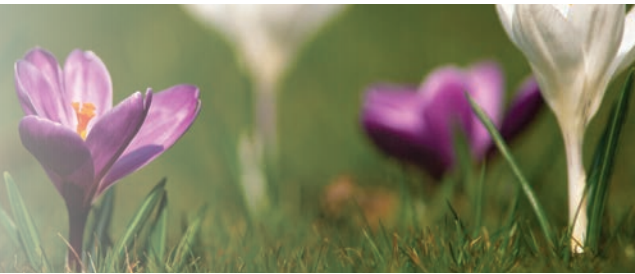


Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald



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Thursday, May 19, 2022

www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

Local badminton players bring home Provincials hardware

SHSAA Provincial High School Badminton Championships were played in Rosthern over the weekend, and two local singles players and one duo were in the running for the titles.

Starting with the girl's singles action, WP Sandin High School's Marissa Skavlebo was on the hunt for her second Provincials gold medal. Skavlebo won gold in 2019, in the first year in which she was eligible to compete, but had been locked out of competition for the past two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

If the pandemic shutdown left her rusty at all she showed no signs of it, as she lost only one set through the entire Regionals tournament to punch her ticket to Provincials.

Going into Provincials, coach Devon Thorpe felt she had the skill and the drive to reclaim her title.

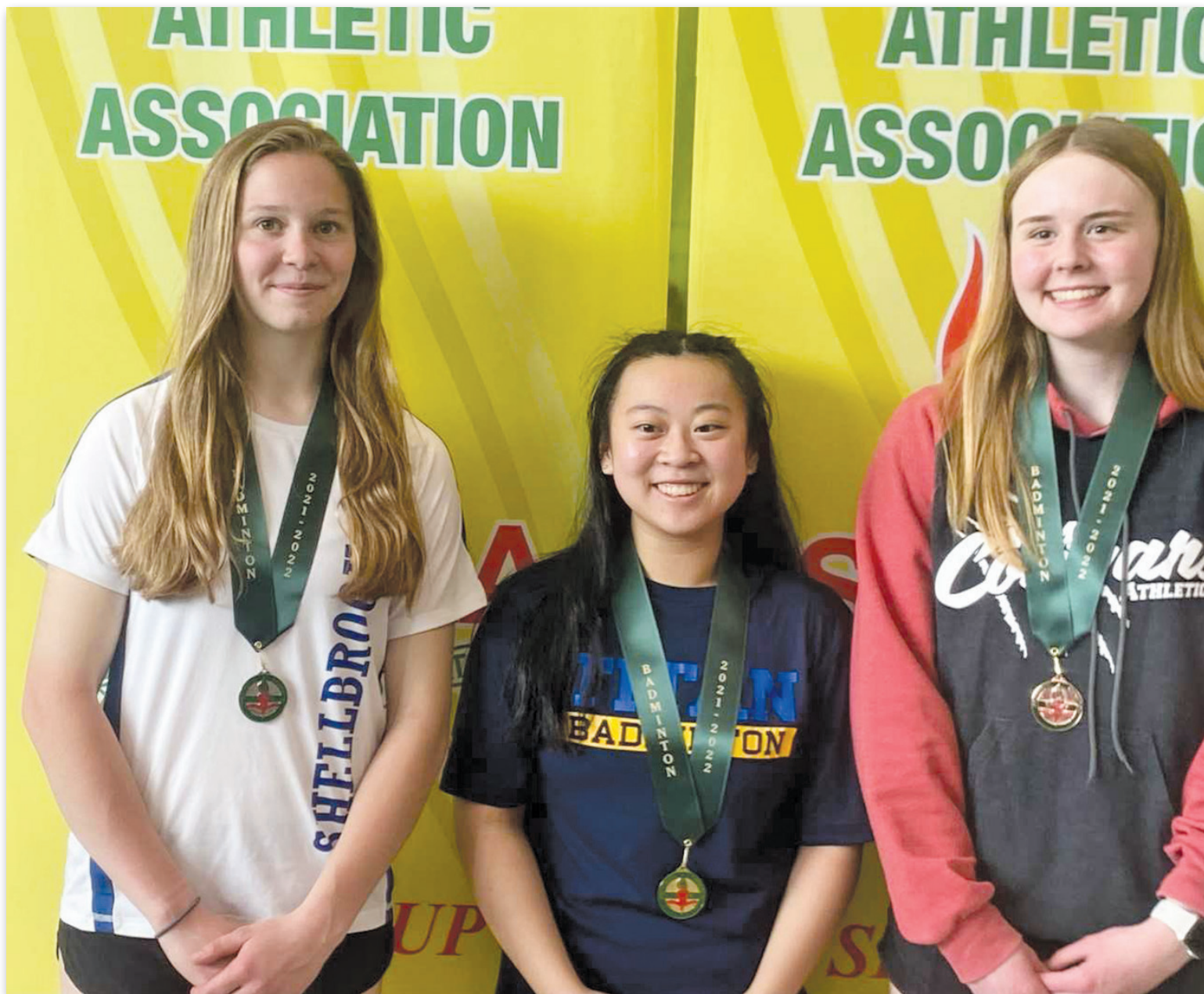
"Marissa is very skilled at shot placement, game management and endurance. She works hard at everything that she does and takes pride in doing her best. She continues to be a role model for all our athletes at WP," he said.

Skavlebo lived up to these words in her first match, breezing past Lloydminster's Emma Gray in two sets with scores of 21-6 and 21-14.

Her next match saw her face stiffer competition from Cornerstone Christian School's Kenzie Behrns, winning the first set 21-9, before coming out on the wrong side of a 21-19 tally in the second set. She shook this off, scoring a decisive 21-12 win in the third and deciding set.

Wrapping up the round robins, Skavlebo stayed undefeated with a three-set victory over Sophie O'Neill of RG Campbell. Skavlebo dropped the first set 21-18, before rallying to take sets two and three by scores of 21-19 and 21-15, respectively.

Moving to playoffs, Skavlebo played one of her better games against Choiceland's Grace Chamberlain, winning in two sets with scores of 21-13 and 21-



WP Sandin High School's Marissa Skavlebo (left) competed in badminton Provincials over the weekend, bringing home a silver medal. Also pictured: gold medalist Nataly Eng and bronze medalist Grace Chamberlain.

14 to earn her spot in the gold medal game.

There, Skavlebo met her match in RG O'Neill's Nataly Eng, who dominated the first set to the tune of 21-5, before taking the second set by a tally of 21-12 to claim Provincials gold and leave Skavlebo with silver.

Over to boy's singles, Sturgeon Lake's Keston Gerard put on an impressive, undefeated show through the round robins, starting with a two set victory (24-22, 21-17) over Osler VCA's Davis Laskowski.

Gerard followed this up by besting Swift Current's Navi Singh by scores of 21-19 and 21-

13, before finishing off the round robins with another two-setter against RG Campbell's Jung Cau (23-21, 21-16).

Advancing to playoffs, Gerard dropped a close 22-20 first set to Walter Murray's Mikhail Sloboshan. He was unable to rally in the second set, falling by a score of 21-11 to be relegated to the bronze medal match.

There, in arguably his hardest match of Provincials, Gerard dropped the first set in a rematch against Laskowski by a score of 21-10. He bounced back in the second set with a 21-17 win then kept the momentum going through the third and

deciding set, winning 21-16 to claim Provincials bronze.

Finally, in girl's doubles action, the Leoville duo of Brodie Geiger and Rylee Harris were in the medal contention. The pair amassed a 2-1 record through the round robin, opening the tournament with a two-set win (21-19, 21-19) against White Fox's Martina Moore and Jayden Spice.

The pair were pushed by the Oxbow duo of Kiley Davis and McKenna Walls, losing the first set 22-20, before winning sets two and three by scores of 21-18 and 21-15. Geiger and Harris would then close the round rob-

ins with a tough loss to Ponteix's Daniela Palaganas and Sierra Ross, falling in two sets with scores of 21-9 and 21-11.

The competition only got stiffer in the playoffs, as Geiger and Harris played hard but ultimately fell to RG Campbell's Jenny Liu and Jiayan Cau in two sets (21-19, 21-16).

Pushed to the bronze medal game, Geiger and Harris were pitted against Palaganas and Ross in a rematch. Though they played a much better game, the Ponteix pair bested them in two sets, with scores of 21-19 and 21-18, to send them home with a fourth place finish.

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Spiritwood U15 wins home opener against Shellbrook

Spiritwood Minor Ball's U15 team won big in its first home game of the season, which was played against Shellbrook, in front of a large, supportive hometown crowd, on May 11, 2022.

The game started at 6:30 p.m. in the evening and ended after five innings, with Spiritwood coming out on top by a tally of 11-6.

This year's Spiritwood U15 team consists of Ava Beuker, Kalli Franson, Avery Conacher, Danika Laventure, Chance Goller, Liam Aumack, Mason Gray, Eden Turgeon, Stacey Joseph, Emeri Simonar, Saydee Lehouillier, Kali Poutine, Daelyn Turgeon, and Soren Day.

During the first inning, Shellbrook was able to score three runs to jump out to an early lead and blanked Spiritwood's batters in their first turn at the plate. Shellbrook held on to its lead through the second inning, in which neither team managed to score a

run. Moving to the third inning, Shellbrook sent home two more baserunners, while Spiritwood closed the gap to 5-3 by scoring three runs. Spiritwood's defence stepped up in the fourth inning, limiting Shellbrook to just one run, while the bats came alive to send in another three runs and knot the game at 6-6.

In the fifth and final inning, Spiritwood's defensive crew kept Shellbrook from getting on the board, opening the door for the offence to tally five runs and clinch the 11-6 home opener victory.

