high cost of fertilizer. The price of fertilizer skyrocketed last year and is anticipated to stop increasing at a fast pace, but nonetheless remain elevated.

The cattle market is also signaling strong prices for 2022. The number of fed cattle in 2022 is forecast to decline and because of high feed costs, fed cattle will likely be marketed at lower weights, causing volume by weight to decline. However, given higher prices, cattle receipts should grow. The drought seriously impacted access to feed, resulting in some cattle producers downsiz-

ing their operations.

“The pandemic has impacted buying decisions in the grocery aisles. Canadian beef consumption slowed in 2021, but the positive five-year trend in consumption pre-pandemic is expected to resume while export demand remains robust,” Gervais explained.

Consumer appetite for dairy products grew in 2021 but not to the expected level. With the increasing costs for feed and energy, the Canadian Dairy Commission is increasing the support price for butter. While the dairy farm price is expected to experience an increase, milk output at the farm level could see only limited growth.

After strong growth in hog receipts in 2021, there is limited growth potential for 2022. Hog prices are projected to decline slightly and with marginal growth in production. High feed prices will challenge profitability and may hinder production growth.

Gervais offers the following tips for producers to build resilience and capitalize on opportunities to advance their operations:

- Strategy – keep an eye on long-term objectives, including growth. Think about the integration of operational, marketing and financial plans.
- Innovation – consider the technological changes, efficiencies and sustainable practices that would provide an edge to your operation.
- Risk Management – develop scenarios to determine exposure to unfavourable market trends, interest rate increases, higher input prices, trade impacts or weather events.
- Execution – Surround yourself with skilled resources to help you assess and adjust your financial and marketing plans as the economy and markets evolve.

MEADOW LAKE LIVESTOCK SALES LTD.



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

Wed., Feb. 23, 2022

Regular Sale 9:00 a.m.

Presorted Internet Calf Sale 12:00 p.m.

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

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

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

PRINCE ALBERT LIVESTOCK SALES

A Division of Northern Livestock Sales



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

Fri., Feb. 11, 2022

Bred Cow, Heifer & Pair Sale 1:00 p.m.

Mon., Feb. 14, 2022

Regular Sale 8:30 a.m., Presort Sale 11:00 a.m.

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



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# Fast Genetics acquires Acuity Ag Solutions

Fast Genetics has acquired Illinois-based swine genetics company Acuity Ag Solutions.

Founded in Spiritwood by the Fast family in 1982, Fast Genetics became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Canadian pork producer Hylife in 2006 before being purchased by STgen in 2015.

Fast Genetics will continue to lead the industry in providing producers with the most stable supply of high health, balanced and efficient genetics while utilizing the industry's most innovative and impactful technologies, such as sex-sorted sperm and advanced DNA testing. The addition of Acuity further increases Fast Genetics' footprint

in the US marketplace and will better allow both parties to serve pork producers across North America and worldwide.

Fast Genetics and Acuity customers will now have access to genetic lines from both entities, as well as gene transfer centres, multiplication supply, technical services, genetic teams, and transformational technology.

"Fast Genetics' acquisition of Acuity Ag Solutions from The Maschhoffs is one more step in our commitment to Create the Future with the utilization of advanced technologies," said Dr. Gregg BeVier, CEO of Fast Genetics.

The complementary nature of Fast Genetics and Acuity's sup-

ply chains, sales infrastructure, genetic line sizes, nucleus farm locations, and personnel will significantly benefit their customers.

Fast Genetics and Acuity share the same belief and passion for delivering the most value to customers through a "commodity plus strategy".

The Maschhoffs formed Acuity in the mid-2000s with that strategy in mind. They selected for a full-value pig tailored to their commercial production system and successfully launched the availability of their products to the rest of the industry in 2020.

The Maschhoffs are the largest family-owned pork pro-

ducer in the US, with about 180,000 sows. They were ranked number six in the US and number 18 globally on the National Hog Farmer's 2020 Global Mega producer list. Acuity is credited for developing a novel genetic selection program capable of using a Commercial Test Herd to establish a proven crossbred EBV program.

"We are excited about this next phase of genetic development within The Maschhoffs system. This new alignment with Fast Genetics will add considerable value to our pork value chain," said Dr. Bradley Wolter, CEO of The Maschhoffs.

Acuity will continue to provide genetics for The Maschhoffs

system.

Collaboratively, we are looking forward to a bright future in maximizing the value that we can deliver to producers around the world. "Our new partnership will give producers a wider variety of products to access and will increase our nucleus herd size for more rapid genetic improvement. With the best people, genetics, and technologies, we are well-positioned to grow our global distribution together," said Juan F Moreno, CEO of STgen.

Through the transition phase, both Fast Genetics and Acuity say they will operate independently and continue to "deliver value to customers."

## Minutes of a Shell Lake council meeting

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

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Village of Shell Lake in the Province of Saskatchewan held on Wednesday Dec. 22, 2021, at 7 p.m. in the Village Council Chambers.

Present: Mayor Anita Weiers, Councillor Greg Ardagh, Councillor Joe Delisle, Councillor Al Sulymka, Councillor Dillan Simonar, and Tara Bueckert, Administrator.

A quorum was present and Mayor Anita Weiers called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

Delisle: That the agenda be accepted with the following additions: Audit,

Business License. Carried

Sulymka: That the minutes of the Nov. 15, 2021, meeting be adopted as presented. Carried

Ardagh: Council approve the presented Bank Statement for the month of November as presented. Carried

Simonar: That Council approve the presented Financial Statement Summary for month of November as presented. Carried

Sulymka: That Council approve the list of accounts presented cheque number 6220-6241 and the manual online payment in the amount of \$52,975.26. Carried

Sulymka: That we send a letter to Mr. H located at Lot 2 Block 15 Plan #BT4617

that he has 2 weeks to move one (1) camper off of his property and to move the other camper onto his property. Carried

Delisle: That the verbal Maintenance, Administrator, Mayor, Fire Chief, and Water reports be filed as presented. Carried

Simonar: That the Village of Shell Lake send the Administrator to a workshop on March 24, 2022, for a cost of \$150. Carried

Sulymka: That Village of Shell Lake Council approves of the first draft of the proposed subdivision plan and that we proceed with subdividing 4 lots located on Parcel 10 Plan #63B09538 in the NE ¼, Section 11 Township 50, Range 8, W3rd. M. Carried

Simonar: That we set dates for Council Meetings for the year 2022 as follows: - Jan. 17, Feb. 14, March 21, April 18, May

16, June 20, July 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21, and Dec. 19. Carried

Sulymka: That we appoint Bernadette Mysko to the Shell Lake Museum Board. Carried

Sulymka: That the 2020 Draft Financial Statement dated Dec. 21, 2021, be approved and that no subsequent events have occurred that would affect these statements and no unrecorded contingencies have been identified. Carried

Weiers: That the meeting be adjourned at 11:02 a.m.



**CHECK IT OUT!**

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[www.shellbrookchronicle.com](http://www.shellbrookchronicle.com)  
 Spiritwood Herald Website  
[www.spiritwoodherald.com](http://www.spiritwoodherald.com)

## 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

**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

**MENNONITE BRETHREN CHURCH**  
 Blaine Lake Gospel Chapel  
 109 Railway Ave. W.  
 Blaine Lake  
 306-497-3316  
 Sunday, 10:30 a.m.  
 Worship

**EVANGELICAL FREE**  
 Big River  
 11:00 a.m. - Worship  
 Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.  
 Summer: 10:30 a.m. - 12  
 306-469-2258  
 Youth Nite: Fridays  
 Mont Nebo  
 Bible Study & Prayer  
 Sun., 11:00 a.m. - Worship  
 Pastor Bill Klumpenhower

**UNITED CHURCH**  
 Big River  
 Sundays  
 10 a.m. - Worship  
 at Anglican Church  
 Rev. Dave Whalley  
 306-747-2804

**CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
 Debden  
 Sun. Mass - 9:30 a.m.  
 Fr. Dong Doan  
 Big River - Sacred Heart  
 Sun., 11:30 a.m. - Mass  
 Whitefish  
 Sun., 2:30 p.m. - Mass.  
 Victoire  
 Sat., 7:30 p.m. - Mass.  
 Fr. Dong Doan  
 St. Agatha's - Shellbrook  
 Mass - Sunday 11 a.m.  
 St. Henry's - Leask  
 Mass - Sunday - 9 a.m.  
 Mistawasis  
 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

## PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

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

**UNITED /ANGLICAN**  
 Worship Services  
 Glaslyn  
 Time is on the sign  
 Rev. Kun Kim  
 Rev. Don Skinner

**CATHOLIC SUNDAY**  
 Spiritwood - 11:15 a.m.  
 Leoville - 9:30 a.m.  
 Shell Lake - 2:00 p.m.  
 Chitek Lake - Closed for  
 the Season  
 Everyone Welcome  
**SATURDAY**  
 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 - 11:00 am

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

**Gideons International of Canada**  
 Battlefords Camp  
 Phone Art Martynes  
 (306) 389-4633

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

**LAKELAND COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
 (Corner of 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. and 4<sup>th</sup>  
 St., Spiritwood)  
 Sun., 11 am - Worship  
 Service & Sunday School  
 Pastor Michael Kluthe  
 306-883-2380

**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

## Canadian tennis stars on the rise

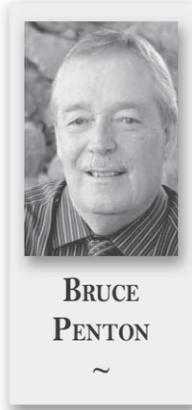
Canada's status on the world professional tennis stage skyrocketed in Melbourne in January, but Denis Shapovalov and Felix Auger-Aliassime still haven't reached the peak of the mountain.

The two Canadians — virtual kids in the world of professional sports — both made the quarter-finals of 2022's first tennis major of the season, and while both gamely battled against higher-ranked and more experienced foes, they both limped to the sidelines with only a few hundred thousand dollars bulging out of their pockets to save the wounds of defeat.

