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Beauchesne creates for a cause



Artist, author, and illustrator Heather Beauchesne is currently showcasing her latest works at Spiritwood's Main Street Gallery.

Heather Rae Beauchesne can't recall a time in her life when she hasn't had a hungry wolf inside her, with an insatiable appetite for creating art.

Living in a small town like Spiritwood, art, in all its forms, has been a fundamental source of self-entertainment for Beauchesne, and something she misses dearly whenever life gets in the way of her ability to create.

In her role as gallery curator for Spiritwood's Main Street Gallery, Beauchesne spends a lot of time spotlighting the creativity of others through art exhibits. And as an artist across many mediums, and, most recently, an author and illustrator, she understands the importance

of creativity as well as anyone.

"These shows are really important for a small town. Growing up in a small town, there's not a lot of emphasis on arts and culture, there's a lot of focus on sports and agriculture," she said. "It's good for the town to have this exposure."

From now until the end of summer, the creative spotlight will be fixed exclusively on Beauchesne's own work, as she puts on a dual exhibit of artworks and her debut children's book, *My Roommate is the Worst!* at the Main Street Gallery.

Titled "Poems from an L.A. Sunset", the art portion of the exhibit sees Beauchesne leave behind the comfort of creating realistic replications of her subjects in favour of abstraction and fluidity. Created on a wood canvas, the eight works of art depict minimalist renderings of prairie sunsets with colour, lines, and geometric shapes.

Similar to the composition of a poem or short story, Beauchesne says the artworks are currently in their rough drafts and will continue to be rewritten throughout the duration of the show. Each week, Beauchesne will choose a piece to return to her studio for recomposition. At certain stages, she'll also enable the public to participate and make contributions to the work.

"Because it's not a realistic rendering of a subject where you can identify what it is, it allows for interpretation, similar to a novel. The text, the imagery, and the storyline put together will be different depending on [the reader]," Beauchesne said

"That's what I want people to take from the show. Yes, we have a two-dimensional piece, the canvas, the colours, there's a suggestion of a horizon, but it's geometric and non-specific, so they're going to have their own interpretation."

Apart from the visual poetry of "Poems from an L.A. Sunset", visitors to the Main Street Gallery will also have a chance to read and interpret Beauchesne's children's book, *My Roommate is the Worst!*

Continued on page 2

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Beauchesne creates for a cause

Continued from 1

While Beauchesne says she'd never considered writing a children's book, she says she got the idea to do so from someone who read an article she wrote about Ness

Taking inspiration from her own life, and most specifically from her 13-year-old lab-Staffordshire terrier Zoey (who isn't actually the worst roommate), Beauchesne says she was surprised at how easily the story and the illustrations came together.



Beauchesne's exhibit, "Poems from an L.A. Sunset", features eight pieces on wooden canvases.

"Zoey's least attractive roommate attribute is her 4:30 a.m. waking hour, which she refuses to participate in solo," Beauchesne said.

"To pick from a wealth of options, her most favoured roommate attributes are those that have enabled my own learning, that of comfort in our silence together and admitting that there is always time for a walk. I suppose on reflection, there is another book there, 'Zen lessons

Despite it being her first book, Beauchesne says the process was "incredibly fun" and not as challenging as she might have expected — thanks in no small part to the constructive feedback she received from her six-yearold niece, who helped her strike the balance between her ideal picture book and a child's ideal picture book.

Like "Poems from an L.A. Sunset", My Roommate is the Worst! shies away from the literal and leans heavily into the abstract to allow greater room for readers to imagine and interpret.

"The pictures are more like a film still, capturing a portion of that scene but not giving you an idea of who the characters are," Beauchesne said. "The idea was to encourage kids listening to the storyline to create their own characters in their heads."

When she isn't creating art, Beauchesne loves supporting a worthy cause. That's why any profits realized from her dual exhibition will be donated to NASHI, a non-profit, entirely volunteer-run organization that addresses the issue of human trafficking both locally and

In addition to raising awareness and educating the public about human trafficking, NASHI also provides a safehouse for at-risk young girls in Ukraine. The Maple Leaf House is a live-in facility that provides shelter, food, and a home environment for up to 20 girls, ranging from five to 16 years of age.

After hearing about NASHI from her niece's grandmother, who volunteered with the organization, Beauchesne called it a no-brainer to throw her support behind

With one piece from "Poems From an L.A. Sunset" sold already, Beauchesne says the donation to NASHI will come once her exhibit closes.