Spiritwood coaches, Tanis Franson and Sheridan Lehouillier, expressed how proud they are of the team they've built together.

"Our team is very supportive of one another. We played hard and had a great outcome," Franson said.

The team's next scheduled home game will be on May 25 against Big River.



The Spiritwood Team poses for a photo-op after their home opener. Back Row (L-R): Tanis Franson (coach), Ava Beuker, Kalli Franson, Avery Conacher, Danika Laventure, Chance Goller, Liam Aumack, and Mason Gray. Front Row (L-R): Eden Turgeon, Stacey Joseph, Emeri Simonar, Saydee Lehouillier, Kali Poutine, Daelyn Turgeon, Soren Day, and Sheridan Lehouillier (coach).

Big River revitalizing downtown core

The downtown core in Big River will soon receive a facelift, courtesy of an investment of more than \$370,000 from the Canada Community Revitalization Fund through PrairiesCan.

"Our government is supporting the renewal and expansion of public gathering spaces in communities across the Prairies through the Canada Community Revitalization Fund. We are proud to help communities like

the Town of Big River to offer an accessible and attractive hub for visitors and residents," said the Honourable Daniel Vandal, Minister for PrairiesCan, in a statement.

Improving accessibility and re-creating outdoor spaces in the downtown for people to enjoy have been among Big River Town Council's main objectives in recent years, and the cash infusion from the Canada Community Revitaliza-

tion Fund will help council with these goals.

To this end, the town will use a portion of the funds to revitalize Big River's downtown core, starting with Settlement Square, which is across from the Post Office on Main Street and is used for a Farmer's Market, Flea Markets, community barbecues, and as a place downtown where people can stop for a rest.

Improvements to Settlement Square on Main Street will include a wheelchair accessible washroom with storage room, a rubber surface with accessibility to the area, picnic tables made

from recycled plastic, and fencing along the back of the square.

Beyond Settlement Square, the town will also look to add other new amenities, including a portable dock with accessibility ramp on Cowan Lake, a new pavilion and walking path across from the Health Centre, concrete tables and benches, decorative lighting, and planters.

The Town will also continue to install accessible sidewalks in the downtown core, to make it easier to visit Main Street businesses while being safer for pedestrians.

"We will be placing several concrete benches along the sidewalks around town to encourage everyone, including those who would not necessarily be able to go as far without stopping, [to stop] for a rest. This in turn will give them the opportunity to shop and increase their mobility and independence," the Town of Big River said in a statement.

The CCRF is a two-year national program for communities across Canada to revitalize downtown cores and main streets, reinvent outdoor spaces, create green infrastructure, and increase the accessibility of community spaces.

PrairieCan's contribution covers 75 per cent (\$370,059.75) of the total project costs of \$493,413, with the Town of Big River covering the remaining 25 per cent (\$123,353.25). The estimated project completion date is March 31, 2023.

"We believe that the items will help promote health, wellness, and overall well-being for everyone in our community," the town said.

Advertising Deadline is Friday 4:00 p.m.

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Your first introductory session is **FREE**. Come try it out! (paddles provided)

Tuesday:	1:30 pm to 3:30 pm – Seniors Regular Play (Age 55+) 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm – Adult Regular Play (Age 16+)
Wednesday:	1:30 pm to 3:30 pm – Youth (start date TBA) (Age 10-15) 6:00 pm to 7:15 pm – Seniors Learn to Play (Age 55+) 7:30 pm to 8:45 pm – Adult Learn to Play (Age 16+)
Thursday:	6:30 pm to 8:30 pm – Adult Regular Play (Age 16+)

For more information contact:
Lessons: Sally (306)747-7535
Seniors: Arlene (306)747-5769 or Donna (306)930-5070
Adults: Rhonda (306)468-7770
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Pickleball moves to Shellbrook Curling Rink

For most of us, moving is a nightmare. For the Shellbrook Pickleball Club, which is now set-up in its bigger, weather-controlled spring and summer home at the Shellbrook Curling Club, moving means a better place for its members to play North America's fastest growing sport.

With town council's blessing — and a \$100 per month rental fee to cover power bills — the club set up one tiled court and three cement courts in the curling rink over the weekend.

Pickleball Club president Sally Jacobson, who was introduced to pickleball in 2018 by a friend who had played it in Arizona and thought the fun, social aspect of the sport would make it a perfect fit for Shellbrook, says she and her fellow club members were delighted to have the town's support.

"It's a success story to utilize an existing recreation space on a full-time basis in the warmer months and the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre is a popular gathering spot for the community," she said. "It's a bonus to the community to be able to offer this sport in a facility with a controlled weather environment."

Prior to the move into the curling rink, the Pickleball Club had considered other options. In 2021, the club got a quote of \$100,000 to build two outdoor courts from scratch, putting it well beyond the club's budget and also outside of the realm of possibility for the Town of Shellbrook's recreation budget.

By comparison, the cost to set up two courts with sport tiles on an existing surface like the concrete at the curling rink was just \$29,000 (meaning the club could one day tile all four courts for just over half the price of two outdoor courts). As an added bonus, the sports tiles also provide more consistent bounce.

"We decided this was a good option, as we had some funds," Jacobson said. "Our club received a \$20,000 donation in memory of Allan "Bookie" Fitch, a member of our community who was sadly taken very suddenly. He was an active, outdoor enthusiast who

enjoyed all sports and would have loved pickleball."

Invented in 1965 by three dads who were looking to entertain their kids over the summer, pickleball is a paddle sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton, and ping pong. Similar to the sports it takes inspiration from, pickleball requires players to use solid paddles to bat a perforated polymer ball over a net, and can be played in singles or doubles format.

After it was introduced to the community by Jacobson in 2019, pickleball's growth was tempo-

rarily put on hold by the COVID-19 pandemic.

With everything opening back up, the Shellbrook Pickleball Club decided to host more "try pickleball" sessions at the end of March.

Jacobson estimates 18 or so people came out to these sessions, meaning the four courts set up in the gymnasium at WP Sandin Public High School were busy throughout each of the nights and some players had to wait for their turn to play.

Regular play nights, meanwhile, typically see about a dozen players come out.

With the courts set up at the curling rink, Jacobson hopes play can begin June 17, with sessions for youth, adults, and seniors.

With the club's focus shifting to growing its numbers, it will begin offering an introductory session for newcomers interested in learning the game on June 24. The program will include 10 sessions of play with four hours of instruction for \$40.

"Pickleball is fun, social and great exercise for all ages. The rules are simple and the game is easy for beginners of any age to learn. But it can

develop into a quick, fast-paced, competitive game for experienced players," Jacobson said.

Anyone interested in

taking part in the learn to play sessions must pre-register by May 25 by calling Jacobson at 306-747-7535.



Members of the Shellbrook Pickleball Club play on the new sports tile, which was installed at the Shellbrook Curling Club over the weekend.



The last tile is put in place, during the Shellbrook Pickleball Club's move into the curling rink.

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More divisive rhetoric won't heal our divisions

Has there ever, in Canada's long history, been a time in which political discourse has strayed so far beyond the realm of civility and common decency?

On the one hand, we have Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's federal government, which denigrates all who dare to disagree with its vision for a supposedly more inclusive Canada by calling them racists, misogynists, homophobes, and conspiracy theorists, among other epithets.

On the other, we have a Conservative Party opposition that is more than content to stoke the anger of its supporters into a conflagration and deepen the growing divide between Canadians – the end result of which we witnessed last week when NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh was verbally assaulted by a mob in Peterborough, ON.

Yet as they feed the anger of their base, while simultaneously lamenting the divided state of the country, what are Conservatives, and more specifically the six party leadership candidates, actually offering to solve the problem?

The answer, after two leadership debates, remains unclear.

Starting with presumptive frontrunner Pierre Poilievre, the way to heal Canada is apparently with freedom, freedom, and more freedom.

Freedom from the remaining federal pandemic mandates, which should, at this point, be lifted.

Freedom to freely speak one's mind.

Freedom from the federal carbon tax, the ravages of "#justinflation", and every policy that is making life unaffordable for Canadians (even if the problem of inflation is a global one, caused mostly by factors beyond the control of any single government).

And freedom from the so-called gatekeepers and elites who are pushing the dream of homeownership beyond the reach of many Canadians. (As someone who has been drinking deep from the public trough for 18 years, Mr. Poilievre seems oblivious to the irony of him calling anyone else an elite.)



JORDAN TWISS

~
News Editor

For all his rhetoric about freedom, Mr. Poilievre's platform features a lot of heavy-handed governing, including promises to fire the governor of the Bank of Canada, to prevent the bank from pursuing a digital fiat currency (all while he pushes risky cryptocurrency as a means to "opt out of inflation"), and to subject the bank to more audits than it's already subjected to.

In a move commonly featured in Mr. Trudeau's playbook, Mr. Poilievre is also threatening to withhold funds from municipalities that refuse his prescription to fix the housing affordability problem.

However, given a recent report that at least 20 per cent of MPs own rental or investment real estate, Mr. Poilievre included, can we really expect government to act objectively on this portfolio and take steps that will tank the investments of many Canadians?

How will Canadians react when the home they spent \$400,000 on is suddenly worth only \$200,000?

Favourably, I'm sure.

Meanwhile, competing in her second party leadership race, Leslyn Lewis suggests the divides between Canadians will only be repaired by having the courage to engage in difficult discussions and stand against "woke-ism and cancel culture."

A noble idea, no doubt, except in this instance it means giving a platform and legitimacy to every conspiracy theory under the sun, whether it be about COVID-19, a new WHO treaty to build a global framework for pandemic management, or the WEF, which is allegedly ruling the world from the shadows (even though our global leaders probably couldn't agree on what colour to paint a room, much less decide the course of the planet).

As the only openly pro-life candidate in the leadership race, it's unclear how Lewis will be received outside the circles of social conservatism.

Close to Lewis on the political spectrum is Roman Baber, who believes that living in the Soviet Union until he was



eight makes him the resident authority on communism. Mr. Baber seems to believe the spectres of socialism and threats to Canadian democracy hide in every shadow, and he is pledging to "restore Canada's crumbling democracy," and to oppose calls to impose lockdowns under any circumstance (a stance which got him turfed from Doug Ford's Ontario PC Party).

Otherwise, Mr. Baber's only other platform policy is to reduce or eliminate equalization and give the saved monies to Canadians in the form of an income tax cut. This will likely resonate well with the prairie provinces, but won't do the Conservative Party any favours in Québec.

As the outsiders of the race, it's hard to know what to think of Jean Charest and Patrick Brown.

Given their more centrist policy positions on things like the federal carbon tax, they certainly have a chance to appeal to a broader base of voters. However, if one of them were to unexpectedly win, it's likely it would create a schism within the Conservative Party much like the one that led to the creation of Max Bernier's People's Party of Canada (or, at the very least, push some voters to cast their ballots for the PPC instead).

Last but not least, Scott Aitchison has been among the most vocal critics of the divisive rhetoric not just in politics in general, but between the leadership candidates.

His only shortcoming has been that Messrs. Poilievre and Charest have been hogging the air and the spotlight, preventing him from delivering much messaging beyond his calls to end the divisive mudslinging that has characterized the leadership race to date. That said, his positions on the carbon tax, pandemic mandates, fiscal restraint, and defence spending should resonate with almost all conservatives.

Though the next federal election is probably another three years off, and opinion of Mr. Trudeau has soured, the Conservative Party still faces an uphill battle to unseat the Liberal government.

The next Conservative Party leader needs to present a clear, broad-based vision that can appeal to Canadians and position the Conservatives as a forward-looking party – a vision that goes beyond just tearing down every policy implemented by Mr. Trudeau.

With the leadership election set for Sept. 10, each candidate has a lot of work to do to unite Canadians behind their cause.

Shellbrook Chronicle

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Member of



Report from the Legislature

Saskatchewan has re-enforced our place as a world leader in 2022. Despite the challenges of the last two years, our province has been leading the way in economic expansion and investment. A stable and prosperous economy allows our government to invest that hard work back into public programs and services.

Statistics Canada has reported that our province added over 18,000 new jobs between April 2021 and April 2022. For the 17th consecutive month, off-reserve Indigenous employment was up, with youth employment rising over eight per cent.

Between February 2021 and February 2022, we led the nation in year-over-year retail trade growth. The value of retail trade increased by 13 per cent to a total of over \$2 billion. Additionally, our province recorded the second-highest month-to-month growth in merchandise exports. The good news continued as wholesale trade increased by nearly 37 per cent over 2021, the highest among the provinces.



**HON. SCOTT MOE,
PREMIER**

~
MLA for Rosthern -
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scottmoe.mla@sasktel.net

Meanwhile, Saskatchewan's manufacturing sector grew by nearly 40 per cent year-over-year, the highest growth in the country. We retained the distinction of being Canada's best jurisdiction for mining investment. We have also been named the second-best jurisdiction globally, just behind Western Australia. In 2021, Saskatchewan's mining sector generated \$8.6 billion in sales, the second-highest ever

recorded. Economic advancements of this nature lead to further private investment in our province, creating more jobs and supporting our growing communities.

While we celebrate the collective achievements as a province, our government is committed to continued, sustainable growth for future generations. With that in mind, we have focused on creating an economic environment that is attractive to investors, resulting in more jobs to support our communities.

One way to assist is by supporting job seekers as they enter the workforce or look for a new opportunity. Our government has provided \$1 million in support for Hospitality Saskatchewan to promote careers in the hospitality and tourism sector. Businesses were impacted by the global pandemic

and are working through a labour shortage. The investment will assist in attracting, training and retaining employees. A further \$532,000 in one-time funding will provide training and support for Indigenous job seekers to develop skills needed for this industry.

Investing in Northern Saskatchewan is part of our Growth Plan as we promote the vast opportunities our province holds. Global investors are looking to us for the food, fuel, fertilizer and forestry products they need. Four forestry projects worth \$1 billion are underway and will create over 2,600 jobs for Saskatchewan residents, largely in the north.

As we work to advance reconciliation and promote economic development, our government has expanded our support for Indigenous resource development projects. Through dis-



**HON. JEREMY
HARRISON
MLA**

~
Meadow
Lake
Toll Free:
1-877-234-6669
jharrisonmla@sasktel.net

Finance Corporation (SIIF). Loan guarantees are being offered to eligible First Nations and Métis communities and organizations to support investments in forestry, mining, oil and gas, energy production and value-added agriculture. This targeted investment will create more jobs and further strengthen our communities.

Despite claims from the NDP that our confidence in Saskatchewan's entrepreneurs and businesses is nothing more than political, statistics show the world is investing in Saskatchewan. We have more jobs, more investment and more opportunities in our province every day.

cussions with business owners and Indigenous leaders, a lack of access to capital funds was identified as a barrier to investment. In response, legislation will create the Saskatchewan Indigenous Investment

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



Town of Blaine Lake Assistant Administrator

The Town of Blaine Lake is currently seeking a Full Time Assistant Administrator to help with the day-to-day duties of the Municipality.

This position will require an individual who has the ability to complete the financial tasks as well as provide support to the CAO in a variety of Municipal duties.

Must have a Grade 12 education, and conduct oneself in a professional manner.

To apply, please send a resume with references and contact information to:

Town of Blaine Lake
Box 10, 301 Main Street
Blaine Lake, Sask. S0J 0J0
Email: blainelake@sasktel.net

The position is available immediately, however, it will remain open until a suitable candidate is found. Successful applicant will be required to submit a clear criminal record check.

The Town of Blaine Lake thanks all interested applicants, however only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



Town of Blaine Lake ADMINISTRATOR

The Town of Blaine Lake is a rural community of approximately 500 people located about 85 km north of Saskatoon. We are centrally located near several lakes with great opportunities for outdoor activities including water sports, hunting, snowmobiling, etc.

We are seeking a forward-thinking individual with strong leadership skills for the position of Administrator. The ideal applicant will have a minimum Class C certificate in Local Government Administration and have previous municipal administration experience. Excellent organizational, communication and interpersonal skills are required.

Salary will be negotiated based on experience and the UMAAS salary scale. The Town offers an excellent benefit and pension package.

Applicants are invited to submit resumes by mail, fax, email or in person to:

Town of Blaine Lake
Box 10
Blaine Lake, SK S0J 0J0
Email: blainelake@sasktel.net
Fax: 306-497-2511

The Position is available immediately, however, it will remain open until a suitable candidate is found. Successful applicant will be required to submit a clear criminal record check.

The Town of Blaine Lake thanks all interested applicants, however only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

R.M. OF LEASK NO. 464

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 intends to adopt two bylaws pursuant to *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* for the sale of dedicated lands and to amend Bylaw No. 2/2020 known as the Zoning Bylaw.

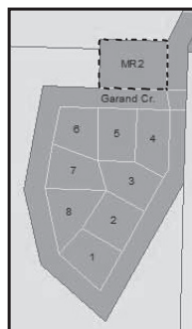
BYLAW NO. 2 - 2022

INTENT: The proposed bylaw will allow for the sale of a municipal reserve parcel with the sale proceeds to be deposited to the dedicated lands account for future expenditure on other dedicated lands.

AFFECTED LAND: The affected land is Blk/Par MR2, Plan 94B03105 Ext 0 as shown below on Map 1 within the bold dashed line.

REASON: The reason for the sale is to allow existing and proposed uses not permitted on land designated as municipal reserve.

Map 1



Map 2



Map 3



BYLAW NO. 3 - 2022

INTENT: To replace Map 2B - Pelican Cove and Island View Resort attached to and forming part of Bylaw No. 2/2020 known as the Zoning Bylaw.

REASON & AFFECTED LAND: To incorporate the following map change and corrections:

- Remove the municipal reserve designation on land parcel legally described as Blk/Par MR2, Plan 94B03105 Ext 0 as shown above on Map 1 within the bold dashed line.
- Remove a misplaced RC label from land parcels legally described as Lot 2 and Lot 3, Blk/Par 3-Plan 78B17991 Ext 0 and zoned to the Lakeshore District (LD) as shown above on Map 2 within the bold dashed line.
- Poplar Drive road name correction as shown on Map 3 above.

PUBLIC INSPECTION

Any person may inspect the bylaws at the Rural Municipality of Leask No.464 office located at 231 1st Avenue South in the Village of Leask between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available at cost.

PUBLIC HEARING

Council will hold a public hearing on June 8th, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. at the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 office located at 231 1st Avenue South in the Village of Leask to hear any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaw. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing. Issued at Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 this 12th day of May, 2022.

Riannon Nelson
Administrator

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Trudeau eyes wealth tax to pay for soaring spending

By Jay Goldberg, CTF

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is eyeing a wealth tax to pay for his government's spending spree.

Heavily redacted documents obtained by the Canadian Taxpayers Federation show Trudeau asked for analysis of a \$60-billion wealth tax. With indefinite deficits looming, it must be tempting to grab that cash.

But a wealth tax would inflict economic pain on both the rich and the poor, and everyone in between.

Many other countries have tried a wealth tax and then quickly abandoned the plan because it causes the ultra-wealthy to leave the country, taking their investments and businesses with them.

This leaves regular people with fewer jobs and a higher tax load.

Trudeau has been dancing around the idea of a wealth tax for years. He's supported policies like luxury taxes on cars, boats, and planes, as well as a flipping tax on short-term home owners. But he's never explicitly come out in favour of a direct tax on individual wealth.

Behind the scenes, however, documents show Trudeau is eyeing a wealth tax quite closely.

The Parliamentary Budget Officer (PBO) released a report early last year looking at the revenue implications of implementing a one-time wealth tax on Canadians. According to the PBO report, which was written at the request of a Liberal member of parliament, a one-time wealth tax would hit taxpayers who have wealth of more than \$10 million and rake in \$60 billion for the government.

Trudeau has taken a personal interest in the report. According to documents, Trudeau requested an analysis of the report to explore the "merit of the policy." In a memorandum explicitly addressed to Trudeau, bureaucrats lay out exactly how a wealth tax could be imposed on Canadians. Clearly, a wealth tax is on Trudeau's mind.

This should be no surprise.

Trudeau has committed to tens of billions of dollars in new spending on programs like subsidized day-care, pharmacare and dental care without offering any way to pay for them.

He's even struck a deal with the NDP to keep his Liberal government in power for another three years predicated on soaring spending. And, even though Trudeau once thought that budgets balance themselves, these programs are so expensive that even he must know the money must come from somewhere.

But embracing a wealth tax in Canada would be a colossal mistake. Wealth taxes don't just hurt the rich. They hurt the entire economy.

Trudeau's own briefing note admits that wealth taxes are "complex" and generate "tremendous uncertainty," meaning a wealth tax may not generate as much revenue as the government hopes while having potentially damaging economic implications in the process.

Consider the case of France. After 12,000 millionaires fled France within a single year, President Emmanuel Macron, a former socialist finance minister, led a successful push to repeal France's wealth tax. He saw how detrimental the tax was to the national economy. The wealth tax had turned France into "Cuba without the sun," and Macron declared that it had to go.

The reality is that rich people are mobile. Macron realized that wealthy people in France could simply pick up and make the move to Denmark. The same could happen with wealthy Canadians. The concept is rather basic. Trudeau should follow his pal Macron's logic.

Consider this hypothetical. A wealthy Canadian entrepreneur makes \$30 million a year and pays \$15 million in income taxes. If that entrepreneur leaves Canada to avoid a wealth tax, it would take 1,500 taxpayers earning \$50,000 per year to cover that annual bill.

While many Canadians might not be directly hit by a wealth tax, its impact on the overall economy means everyone will suffer. When wealthy people flee, they take not just their wealth, but also their income and spending power, with them. Wealth taxes shrink the economic pie.

France figured out the dangers of a wealth tax the hard way, losing rich people and income tax revenue as a result. Canada should learn from France's experience and take a pass on wealth taxes.

YOUR TWO CENTS

The debate that wasn't

Dear editor

My wife, Delva, and I enjoy many close and talented friends in the Conservative Party. First among them is Kelly Block, who represents our riding with care, concern, and unquestionable capability. Last week's 'official' English debate displayed little of those and did a disservice to the name 'debate'.

Unless the Party factions – fractious as they are – come together as their Conservative Party president urges, the next election will be Trudeau's to lose, not theirs to win. Despite the obvious merits of the six candidates, we heard, with minor exception, their evident hostility towards each other. This blurred their overall objective and blurred their team appeal to uncommitted voters. As our farming friend, Joe, asked, "Couldn't they be more civil to each other? What kind of team is this?"

There is the rub! What kind of team is this?

At a time when our country is roiling in despair and division, we all want a steady and consistent hand at the helm. We want leaders who are

harbingers of hope with viable action plans for our economic and social recovery. That is a job for a team, not just a one person effort.

Former Prime Minister Mulroney called Nation Building a team effort and he knew how to use that team to win the day. Our Premier, Scott Moe, optimizes on his team as well, a vital lesson for leaders of any stripe.

As the only Canadians of President Reagan's Star Wars Advisory Panel, we saw, first hand, another ingredient of team success. The messenger, is indeed, the message. Despite shortfalls of both his, and his Republican Party, Reagan was a genius at reading the pulse of the nation and at speaking directly to it. Both the format and the candidates missed that vital opportunity.

Good governance in Canada needs the balance of at least two Parties who represent the heart of the country. The Conservatives still have the chance to read the pulse of the nation and speak directly to it.

Norm Rebin,
Blaine Lake, Sask.



Shellbrook Chronicle Website
www.shellbrookchronicle.com

Spiritwood Herald Website
www.spiritwoodherald.com

Grass Mowing Tender - RM of Spiritwood No. 496

Expressions of interest including price quotes are being accepted for grass mowing and whipper snipping in the municipal right of ways of the following locations within the RM of Spiritwood No. 496:

Green Jewel Estates
Angus Estates
Aspen Ridge Estates
Misty Grove
Sunset Rim Estates
The Cove
South Shore Ridge
Aspen Ridge Lagoon
RM Compound – Shell Lake
Norbury Cemetery

Mowing to be completed monthly at all locations and will commence on or about the end of May 2022 and continue until end of August 2022. The successful bidder shall be responsible for all equipment, labour, materials, fuel & other such things as are necessary to provide the grass mowing & whipper snipping.

The tender shall include the following:

- Detailed description of mowing equipment
- Price per hour for mowing and whipper snipping
- Any mileage charges that may apply
- Proof of liability insurance of no less than \$2,000,000.

The RM of Spiritwood No. 496 reserves the right to reject and refuse any or all expressions of interest.

Please submit tender to:

RM of Spiritwood #496
Mowing Tender
Box 340
Spiritwood, SK S0J 2M0
Fax: 306-883-2557
Email: rm496@sasktel.net

On or before 4:00 pm on May 27, 2022.

For more information, please contact the municipal office @ (306) 883-2034.

Hidden Hills of Shellbrook Golf Course Incorporated

ANNUAL MEETING

Monday, May 30, 2022 at 8:00 p.m.

Sand Trap Lounge, Hidden Hills Golf Club
99 2nd St. West, Shellbrook, SK

Members of the Hidden Hills Golf Course are invited to attend the annual general meeting.

Presentation of the operations for 2019, 2020 and 2021 will be presented.

The election of the board of directors will be for a 3-year term.

Nominations for directors may be forwarded to President Clark Pepper at the Shellbrook Chronicle office in Shellbrook, SK by **May 27th, 2022** or be nominated at this AGM!



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

May is Early Childhood Education Month

The Government of Saskatchewan would like to thank all early childhood educators for their devoted care and dedication. To support their important work, our government has increased funding for early childhood intervention programs by \$744,000 to \$5.2 million for 2022/23. On average, these programs serve approximately 1,200 families each year.



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

AGRICULTURE

May 19, 2022

www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald 7

Many factors pushing grain, oilseed prices higher

Grain and oilseed prices in 2022 have been very good, and that is typically the result of some sort of outside force.

Markets react when something is perceived to threaten the usual supply of product.

At present there are some rather significant forces at work in the world which are pressuring markets – if not creating outright fear and panic.

You need only look at recent agricultural headlines to see just what is happening that has markets fidgety.

To start with, we are still a world in the shadow of a pandemic. Here in Saskatchewan, we may have a government that has thrown its hands up in surrender leaving the population to deal with COVID as best they can, but there are still people missing work, finding themselves in hospital, and dying as a result of COVID.

The pandemic might be on its final ripples, but that might also be wishful thinking on our part. Disease mutates and vigilance is still required.

The uncertainty of the



CALVIN DANIELS

pandemic is still a pressure on world trade and its markets.

Then, there is the invasion of Ukraine by Russia.

This one is scary, as war always creates market uncertainty and when it is a major power such as

Russia, the volatility increases.

On one hand, Ukraine is a major producer and the war there will cut into production.

Russia is a major producer too, but who is willing to deal with the war monger-led country?

That will leave some markets wondering where they offset purchases typically made from Ukraine, or Russia.

The spectre of Russian success in the invasion, having Putin push into other countries and finally forcing an armed reaction from the west, casts

a shadow over markets too.

Finally, weather always influences markets.

Here on the Canadian Prairies, we are beginning seeding later than what has been normal in recent years, with acres seeded to-date behind the five-year average.

Late seeding is not the best option, as it has long been understood crops seeded early typically produce better. There are limited early seeded acres in the region this year.

Weekend rains have been a sort of good news/bad news occurrence. On

the positive side, the rain will improve soil moisture conditions. On the other hand, wheels won't be turning for a few extra days because of wet conditions, meaning a lot of acres won't be touched until the latter part of May.

Certainly, a stretch of warm weather is needed now if every acre is to be seeded in reasonable time.

If weather remains uncertain, it will be another factor causing markets to potentially inch higher in the face of stressed demand.

Crop report: May 3 to 9

Seeding progress is still slower than average but more producers were able to get out over the past week. Provincially, 14 per cent of crops are now seeded, up from one per cent last week and behind the five-year average (2017-2021) of 23 per cent. Crops that were seeded over the past two weeks should be emerging if moisture conditions are favourable. In areas of the southwest and west-central regions where conditions are very dry, germination could be uneven.

The southwest re-

gion has 34 per cent of their crop seeded, followed by 20 per cent in the west-central, seven per cent in the southeast, five per cent in the northwest, three per cent in the east-central and one per cent in the northeast. Many fields in the eastern half of the province are still too wet to allow producers to seed, full-scale seeding is still a week away in some parts of the province.

Various amounts of precipitation were received across the province; this rain is needed

badly in some areas that are too dry for proper germination. However, it will likely lead to longer delays in areas of the eastern regions where moisture is already high. The most rain reported was in the Pelly area with 49 mm, followed by 46 mm in the Bienfait area. The Shaunavon area received 26 mm and the Hazenmore area received 18 mm, which is good to see in the southwest since much of the crop is already in the ground and moisture has been limited in the region.

Due to widespread precipitation across the province, topsoil moisture has slightly improved from last week's report. Cropland topsoil moisture is rated as six per cent surplus, 58 per cent adequate, 26 per cent short and 10 per cent very short. Hay and pastureland moisture is rated as two per cent surplus, 56 per cent adequate, 29 per cent short and 13 per cent very short. This increase in moisture will help pastures grow rapidly.

Many livestock producers have report-

ed that the recent rain helped fill their dugouts and they feel confident that, for the time-being, water quality shouldn't be an issue. However, producers in the southwest and west-central have concerns about water levels and are making plans to haul water if conditions do not improve. Heavy rains throughout the summer will be needed to ensure that water availability does not become a widespread concern.

Producers continue working in their fields seeding, harrowing,

rock-picking and rolling. When the weather allows, producers are spraying and seeding. Producers are reminded to be safe during their field activities and when transporting equipment across or alongside roadways. When working in extremely dry areas, especially pastures, ensure sparks or any other fire starter is controlled and a water source is available.

A complete, printable version of the Crop Report is available online at <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/crop-report>.

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Wed., June 1, 2022
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A division of Northern Livestock Sales



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Fri., May 27, 2022
Bred Cow, Heifer & Pair Sale 1:00 pm
Mon., May 30, 2022
Regular Sale 8:30 a.m.

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



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For market info visit: www.northernlivestocksales.ca

Minutes of a Spiritwood Town Council meeting

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

The regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Spiritwood was held in the Council Chambers at the Spiritwood Town Office, 212 Main Street, on March 22, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

In attendance were Mayor Gary von Holwede, Councillor Bryan Wingerter, Councillor George Pretli, Councillor Ragnar Latus, Councillor Kiera Andres, Councillor James Bedi, Councillor Brad Nemish, and Acting Administrator Hugh Otterson.

A quorum being present, Mayor Von Holwede called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Bedi: That the agenda be adopted as presented to form part of the minutes.

Wingerter: That Resolution #2022-0037 (pertaining to the sale of municipal owned land to Martodam Motors) of the Feb. 22, 2022, meeting be amended by deleting the words "Plus Gst" after the number "\$20,000.00". Carried

Andres: That the minutes of the Feb. 22, 2022, council meeting be adopted as amended. Carried

Nemish: That the correspondence be filed as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the accounts for Ratification, Cheque No. 31922 - 31927 & Payments 684-722 in the amount of \$71,808.32 be approved as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the accounts for Approval, Cheque No. 31928-31951 in the amount of \$350,262.76 be approved as presented. Carried

Bedi: That the accounts for Approval, Cheques No. 31952-31956 & Payment # 723-725 in the amount of \$3,667.20 be approved as presented. Carried

Nemish: That the Bank Reconciliation for the month of February 2022 be approved as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the Financial Statement for the month of February 2022 be approved as presented. Carried

Nemish: That the verbal reports be accepted as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That council approves that in spring 2022 "Lots for Sale Signs" be ordered and placed on all Town owned lots available for sale. Carried

Wingerter: That we hire Antonio Rosal as the office care-

taker at a monthly contract rate of \$250 for the one-year term effective April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023, with the first month and month in which floor stripping and rewaxing is performed be at a rate of \$350 per month. Carried

Wingerter: That we request guidance from Sask Water Authority in regards to the culvert concern brought to council. Carried

Latus: That we approve the building & development permits for the development of a warehouse at 200 Railway Avenue East, Lot 1, 2, 3, 4, Block 2 Plan AP518, with the condition of approval from the building inspector. Carried

Nemish: That we approve the transfer of \$298,382.32 from the PCCU Reserves Checking Account to the CU General Account to cover the amount of Con-Tech General Contractors Progress payment for March 2022. We also approve that \$298,382.32 will be transferred back to the PCCU Reserves Checking Account from the CU General Account upon receipt of grant funding. Carried

Andres: That we authorize administration to obtain

quotes to replace the main exterior door to the office at 212 Main Street. Carried

Nemish: That the Council meeting proceed in Camera at 8:20 p.m. as per Section 23 of the Local Authority Freedom of Information to discuss matters relating to HR and ask that the Acting Administrator Remain in the Council Chambers. Carried

Bedi: That the Council come out of in camera at 8:34 p.m. Carried

Nemish: That effective May 1, 2022, we hereby appoint Brenda Beaulac as Acting Administrator for the Town of Spiritwood for the duration of Rhonda Saam's leave. Carried

Wingerter: The we now agree to issue the following cheques to Urban Municipal Administrators Association Saskatchewan (UMAAS) as follows:

1. 2022 Membership Conditional - \$180
2. Conditional Application Fee - \$275. Carried

Andres: The we agree to pay all education fees for Brenda Beaulac for her Local Government Administrator Course through the University of Regina, that we now issue a cheque to Brenda Beaulac for \$945 to

cover her initial course. Carried

Wingerter: That we agree to hire Kathy Aumack as Mentor for Brenda Beaulac effective March 25, 2022, at the hourly rate of \$35/hour. Carried

Bedi: That the HR Committee meet with Brenda Beaulac to discuss an adjustment to her hourly wage effective May 1, 2022, and make a recommendation to council. Carried

Bedi: That the next meeting of Council of Spiritwood be held at 6:30 p.m. on April 12, 2022. Carried

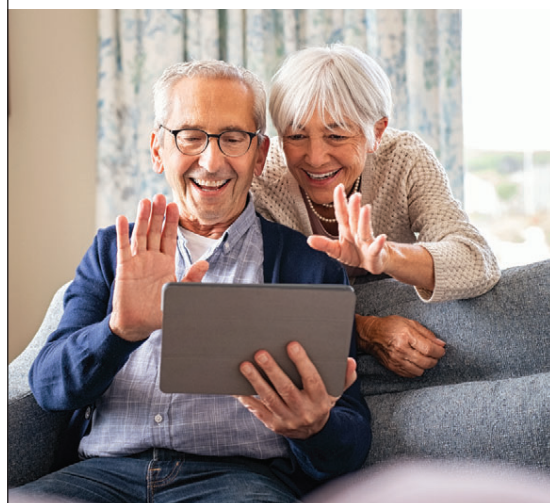
Latus: That this meeting be adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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Work underway on Highway 3 twinning

For the second straight summer, drivers can expect slowdowns and delays when travelling Highway 3 between Shellbrook and Prince Albert.

Construction on a \$21.4 million project to twin eight kilometres of the highway from the junction of Highway 2 to the Shell River bridge got under way in April, and is expected to continue through November.

Aecon Transportation West Ltd. will be responsible for construction, and the design includes a

four-lane highway with a concrete median barrier in the centre of the road, four protected T-intersections, as well as new lighting throughout the corridor.

“Highway 3 is a busy commuter and transportation route and connects communities northwest of P.A., including Shellbrook,” Highways Minister Fred Bradshaw said in a statement. “Our budget of more than \$800 million dollars includes highway investments that improve travel for our citizens across Sas-

katchewan.”

To officially announce the beginning of the project, the government welcomed Alexandra Zbaraschuk, who was in a major accident on the highway in 2018.

Zbaraschuk says she doesn't remember much from the day her small car stalled and she was struck by a semi on the highway near R&W Custom Collision. When she woke up after the accident, she was in the hospital and couldn't understand why she could not get in her car and keep

driving. She says it took her weeks to understand the severity of the crash and her injuries.

“I was 16 in November 2018, and I was involved in a collision that changed my life,” she said. “I wanted to see changes so others don't have to face what I have, and I am very pleased to see these safety improvements to the highway.”

Highway 3 — especially the stretch between Prince Albert and the Shell River — has long been an area of concern for area residents, with an estimated 414 collisions and 67 fatalities occurring on the roadway over the past decade.

However, calls for safety improvements were further amplified, after two accidents resulted in

three deaths in the lead up to Christmas in 2020.

In the weeks following the fatal accidents, the Ministry of Highways said its 2021 plans for the Highway included three sets of two-kilometre passing lanes (six lanes total) between 10 kilometres west of Prince Albert and Shellbrook, and improvements to bridges and intersections.

That project, which cost \$9.1 million, was carried out in 2021 and the lanes were officially opened in the fall. Facing pressure from municipal leaders and area residents, the government later announced the twinning project.

“We got listening to the people who are around P.A. and Nadine Wilson (Saskatchewan Rivers

MLA) was a great advocate for ‘Maybe we should do something more,’” Bradshaw said when the project was announced. “We're always looking at safety, and the more she talked, and the more we heard from other people, we decided that it would be best to twin that section.”

Apart from the obvious safety reasons for the improvements to Highway 3, the government has also cited economic rationales for carrying out the projects. With the upcoming opening of an OSB Mill in Prince Albert, and efforts underway to get the Prince Albert Pulp Mill started back up, traffic on the already busy highway is only expected to increase.

Vandalism continues to plague communities

Community organizations in Shellbrook and Spiritwood were left shaking their heads and asking why after some recent incidents of vandalism. On May 2, SARCS in Spiritwood reported on social media that the display boards for its outdoor Story Stroll had been defaced with black graffiti.

“It is very disheartening to see our Story Stroll was vandalized over the weekend,” the organization said on Facebook. “Countless hours went in to securing grant funding, designing, and creating the Story Stroll. Please be kind and respectful to the property of others.”

Just a few days later, vandals in Shellbrook struck the new golf cart sheds, which were recently built by the Hidden Hills of Shellbrook Golf Course and are located immediately to the west of the Sports Grounds.

Murray Tait believes the incident occurred on Saturday, May 7, and says it was reported to police.



In Spiritwood, SARCS' Story Stroll boards fell victim to vandalism.



The new golf cart sheds by the Hidden Hills of Shellbrook Golf Course were defaced on Saturday, May 7.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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

BLAINE LAKE: Wapiti Library - Wednesday 11 am - 6 pm; Friday 11 am - 5 pm; Saturday 10 am - 4 pm. Contact us for more info 306-497-3130, www.wapitilibrary.ca.

BIG RIVER: Wapiti Library - Wednesday 11:30 am - 4:30 pm; Thursday 11:30 am - 4:30 pm. Phone # 306-469-2152

CANWOOD: Canwood Branch of Wapiti Regional Library. Tuesday 10 am - 4 pm; Thursday 10 am - 4 pm; Friday 12 pm - 5 pm. Kids Club is Fridays 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm, Crafter's Choice is the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

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

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

MARCELIN: Wapiti Library - Tuesday 2 pm - 7 pm; Thursday 2 pm - 8 pm; Saturday 9 am - 2 pm. For information on all your library needs, please contact 306-226-2110.

SHELLBROOK: Shellbrook Branch of the Wapiti Library located at 105 Railway Ave., West (Provincial building). Library Hours: Monday 2 pm - 6 pm; Tuesday 12 pm - 8 pm; Wednesday 2 pm - 8 pm; Thursday 12 pm - 6 pm; Friday 9 am - 4 pm.

SHELLBROOK: Shellbrook Theatre Movie Night, Fri., May 27, Peaceful. Doors Open 6:30 p.m. Showtime 7 p.m. Cost is \$5 ~ Canteen available!

BATTLEFORDS: Battlefords Blend Harmony Chorus - New members welcome! Real Women, Real Music, Real Fun! Call: Andrea Stewart: 306-398-3777 or Linda MacDonald 306-490-2452. Check our Facebook Page.

LEASK: Leask Community Garage Sale Days - May 20th & 21st. Multiple Garage Sales around the Village. Indoor Garage Sale at the Seniors Hall (Friday 9am - 5pm); Used Book Sale at the Library (Friday 9am - 5pm & Saturday 1pm - 4pm)

SHELLBROOK: Pickleball Courts at Shellbrook Richardson Pioneer Centre (Curling Rink Section). Seniors & adults interested in “Learn to Play” sessions (includes 4 hours of free lessons) must register prior to May 25th. Contact Sally at (306)747-7535. Your first introductory session is FREE. Come try it out (paddles provided)! Tues.: 1:30-3:30pm - Seniors Regular Play (Age 55+); 6:30-8:30pm - Adult Regular Play (Age 16+). Wed.: 1:30-3:30pm - Youth (start date TBA) (Age 10-15); 6-7:15pm - Seniors Learn to Play (Age 55+); 7:30-8:45 - Adult Learn to Play (Age 16+). Thurs.: 6:30-8:30 - Adult Regular Play (Age 16+). For more info contact: Lessons: Sally (306)747-7535, Seniors: Arlene (306)747-5769 or Donna (306)930-5070, Adults: Rhonda (306)468-7770, Youth: Judy or Ron (306)229-8019

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Canwood Elks, Royal Purple Elks host flag raising

By Donna Lovberg

Although it was two years and one week late, the Canwood Elks and Royal Purple Elks celebrated the May Flag Raising for the Elks and Royal Purple Fund for Children on Monday, May 9.

Several students with their teacher, Richard Schwehr, and a delegation of Elks and Royal Purple Elks, attended the ceremony. Mr. Schwehr read the proclamation of the flag raising, and then explained the reason for the flag raising to the young students.

This flag raising is a longstanding tradition of the Elks and Royal Purple Elks. The Fund is designated to help any hearing-impaired children all over Canada, and has been used for people in Canwood and area for many other reasons as well.

If your child has a medical issue, please contact any member of the Elks or Royal Purple Elks to get information and help. Please contact Exalted Ruler, Trevor Kvinlaug, or Honoured Royal Lady, Eileen Hamborg, for any information regarding the Elks and Royal Purple Fund for Children.



Members of the Canwood Elks raise the flag for the Royal Purple Fund for Children.



The Canwood Elks and Royal Purple Elks (and kids) held a flag raising for the Elks and Royal Purple Fund for Children on Monday, May 9.

Government supports irrigation expansion in Sask.

The Ministry of Agriculture is providing additional support for irrigation development in the province with a \$2.5 million investment to help producers finance irrigation infrastructure.

“Developing irrigation capacity is a priority for Saskatchewan,” Agriculture Minister David Marit said. “By supporting producers in the development of irrigable acres, we are creating a sustainable industry that

will generate additional opportunities for our province.”

The \$2.5 million included in the 2022-23 Budget will allow producers to continue to access up to \$500,000 under the Irrigation Development Program, from the previous maximum payment of \$300,000.

This is the second year the Government of Saskatchewan has provided additional provincial

funding to increase the maximum payment under the program, which is offered under the federal-provincial Canadian Agricultural Partnership.

The Irrigation Development Program supports the installation of irrigation infrastructure, such as pumps and pipelines, to create a secure water supply to the edge of irrigable parcels of land.

The Government of

Saskatchewan also recognizes that irrigators need additional time to complete projects within the current program timelines.

In response to these challenges, the program deadline for Irrigation Development pre-approval applications has been extended from Jan. 15, 2022, to Dec. 31, 2022. The program deadline for Irrigation Environmental Efficiency pre-approval applications has been extended from Aug. 1, 2022, to Dec. 31, 2022.

Extending the dead-

line will allow irrigators additional flexibility to complete their projects.

Applicants will have up to 18 months from written project approval to submit a claim under the program. Applicants are encouraged to apply early and submit their claims as soon as their projects are completed.

In the last two years, over 19,000 acres were brought under irrigation in Saskatchewan, with interest in water infrastructure continuing to grow.

“The investments in irrigation development

support all sectors of this province and we are pleased the government is committed to growing rural Saskatchewan through irrigation initiatives,” Saskatchewan Irrigation Projects Association Chairman Aaron Gray said. “This funding will help to sustainably develop more irrigable acres in this province to create a more prosperous future for every citizen.”

Information on the irrigation development process is available on the Ministry of Agriculture’s website.

PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Zion - Canwood
Sunday School,
Worship Sunday, 9 a.m.
St. John’s - Shellbrook
Sunday School,
Live-stream worship
service on Facebook,
Worship Sunday, 11 a.m.
Rev. Emmanuel Aristide

PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Parkside
10:30 a.m. Worship
Pastor Daniel Mooseely
306-747-3572
Shellbrook
Adult Study
9:30 a.m.
Sun., 10:30 a.m. - Worship
Pastor David Bodvarson
306-747-7235
Canwood

11:00 a.m. - Worship
Pastor Glenn Blazosek
306-468-2138

Leask Gospel Tabernacle
Sunday 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
Pastor Lorne Valuck

PRESBYTERIAN

Mistawasis
Sunday worship
11:00 a.m.
Rev. Katherine Bretzlauff

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

Parkside
11 a.m. - Worship

ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

MENNONITE BRETHREN CHURCH

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

EVANGELICAL FREE

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

UNITED CHURCH

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

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Debden
Sun. Mass - 9:30 a.m.
Fr. Dong Doan
Big River - Sacred Heart
Sun., 11:30 a.m. - Mass
Whitefish
Sun., 2:30 p.m. - Mass.
Victoire
Sat., 7:30 p.m. - Mass.
Fr. Dong Doan
St. Agatha’s - Shellbrook
Mass - Sunday 11 a.m.
St. Henry’s - Leask
Mass - Sunday - 9 a.m.
Mistawasis
2nd & 4th Sundays, 1:30 p.m.
Fr. Phong Tran

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

407-2nd Ave E, Shellbrook
Sat., 9:45 a.m. - Sabbath School
Sat., 11:00 am -Worship
Broadcast on
VOAR 92.1 FM
Pastor Liviu Tilihoi
306-747-3398

PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

PARTNERS IN FAITH

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

UNITED /ANGLICAN

Worship Services
Glaslyn
Time is on the sign
Rev. Kun Kim
Rev. Don Skinner

CATHOLIC SATURDAY

Medstead - 6 p.m.
Shell Lake - 8:00 p.m.
SUNDAY
Spiritwood - 9:00 a.m.
Leoville - 11:00 a.m.
Chitek Lake - 12:30 p.m.
Everyone Welcome
Father Ramel Macapala

PARTNERS IN WORSHIP

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

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

407 - 2nd Ave .E,
Shellbrook
Sat., 9:45 am -
Sabbath School
Sat., 11:00 am - Worship
Broadcast on
VOAR 92.1 FM
Pastor Liviu Tilihoi
306-747-3398

MENNONITE BRETHREN

Glenbush
10:00 am - Sunday School
Worship 10:50 am

FIELDS OF HOPE (HOFFNUNGSFELDER)

MENNONITE CHURCH
Glenbush
Worship - 11:00 am

BETHEL

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

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

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St., Spiritwood)
Sun., 11 am - Worship
Service & Sunday School
Pastor Michael Kluthe
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1st Sun., 7:30 pm
- Hymn Sing
Pastor Floyd Berg

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Pastor Rick Martin

Cockerill trending upward in world of golf

Most Canadian golf fans are aware of our country's most accomplished professionals — Corey Connors, Adam Hadwin, Mackenzie Hughes top that list — but there's another pro making tremendous strides on the world golf stage.

Aaron Cockerill doesn't generate many headlines in North America, but he's a solid player on the DP World Tour, and the Manitoba native could be on the verge of breaking through to the big time. Becoming a regular on the PGA Tour is not the least bit farfetched for Cockerill, whose world ranking was 295 on May 1, up from 489 at the start of the year, after a successful four-week run that produced second- and third-place finishes and two others in the top 30.

Cockerill says his immediate goal is "to win an event over here and if and when that happens, I think the floodgates could open."

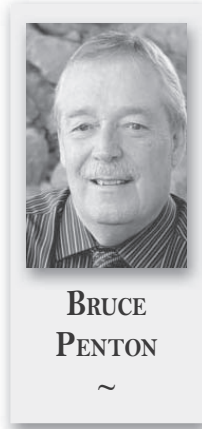
Growing up in Stony Mountain, near Winni-

peg, Cockerill played his golf at Teulon Golf Club. He had a stellar amateur career, winning the Manitoba Match Play twice, a Manitoba junior and a Western Canadian junior.

As a young pro, Cockerill played the Mackenzie Tour (Canadian) for three years before moving to the Korn Ferry Tour, one notch below the PGA Tour, but he had limited status at that level. So he headed for Europe, qualifying for that tour at age 27 and he's now in his third year on the second-strongest tour in the world.

"I'm happy in Europe for now," said Cockerill. "I'll get a taste of the PGA Tour at the Canadian Open in June."

Cockerill's improved scoring is a direct result of hard work, he says. He has added distance off the tee and he's making more putts. In fact, he's statistically second on the greens on the DP World Tour, behind only South Africa's Shaun Norris. His putter was



BRUCE
PENTON

red hot April 23 at the ISPS Handa Championship in Spain, where he fired a third-round 62 to move into the co-lead, but he was overtaken on the final day and had to settle for third place. In four weeks, he earned more than 270,000 Euros and was as high as 25th in the DP World Tour rankings.

Cockerill is certainly racking up the frequent flyer miles. He and his wife Chelsea were married last fall and while she caddied for him all of last season, she has returned to Winnipeg and works as a realtor. "She came out this year to Qatar and will most likely

come for another trip this summer," said Cockerill. "I hate the winters at home so I avoid them all together." In the summer, he'll play three weeks in Europe and then head to Manitoba for two.

His travel schedule may get easier if his PGA Tour goal is fulfilled. And he's certainly trending in the right direction.

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "TMZ reports Dallas Cowboy owner, Jerry Jones, is lucky not to be seriously hurt after he t-boned a car at a high rate of speed. Apparently Jones drives about as well as his Cowboys play playoff games."

• Greg Cote of the Miami Herald, on the legal problems faced by Dodgers' pitcher Trevor Bauer, who was given a two-year suspension by MLB for sexual assault allegations: "Bauer quickly announced he would be appealing. Ironically, it seems very little about Bauer is appealing."

• RJ Currie of sports-deke.com: "Tennis legend Boris Becker was

sentenced to two and a half years in jail for hiding assets following his bankruptcy. The only thing this ace is going to be serving is time."

• Headline at fark.com: "NFL finds it is impossible to tell if the Cleveland Browns are tanking on purpose or if they are simply just being the Cleveland Browns."

• Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "Phil Mickelson racked up gambling losses of \$40 million from 2010 to 2014, according to author Alan Shipnuck in his forthcoming biography of the PGA star. You just know some wiseacre will be screaming 'Get out of the hole!' the next time he putts."

• Another one from Perry: "Former Patriots tackle Matt Light, 43, lost out in a four-person race to win one of two seats on the Foxborough School Committee. Or, to put it in football terms, he came up third-and-short."

• Comedy writer Brad Dickson, on Russian

leader Vladimir Putin purportedly having a former Olympic gymnast as a girlfriend: "OK, all you people who believe in karma — explain this one?"

• Another one from Currie, about the dad in Cincinnati who made a one-handed catch of a foul ball while bottle-feeding his baby with the other hand. "He earned a rookie jersey for his infant son and a contract offer from the Reds."

• Golf writer Eamon Lynch, on the upstart LIV Golf Tour: "Finally, a reason to root for the Saudis — they'll take Sergio Garcia."

• Comedy guy Steve Burgess of Vancouver, on goal announcements in the NHL playoffs: "Home team goals are announced like the discovery of insulin, and visiting team goals like the disclaimers at the end of anti-depressant commercials."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Shellbrook Knights baseball grows in second season

When he introduced the Shellbrook Knights baseball program to the community in 2021, Jamie Capner had no way of knowing what the U11 Shellbrook Knights' inaugural baseball season had in store.

He knew baseball was growing in popularity — and in terms of the opportunities it could provide — while softball seemed to be waning. After watching Prince Albert's success with its baseball program, and with a young son who was developing an interest in Toronto Blue Jays' games, he felt it was a no-brainer to take the plunge.

"Last year, I just wanted to have enough kids to field a team and be competitive. I didn't know what to expect," he said, adding that his biggest hope was to give the kids a full season of baseball in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Capner and his U11 Knights got a full season and then some. The team finished atop the standings in the Prince Albert league, then took on the monumental task of hosting the Tier 5 U11 Provincial Baseball Championship.

The Knights continued their winning ways at Provincials, capping off their season by claiming Provincials gold in front of their home crowd (thanks to a clutch two-out, last-inning blast to the fence by Merek Tait).

For the team's success, Capner says there's plenty of credit to go around.

"The parents we had on our team last year, they stepped it up and made it work. They got to the games, made sure they

were giving rides, they helped coach and manage, they score kept, and they did it all," he said, giving an extra nod to the team's many sponsors.

"Without those guys, we were dead in the water. But they all stepped up and got us the gear we needed to succeed."

With the bar set high after the first season, Capner and the small but committed Shellbrook Knights Board knew the baseball program had to expand in its second season and

wanted it to do so in tandem with Shellbrook Minor Sports.

Minor Sports was supportive of the idea, and agreed to promote boy's baseball from U13 down, while keeping girl's softball and Rangers fastball intact (there's a U15 and a U17 team this year). For boys who wanted to continue playing softball instead, connections were made with the Prince Albert softball league.

"Then, it was just making sure we had a league to play in and working close with Prince Albert's league," Capner said. "They've accepted us with open arms and welcomed us, and it's actually starting to grow their league as well."

Based on Capner's early prognostications, the expectation was to have one Shellbrook Knights baseball team at every level, and perhaps 45 kids registered. In the end, more than 70 kids signed up from U13 down, enough for one U13 team, two U11 teams, and two U9 teams. The U7 program, meanwhile, saw 30 kids enroll.

"To see that much support and that many kids coming out

to start a sport is just fantastic. It gets you fired up for the season," Capner said, expressing optimism for what this could mean for the future of Shellbrook Knights baseball.

"Every time we have new teams coming here, they're excited about how nice our facility is. We're very fortunate to have it. If we can grow the facility to handle both softball and baseball, and get some major games going on here, it would be fantastic to see."



U11 Shellbrook Knights player Camden Olsen scores a hit during the team's home opener last Wednesday.



U13 Shellbrook Knights pitcher Merek Tait throws a pitch during the team's home opener.

OBITUARY

Violet Mary Smith

In honour of our mother, VIOLET MARY SMITH, wife of the late Lloyd Smith.

Born October 13, 1920 to May 1, 2022 – 101 years. She had eight children, Darlene predeceased her in 1943; Lloyd in 2016 and she lost her daughter Elaine Grimes in 2020. Vi raised 3 boys and 4 girls. Most of the family reside in Alberta. She had 13 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandchildren. Vi was a consummate baker and gardener in the years she was able to sustain her health.

Rest in peace Mom!

GRAVESIDE SERVICE

Vern Melvin Campbell



A graveside service for the late Vern Melvin Campbell will be held Friday, May 27, 2022 at 2:00 p.m., Stump Lake Hillside Cemetery.

Lunch and fellowship to follow at the Canwood Legion Hall.

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I am not sure where I read this about a preacher who wanted to teach on giving. He said to his church: "This church needs to learn to crawl."

He had a responsive church that would talk back to him and they shouted back, "Make it crawl, preacher, make it crawl!"

Then he said once it has learnt to crawl it needs to learn to walk. The congregation shouted back, "Make it walk, preacher, make it walk."

Then, he said, once this church learns to walk it needs to run. But before it runs it needs to dig deep into its pockets and give. The congregation shouted back, "Make it crawl, preacher, make it crawl."

Well I am sure glad there are those who want to see the church run and are grace givers. I have always felt giving includes giving of money but is not limited to that. It is also giving of one's time and talents. Paul reminded the Corinthians, "So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheer-

ful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7)

I read of a poor Scottish farmer named Fleming. One day, as he was scratching out a living, he heard a sound coming from a nearby swamp. He dropped his tools and ran to see what was happening. Fleming found this terrified boy mired in muck to the waist. He was screaming and struggling to get out of there.

Fortunately, Farmer Fleming came along and saved that boy from a slow and terrifying death. The next day, a horse drawn carriage pulled up to Fleming's farm. A well dressed man stepped out and said he was the father of the boy that Farmer Fleming had helped out.

"I want to repay you" said the father of the boy who was rescued. "You saved my son's life"

"No, I can't accept payment for what I did," the Farmer replied, waving off the offer.

At the very moment, Farmer Fleming's son came to the door of the house.

"Is that your son?" the man asked,

"Yes," Fleming replied proudly.

"I'll make you a deal. Let me provide the level of education my son will enjoy. If the lad is anything like his father, he'll no doubt grow to be a man we're both proud of."

And that's exactly what happened.

Farmer Fleming's son attended the best schools and in time he graduated medical school in London. He went on to become known throughout the world as Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of penicillin.

The name of the father whose boy was rescued was Randolph Churchill. The son, the one dragged out of the swamp, was Winston Churchill. Of course, Winston Churchill became England's prime minister not once but twice.

One preacher put it this way "God created a universe where it is impossible to receive without giving."

It is still more blessed to give than receive.

Blessings,

Pastor David Bodvarson, SPA

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, March 2, 2022, 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. Eric Durell, North Saskatchewan River Basin Council (conference).

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

Reeve Oleksyn called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Joelson: That the Agenda be adopted as amended. Carried

Strube: That the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council of Feb. 12, 2022, be approved as presented. Carried

Joelson: That the Statement of Financial Activities for the month of February 2022 be approved as presented. Carried

Skauge: That the bank reconciliation for the month of January 2022 be approved as presented.

Hamel: That the accounts payable dated March 1st, 2022, as attached hereto and forming part of these Minutes, being regular cheque numbers 12637 to 12682 in the amount of \$150,618.78 and payroll cheque numbers 14171 to 14188 in the amount of \$35,673.78 be approved. Carried

Delegation Eric Durell, en-

tered the Council meeting by conference at 10 a.m. to discuss the membership benefits of The North Saskatchewan River Basin Council.

Delegation Eric Durell, left the Council meeting at 10:09 a.m.

Skauge: That the time being 10:44 a.m., Council close a portion of this meeting to the public to go in camera under the authority of Part III of The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, to discuss Human Resources issues, the public gallery be vacated and those present for this closed session be Reeve Doug Oleksyn, Deputy Reeve Derwin Joelson and Councillors Cliff Skauge, Phil Hamel, Christine Strube, Jay Ferster and Administrator Duane Storey. Carried

Joelson: That the time being 10:59 a.m., Council go out of camera and invite the public back into the Council Meeting. Carried

Foreman Bill Aug and Todd Lande entered the Council Chambers at 11:27 a.m. to update Council of Municipal Operations.

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

Skauge: That Northbound Planning Ltd. provide a quote for proceeding with new zoning maps. Carried

Hamel: That the request to support Private Members Bill C229 be received and filed. Carried

Skauge: That the Council of the RM of Shellbrook No. 493 agrees to approve the proposed Parcel A Subdivision application of SW ¼ Section 20-49-02-W3, and forward a response to the Community Planning

Branch, Ministry of Government Relations as follows:

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

Strube: That the information provided by The North Saskatchewan River Basin Council be received and filed. Carried

Ferster: That the first installment invoice for 2022 Library Grant in the amount of \$13,727.55 be approved. Carried

Ferster: That the purchase of an auger attachment and auger bits for the Kubota Skid steer from Glenmor Equipment in the amount of \$4,890 plus applicable taxes be approved. Carried

Hamel: That the following adjustments to the 2021 tax roll be approved as follows:

- Roll 984 \$56.81
- Roll 985 \$56.09
- Roll 904 \$24.23
- Roll 744 \$58.33
- Roll 31 \$93.46
- Roll 1751 \$57.81

Strube: That the time being 1:26 p.m., Council close a portion of this meeting to the public to go in camera under the authority of Part III of The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, to discuss Human Resources issues, the public gallery be vacated and those present for this closed session be Reeve Doug Oleksyn, Deputy Reeve Derwin Joelson and Councillors Cliff Skauge, Phil Hamel, Christine Strube, Jay Ferster (conference) and Administrator Duane Storey. Carried

Joelson: That the time being 1:52 p.m., Council go out of camera and invite the public back into the Council Meeting. Carried

Strube: That the Council of the RM of Shellbrook No. 493 agrees to approve the proposed Parcel A Subdivision application of SW 1/2 Section 34-52-03-W3, and forward a response to the Community Planning Branch, Ministry of Government Relations as follows:

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

Joelson: That Councillors Herzog and Strube attend the Prince Albert National Park Nearest Neighbours Meeting, date to be determined. Carried

Skauge: That the North Central Transportation Planning Committee membership fee for April 1st, 2022 to March 2023 in the amount of \$600 be approved. Carried

Joelson: That the following Correspondence be received and filed: Buckland Salary Grid, Canwood Salary Grid, PSIP Schedule, STARS letter, Wild boar, 2022 SARM Resolutions. Carried

Joelson: That Councillor Strube participate in the Community Focus Group for the New Victoria Hospital Study. Carried

Joelson: That invitations be sent out for requests for proposals for gravel crushing for 2022. Carried

Hamel: That the meeting be adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

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U8, U16 lacrosse make debuts in Shellbrook

The inaugural Shellbrook box lacrosse season is continuing to pick up steam. Last Thursday evening, the U8 Shellbrook Rivermen made their debut at the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre, hosting the Prince Albert Miners.

While U10 and U12 teams play full court matches from the outset of the season, the U8s play cross-floor games for the first part of the season before playing a few full court games.

Additionally, U8 games don't keep track of scores, and instead focus on fundamentals.

"We concentrate on basic skills and the cross-floor helps promote skill development similar to initiation hockey," said Ryan Sandry, who spearheaded efforts to bring box lacrosse to Shellbrook.

The U8 team is coached by

local lacrosse players Ashton Tanchuk and Talon Sandry, as well as Randi Horricks. Shellbrook also has a few U6 lacrosse players who have been playing games with the U8s.

Elsewhere, Thursday evening saw the U16 Mistawasis Warriors make their Shellbrook debut, hosting the Saskatoon Steelers. The Warriors were triumphant in their home opener, scoring an 8-4 victory (unfortunately, no score sheet was available for the game).

Plans to bring lacrosse to the arena have been in the works since 2019, just after the new concrete surface and tall glass were installed in the rink as part of the facility's three-year, \$2 million renovation project. At that time, says Town of Shellbrook recreation director Jessica Kernohan, the Prince Albert Lacrosse Association had reached out about renting

the facility for box lacrosse.

Then came the COVID-19 pandemic, shutting down everything and preventing those initial discussions from going anywhere.

With the province beginning to re-open, the talks resumed this winter, with plans being formed (and approved by Shellbrook's Town Council) to rent the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre out as the home game location for teams from the Mistawasis First Nation. (Prior to the agreement, the Mistawasis teams were travelling to and from Prince Albert for practices and games, as there's no arena on the First Nation.)

For Ryan Sandry, who has been involved with the Prince Albert Lacrosse Association for the past seven years, and has focused much of his effort on outreach and grassroots pro-

gramming in the Shellbrook area, Shellbrook is a perfect location for lacrosse because it's a hub for surrounding communities and First Nations.

"Talking to the recreation director, there was a lot of interest in trying to attract new user

groups to Shellbrook to use the arena, especially in the offseason," he explained. "People realized box lacrosse made a lot of sense, because it's played indoors and the venue is suitable, especially with the new cement and the high glass."



Shellbrook's goalie dives on a loose ball during the U8 lacrosse team's home-opener against Prince Albert Miners.

Planting a tree

By Patricia Hanbidge

In appreciation of making it through another long winter, this column is dedicated to ensuring we all plant at least one tree this spring!

The spring is the absolute best time to plant anything on the prairies. If you are planting something that is going to live a long time – like a tree, then planting it correctly is the most important step in ensuring a long and fruitful life. Taking a little extra time and care when planting will save you a lot of trouble even years down the road.

Before you worry about how to plant, you need to consider where to plant. Try to emulate the conditions where the tree would naturally grow. It is essential to know the mature size of whatever you are planting. When it is mature, is it far enough away from the house, the driveway and power lines? Will it fit into the location of choice once fully mature?

Container-grown stock can essentially be planted any time in the year, even though spring is the ultimate best time. Try to transplant balled-and-burlapped stock when the tree or shrub is not in active growth and the transpiration needs are lowest – plant in early spring if possible.

When planting a tree grown in a container, the most important thing to re-

member is to ensure that the roots will spread out beyond the size of the container. If the tree has been in the pot for too long it could be "pot-bound" which in the future will ensure your tree will never grow to its potential. In extreme cases, tightly wound roots will continue to grow that way even after planting, until the roots girdle and choke themselves, killing the tree. In less extreme cases, the roots will not be able to expand much beyond the size of the container and the tree will be less healthy and hardy due to its underdeveloped root system.

After removing the container, check the roots to see how tightly packed they are. If it is possible to gently tease them apart as much as possible with your hands that is great but if they are wound around and around then simply take the sharp end of a spade and literally cut the roots on each side of the root ball. This will ensure that the new roots will not follow the same winding pattern. The hole the tree is then planted in should be at least twice as wide and deep as the container. A good rule of thumb is if you have purchased a \$50 tree, is to dig a \$100 hole! Place the tree/shrub into the hole and fill in the area around the tree with soil that is well amended.

You may purchase trees or shrubs that are not in pots but in a burlap or burlap-like sacking. When planting this type of stock, remove any twine around the roots and if the fabric is synthetic it too should be removed. If it is natural fibre then simply expose the top half of the ball prior to planting. The hole the tree is planted in should ideally be twice as large as the root ball - both in width and depth! Put some amended soil at the bottom of the hole and gently place the root ball in, being sure to lift the tree by the root ball and not the trunk. Fill the hole with well amended soil and pack tightly.

It is a general rule of thumb to plant all trees and shrubs at the depth at which they were growing in the pot. However, ensure that you are not planting it too deep which is also extremely harmful. Look for the top root and plant that at the top of the soil in the tree's forever home. Any newly planted tree should be watered thoroughly immediately after planting with a dilute high phosphorus fertilizer solution. Ensure that you water on a regular basis for its first season as it establishes itself.

Planting a tree or shrub properly, whether it be a fruit tree, ornamental or even just a shade tree, will ensure you get the most out of your investment.

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



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