The silverware will have to wait. But it seems inevitable that it won't be long before baubles from either Melbourne; Paris, where the French Open is played; London, where Wimbledon is staged each July; or New York, site of late summer's U.S. Open, are being lugged through Canadian customs by either Shapovalov or Auger-Aliassime.

Shapovalov, who was born in Israel to a tennis professional mother, grew up in Greater Toronto (Vaughan) and is only 22 years old, still dealing with immature petulance and brattiness. His skill, however, allowed him to breeze through the first three rounds in Melbourne before facing Spanish star and eventual champion Rafael Nadal, now the owner of a record 21 Grand Slam titles, in the quarter-finals. After losing the first two sets, Shapovalov won the next two to force a deciding set and while momentum was seemingly on his side, the experience of Nadal won out, sending the Canadian to the sidelines.

The next day, the 21-year-old Auger-Aliassime, seeded ninth, was on the verge of upsetting No. 2 seed Daniil Medvedev of Russia, before faltering in the latter half of the match. Auger-Aliassime was up two sets to love before a rain delay



BRUCE  
PENTON

slowed the Canadian's momentum and gave Medvedev the chance to regroup. The Russian eventually prevailed in five sets.

Youth would seem to be on the side of the two Canadians, whose primary opponents on the world stage are all older. Nadal is 35; Novak Djokovic, ranked No. 1 in the world but absent at Melbourne due to a COVID-19 controversy, is 34. Medvedev is 26. Other than Italy's Jannik Sinner, who is 20, the two Canadians are the youngest among the world's top 20 players.

With the emergence

last year of Leylah-Annie Fernandez, who joined Breanna Andreescu among the world's elite women tennis players, Canada is becoming somewhat of a world power in the sport. The Grand Slam breakthrough on the men's side seems to be inevitable. How about a Wimbledon final featuring Shapovalov and Auger-Aliassime? That would certainly have the Canadian flags flapping.

• Headline at the onion.com: "Lakers fans frustrated with volatile hot dog prices in Crypto.Com Arena"

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "Aaron Rodgers is under trade rumours and the galloping joke is he's taken so much Ivermectin he'll have to play for the Broncos or Colts. This information could be true; apparently it came from the horse's mouth."

• Blogger Patti Dawn Swansson: "Oh my, what was E-Town Elks GM/head coach Chris Jones thinking when he signed

receivers Adarius Bowman and Manny Arce-neaux? I'm not saying they're old, but the only place you'll find their rookie cards is at an archaeological dig."

• Comedy writer Brad Dickson of Omaha: "Every time someone praises Patrick Mahomes for his 'good decision making', I know they're not very familiar with his fiancée."

• fark.com headline: "If you ever wanted to be an NHL goaltender, give the Buffalo Sabres a call"

• From SI.com: "Tom Brady on his first career unsportsmanlike penalty. 'So I screamed at the ref to throw the flag, and he did. But I guess I need to be more specific with who he needs to throw the flag on.'"

• Hall of Fame linebacker Dick Butkus, who recently joined Twitter: "Fantasy football is what guys played after I hit them."

• Stanford play-by-play broadcaster Scott Reiss, on the Bills losing the OT coin toss against the

Chiefs: "Pretty much the only mistake Josh Allen made in two weeks was call 'tails.'"

• Islanders Hall of Famer Clark Gillies, who died at 67 on Jan. 21, when once asked where his native Moose Jaw was located: "Six feet from the moose's ass."

• Janice Hough of leftcoastsportsbabe.com, on diva WR Antonio Brown still drawing NFL interest, apparently this time from Ravens QB Lamar Jackson: "It's all part of the league's strict superstar policy: '17 strikes and you're out.'"

• Steve Simmons of SunMedia: "What's in a name? The Chicago Bears fired a coach named Matt (Nagy) and a GM named Ryan (Pace) and turned around and hired a coach named Matt (Eberflus) and a GM named Ryan (Poles). There's no truth to the rumour their next quarterback will be Matt Ryan."

Care to comment? Email [brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca](mailto:brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca)

## Silvertips head into playoffs on winning note

The Shellbrook Silvertips closed out their regular season campaign with a pair of home games, hosting the Clavet Cougars on Friday night and the Waldheim Warriors on Sunday evening.

The Tips scored hard-fought wins in both matches, giving them plenty of momentum as they head into the post-season in search of a Twin Rivers Hockey League title.

### Tips (8) vs Cougars (5)

The Silvertips came out firing on all cylinders when they welcomed the Clavet Cougars on Friday, quickly racking up the shots and playing much of the frame in the offensive end but failing to find the back of the net.

In the end, it was the Cougars who struck first, when Mathew Hawkes took a cross-crease feed from Dillan Sawoski and fired a one-timer into a wide-open Tips goal.

Undeterred, the Tips continued their furious charge until Nathaniel Martin took a setup from Braidon Turner and blasted it into the Cougars' goal to tie the match at 1-1.

Just 30 seconds later, Gage Helm pounced on a loose puck

in front of the Clavet goal and put the Tips up 2-1. Dylan Smith and Turner assisted on the play.

From here, the Tips continued to control the period through fast-paced and aggressive play. However, despite some opportunities on a late penalty kill, they failed to build up their lead any further.

The Tips came out just as strong in the second period. The difference this time being that they managed to turn their offence into points. Turner struck first, scoring unassisted on a beautiful backhand goal. Then, less than 30 seconds later, Helm blasted home his second of the night from the slot. Brendon Canaday and Smith assisted on the goal.

In what quickly became a highlight reel of a period, the Cougars clawed their way back into the match with a power play goal from Sawoski, assisted by Chase Unger and Tayden Wallin.

Finding themselves on another penalty kill just a minute later, the Tips struck back when Turner took a stretch pass and made the most of it. Smith and Martin earned assists for the

goal.

The Tips continued to apply pressure for much of the rest of the period and scored three more unanswered goals, starting with a marker from Justin Kerr after a beautiful series of passes from Dallas Galloway and Jody Blais.

Smith was up next, scooping up a juicy rebound in front of the Clavet goal and redirecting it home. Helm and Turner earned helpers on the play.



Silvertip Braidon Turner fires a shot past the outstretched pads of Clavet goalie Casey Fitzsimmons for a Shellbrook goal.

Finally, Martin tallied his second goal of the night on a feed from behind the Cougars' goal, putting the Tips up by a commanding margin of 8-2. Smith and Helm assisted on the goal.

The Cougars weren't ready to roll over and play dead, however, scoring late in the period on a beautiful top-shelf shot from Martial Hodgson. Ryan Dickson earned the lone assist.

In a comparatively quiet third period, the Tips appeared to

run out of steam and struggled to execute the way they had through the first 40 minutes of action. On their heels for much of the frame, the Tips had a chance to find their rhythm again on a 5-on-3 power play. Instead, it was the Cougars who found the back of the net.

Sawoski scored the short-hander, with an assist from Dickson.

With time winding down, the Tips held on for dear life and surrendered just one more goal on what started out as a harmless rush. Aiden Cummins scored the goal, with assists from Bryan Harder and Unger, to put the final score at 8-5.

As of Tuesday morning, the scorecard for the Tips' match against the Waldheim Warriors on Sunday evening had yet to be posted. However, the team scored a narrow 5-4 victory in their regular season with a record of 12-5-0-1 and a third-place finish in the standings.

This means the Tips will meet the Dalmeny Sabres in the first round of the playoffs. Game one of the best-of-five series is set for this Friday, Feb. 11, at 8:30 p.m.

# Money Matters

## How to be a smart credit consumer

Financial planning encompasses a host of strategies designed to help people enjoy the fruits of their labours. Financial planning is often associated with saving for retirement. However, smart credit management is an integral component of financial planning that can begin paying dividends long before adults are ready to retire.

Capital One notes that the benefits of a good credit score include lower credit card and mortgage interest rates, which can save individuals tens of thousands of dollars over the life of their home loans. In addition, the Federal Trade Commission reports that the better an individual's credit history, the easier it is for that person to establish utility services, including electricity and internet service.

With so much to gain, individuals should do everything

they can to be smart credit consumers. These strategies can help consumers use credit to their advantage as they look to gain from this vital component of financial planning.

- Recognize the factors that affect your score. A credit score is generated using a formula that takes various factors into consideration. These factors include payment history, credit utilization rate, length of credit history, and credit inquiries, among others. Each variable is important, but paying balances in full and on time each month is a great way to build a strong financial reputation in the eyes of creditors. In addition, avoid overutilization of credit, especially if you can't pay balances in full each month.

- Check credit before looking for a job. One easily overlooked benefit of being a smart credit consumer is its impact



on individuals' ability to find a good job. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau urges individuals to check their credit reports before they begin looking for a job so they can correct any mistakes that may be on their reports. That's because some employers look at applicants' credit reports as part of their background

checks. Smart credit consumers recognize that monitoring their credit is just as important as utilizing it wisely. Consumers can access reports from each of the three main credit reporting agencies (Equifax, Experian and TransUnion) for free once every 12 months.

- Don't wing it. Much like successful retirement plan-

ning is often the culmination of decades of hard work, strategizing and saving, becoming a smart credit consumer involves commitment to a well-developed plan to utilize credit. Impulsive use of credit can quickly compromise individuals' credit histories and financial reputations, so develop a plan to use credit wisely and stick to that plan. A successful credit utilization strategy should be rooted in paying bills on time, and ideally in full, each month to avoid potentially costly interest charges. Identify any bad credit utilization habits and do your best to eliminate them. If necessary, work with a financial planner to develop your credit utilization strategy.

Various strategies can help individuals become smart credit consumers and reap the rewards that a strong financial reputation has to offer.

## Simple strategies to stretch retirement savings

Running out of money is a common concern among retirees. And that anxiety is not necessarily unfounded, as a recent study from the Society of Actuaries found that people routinely underestimate just how much money they will need in retirement. Similarly, a 2019 model created by the employee benefit experts at EBRI found that nearly 41 percent of households in which the head of household is between the ages of 35 and 64 are projected to run short of money in retirement.

Such figures underscore how important it is for younger professionals to save for retirement, but what about current retirees or those on the cusp of retiring? Individuals who fit those descriptions may need to embrace these strategies designed to stretch their retirement savings.

- Downsize your home. Homes are many individuals' greatest expense, and that does not necessarily change in retirement. Downsizing to a smaller resi-

dence allows homeowners to pad their savings with money earned in the sale of their homes and also reduce their monthly overhead, as utilities, property taxes, and maintenance expenditures are typically much lower in smaller homes than larger homes.

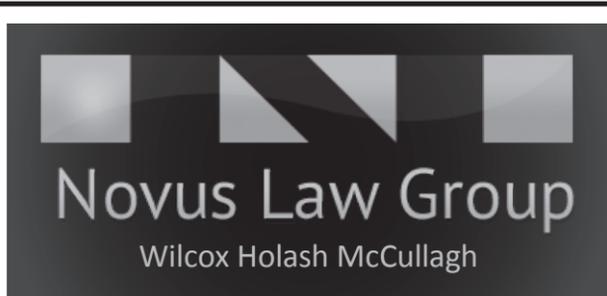
- Look for other ways to downsize. Individuals also can stretch their retirement savings by downsizing in other areas. Lower monthly expenses by shopping around for less expensive auto insurance policies, downgrading cable television packages or cutting the cord entirely. And though individual streaming services may not be too costly, these expenses can add up for individuals who have five or more subscriptions. Downsizing streaming services to one or two packages at a time can help individuals keep more money in their retirement savings accounts each month.

- Be flexible with your withdrawals. The "set it and forget it" model of retirement investing helps professionals avoid the tricky process of trying to predict

the markets. Retirees may take the same approach when it comes to withdrawing their money, following the industry standard and automatically withdrawing 4 per cent from their accounts each year. But individuals who want to stretch their savings should remain flexible with their annual withdrawals and routinely examine their spending habits. An individualized approach to retirement withdrawals can help retirees avoid taking more than they need out of their accounts each year. The 4 per cent rule has its merits, but retirees should recognize that they may not need to take that much out every year.

- Work with a financial advisor. Ensuring you don't outlive your retirement savings can be complicated, as it often involves navigating fluid concepts such as inflation. A certified financial professional can help retirees plan for changes that are beyond their control and even recommend when certain risks might be worth taking.

Many individuals will need to stretch their retirement savings in the years ahead, and various strategies can help individuals do so.



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# Money Matters

## Simple steps to help you take control of debt

(NC) For many people, debt is a fact of life — a situation the COVID-19 pandemic has made worse for some Canadians.

According to a COVID-19 financial well-being survey conducted by the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada, over half of Canadians have been financially impacted by the pandemic.

In these challenging times, it's a good idea to have a realistic plan to pay back your debt.

Here are a few tips to help you get started.

### Identify what you owe

Make a list and for each one, list the total amount you owe, your minimum monthly payment and the interest rate.

### Decide on a strategy

Create your plan:

- Choose a timeframe that is reasonable and affordable.
- Decide which debts to pay off first, depending on the type and considering things like interest rates.

- Work directly with your bank and creditors to discuss your financial situation.

### Review your budget

If you don't have a budget, take some time to make one. Having a budget that lays out your income and expenses is an effective way to manage your day-to-day finances. It will help you figure out how much money you get, spend and save.

### Consolidate your debts

You may consider applying for a loan or line of credit to pay off multiple debts with high interest rates. Consolidating your debts means you'll only have to make one monthly payment rather than paying each one individually, and the interest rate could potentially be lower. Contact your financial institution to discuss whether this is an option that could work for you.

Managing debt isn't always easy, but there are resources to help you. Find unbiased and fact-based information you can count on at [canada.ca/money](http://canada.ca/money).



## How to account for a rising cost of living

Cost of living is a significant component of financial planning. The cost of living may dictate where people live and work, and a high cost of living can influence how individuals spend their free time.

Data from Statistics Canada indicates that consumer prices rose 4.1 per cent and 5.3 per cent in August 2021 in Canada and the United States, respectively. As Ca-

nadians headed to the polls in late September, a survey from Abacus Data found that 38 per cent felt reducing their cost of living was a key factor affecting their vote. Similarly, a 2020 survey from TD Ameritrade found that 47 per cent of Americans feel that cost of living is the biggest threat to their financial security and long-term investments. It's worth noting that the

survey was conducted prior to the pandemic. Since the onset of the pandemic, cost of living has increased considerably.

Though the fight against a rising cost of living can feel like an uphill battle, individuals can take steps to prepare for such increases.

Apply lessons learned during the pandemic. A study, conducted by Ipsos, found that roughly 1 in 10

workers in Canada lost their jobs through 2020. That period coincides with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. When forced to confront sudden and unexpected job losses, millions of individuals learned how to get by on less income. Cost-saving measures adopted during the pandemic can be continued or reimplemented, helping individuals to combat higher energy costs and other rising expenses.

Look for a new job or fresh income streams. A rising cost of living is a concern for people from all walks of life, but it may be especially concerning for retirees or individuals with costs like childcare that can be hard to pare back. In such instances, individuals can look for new a job or fresh income

streams. According to the Q3 2021 CNBC | Momentive Small Business Survey, 50 per cent of small business owners say it's gotten harder to find qualified people to hire compared to a year ago. And nearly one-third of survey respondents indicate they have open roles they have not been able to fill for at least three months. Individuals can explore local employment opportunities in an effort to find a new, more lucrative job that can help them combat a rising cost of living. Others who want to remain in their jobs can look for part-time work to supplement their existing income.

Consider relocating. The pandemic forced many companies to transition from in office working to remote working overnight.

That trial by fire could have lasting results. A 2020 survey of 317 Chief Financial Officers and leaders in the finance industry found that 74 per cent will move at least 5 per cent of their previously on-site workforce to permanently remote positions after the pandemic ends. The survey, conducted by Gartner, Inc., also found that nearly one-quarter of respondents will move at least 20 per cent of their on-site workers to permanently remote positions. That could make it possible for millions of working professionals to relocate to regions with a lower cost of living than their current towns or cities.

The cost of living might be on the rise. But individuals can combat that increase in various ways.

## Simple ways to finesse your financial prowess

(NC) Saving money is easier said than done, but with small changes it isn't as hard as you might think.

"There are things that everyone can do to improve their finances," shares Barry Choi, Toronto-based personal finance expert. "Take a step back, look at your money and expenses, see where there might be gaps, and make positive and proactive changes."

Keep more cash in your pocket by following these expert-approved tips:

### Become a brilliant budgeter

You work hard for your money, but do you know where it all goes each month? If not, writing down how much money you have coming in and where you spend it each month can help you to determine where you can cut back and save.

### Destroy your debt

Owing money is expensive. One of the easiest ways to hold on to more of your pay cheque each month is to start chipping away at your debt. Whether you choose to tackle your debt with the lowest balance or highest interest rate first, it's essential to set a game plan to get out of the hole.

### Build your "uh-oh" fund

If an emergency happened, would you be financially prepared to handle it? The past two years have taught us all the value of having money set aside for a rainy day. If you don't have one set up, start building an emergency account with funds to cover at least three months' worth of expenses. It's doesn't matter how small you start.

### Make your list, and check it twice

Are you guilty of impulse buying? Going shopping without a plan can wreak havoc on your bank account. Before heading out, make a list of everything you need and check for deals to ensure you're getting the best possible price.

### Level up your loyalty rewards

Do you collect loyalty rewards? One simple way to get more for less while shopping is to make the most of these programs. Load your offers, review the flyer, shop on dedicated points days and save up your points for special redemption events to maximize your savings. This can make a surprising difference, in 2021 alone, Canadians earned 990 billion PC Optimum points.

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## OBITUARIES

*Dean Roland Joseph Horn*Dean Roland Joseph Horn  
1974 – 2022

It is with great sadness and broken hearts that we announce the tragic and sudden passing of Dean Horn "Wet Willy" of Saskatoon, SK, on January 26, 2022 in Spiritwood at the

age of 47. Dean was born in Spiritwood on November 15, 1974.

Dean leaves to cherish his memory his wife Denise and her daughters Nikki, Amber and Miranda; his parents, Joe and Isabelle Horn; his mother-in-law, Gale Wourms; his sister and brothers-in-law, Shelley (Don) Scott, Bayne (Gloria) Wourms, Tracey (Kim) Beblow, Chad (Lisa) Wourms and Amy (Darwin) Nicholls; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

He was raised on the family farm near Mildred, where he was involved in 4H. He graduated from Spiritwood High School in 1994, and

then attended Lakeland College in Vermillion to study Livestock Production. He finally found his true love in August 2012 when he met his wife Denise at the local rodeo where he was doing his best "clowning around". It was love at first sight for Dean and he was never giving up. He worked hard to convince Denise they were meant to be. He won her over and they were married in July 2015. He always found a way to work with cattle. He was a huge member in the cattle family and within the different stockyards around the province. He also continued to be an active member of 4H throughout his adult life as a leader, judge and mentor as

it was his true passion. He also loved sports with softball and slow pitch being his favorite to play. No matter what Dean was involved in he gave it his all. He made everyone laugh until they cried and cared for everyone he met. There will be a graveside service at the Mildred South Cemetery in the spring or summer.

Family and friends wishing to send online condolences or share memories of Dean are welcome to visit [www.beaulacfuneralhome.com](http://www.beaulacfuneralhome.com). Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home and Crematorium, Delores Beaulac, Funeral Director, Spiritwood, SK, (306) 883-3500.

*Eleanor Lutz*

LUTZ – Eleanor

The family of Eleanor Lutz, sadly announce her passing on January 23, 2022, at the age of 61 years.

Eleanor was always a very bubbly and compassionate person, offering a hand to anyone who asked. She always looked after others, ensuring they had a good meal or shared a kind word. She relished the summers spent at Redberry Lake, one of her favorite places, and loved to fish. Eleanor was a woman of many talents, among which were her beautiful

singing ability and she enjoyed performing at various functions.

Eleanor will be lovingly remembered by her husband, Ivan Lutz; her mother, Rose Bailey; her siblings, Bill Bailey, Rob Bailey, Gena Bailey, Bonny Degnean and Brenda Morro; her grandchildren, Bella, Jalin and Maxwell; her sister, Monica (Barry) Bailey; her mother-in-law, Zeta Lutz; as well as numerous other family and friends. Eleanor was predeceased by her father, Bill Bailey Sr.

No formal service will be held at this time. In lieu of other tributes, donations in memory of Eleanor may be made to the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency, 200 – 4545 Parliament Avenue, Regina, SK, S4W 0G3.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home, Tracy-Lynn Lenchuk, Funeral Director, Spiritwood, SK 306-883-3500.

*Lois Mary Adella Simonar*

SIMONAR – Lois Mary Adella

It is with great sadness to announce the passing of our mother and grandmother Lois Mary Adella Simonar (West) born November 25th, 1938, on the farm in the Shell River area. She passed away on Saturday, January 29th, 2022 at Shellbrook with family by her side.

Grant and Marion West were married June 16th, 1938, and they had 4 children. Lois Mary Adella Simonar (West) was born November 25th, 1938. She was the first of 4 children, Gordon (Red), Della and Judy.

Born on the farm into the hands of a midwife, with frost on the walls and a sod floor of the log cabin. That is where life began for mom. She arrived on the day of a nasty blizzard. Quote, "I was a colicky, bow legged, pigeon toed, pointy headed, little irish tex".

Life was busy and full for Grant, Marion and the kids. They took in borders, teachers, relatives, and even some children. They had a very open house policy.

As mom grew older, she helped her mom in the kitchen, as well as dusting, sweeping and candling the

eggs. And after some time, she went outside to help on the farm. Quote, "I, being the eldest was a cow puncher, drove tractors, trucks, worked horses on hay rack, hitch up the team to go threshing, cleaned barns and hauled feed with the horses." Mom, Red, and Rita Mowat helped thresh with two teams and three racks.

In the winter, working hands went to music. They had many parties at the farm, for everyone. They enjoyed listening to anyone who played the guitar, violin, steel guitar, and harp. As well as played poker with matches and many sliding skiing parties. And dancing, lots and lots of dancing. Mom said, "They even made beer! One bottle could knock you over."

Mom loved to dance. And it was at a dance where she

met and fell in love with Keith Simonar. The two were married at the United Church in Shell Lake, Sask. June 30, 1960. And together they had 2 children, Stuart, born December 9th, 1963, and Valerie, born August 13th, 1965.

Mom was a homemaker, cake decorator, hairdresser, seamstress, Arabian horse breeder and trainer, landscaper, crocheter, cook, baker, babysitter. Mom was many things, but most of all she was our rock, our safe haven. She had a voice to scare many, the temper to be reckoned with, but above all... she had a heart of gold, and undying love of life.

She was our mom, and we will miss you in every moment of everyday, every breath we take, we take for you. You are finally home... We love you always and forev-

er, your kids and grandkids.

Lois is survived by her loving family: her children, Stuart Simonar of Shell Lake, SK and his children, Tiana, Brock and Amber, step-granddaughter Jayda, her daughter Valerie (Merv Dust) of Shell Lake, SK, her sisters, Della (Jim) Schira of Spiritwood, SK, Judy Neufeld of Rosthern, SK, her brother and sister-in-law, Ina and Homer Good of Grand Forks, BC, numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. She was predeceased by her loving husband Keith Simonar, her parents, Grant and Marion West, brother Gordon and Liz West,

Jack Chaykowski and her granddaughter Angela Rose Chaykowski.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

The family would like to express their gratitude to the staff at the Parkland Integrated Health Centre in Shellbrook for their care and compassion.

Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit [www.beaulacfuneralhome.com](http://www.beaulacfuneralhome.com). Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home, Delores Beaulac, Funeral Director, Spiritwood, SK 306-883-3500

## GOOD NEWS

## FACING OUR FEARS

I came across this title and I think it speaks volumes. I know as a believer I haven't been given a "spirit of fear" as I Timothy 1:7 says. Yet, I do experience the emotion of fear from time to time.

I like King Jehoshaphat, because I read he had to face down his fears. The enemy took him by surprise without any warning they were only 15 miles from Jerusalem, less a day's March. The Bible says, "And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the Lord."

One writer put it this way "Jehoshaphat was badly frightened, and he admitted it — unlike some men who deny fear. It's too bad that they do, because the first step to over coming any anxiety is to face it."

Well, read 2 Chronicles 20. King Je-

hoshaphat did something unique. He sent a choir of singers ahead of his army and went off to battle with courage singing "Give thanks to the Lord for his love endures forever." (2 Chronicles 20:21)

Reading the Bible, we read that Israel and King Jehoshaphat got the victory that day.

I like what John Wayne said of courage. He said, "Courage is being scared to death, but saddling up anyway."

In 1979, I bought my first brand new car from Kingland Ford in Hay River N.W.T. It was a Ford Fiesta. I had moved to Calgary and on my way home to see my parents for Christmas I hit black ice between Fox Creek and White Court, Alta. To this day I have a healthy

fear or respect for icy road conditions.

Growing up in the Territories, I also had a great respect for semi trucks. Would you know it that day I would meet one heading south. In between me and the semi truck were two moose. They were literally standing on the Highway. I was about 20 years old at the time. It was getting to be day light and I could see the semi coming over on my side of the highway.

I said a quick prayer. My prayer was "God take me home if you want but don't let me suffer." I was prepared to be ushered to heaven but didn't want to come out of that little Ford mangled. Well, that day the Good Lord spared my life as well as the life of my passenger, Brian Davis. The semi literally hit the

back end of my Ford Fiesta and pushed me into the ditch.

The RCMP came by, and I was pulled out. I said to the officer I was heading home. He indicated it was no problem, he said put a damage sticker on it and I drove it. I drove it to Hay River and then back to Calgary where I got it repaired.

Do I fear black ice? Not enough to never face it. Fear is an emotion I will experience. But I will not allow it to grip me.

As Psalm 27:1 reads, "The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?"

Blessings,  
Pastor Bodvarson, SPA

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## CARD OF THANKS

I would like to thank everyone for the condolences and kind words you sent to me in the passing of Maurice. Thanks for the beautiful flowers and gifts of food. They were very much appreciated.  
Thanks to Dr. Person and the Spiritwood Home Care workers for their understanding, kindness, and guidance that made it possible for me to keep Maurice at home which was his wish and mine.  
A very special thanks to Pat Cross, Debbie & Rod Allen, Jillian Mayo, Geraldine Lavoie and Blaire & Eric Cross. Both Maurice and I appreciated your visits, baking and encouragement during this time. I will be forever grateful.  
Joyce Carriere

## MEMORIALS

In loving memory  
Henry Rydde  
August 11, 1927 -  
February 10, 2013



IF ROSES GROW IN HEAVEN  
If roses grow in Heaven Lord  
Please pick a bunch for me.  
Place them in my Grandfather's arms and tell him they're from me.  
Tell him that I love and miss him and when he turns to smile,  
Place a kiss upon his cheek and hold him for a while.  
Because remembering him is easy, I do it every day.  
But there is an ache within my heart that will never go away. 1-06

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A journey of 1000 miles begins with the first step. quovadis-ministry.org 4-07

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

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# Top AAS edibles add bounty and beauty

By Patricia Hanbidge

Last week we covered the ornamental winners and now we move onto my favourites - the edible plants that also add beauty to your garden. It was a pleasure to see Eggplant Icicle F1 as a winner of the prestigious AAS award. This eggplant has less spines than most of the eggplants so it is definitely more pleasurable to grow and harvest. The fruit is larger than any of the other white eggplants that I have seen and grown and each fruit itself contains fewer seeds. The plants themselves are vigorous and tend to be less susceptible to environmental and insect challenges. The white flesh stays truly white and does not yellow as many others will. It is lovely to enjoy either raw or cooked so a nice addition to your table at any time.

Oakleaf lettuce is one of my favourite lettuces to grow. Lettuce Bauer is the named 2022 AAS winner and it is fast to germinate and grow and at maturity it is a beautiful rosette-shaped full-sized head. As it is a uniform dark green colour and is also uniformly compact it can be grown anywhere. Try it in containers or in your home hydroponic grow operation as it not only is beautiful to see but has sweet, crisp and sturdy leaves. Definitely part of my salad garden.

There were two peppers that made the cut as an AAS Vegetable Winner in 2022. Pepper Buffy F1 is a delicious hot pepper that is not only beautiful in the garden but a tasty and fiery little pepper to consume. A good yield of juicy, thick-walled green to red fruits are produced on strong, healthy and upright plants. As the fruit is slightly larger, they are a great pepper to stuff as well. This is a beautiful and tasty addition to the garden!

Pepper Dragonfly F1 produces beautiful purple peppers that have thick, sweet walls. This

pepper starts out as green and transforms into a beautiful fully mature purple pepper. With a long enough season and enough heat units this pepper will transform into a beautiful, bright red colour. Edible at all stages of colour, it has a robust pepper flavour that is beautiful whether green, purple or red. The fruit is four-lobed and does not fade in colour. This is without doubt a great pepper to grow.

Bringing the latest AAS winners to you is a ritual of the new year. All-America Selections is an independent non-profit organization that tests new, never-before-sold varieties for the home gardener and has been in operation since 1932. Each year, after a full season of anonymous trialling by volunteer horticulture professionals, the top garden performers are given the AAS Winner award designation for their superior performance.

Try growing one or try growing them all as it is almost a guarantee of success in the garden. Next week, watch for the final edible winners and let's get growing.

Hanbidge is the lead horticulturist with *Orchid Horticulture*. Find us at [www.orchidhort.com](http://www.orchidhort.com); by email at [info@orchidhort.com](mailto:info@orchidhort.com); on facebook @ [orchidhort](https://www.facebook.com/orchidhort) and on instagram at [#orchidhort](https://www.instagram.com/orchidhort).



**Eggplant Icicle F1 has less spines than most of the eggplants, is larger, and contains fewer seeds.**

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Kennyah, 12  
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Photo Credit: Jessica Laforet Photography

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