The art exhibit also features Beauchesne's debut children's book, My Roommate is the Worst!

Chronicle & Herald wins three newspapers awards

Awards season has come and gone for Saskatchewan's weekly newspaper industry.

And though there wasn't any of the glitz or glamour of prestigious awards shows like the Oscars, the Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald brought home another three plaques from this year's Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers' Association's Better Newspapers Competition.

In a strong showing in the general excellence competition, in which two newspapers from throughout the year were selected at random and judged by industry peers, the Chronicle & Herald received the award for best editorial page in the 2,000 to 6,499 circulation range.

This is the second time the Chronicle & Herald has received the distinction since 2016 (the Chronicle earned the honour back when the two newspapers were separate).

Additionally, the Chronicle & Herald earned a third place finish in the best overall newspaper competition for the 2,000 to 6,499 circulation range.

In the premier awards competition, which covers a wide range of news categories and is similarly judged by newspaper industry peers, Chronicle & Herald news editor Jor-

dan Twiss added a pair of plaques to his growing collection.

Twiss earned top honours in the Best Agriculture Story category, with his April 29, 2021, story about the new prospects in the province for canola. Twiss also took second place in the category, with his Sept. 16 story about the launch of the Treaty Landsharing Network. The stories received judges' scores of 91 and 90 out of 100, respectively.

In the best K-12 Education Story contest, Twiss' Nov. 11 piece about the formation of a knowledge partnership between Mistawasis First Nation and the University of Saskatchewan earned him not just the first-place plaque but a perfect score outside the top three.

from the judges.

"Jordan Twiss' feature on an important partnership speaks of opportunities for students as well as changes for the community. It's strong, informative, and clear," the judges wrote.

Since the 2016 Better Newspapers Competition, Twiss has earned 13 firstplace honours in premier awards categories.

In addition to his first place finishes, Twiss also scored a second place finish in the Columnist of the Year category, finishing just one point behind Madonna Hamel of Your West Central Voice with a score of 89 out of 100. Twiss has won Columnist of the year three times since 2016, and has never finished

Finally, Twiss also fin- ishing three points back ished in second place in the Editorial Writing Excellence competition, fin-

of Greg Nikkel of the Weyburn review with an 86 out of 100.



Chronicle & Herald news editor Jordan Twiss won two awards at this year's Better Newspapers Competition, and the Chronicle & Herald was awarded best editorial page in its circulation class.



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Shellbrook primary health clinics merge

Effective June 1, the Shellbrook Primary Health Care Clinic and the Shellbrook Parkland Medical Centre, operated privately by Doctors Olugbenga Adebayo and Benedict Omeike, have merged to offer services as a single clinic.

While the announcement of the merger may have caught patients of the fee for service physicians off-guard, or left them worrying about how their care might be impacted, Patricia Couture, the Saskatchewan Health Authority's (SHA) Northeast Primary Healthcare Director, says there's no reason to be concerned.

Rather than a harbinger of the service challenges the community has sometimes faced throughout the years, she says it was a decision made by Doctors Adebayo and Omeike to fill vacant contract physicians positions instead of run their own private practice.

"What we've heard loud and clear over the last six years of recruitment is that it's very difficult for these new candidates, who are new to a practice and often new to the province, to start a brand new private practice, to build a clientele, and to start from the ground up," Couture said. Couture adds that the SHA is currently conducting a review centered around quality of care, with a focus on how the public accesses primary care services and how they can be better supported through their healthcare journeys. She feels having the clinics operating under one banner will be an improvement for both the patients and the physicians.

In addition to alleviating the stresses of operating a private practice, promoting a better worklife balance, and allowing more time to focus on patient care, the merger gives the former fee-for-

service physicians access to all the supports physicians on the contract side have regular access to, such as diabetes health, chronic disease management, and other specialties.

More physicians operating on a single team, with the help of electronic medical records, also means patients can enjoy continuity of care — even if they can't see their regular physician.

"If you normally saw Dr. Seydu or Dr. Ryan on a regular basis, but developed an urgent ear infection, you could get in with any one of our providers and they would have all your information accessible to them — your history, any medications you have previously been prescribed," Couture said.

"It eases access of health information, which wasn't as easy when we were dealing with two separate clinics."

Though she says the SHA would never object to a physician coming to the community to start a private practice, Couture says the hope is that the change will become a permanent one.

 $\label{eq:Just prior} