

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

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Thursday, February 3, 2022

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NLEDC hosts ski and snowshoe trail event

With a goal of increasing the region's outdoor winter activity, the Northern Lakes Economic Development Corp. (NLEDC) put on an organized trail event in town on Saturday, Jan. 29 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

The event, named Winter Wonder 2022, aspired to get some people in town together to enjoy a good walk, ski, and snowshoe with a bonfire set up. There were about 23 people who participated in the event, including Heather Beauchesne, one of the organizers. They all met up at the Spiritwood Tourist Booth prior to starting the event.

The 3.5 km trail was developed within SAD SAAC Park, primarily traversing the former chuckwagon track. During the two weeks preceding the event, community volunteer Craig Thompson was enlisted to snowmobile the trail in an attempt to establish a packed route for cross country ski and snowshoe activity.

Even if the weather has been a constant challenge in January, with so much snow and blowing snow, the trail fortunately held up until the event took place on Saturday. The temperature was a balmy -9 degrees Celsius during the afternoon, which made for perfect conditions to hang out.

The nearly two dozen outdoor enthusiasts of varying levels of experience who showed up for the afternoon were treated to a bonfire and hot chocolate at the end of the route. During the bonfire, the participants had a good talk and there was a draw held in the midst of it. The winner of the new #spiritwoodsk bunny-hug, which was custom designed by the Artisan Boutique, was Kiera Andres.

All in all, it was indeed a perfect activity for a great winter day.

Later this summer, the trail will be established with signage. The goal of the NLEDC is to maintain it from the beginning of winter 2022 to encourage residents to make more use of the trails at SAD SAAC Park.

According to Heather Beauchesne, the plan is to hold these types of events annually at the Spiritwood Golf Course in the fall and at SAD SAAC park in the winter.



Nearly two dozen people came out to traverse the ski and snowshoe trail at Spiritwood's SAD SAAC Park on Saturday afternoon, when the Northern Lakes Economic Development Corp. hosted Winter Wonder 2022.



Those who took to the trails on Saturday afternoon were treated to hot chocolate and a bonfire at the end.



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15-year-old Debden goalie makes WHL history

At 15 years of age, some may think Chase Wutzke's too young to already have a hockey nickname. But "The Debden Defender" is a moniker the 6'1" 145-pound goaltender has more than earned for himself over the past decade.

Chase first laced up his skates and took the ice in Debden when he was just four or five, playing in the community from IP to Atom.

"I liked always being active as a kid, and I thought hockey was a great way of being active and keeping myself in shape," Chase says of what drew him to hockey.

"Goalie was always one of the positions I wanted to try. Once I tried it, and I was doing pretty decent at it, I just stuck with it and kept going."

His decision to stick with goalie paid off, earning him a ticket to play for his first AA team in North Battleford in his first year of Peewee — an accomplishment Chase calls a major confidence booster.

Chase says his confidence between the pipes has been the key to his success as he's made his way up through the ranks to his current position as the starting goalie for the Saskatchewan Male AAA Hockey League's (SMAAHL) U18 Saskatoon Contacts.

"He's always had to play on older teams because he's a goalie, and in Debden we're always short goalies," Chase's dad, Duane Wutzke, said. "He's always had to play with older kids."

As a 15-year-old rookie, Chase has racked up a 14-10 record, a 3.07 goals against average, and a .894 save percentage through the 2021-2022 regular season, and even earned himself the SMAAHL goalie of the month honour in October (the same month that he earned a bronze medal goaltending for Team Sask. at the WHL Cup).

Clearly, his body of work has drawn all the right sorts of attention. When the WHL's 2021 draft rolled around on Dec. 9, Chase was selected in the second



At 15, Debden-based goalie Chase Wutzke made waves when he started and earned his first win with the WHL's Red Deer Rebels.

round, 40th overall, by the Red Deer Rebels.

"It didn't really matter to me where I went in the draft. I would have been happy wherever I went," Chase said. "But it was awesome being able to go to a great organization. It was unreal."

If Chase had just spent the next year or two starting in goal for the Contacts and waiting to be called up by the Rebels, no one would have batted an eye. But that's not what happened.

On Dec. 28, Chase's dad got the call from Rebels associate general manager Shaun Sutter. Chase was going to dress against the Saskatoon Blades.

In the end, Chase was called upon to backstop the Rebels out of a 3-1 deficit after the first period. He did just that, stopping 12 of 15 shots and three out of four shooters in a shootout to become the youngest goaltender to win a game in the WHL in the internet age.

"I was definitely a little nervous to start," Chase said of the experience. "After I got a couple shots and saves into the game, it was just another game and I was ready to go."

The next night, Chase earned the full start against the Prince Albert Raiders, saving 35 out of 41 shots en route to an 8-6 Rebels victory. Wutzke earned a second start on New Year's Eve, taking a 4-3 loss in overtime against the Moose Jaw Warriors.

"He has a positive attitude, he has confidence but it doesn't come across cocky at all. Just talking to him it feels like he has the right attitude for a goalie. It's for him to be in that position," Rebels coach Steve Konowalchuk said of his performance after his debut. "Even looking at him after and before the shootout, he was just like 'O.K., this is fun' and that's what you want from a goalie."

With three out of a possible five games played this season (15-year-olds are only allowed to play five games per season), Chase is back goaltending for the Contacts and looking forward to what his future holds.

"I'm looking forward to getting out and hopefully playing in the WHL, always having a challenge, and looking for that next step ahead of me," he said.



Debden-born goalie Chase Wutzke, 15, signed with the WHL's Red Deer Rebels at the WHL draft in December.

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 3rd day of February, 2022.

Lorna Benson
RETURNING OFFICER

Nadine Wilson MLA
Saskatchewan
Rivers



306-763-0615
www.nadinewilson.ca
saskrivers@sasktel.net

R.M. OF MEDSTEAD NO. 497 SEASONAL MAINTENANCE/EQUIPMENT OPERATOR POSITION

The R.M. of Medstead No. 497 invites applications for an experienced full time Seasonal Maintenance/Equipment Operator. The Seasonal Maintenance/Equipment Operator will be responsible for mowing this municipality's ditches, rock picking, mulching in conjunction with the grader operators, installing and repairing signs and other jobs as directed by the Reeve. Opportunity may be present in the future to move into a grader operator position. Pay rates depending on experience.

The R.M. of Medstead No. 497 is located in central Saskatchewan located approximately forty five minutes north of North Battleford.

Applicants must possess a valid Class 5 driver's license and have skill and experience in maintenance and operation of equipment including tractor, mower, rock picker and mulcher.

Submit written resumes stating experience, expected wage, two references and a current driver's abstract by 4:00 p.m. on February 7th, 2022. All resumes shall be marked "Seasonal Maintenance/Equipment Operator Position" and dropped off at the RM Office, mailed to the address below or emailed to rm497@sasktel.net.

R.M. of Medstead No. 497
Box 12
Medstead, SK S0M 1W0

Council thanks all applicants for their interest in this position but only persons selected for interviews will be contacted.

The R.M. of Medstead No. 497 reserves the right to reject and refuse any or all expressions of interest.

MARTINS LAKE REGIONAL PARK HELP WANTED/REQUEST FOR TENDERS

Martins Lake Regional Park is accepting resumes/tenders for the 2022 camping season for the following positions:

1. **GOLF CLUBHOUSE RESTAURANT:** Seeking Cook/Manager, being a full-time position, for fully equipped kitchen and restaurant facility. May - September. Must be certified food handler. Will be responsible for the staffing and operations of the restaurant and golf course.
2. **BEACH CONCESSION:** Leased operator. June - September. Must be certified food handler.
3. **PARK MAINTENANCE:** 3 positions open - Full time hours. May - September. General park maintenance for campground and golf course including grass cutting, tree trimming, equipment maintenance, janitorial upkeep of washrooms/shower room, painting, beach maintenance, maintaining water system, testing water and other duties.
4. **PARK ENTRY/CLUBHOUSE PERSONNEL:** For gate, must be 16 or older with valid driver's license. Duties include greeting visitors, collecting fees, assigning campsites with computerized reservation system, etc. For Clubhouse must be 19 years of age and provide service to the restaurant and golf sales.

For more information call Rick at 306-321-5824 or Christie at 306-221-4457. Email tenders or resumes to martinslake@sasktel.net by March 30, 2022. (Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.)

Sask. loosens isolation, close contact protocols

The Government of Saskatchewan has announced changes to its protocols for isolation and close contacts, keeping in line with Premier Scott Moe's comments last week that some public health orders would be ending in "the next number of days."

"It's incumbent on us to look at the ones that we have and are they still effective? Have they run their course?" Moe asked during a conversation with John Gormley on 650 CKOM.

"I think in the next number of days, you'll see some further communication around the existing public health orders or the existing restrictions we have in place and, in particular, those that are impacting our youth."

Premier Moe has said numerous times in recent weeks that Saskatchewan needs to learn to live with COVID-19. A Jan. 27 update to the Ministry of Health's Case Management protocol appears to reflect this philosophy, tasking public health with monitoring and managing COVID-19 similarly to other respiratory viruses, such as influenza, and with preserving public health and healthcare capacity by preventing and treating severe cases.

"Saskatchewan's COVID-19 response must transition to adapt to the chal-

lenges of the current Omicron wave, taking into account the increased transmissibility of the Omicron variant, as well as wide adoption of at-home rapid testing and the proven effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccinations," the Ministry of Health said in a press release.

As of last Friday, changes to the province's isolation protocols mean that residents who receive a positive test result on a PCR or rapid antigen test will be required to self-isolate for five days, regardless of their vaccination status.

The self-isolation period will last for five days from the date of test or 24 hours after fever has resolved without the aid of fever-reducing medications and all other symptoms have been improving for at least 48 hours, whichever is later, the Ministry of Health says.

Previously, unvaccinated residents who had tested positive were required to self-isolate for 10 days.

Additionally, close contacts of positive COVID-19 cases will no longer be required to self-isolate, regardless of vaccination status. Those who are close contacts of a confirmed COVID-19 case are still urged to self-monitor for symptoms and continue to use public-

ly-available rapid antigen tests for asymptomatic surveillance.

In changes to contact tracing procedures, parents and caregivers are no longer required to notify schools about positive test results for the purposes of close contact notification. Those who test positive are required to self-isolate and will be absent from school and activities for the duration of the self-isolation period.

The Ministry of Health says all residents should be self-monitoring, self-testing and self-managing to help prevent transmission, given the transmissibility of the Omicron variant. It also reminds the public that public health orders around public masking and proof of vaccination or negative COVID test remain in effect.

Under the current public health orders, masking is mandatory in all indoor public spaces, including schools, mandatory self-isolation is required for all confirmed cases, and proof of vaccination or negative test requirements are in place for public access to a list of establishments, businesses and event venues.

That list covers indoor dining at restaurants; nightclubs, bars, taverns, and other licensed establishments; event and entertainment venues, including conference centres, casinos, movie theatres, concert venues, live-music venues, museums, and indoor facilities hosting ticketed sporting events; and indoor fitness centres, and gyms.

Retail businesses, including grocery stores, and places of worship are ex-

empt from the mandate. So, too, are fast food restaurants offering takeout or delivery; healthcare services, professional services, or personal services; hotels or other lodging; facilities hosting non-ticketed amateur sporting events, including youth athletics and recreational leagues; business meetings and places of business closed to the general public, unless otherwise directed by the business or employer; and private gatherings held at an indoor public residence.

In Premier Moe's opinion, the proof of vaccination or negative test mandate is one of the public health measures currently on the chopping block.

"(The proof of vaccination requirement) has really, for the most part, run its course," Moe said last week. "It increased our vaccination rates tremendously, but I think we're getting to a point now where those that are not vaccinated likely aren't going to get vaccinated."

"It's time for us as a government to manage COVID as we move forward, and it's time for us as a society to understand that we are going to be living with COVID for some period of time. The goal is to remove all of these restrictions when we are able."

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

The current public health orders are available at saskatchewan.ca/covid-19.

Spiritwood Library Board meeting highlights

The Spiritwood Library Board met on Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2022. A work plan was approved for 2022, with additional fundraising and grant opportunities. A budget was approved for 2022.

Dessert of the month tickets are available now at the library, or through a board member (Kay Willson, Kiera Andres, Dana Doucette, Stacey

Gaboury, Erin Wingert), at a cost of \$10 per ticket. One ticket will get you in all 11 draws.

We are excited to announce we have two new Board members, Ruth French and Rachelle Beauchesne.

Family Literacy Day activities are ongoing. We have our winter activity booklets, including our Take & Make craft.

Our Snow Art Contest, which involves making art with squirt bottles filled with food colouring and water to create pictures in the snow, is on now. Deadline for the contest is Feb. 26, and the draw for the prize will be made on Feb. 28.

Used book sale items are available by donation. Stop in and browse the selection.

PUBLIC NOTICE Rural Municipality of Big River No. 555

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

INTENT

To amend zoning district map by rezoning from A – Agriculture District to LR1 – Low Density Lakeshore Residential District the land described as Lots 1 to 6 in Block 5, Parcel C Plan 93B13657 Ext 1, in Part of NE 26-56-07 W3, as shown in the sketch that forms part of this notice.

AFFECTED LANDS

Part of NE 26-56-07 W3, in the RM of Big River No. 555 shown within the bold line on the following map. The land intended to be subdivided is along the northeast side of the Organized Hamlet of Phillip's Grove.

REASON

The reason for the amendment is to accommodate residential uses.

PUBLIC INSPECTION

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

PUBLIC HEARING

Council will hold a public hearing on February 14th, 2022, in the Big River Community Centre at 606 First Street North, Big River, SK at 1:00 pm. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing.

Issued at Big River this 27th day of January, 2022.

Michael Yuzik
Rural Municipal Administrator



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OPINION

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February 3, 2022

Balance lacking in COVID strategies

These days, it's hard not to feel like the universe has been spun around and turned on its head.

Up is down, left is right, and none of the truths we likely took for granted seem to be true anymore.

There was a time, at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, when governments wanted to do everything they could to keep essential services running smoothly.

This no longer seems to be the case for Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's federal government, which decided to go ahead with its much-reviled vaccine mandate for truckers on Jan. 15.

Per the mandate, all essential workers entering Canada, including truckers, must be vaccinated or face a 14-day quarantine.

Unsurprisingly, Mr. Trudeau's decision to ignore the opinions of those who disagree with him didn't sit well with some Canadians. Indeed, it prompted the launch of the "Freedom Convoy", a massive group of truckers and their supporters who descended on Parliament Hill over the weekend to make their voices heard.

While none of this seems nonsensical in and of itself, Mr. Trudeau's responses to critics who have voiced concerns about the mandate leading to empty shelves in grocery stores have been bizarre.

For context, estimates are that more than 80 per cent of Canadian truckers are vaccinated, meaning only a relatively small portion will be impacted by the mandate. Even still, it's pure folly, or deliberate dishonesty, for Mr. Trudeau to dismiss his opponents' concerns as baseless fearmongering.

Whether big or small, the trucker vaccine mandates imposed by both Canada and the United States will have an impact on an already strained supply chain.

What's more, the 14-day isolation for unvaccinated truckers makes no sense when truckers have been coming and going for the past two years seemingly without worsening the pandemic in any measurable way.

Currently, the CDC's guidance recommends that those who have COVID should isolate for just five days.

How, then, did Mr. Trudeau's government arrive at two weeks as the appropriate

quarantine period? Does it have some evidence to suggest that cross-border workers are spreading COVID at greater rates, or that they remain infectious for longer than others who contract the virus?

If so, it should produce this data and make its case for why a simple negative test prior to entry (for both the vaccinated and unvaccinated) isn't good enough.

It can't, and it won't, because no data and no justification exist – not even the flimsy excuse of "protecting Canada's supply chain and economy."

Almost as nonsensical as the federal government's heavy-handed mandates is the Sask. Party government's new hands-off strategy.

According to unions representing healthcare workers across the province, there's been no enforcement for failures to comply with the vaccine or negative test mandate for healthcare workers since the policy came into effect in the fall.

Very soon, this mandate may not even apply, as Premier Scott Moe has suggested that the vaccine passport mandate will be lifted by Feb. 28.

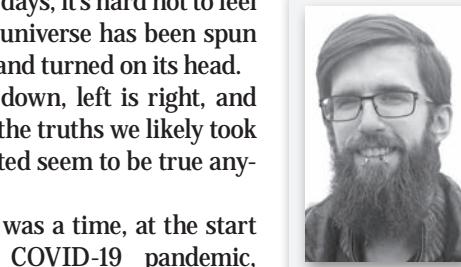
Mr. Moe's government wasted no time walking back some of the few health measures currently in place. Last Friday, it shortened the isolation period to five days for those who test positive for COVID, removed the isolation requirement for close contacts, and made it so parents don't need to report cases to schools.

"It's time for us as a government to manage COVID as we move forward, and it's time for us as a society to understand that we are going to be living with COVID for some period of time," Mr. Moe said last week.

Mr. Moe is right. We do need to learn to live with COVID. But there's a difference between learning to live with it and pretending it doesn't exist.

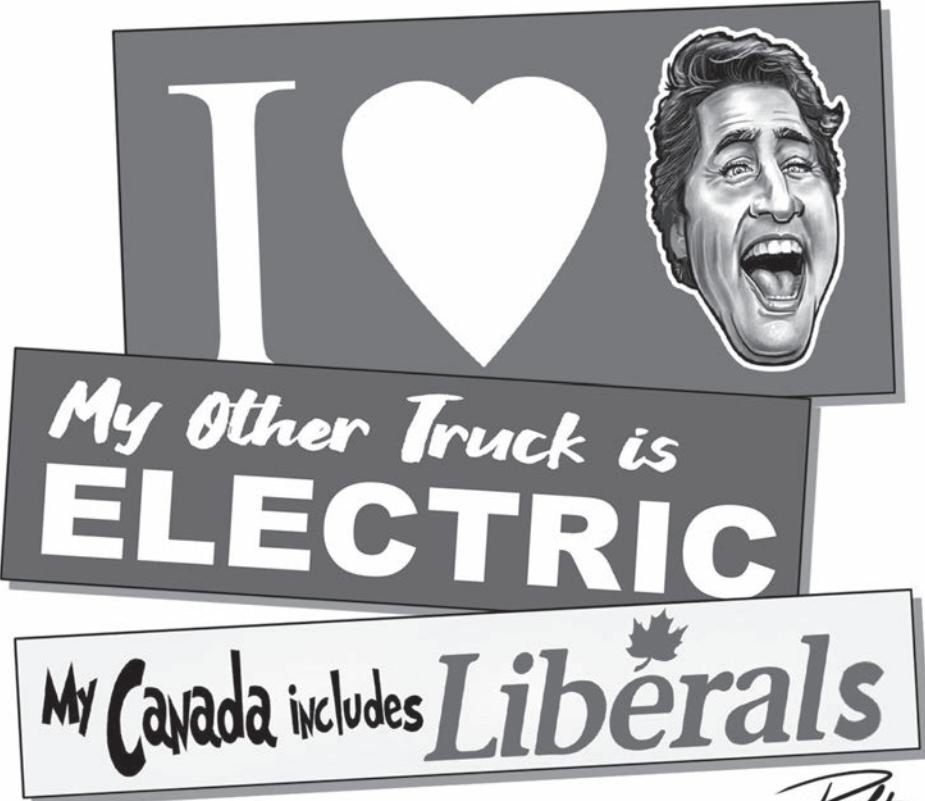
Cutting back on asymptomatic testing, and removing an important avenue of reporting cases through schools, seem like an attempt to sweep the pandemic under the rug and get back to normal.

The trouble is, COVID is still here, whether the Sask. Party wants to see it or not.



JORDAN
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News Editor

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LaMontagneArt.com

Government employees made out well during the pandemic

By Franco Terrazzano
CTF Federal Director

These days it seems there are three certainties in life: death, taxes, and bigger government paycheques.

Even a pandemic that sent thousands of workers to the ranks of the unemployed couldn't stop the iron law of government wage increases.

The pandemic revealed the divide between those behind the golden government gates that shield them from financial reality and the taxpayers who will be left paying the growing tab.

There were 528,347 federal and provincial government employees that received at least one pay raise during the pandemic, according to government documents obtained by the

Canadian Taxpayers Federation.

Those growing salaries will come from the pockets of workers who took pay cuts or lost their jobs during lockdowns, and the many small business owners that were forced to close their doors.

Not a single federal or provincial government reduced pay during lockdowns, according to research from Secondstreet.org.

Many municipal employees are also riding the gravy train. More than 34,000 employees at the city of Toronto received a raise during lockdowns in 2020, and so did nearly 14,000 city of Calgary employees and 11,400 employees at the city of Ottawa. How

many other municipalities handed out raises?

It's fair for politicians to stop these raises even if they were built into a contract. What's unfair is making Canadians who took a pay cut, or lost their job or business to pay for these raises.

Stopping these pay raises shouldn't be rocket science. After all, politicians control the purse strings. If union bosses don't want to accept haircuts, they can be the ones to hand out pink slips to their members. That's the strategy employed by former Alberta premier Ralph Klein to implement a five per cent wage reduction when he had to extinguish Alberta's deficit fire.

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

Member of



VIEWPOINT

February 3, 2022

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The strength of many people

As an elected official I make a point of engaging people in conversation not only because I want their opinion or to debate, but as a human being I enjoy an exchange of dialogue and interaction. Yes, that's my job to listen and take away their ideas whether I agree with them or not. That's the point of democracy.

This past weekend, I had the opportunity to visit with many residents of Saskatchewan. I attended the Freedom Rally held in Regina in solidarity with the truckers and their families which brought forth thousands of people from across our dear province.

The official count told to me was 800 trucks in the convoy from across the province. I found the rally in front of our historic legislative building both peaceful and



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supportive to all citizens, while the magnitude of humanity created a positive energy in the air. Traditional drummers sang on the steps. I walked further to Albert Street following the haunting sounds of a lone Scottish bagpipe while a Hutterite family played their instruments in between.

After, a few of us spoke at the microphone, we sang O Canada and came together as one, hoping to heal our land and country. Canada has ignited a movement all over the world, calling for unity and freedoms, and hoping that goodness will prevail and overcome the toxicity that has invaded our world.

A question we should be asking of our governments is why does the eradication of the systems that have served us well with security,

democracy, and economic stability need to occur? Our economy has stalled these past two years and we have seen untold closures of restaurants, businesses, and services. This mismanaged COVID crisis has played havoc and suffering for many businesses and families, distorting our economy with personal and career changing paralysis.

This damaging crusade of governments declaring their intent to manage all aspects of our lives must end, and we must end all restrictions and mandates to live again. This must be done before we tackle the government digitization that has already been planned and would follow us in all aspects of our lives. But more on this another day.

Today, I choose to enjoy the strength of many people, and the uniqueness and diversity shown this weekend at the rally as we came together in unity.



Government employees made out well during the pandemic

Continued from 4

With 338 members of Parliament, you'd think one of them could figure out a way to stop these raises. But you'd be wrong. The feds agreed to new contracts for thousands of its employees that included pay raises during the middle of the pandemic and as the debt ballooned towards the now-shattered \$1-trillion mark.

It's a good bet that many politicians haven't the foggiest clue of how many bureaucrats received a raise during lockdowns. But given the sheer cost of government labour and the mess that is our government finances, politicians should be considering taxpayers' ability to pay before rubber stamping raises.

Then again, it would be tough for politicians to force a hard bargain when they're helping themselves to raises.

While you and yours struggled through COVID-19, your representative in Ottawa pocketed two pay increases. Back-bench MPs are now receiving \$6,900 more than they did pre-pandemic, while the prime minister will pocket an extra \$13,800.

CTF supporters received correspondence from more than 100 MPs – Liberals, Conservatives and New Democrats – who either

didn't support the politician pay raise or committed to donating their raise to charity. With all these MPs seemingly against the raises, why haven't we heard a peep from party leaders about reversing the pandemic pay hikes?

Taxpayers are also paying for more bureaucrats.

Federal Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland claims "we have recovered 106 per cent of the jobs lost at the

peak of the pandemic." But these new jobs come with a bigger tax bill for the private sector.

There's 312,700 more government jobs across Canada than there were pre-pandemic, including an extra 114,500 "public administration" bureaucrats. There's 80,100 fewer jobs outside of government.

This follows years of federal bureaucrat increases. Between 2017 and 2021,

the federal bureaucracy ballooned by 56,905 new employees. That's more than 14,000 extra federal bureaucrats every year.

Politicians are tripping over themselves looking for more money to pay for their huge debts. They should start by looking in the mirror and forcing government to find ways to save money like millions of Canadians have done with their own budgets.

Village of Canwood SALE BY TENDER

The Village of Canwood offers for sale the following properties:

Lot 13, Block 1, Plan Y3516 Ext. 0, civic address 565 1st Ave West
Lot 1, 2 and 3, Block 4, Plan Y3516 Ext. 0, civic address 610 Main Street

Tender must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "PROPERTY TENDER" and postmarked by 2:00 p.m. on March 3, 2022 to:

Village of Canwood
Attn: Administrator
Box 172, Canwood, SK
S0J 0K0

The tenders will be opened by the Village Administrator to ensure tender requirements are met and presented to Council at their Regular Meeting in March.

Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a certified cheque payable to the municipality for 10% (ten percent) of the tender amount. Tenders submitted without certified funds will not be considered. Tenders must also include a description of the bidder's plans for the property. Highest, or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Successful bidder will have 30 days to provide the balance of cash to complete the purchase. All property sales are "as is" without warrant or guarantee by Village of Canwood.

Prospective bidders are advised that it is their responsibility to search the title of the property in advance. All legal costs, title transfer fees and applicable taxes are the responsibility of the purchaser and are in addition to the bid price.

Tender packages can be obtained at the Village of Canwood office or online at www.canwood.ca.

Dated this 3rd day of February, 2022.
Erin Robertson, Administrator

CALL FOR DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS

The Elections Committee of Diamond North Credit Union is accepting nominations to fill three, three-year terms on the Diamond North Credit Union Board of Directors.

Nomination forms are available at diamondnorthcu.com/nominations or at any branch of Diamond North Credit Union.

Nominations must be received by close of business on Friday, February 25, 2022.

Interested persons must attest to director qualification requirements.

If required, an election will be held March 21 to April 1, 2022.

Members have one vote which they can cast online by accessing www.diamondnorthcu.com or by paper ballot at any branch of Diamond North Credit Union during normal business hours.

For further information, please contact Wendy Krip at wendy.krip@diamondnorthcu.com

 Diamond North
CREDIT UNION

U13 Elks mauled by Tigers in Provincials

The U13 C Shellbrook Elks had a bumpy ride through Provincials this season, drawing the Turtleford Tigers in the first round of the tournament.

Game one of the two-game best of modified three series was played in Turtleford, where the Elks and the Tigers played to a 3-3 draw.

When the action returned to Shellbrook on Saturday afternoon, however, the Tigers had something different in store for the Elks, striking early on a harmless looking play in the

offensive zone. Nixon Gabruck netted the game-opener for the Tigers.

It didn't take long for the Tigers to pounce out to a two-goal lead, when Gabruck earned his second goal of the game by tucking home a rebound off a breakaway.

The Elks rallied after these early stumbles, capitalizing on chaos in front of the Tigers' goal to pull within one goal. Canden Olsen was the lucky player to get his stick on the puck, drawing an assist from

Cashian Sandry.

The Tigers roared back to life, shutting down any notions of an Elks comeback by rattling off three unanswered goals, two of them just seconds apart. Tanner Rhinehart struck first, scoring on a perfectly placed rebound, and Hunter Weber followed up on the ensuing play.

Drew Sabraw capped off the goal streak, sneaking a shot between the pads of Elks netminder Parker Schmidt.

Facing a sudden 5-1 deficit,

the Elks got lucky when an offensive zone faceoff was won right into the Turtleford goal. Logan Fisher earned credit for the goal.

Using the goal as a rallying point, the Elks tried to get back in the game using a pair of power plays late in the first period, but failed to capitalize on the opportunities.

After the first period offered a highlight reel worth of goals, the second was a comparatively quiet affair. Only Turtleford got on the board, thanks to a power play goal from Paxson McClellan. The Elks, mean-

while, were kept off the board by solid goaltending.

The Tigers gradually took control of the game as the action moved to the third frame, keeping the Elks from tallying shots. Once again, they were able to tally just one goal, when McClellan slipped the puck past Schmidt's outstretched pads on the power play.

The goal cemented the Tigers' 8-2 victory, officially finishing the Elks' provincials run. The Tigers now advance to play the winner of a series between Dalmeny and Lashburn.



Elks goalie Parker Schmidt is left looking after the puck slides in for a Turtleford goal.



Elks forward Adyson Wallin attempts to seize a rebound in front of the Turtleford goal.

Contact an Agriculture Specialist

Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program Helps Fund On-Farm Water Projects

The maximum rebate for livestock producers has been temporarily increased and the deadline for project completion has been extended. Livestock producers who submit a preliminary application for their project by March 31, 2022, now have until Sept. 30, 2022 to complete their project and submit for a rebate.



Saskatchewan

Canada

The Ministry of Agriculture has 10 regional offices around the province. To connect with a specialist near you, call the Agriculture Knowledge Centre.

Toll-free number: 1-866-457-2377

Email address: aginfo@gov.sk.ca



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AGRICULTURE

February 3, 2022

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Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald 7

Importance of wetlands can't be overstated

World Wetlands Day is marked Feb. 2 each year, and while it might go as largely unheard of by many, it deserves to have its stature increased given the importance of wetlands.

The day itself "marks the adoption of the Convention of Wetlands, which took place in 1971 in the Iranian city of Ramsar," explained a recent Ducks Unlimited release. "It's a treaty negotiated by countries and non-governmental organizations that provides the framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands. Canada is one of the treaty's contracting parties and currently has 37 sites designated as Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar sites)."

Locally, in Yorkton,

and across the province we have a rather clear indication of what wetlands can mean.

It is easily within recent memory when the streets of this city and other communities in the province were under flood waters which did millions of dollars' worth of damage.

The twin floods locally sent this city into a process of studying water flows and digging holding ponds in hopes of mitigating some of the impact the next time a flood occurs. Wetlands, sloughs, and potholes that exist naturally on the landscape are essentially natural flood water holding ponds.

Of course, farmers would rather plant those acres than drive around them as sloughs, so



CALVIN
DANIELS

many have been drained and lost. With each lost pothole and slough, more water heads somewhere else, often meaning at some point the gathered water begins to erode soil, washout culverts, and flood roads and yards.

Conversely, wetlands are also important when we see drought conditions, which of course happened in 2021. A slough can become emergency water for live-

stock when needed.

Of course once a slough or pothole is trenched, drained, and graded to grow crop, it's gone.

It would be easy to point a finger at farmers for draining wetlands, but with profit margins always tight, seeding every acre is important.

The bigger question is always how to entice farmers to not drain wetlands because of their value for holding water, and maintaining wildlife habitat, and of course the answer is money. Selling canola from acres where a slough once was means dollars to a farmer. If the slough had a return either from tax breaks, or some sort of payment, it would at least help them entertain not draining them.

As it is, Canada is still

home to a lot of wetlands.

"Canada is home to 25 per cent of the world's remaining wetlands, which is a tremendous gift and also a tremendous responsibility," says Larry Kaumeyer, chief executive officer for DUC in their release. "These incredible ecosystems provide the environmental solutions Canadians need. Wetlands are important natural tools that combat floods, droughts and other extreme weather events—

and we're proud to be the preeminent conservation organization that's delivering these solutions in communities across the country."

But, the DU release has a warning too.

"Despite these successes, there is still much work to do. Canada is

far from receiving top marks when it comes to making good on its commitments to wetlands. For all the acres that have been conserved, even more are being lost. It's estimated that up to 70 per cent of wetlands have been lost in southern areas of Canada—and up to 95 per cent in Canada's most densely populated areas. In addition, Canada is one of the few developed nations that doesn't have a comprehensive national wetland inventory and monitoring system. This is a critical aspect of conservation planning that's needed to inform conservation action," it says.

Wetlands are clearly important and we—society as a whole—need to do a better job preserving them.

RCMP news highlights

More than three years after she was found dead in a rural area near the Muskeg Lake First Nation, police have made an arrest in relation to the death of Deanna Greyeyes.

On Nov. 26, 2018, the body of Greyeyes, 66, was found just one day after she had been reported missing to the Blaine Lake RCMP.

Saskatchewan RCMP Major Crimes Unit have handled the investigation since, and on Jan. 28 officers arrested Stephen David James Greyeyes, 34, of

Blaine Lake. Greyeyes was arrested in the Prince Albert area, and charged with one count of second degree murder and one count of indignity to a body.

Greyeyes is scheduled to appear in Saskatoon Provincial Court on Feb. 14, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.

Elsewhere, on Jan. 27, Saskatchewan RCMP's Prince Albert Crime Reduction Team executed a search warrant at a residence east of Big River in connection to an ongoing investigation.

During the execution of the warrant,

officers found and seized approximately 53 grams of suspected cocaine, approximately 95 grams of suspected methamphetamine, approximately 840 grams of marijuana, three firearms and ammunition, and a variety of drug trafficking paraphernalia.

Police also arrested Harley Vallentgoed, 32, and Celeste Wilson, 26, both of whom hail from the Big River area.

Vallentgoed and Wilson have both been charged with two counts of possession for the purpose of trafficking,

one count of possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000, one count of possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, one count of unsafe storage of firearms, and one count of unauthorized possession of a firearm.

Vallentgoed was also charged with one count of trafficking under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act.

Vallentgoed and Wilson are scheduled to appear in court on Big River First Nation on March 15, 2022.

Police continue to investigate.

PRINCE ALBERT LIVESTOCK SALES
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PALS

To consign cattle or
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please contact Brent,
Glen, Boyd or Frederick

Mon., Feb. 7, 2022

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

Fri., Feb. 11, 2022
Bred Cow, Heifer & Pair Sale 1:00 p.m.



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Wed., Feb. 9, 2022

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Presorted Internet Calf Sale 12:00 p.m.

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

Police seek suspect in attempted break-in

On Jan. 16, 2022, Glaslyn RCMP received a complaint of suspicious persons in the Village of Medstead attempting to enter Medstead Hometown Grocery by using a pry bar.

In security camera footage, a lone occupant is seen exiting a vehicle, wearing a blaze orange coat and hat with camouflage pants. The suspect was not successful at entering the building.

The suspect is in a white Dodge between 2003-2008 model pickup with aftermarket black rims and winged decaling to driver's doors and rear fenders. The license plate of the vehicle is currently unknown.

Police continue to in-

vestigate this occurrence and are seeking the public's assistance.

Anyone with information related to this incident is encouraged to call 911 or 310-RCMP. Information can also be submitted anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or www.saskcrimestoppers.com.



The suspect's vehicle is a white 2003 to 2008 Dodge truck with aftermarket black rims and a winged decal on the driver's doors and rear fenders.

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.

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There is Help, There is Hope

The provincial government has launched a new public awareness campaign aimed at changing the stigma surrounding mental health and addictions issues. It features Saskatchewan people who have experienced addictions, mental health issues, or have counselled people with those experiences.

Visit Saskatchewan.ca/mental-health-awareness to learn more and view the powerful messages of hope and recovery.

Spiritwood Music Festival cancelled for 2022

The Spiritwood and District Music Festival (SDMF) has been cancelled again this year, in consideration of the health and safety regulations with the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Music Festival has been going on for more than 25 years and has been anticipated yearly. When COVID-19 hit Saskatchewan, it was one of many activities that had to be on hold.

Although there were a couple regulations lifted, the possible risk of infection is still considered to be too high by the SDMF board members, especially with the vast number of people who would attend.

According to a report from SDMF secretary Heather Gatzke:

"There is quite a bit to planning a festival, as well there has to be lots of volunteers to help. We were out of 'lockdown' as far as the community was concerned, but still cautious, for 2021. We planned for a festival [in 2022], but again, because of rising numbers of COVID cases, the fact that the school

has increased their restrictions, as well as lack of students to balance out the bills that we would generate [we have been led] to cancel this year as well."

"When we plan it, it's a combined effort between myself and the other board members (some of who also happen to be the music teachers for our area). We choose dates that work for us, then send our first, second and third choices to SMFA. They, in turn, decide the best date to match the best adjudicator that we would need. Forms and procedures follow, then we gear up to do a lot of planning and prep work. In the past we have had about 90 entries, with about 40 students, give or take."

"Due to many of the COVID-19 regulations and the fact we are a small group, we never had a festival on March 15 & 16, 2021. We were unable to offer the different virtual options for a festival. Most of our teachers prefer an in-person festival since the wonderful adjudicators we have had in the

past like to show examples of 'improvement suggestions' and like to interact with the students. After the festival our teachers have mentioned that the students are excited and encouraged with that one-on-one time and we feel that doesn't happen with the virtual festivals."

Gatzke says the hope is for the festival to return as normal in 2023.

In addition to causing the cancellation of the festival for the past two years, Gatzke says the pandemic has made it difficult for the festival board to find a new president. Gatzke notes that the preference would be to appoint someone who is involved with kids or grandkids that take music lessons.

However, due to the pandemic, the number of students enrolled in music lessons has decreased as parents do their best to limit exposures.

"I don't know the exact numbers of music students with all our music teachers, but I do know it is way less than before COVID," she said.

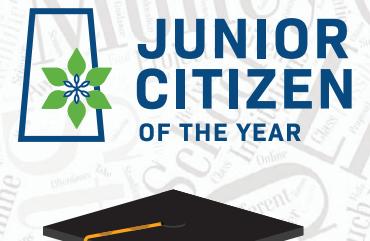
For over the past four decades The Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association, in partnership with SaskPower and the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, have recognized the youth of Saskatchewan through the Junior Citizen of the Year Award.

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 for further information and nomination forms
Nominations close March 31, 2022



JUNIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR SCHOLARSHIP CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

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

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

U15 Elks shot down by Lazers in Provincials

The U15 B Shellbrook Elks failed to hit the mark in this year's Provincials run, facing off against the sharpshooting Unity Lazers in the first round of the tournament.

The Elks started the best of modified three series in Unity last Tuesday, and learned they were in for a tough pair of games when the Lazers shut them out by a score of 8-0.

Taking some time to regroup, the Elks returned to home ice for game two on Sunday afternoon and fell behind within the first two minutes of the match.

The rest of the period was almost all Unity, as the Lazers were able to tally 19 shots while restricting the Elks to just three. The Elks got lucky on one of those shots, though, when Kamden

Shewchuk found the back of the net on the power play with a tricky shot from the point. Khylin Ledoux earned the only assist on the goal.

After escaping the first period with a 1-1 tie, both teams struggled to find their rhythm in the early minutes of the second stanza and neither team was able to generate much in the way of scoring opportunities.

Once again, the Elks had difficulty keeping the puck in the Unity zone long enough to get a shot on goal, managing to fire just four shots on goal through the period. But once again, the Elks capitalized on their limited chances when Peyton Ahenakew scooped up a loose puck and fired it home to give the home team the lead. Aiden Tait earned the only assist on the goal.

The Lazers managed to breakdown the Elks' defence late in the period, tying the game at 2-2 to send the action to the third period.

With 32 shots under their belt and just two goals through the first 40 minutes of the game, the Lazers came out firing all cylinders for the final 20 minutes and reclaimed their lead on a screened sniper shot.

The Lazers poured on the offence from here on, taking a 4-2 lead on a shot that slipped beneath the pads of Elks goalie Matt Muller, then putting the game all but out of reach at 5-2 with a lazy floater that proved too tricky to

stop.

Facing a three-goal deficit, the Elks rallied with a sharp-angle shot from Tait on the power play. Shewchuk offered the only assist on the goal.

This was as close as they'd get, however, even when they were given a four-minute power play and pulled Muller from the goal to end the game. By the final buzzer, the Elks had tallied just 11 shots on goal.

With the 5-3 loss in game two, the Elks' Provincials run has officially come to an end. Unity, meanwhile, will advance to play the winner of a series between Waldheim and Wilkie.



Unity's Nash Sperle finds himself in front of a wide-open Shellbrook goal, but fails to redirect the puck into the net.



A loose puck in front of the Shellbrook goal creates a mad dash for the puck.



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February 1-28, 2022

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February 1-28, 2022

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February 1-28, 2022



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In a letter to his constituents, sent out on Friday as thousands of truckers and their supporters descended on Parliament Hill to protest COVID-19 mandates, and especially the federal vaccine mandate for truckers, Prince Albert MP Randy Hoback was unequivocal about his stance on the federal government's policy.

Per the mandate, which was enacted on Jan. 15, all essential workers entering Canada, including truckers, must be vaccinated or face a 14-day quarantine.

"On the issue of federal vaccine mandates on truckers, I and my Conservative colleagues have been very clear," he wrote. "We oppose them."

"I and five other Shadow Minister colleagues wrote to the Liberal Transportation Minister on how federal mandates are hurting Canadian supply chains and how they've hurt Canada's economic recovery from COVID-19," he added, citing a letter sent to Minister Omar Alghabra on Jan. 21, six days after the mandate came into effect.

In the letter to his constituents, Hoback said he planned to meet with "any peaceful protesters from our constituency" while they are in Ottawa. He also noted that Conservative Party leader Erin O'Toole had plans to meet with truckers this week.

In the meantime, he said O'Toole has made the party's position on federally mandated vaccines "crystal clear."

"While vaccines are the best way of addressing serious illness associated with

COVID-19, it is also apparent that not every Canadian will be vaccinated," he wrote. "Hence, O'Toole has called for the employment of rapid tests to accommodate federal and federally regulated employees like truckers in order to keep our economy moving."

Hoback also used his letter to explain how the federal vaccine mandates came to be, noting that they were implemented through regulation and Orders in Council without debate in the House of Commons.

"Hence, the federal mandates will continue as long as Jagmeet Singh's NDP continues to prop-up the Liberal government in Parliament," he wrote.

Finally, in a move to allay fears or clarify any misconceptions, Hoback explained the distinction between federal and provincial pandemic mandates, noting that mandates on doctors, nurses, hospitals, schools, bus drivers, and local businesses, are all under the provincial jurisdiction and cannot be overridden by Ottawa.

"I trust this helps to clarify how vaccine mandates are implemented and rescinded in Canada," he concluded. "I look forward to meeting with our hard working truckers in Ottawa next week."

While Saturday and Sunday's "Freedom Convoy" demonstrations were deemed mostly peaceful, and looked as though they would continue into the week as politicians returned to Parliament Hill, police in Ottawa said they were investigating a number of incidents, including vandalism

Minutes of an RM of Shellbrook meeting

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

Minutes of a regular meeting of Council of the Rural Municipality of Shellbrook No. 493 held on Wednesday, Dec. 8, 2021, in the Municipal Office Council Chambers at Shellbrook, Sask.

Present: Reeve - Doug Oleksyn, Division 1 - Cliff Skauge, Division 2 - Phil Hamel, Division 3 - Christine Strube, Division 4 - Jay Ferster, Division 5 - Derwin Joelson, and Administrator - Duane Storey.

Absent: Division 6 - Ron Herzog

Delegations:

10 a.m. Crystal Schmitz and Lisa Anderson, Affinity Credit Union

11:30 a.m. Foreman Bill Aug and Todd Lande, update on municipal operations.

Reeve Oleksyn called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Hamel: That the following items be added to the agenda: 2021 John Deere 772G Grader, 2021 Municipal Hail Statement. Carried

Hamel: That the Dec. 8, 2021, agenda be adopted as amended. Carried

Strube: That the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on Nov. 3, 2021, be approved as presented. Carried

Skauge: That the Statement of Financial Activities for the month November 2021, be accepted as presented. Carried

Joelson: That the List of Accounts dated Dec. 1, 2021, as attached hereto and forming part of these Minutes, being regular cheque numbers 12455 to 12503 in the amount of \$200,862.26 and payroll cheque numbers 14101 to 14122 in the amount of \$41,373.65 be approved for payment. Carried

Hamel: That the reconciled bank statement for the month of October 2021 be approved as presented. Carried

Strube: That the Administrator's Report for the month December 2021 be accepted as presented. Carried

Ferster: That the request from Administrator Duane Storey to carry five days of Holidays from 2021 to 2022 be approved. Carried

Joelson: That at the request of the Sturgeon Lake Regional Park Board pursuant to resolution 283.0821, Council agrees to subsidize the Sturgeon Lake Regional Park 2021 audit up to \$1,000. Carried

Delegation Crystal Schmitz and Lisa Anderson, Affinity Credit Union, entered the Council Chambers at 10:15 a.m. to discuss municipal banking inquiries.

Delegation Crystal Schmitz and Lisa Anderson, Affinity Credit Union, left the Council Chambers at 10:45 a.m.

Hamel: That a bylaw be developed to prevent and control Malignant Catarrhal Fever (MCF). Notice of the bylaw to be advertised in the Dec. 16 Shellbrook Chronicle and bylaw to be passed at the Dec. 20 Special Meeting of Council. Carried

Hamel: That the 2021 Infrastructure Wish List be added to the Rural Municipality of Shellbrook No. 493 5-year Capital Plan as presented. Carried

Delegation Foreman Bill Aug entered the Council Chambers at 11:30 a.m. to update Council on Municipal Operations.

Delegation Todd Lande entered the Council Chambers at 12 p.m. to update Council on Municipal Operations.

Delegation Foreman Bill Aug and Todd Lande left the meeting at 1 p.m.

Skauge: That the Council of the RM of Shellbrook No. 493 agrees to approve the proposed parcel B Subdivision application of SW quarter Section 1-50-03-W3, and forward a response to the Community Planning Branch, Ministry of Government Relations as follows:

- No: there are no land uses in the vicinity that would be incompatible with the intended use of the proposed site;
- No: there are no facilities that could be affected by the proposed development; and
- No: there are no further requirements of the applicant. Carried

Strube: That the Council of the Rural Municipality of Shellbrook No. 493 confirms

that the municipality now meets the following eligibility requirements to receive the Municipal Revenue Sharing Grant:

- Submission of the 2020 Audited Financial Statement to the Ministry of Government Relations;
- In Good Standing with respect to the reporting and remittance of Education Property Taxes;
- Adoption of Council Procedures Bylaw;
- Adoption of an Employee Code of Conduct;
- All members of council have filed and annually updated their Public Disclosure Statements, as required; and

That we authorize the administrator to send a letter to the Ministry of Government Relations acknowledging the municipality meets all eligibility requirements to receive the Municipal Revenue Sharing Grant. Carried

Hamel: That in accordance with Section 3 of the Tax Enforcement Act, it be acknowledged the Administrator has presented to the head of council a list of Lands in Arrears to be annexed to and form part of these min-

utes, and unless sooner paid will be advertised in the Shellbrook Chronicle. Carried

Joelson: Pursuant to the letter received from the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure dated Oct. 5, 2021, that the municipality assumes no ownership or administrative responsibility of the bridge located on The Montreal Lake Cree Nation, eliminating any request to transfer ownership back to the First Nation for upgrading. Carried

Strube: That \$100 Co-op gift cards be given to all employees. Carried

Joelson: That a 2021 John Deere 772G Grader be purchased from Brandt for \$424,000 less trade in of 2017 John Deere 870G Grader valued at \$175,000. Difference paid out \$276,749.10 taxes included. Sale to be finalized in January 2022. Carried

Skauge: That the following Correspondence be received and filed:

- Holbein Lagoon 1
- Holbein Lagoon 2
- SARM Rural Crime Watch
- 2021 Municipal Hail Statement. Carried

Joelson: That this meeting be adjourned at 2:39 p.m.

Serial sexual assault suspect appears in court

A man who is accused of sexually assaulting numerous victims while acting as a healer made an appearance in Saskatoon court last week.

Cecil Wolfe, 60, is facing seven counts of sexual assault. The matter was adjourned to Feb. 16, when he is expected to elect how he wants to be tried.

Saskatoon Police laid the first charge in September and the RCMP laid six additional charges in December

for incidents in Loon Lake and the Muskeg Lake Cree Nation. Police believe there may be additional victims from the last 20 years in Blaine Lake, Loon Lake, Muskeg Lake Cree Nation, Saskatoon and the surrounding areas.

The police investigation remains active and anyone with additional information is asked to contact the RCMP or Saskatoon Police. Police didn't have an available photo of Wolfe.

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.

The charges against Wolfe haven't been proven in court.

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 Mooseley
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 Bretzlaaff

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

Pastor: Rick Schellenberg

Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

Worship

EVANGELICAL FREE

Big River

11:00 a.m. - Worship

Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.

Summer: 10:30 a.m. - 12

306-469-2258

Youth Nite: Fridays

Mont Nebo

Bible Study & Prayer

Sun., 11:00 a.m. - Worship

Pastor Liviu Tilihi

306-747-3398

UNITED CHURCH

Big River
Sundays

10 a.m. - Worship
at Anglican Church

Rev. Dave Whalley

306-747-2804

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Debdene

Sun. Mass - 9:30 a.m.

Fr. Dong Doan

Big River - Sacred Heart

Sun., 11:30 a.m. - Mass

Whitefish

Sun., 2:30 p.m. - Mass

Victoire

Sat., 7:30 p.m. - Mass

Fr. Dong Doan

St. Agatha's - Shellbrook

Mass - Sunday 9 a.m.

St. Henry's - Leask

Mass - Sunday - 11 a.m.

Mistawasis

2nd & 4th Sundays, 1:30 p.m.

Fr. Phong Tran

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

407-2nd Ave E, Shellbrook

Sat., 9:45 a.m. - Sabbath School

Sat., 11:00 am - Worship

Broadcast on

VOAR 92.1 FM

Pastor Liviu Tilihi

306-747-3398

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

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Medstead - 6 p.m.

Father Ramel Macapala

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Shell Lake

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Pastor Sarah Urano

306-841-7333

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407 - 2nd Ave E.

Shellbrook

Sat., 9:45 am -

Sabbath School

Sat., 11:00 am - Worship

Broadcast on

VOAR 92.1 FM

SPORTS

February 3, 2022

www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald 11

Owners, players drag out baseball talks

Baseball fans yawned on Dec. 1 when Major League Baseball team owners said they were locking out the players until a new collective bargaining agreement was hammered out.

A big yawn, because Dec. 1 was a full three months before the start of spring training for the 2022 season and that would certainly give the two sides plenty of time to work things out, right?

Well, maybe not. Here we are at the end of January, with spring training scheduled to start about three weeks from now, and still no peace being reported from the negotiating rooms. Fans ask: Why can't a bunch of billionaires and millionaires come to an agreement? It's not like anyone's going to starve, no matter what the final agreement looks like.

Except for baseball fans, of course, who will be starved for entertainment if this labour dispute drags on. Sticking points like free

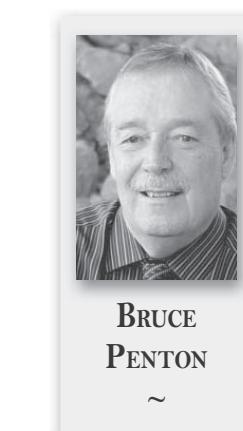
agency eligibility, minimum pay, expansion of the designated hitter, and luxury tax rules are just a few of the discussion points.

Memories of baseball strikes/lockouts are especially painful to Canadians, who had visions of a World Series title for Montreal Expos in 1994 before the last work stoppage occurred and wiped out the rest of that season. The Expos never came close again and the franchise was eventually moved to Washington, D.C.

Luckily, one of this column's spies has been privy to negotiations and some of the points already agreed upon would surprise even the most skeptical fan:

1. Each game to feature a lucky number contest, with the winning fan getting to pinch hit in the ninth inning.

2. If a fan yells 'Kill the ump,' the umpire is given the address of the fan's workplace and is allowed to heckle him for workplace misjudgments at his office



BRUCE PENTON

the following day.

3. A souped up Corvette brings in a pitcher from the bullpen; a clown car takes him out if he gets rocked.

4. On Babe Ruth's birthday, the fattest pitcher on the team gets to start.

5. The popcorn and beer vendor has to visit each dugout at least once during the game.

6. Players get Sundays off.

7. The rosin bags are to be filled with peanuts for between-inning snacks.

8. Players get a \$20/week bonus if they bring their own bats.

9. A player's post-career pension to be calculated by dividing OPS plus RBIs minus stolen bases and multiplied by batting average.

10. Mariachi band plays Take Me Out to the Ballgame in every ballpark on May 5, Cinco de Mayo.

11. An MLB franchise for Green Bay, Wis.

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "Love how the contestants on 'Jeopardy' can answer what was the name of Mozart's 45th concerto without blinking, but when asked what team Mickey Mantle played for they look like a cow staring at a passing train."

• Blogger Patti Dawn Swansson: "Marc-André Fleury, Brian Elliott and Dustin Tokarski are the last three NHL goaltenders still using wooden sticks. I hesitate to call them dinosaurs, but today even Pinocchio would be made of carbon fibre and dipped in urethane."

• Jack Finarelli, writing at sports.curmudgeon.com,

in his annual review of TV ads: "Subway has an ad where Tom Brady makes a cameo appearance. Given all I have read about Brady's fanatic focus on his diet and nutrition, I somehow doubt that I might spot him and/or Giselle in line waiting for a 12-inch tuna sub there."

• R.J. Currie of sportsdeke.com: "If Team Jennifer Jones wins a second Olympic gold medal this year, perhaps they'll again be invited to present at the Juno Awards for Canadian music. Hey, who better than a curler to recognize rock stars?"

• Bob Molinaro of pilotonline.com (Hampton, Va.): "Sitting in front of my TV the other night, I witnessed the basketball equivalent of a solar eclipse — an NBA player called for travelling."

• Patti Dawn Swansson again, on the Oilers' troubles despite having two of the best players in the NHL: "It's like Steven Spielberg making a movie with Paul Newman and Marlon Bran-

do as the leading men and his producer giving him Larry, Curly, Shemp, Moe and the Marx Brothers as the supporting cast."

• Another one from the-onion.com: "NFL expands Super Bowl to include two additional teams."

• Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: The Washington Football Team is revealing its new name on Groundhog Day. Maybe they're trying to limit themselves to only six more weeks of bad football."

• Another one from Alex Kaseberg, via Twitter, after Browns QB Baker Mayfield announced his shoulder surgery was a success: "He should be back to pitching products in a couple months."

• Former Auburn basketball coach Sonny Smith: "I told Charles (Barkley) that he made me what I am today. He said, 'What is that?' I said out of coaching."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Shellbrook Silvertips win one, lose one

The mixed results continue for the Shellbrook Silvertips, who hosted the Birch Hills Blackhawks for a rare weeknight game on Wednesday, then hit the road to play the Waldheim Warriors on Saturday evening.

Tips (4) vs Hawks (9)

Only four days removed from a tough 10-4 loss to the high-flying Birch Hills Blackhawks, the Shellbrook Silvertips laced up their skates for a shot at redemption and put together a solid 40 minutes of hockey with a short bench.

The start of Wednesday night's rematch didn't bode well for the Tips, who got hemmed in their own end early and allowed Boedy Donald to draw first blood for the Blackhawks. Reed Gunville assisted on the play.

The Silvertips bounced back from this early stumble and applied some pressure in the Blackhawks' zone, but the Blackhawks rallied, going up 2-0 when Brady Keller buried

a loose puck into a wide-open Tips goal. Donald assisted on the play.

The Tips responded off the ensuing faceoff, when Nathaniel Martin blasted a shot home with the help of the crossbar, taking assists from Braiden Turner and Dallas Galloway. However, soft defensive play allowed Donald to score his second goal of the night, and put the Blackhawks back up by two goals. Tyler Tilford and Keller assisted on the play.

For their part, the Tips refused to back down, pulling back within one on a shot from Dylan Smith that trickled into the goal. Austin Lamotte and Jody Blais assisted on the play.

Following a fracas at the end of the period (the only penalties through the first 20 minutes of play), the Tips showed grit by killing off the lion's share of a five-minute major to start the second stanza.

The Tips turned this into momentum, but failed to capitalize on a pair of power plays and then had to kill off another four-minute major.

Finally, in the dying minutes of the period, the Tips' power play got on the board thanks to a perfectly placed shot from Mathew Kutnikoff. Brendon Beaulac and Lamotte assisted on the goal.

Gifted another power play, the Tips pulled ahead less than a minute later when Dylan Smith tapped home a juicy rebound to score his second goal of the night. Brendon Canaday and Blais earned helpers.

Finding themselves short-handed again, the Blackhawks struck back off an offensive zone face-off to take a 4-4 tie to the third period. Gunville scored the goal, with a solo assist from Keller.

Returning to play for the final period, the Tips' 40 minutes of solid hockey ran out. In a complete defensive collapse, the Tips surrendered five unanswered goals to take a 9-4 loss.

Tyson Novakoski made the most of the Tips' poor play, scoring a hat trick in the third frame. Cole Jones and Adam Hergott scored the other Blackhawks goals.

Tips (5) vs Warriors (1)

After a few days to recuperate, the Tips hit the road for a showdown in Waldheim against the Waldheim Warriors and proved themselves more than ready for a battle. To this



Two Birch Hills players stream in on a wide-open Silvertips goal. Somehow, the puck stayed out of the net on the play.

end, they jumped out to an early lead on a goal from Easton Neufeldt, assisted by Sam Miller and Nathaniel Martin.

The Warriors launched a counterattack minutes later, with Kelly Friesen scoring on helpers from Kendrew Friesen and Mitch Klassen.

In a back-and-forth match with a high shot tally, it wasn't until the second period that the Silvertips were able to find the back of the net again. Braiden Turner put the Tips up 2-1 in what was the only scoring highlight of the period, with assists from Dylan Smith and Gage Helm.

After another 20 minutes of scoreless hockey, the Tips finally cracked the code of Warriors netminder Brandon Thiessen, tallying three more unanswered markers to take a

commanding 5-1 victory.

Mathew Kutnikoff kicked off the scoring for the Tips, with assists from Helm and Smith, then Smith scored a few minutes later on helpers from John Martin and Helm. Getting in on the action, Helm netted a goal in the final few minutes of play, with assists from Smith and Turner.

With the split, the Tips sit at 10-5-0-1 and have climbed into third place in the Twin Rivers Hockey League's standings.

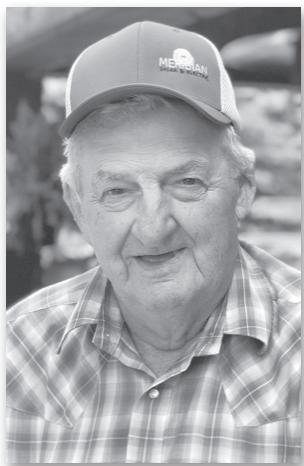
This weekend, the team closes out its regular season with a pair of home games.

On Friday night, at 8:30 p.m., they play host to the Clavet Cougars. Then, on Sunday, they welcome the Waldheim Warriors for a rematch at 5 p.m.



Shellbrook's Jody Blais attempts to corral a loose puck in front of the Birch Hills goal.

OBITUARY

Alex Skarpinsky

ALEX SKARPINSKY

April 28, 1944 –
January 26, 2022

It is with great sadness the family of Alex Skarpinsky announce his passing on January 26, 2022 at the Shellbrook hospital at the age of 77.

Alex is lovingly remembered and survived by his wife Joyce, daughter Jane (Curtis Shepherd), brother Peter (Eleanor), sister Rose Wilde, sister-in-law Lena Skarpinsky, and numerous nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents Mike and Mary, brothers Bill and Paul, sister Joyce Tchozewski, as well as brothers-in-

law Emile Tchozewski and Joe Wilde.

Alex was born and raised at the family farm in the Hawkeye district, near Shell Lake, SK. He attended both Lynwood and Shell Lake schools, then went on to work at Domtar in Saskatoon, 24 years with the RM of Spiritwood as a cat/grader operator, and primarily as a farmer and rancher on the homestead. Alex and Joyce (Woytiuk) were married on August 7, 1971, and recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Alex loved the farm and his cattle and spent many hours there, working hard from sun up till sun down, but also taking time to visit with whomever stopped by. He also had a profound love of music and could be found at polkafests across the province and spent many Saturday nights listening to CJWW's Saturday Night Dance Party. Alex also looked forward to coffee row in various communities and catching up on

the news of the day. Although they did not travel far, Alex and Joyce enjoyed going for a drive and made many miles around Saskatchewan. Alex was a true character with a great sense of humor who truly took an interest in everyone he met and made friends easily.

A special thank you to Dr. Terri Person for the excellent care she provided Alex over the years.

A graveside service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Alex's name to the Witchekan Wildlife Federation or the Scandia Church.

Family and friends wishing to send online condolences or share memories of Alex are welcome to visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home and Crematorium, Tracy-Lynn Lenchuk, Funeral Director, Spiritwood, SK, (306) 883-3500.

Research leads to first fusarium resistant durum wheat line

Canada is a top producer of durum wheat on the international stage, but the spring wheat crop has faced production challenges owing to its moderate to high susceptibility to fungal diseases.

Since durum was introduced in Canada in the 1910s, it has been susceptible to the fungal disease Fusarium Head Blight (FHB).

To improve yield and strengthen FHB resistance, research scientist and durum wheat breeder Dr. Yuefeng Ruan and his breeding team at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's (AAFC) Swift Current Research and Development Centre have developed a new registration-ready durum wheat line with an "Intermediate Resistance (IR)" rating to FHB. The variety is currently named DT2009. It is the first durum line in Canada and the world to demonstrate the IR level of resistance to this fungal disease.

FHB is primarily found in wheat, barley, and oats. It creates mycotoxins that infect seeds and diminish the quality of harvested grains used in food and non-food applications. This is

bad news for farmers and processors.

FHB epidemics have occurred several times in the Canadian Prairies in the last two decades. The prevalence of the fungal disease in durum wheat has even altered the course of production patterns throughout Canada, pushing production further west. The new wheat line's intermediate resistance rating, however, signals a possible resumption of durum wheat production in the eastern Prairies, including Manitoba.

"DT2009 will give farmers an option to continually grow durum without the worry of Fusarium Head Blight, and will allow some FHB affected regions to grow durum wheat again," says Dr. Yuefeng Ruan.

Developing resistance to the fungal disease in durum varieties involves cross-analyzing several genetic factors of the plant and their degree of resistance against the variations of the fungal pathogen, as well as its interactivity with changing environmental conditions.

Through a process called quantitative trait locus (QTL) mapping, breed-

Timberwolves fall in final regular season game

The Spiritwood Timberwolves hit the road Saturday night, closing out their regular season in a match against the Perdue Pirates with the possibility of determining who would finish their campaign at the bottom of the Saskatchewan Prairie Hockey League (SPHL) standings.

Defenceman Tyler Cross was the top scorer in the Timberwolves' losing effort, tallying a goal and two assists. Jeff Caffet, Zach Lomsnes, and Colton Poulin each chipped in with a single goal, while Carson McNabb earned two assists and Dalton Bill provided a single helper.

The Timberwolves won in their first meeting with the Pirates, stealing a big 10-4 win in front of a home ice crowd. They were unable to repeat history on Saturday night, going down by a

score of 6-4.

Coy McPhee was at the top of the Pirates' scorecard, netting himself two goals, while Chris Ewen earned a goal and an assist. Tyler Driedger, Layk Pawluk, and Mathew Stan also had a goal

apiece. As for assists, Blayke Lefavre tallied two, while Josh Madiuk, Andrew Busby, Kassen Downey, Matt Goudy, Shayne Nicholls, Braeden Paradis, and Zachary Tunney all had one.

The loss means the Timberwolves end the season at the bottom of the SPHL standings.

With a few regular season games left to play, the league has yet to announce a schedule for the postseason, meaning it's not yet known if the Timberwolves will be hanging up their skates until the fall.

GOOD NEWS

SPEAK TO YOUR SOUL

I read that man is a spirit who lives in a body that possesses a soul. That sounds scriptural, like Thessalonians 5:23.

You might have been told not to talk to yourself. Well, I would suggest that you speak to your soul.

There is a song that Phillips, Craig, and Dean released called "Tell Your Heart to Beat Again."

The thing about that song is that it was inspired by the true story of a heart surgeon. After removing a patient's heart to repair it, the surgeon returned it to the chest and began gently massaging it back to life. But the heart wouldn't restart. More intense measures followed, but the heart still wouldn't beat.

One has to love what the doctor did next. He knelt next to the unconscious patient and spoke to her: "Miss Johnson," he said, "this is your surgeon. The operation went perfectly. Your heart has been repaired. Now tell your heart to beat again." Her heart began to beat.

Someone noted that "The idea that we could tell your heart (our physical heart) to do something might seem

strange, but it has spiritual parallels."

"Why, my soul, are you downcast?" the psalmist says to himself. "Put your hope in God." (Psalm 42:5).

"Return to your rest, my soul," says another, "for the Lord has been good to you."

As Psalm (116:7) says, there are times we need to speak to ourselves.

I love the testimony of Deborah in Scripture. After leading Israel to defeat their enemies in war, Deborah reveals something interesting that she too had spoken to her heart during the battle. She said to herself, in the height of warring against the enemy, "March on, my soul," she told it, "Be strong!" (Judges 5:21), "Because the Lord had promised victory." (4:6-7).

One preacher made the point our capable Surgeon, referring to Jesus, has mended "our heart." So when fear, depression, or condemnation come, perhaps we too should address our souls and say: "March on! Be strong! Feeble heart, beat again."

Hay River Kid, loving Saskatchewan.

Blessings,
Pastor Bodvarson, SPA

ers like Dr. Ruan can identify "markers" to define minor FHB resistance genes, and stack their resistance in durum breeding lines.

But it's not only this one trait that the breeders need to worry about. They also have to think about other varietal characteristics that can mitigate yield-related threats. Just think of all the disease threats out there! The new line also scores highly here, demonstrating resistance to moderate resistance to all rusts including Ug99 stem rust, diseases that impact crops close to harvest.

Thanks to their breeding work, DT2009 is also high yielding, has high protein content, strong straw structure and good packages for other desirable traits of agronomy, disease, and quality.

The process of taking a new variety from the researcher's lab to the farmer's field is a long one. It involves oversight and agreement by industry experts, who thoroughly evaluate the lines the research programs put forward. Currently, just one or two new durum lines from AAFC are approved for registration each year.

Supported for registration following the annual Prairie Grain Development Committee's virtual registration event in 2021, the new breed of durum wheat will likely be available to farmers in about three years depending on the release date determined by seed companies. Dr. Ruan's other accepted line, called DT2005, which also has excellent fungal resistance properties, would also be available for registration support.

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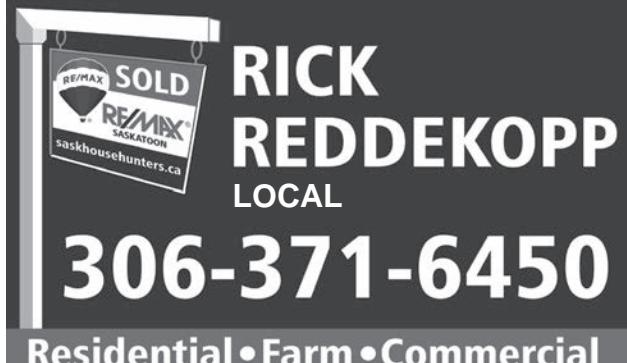
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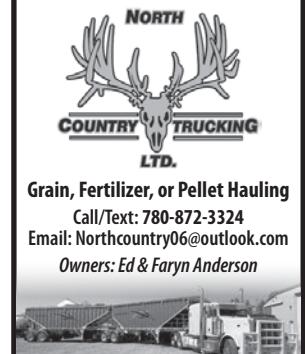
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today
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rows fell,
But in our hearts
we mourn the loss
Of him we loved so
well.

The world may
change from year to
year

And our friends
from day to day,
But never shall the
one we love

From memory fade
away.

We will never forget
you. You will forever
be in our hearts.

With much love,
Lavern, Lorna,
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Shane, Margaret,
Rory, Courteney.

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my dearest mother,
Doris Fee, who left
us January 22, 2012.

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cemetery where
gentle breezes blow,
lies one we loved
so much who we lost
ten years ago.

Our thoughts are
always with you,
your place no one
can fill,

In life we dearly
loved you, in death
we love you still.

Your daughter, May
French

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AAS shines spotlight on new plants

By Patricia Hanbridge

When the new year rolls around, it is with great pleasure I bring to you the most recent AAS winners. All America Selections (AAS) is a non-profit trialing organization that tests new, never-before-sold varieties of plants for the home gardener. After a full season of anonymous assessment by volunteer horticultural professionals, only the top garden performers are given the AAS Winner award designation for their superior performance. The AAS Winner label is like a stamp of approval as their mission is to promote new garden varieties with superior garden performance.

AAS is therefore the place to go for the next best thing to guaranteed success in your garden. Once or twice each decade there is an AAS Gold Medal Award that honours a breeding breakthrough. Standard AAS National Winner designation recognizes an ornamental or edible that shows significant breeding achievements, demonstrates superior garden performance compared to other varieties available. Judges also evaluate characteristics such as earliness, taste, disease-resistance, uniqueness and more depending on the species. AAS Regional Winner designation is given to varieties that do not perform exceptionally in all regions but in specific regions of North America. Certain regions are named AAS Regional Winners. The AAS Winners offer gardeners reliable new varieties of plants to grow in your garden.

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The 2022 winners will be available for purchase for the gardening season as supply becomes available. It is sometimes difficult to get the seed desired when the winners are just announced but if you go to the All America Selections website, they list the seed houses that sell seed of the winning plants. The url is <https://all-americaselections.org/buy-winners/>

My personal favourite winner in the ornamental category is Begonia Viking™ Explorer Rose on Green F1. I love begonias as they are so suitable for shady areas of the garden and also as a houseplant. This trailing begonia has prolific rose-coloured flowers that stand out against the glossy green foliage giving a sea of colour. It is best planted in a container, allowing it to freely cascade over the edges and draw the eye to its stunning beauty. Be sure to include these "Vikings" in your gar-

CARD OF THANKS

The family of the late Marian Campbell of Canwood would like to thank all of our family, friends and neighbours for their caring, support and prayers over the years and especially through this difficult time. Thank you to Nurse Practitioner, Nancy Tenkink for helping Mom over the years, and the Shellbrook Home Care for the great in-home services and assistance that they provided, enabling her to stay in her own home much longer. Extra special thank you to all the wonderful, caring staff at Whispering Pine Place for the amazing care and kindness they gave Mom over the last two years. We appreciate this more than you will ever know. To all who traveled to attend and took

part in her service, as well as those who phoned, sent cards, flowers and donations, thank you for your time and effort. Special thanks to Donna, Tammy and Lynn with Beau "Lac" Funeral Home for administering the arrangements and all the help and guidance you provided our family. Also a special thank you to Doris Wideen-Bazley for officiating and celebrating Mom's life with us. Thank you to the Zion Lutheran Church for offering your church for the service. Our family is so appreciative to all those who supported us during this time. Thank you, your kindness will not be forgotten. Sandra, Bill, Irene, Doris, Dian, Mary, Bev, Cindy, Susan and families.

1-05



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AA Elks close out January with loss

The Parkland U18 AA Elks played just one game over the weekend, after their Saturday night home game against the Warman Wildcats was postponed (no reason was given by the league for the postponement).

The Elks hit the road Sunday afternoon, making a stop at the St. Walburg Arena for a showdown with the North West Stars.

There, they got off to a strong

start when team leading scorer Tylee Sylvestre drew first blood on a solo assist from Kyler Roy.

The goal would stand as the game's only point for nearly 30 minutes, as both teams played a mostly penalty-free back-and-forth game with the Stars racking up the shots on Elks goalie Carson Ledding.

Finally, with the help of a power play, the Stars found a way to break through Ledding's defences late in the

second period. Colt Desjarlais scored the Stars' opener, with assists from Jaymisun Pelchat and Ethan Palen.

Skating on over to the third period, the Stars took their first lead of the game on a goal from Jesse Borschneck, assisted by Owen Latendresse and Jeremy Hanson.

Later in the frame, Devante Pratt beat Ledding to give the Stars an insurance marker, with an assist from Hanson.

And two minutes later, Desjarlais all but put the game out of reach by scoring his second of the afternoon with a helper from Eric Brandle.

With time winding down and a 4-1 deficit to overcome, the Elks' coaches decided to pull Ledding for an extra skater on a power play. The play backfired, allowing Desjarlais to net a shorthanded, empty net hat trick goal. Rhett Dennis provided the lone assist on

the play.

Following the 5-1 defeat, the Elks sit at 2-25-0-2 on the season.

As it stands, the Elks have this weekend off, and will return to action with a road game against the Martensville Marauders on Wednesday, Feb. 9.

As of Tuesday, a new date for the team's home game against the Warman Wildcats had yet to be announced.

Shellbrook Library wraps up January programming

By Dian Campbell

Programming continues at the Shellbrook Public Library in 2022. Our Library is open to the public (with a mask policy in place) with several programs up and running.

The evening book club meets at the Library the third Wednesday of each month. Participants take turns sharing about the books they have read over the last month. This month's titles included 'Before she Disappeared' by Lisa Gardner and 'The Madness of Crowds' by Louise Penny.

Our Afternoon book club meets one Friday a month. January's book choice was 'News of the World' by Paulette Jiles. Our February choice is 'Finding my Way' by Lois Simmie. This month we are meeting on Feb. 18.

The Sensory Room, which is sponsored by P.A. Regional Kid's First, has been busy entertaining the youngest

of our library patrons, with sensory bottles, a ball pit, and musical instruments. The Sensory Room is open during regular library hours, please phone ahead and book a time.

Our Friday Storytime hour has been exploring the world of winter, with snowmen, mittens, and Yeti stories and crafts. Storytime runs from 10:30-11:30 a.m. on Friday mornings. The P.A. Regional Kid's First program leaders will be joining us for Storytime on Friday, Feb. 4, with stories and activities for parents and children, all based around 'Sneezy the Snowman' by Maureen Wright.

The Makerspace/Lego Club meets each Monday after school from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Lego builds, magnetic blocks, robotics, and crafts are just part of what we offer. For more information call the Library. This program is for children 6-12 (children under 8 must be accompanied by a parent).

Our library computers are open to

the public. Come in and check out our new library computer desks. Desks were purchased through a grant from Canada Post.

Can't make it into the library? There is lots you can do online. Check out the Wapiti Regional Library Website for information on their many online programs. A few we like are: Library2Go

(online books and Audiobooks), Flipster (online magazines), Tumblebooks (online storybooks and music for young children), and Hoopla (online music and movies). All of these are free with your library card.

Check these out and more under the e-resources tab on wapitiregionallibrary.ca.



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More building at Makerspace/Lego club.



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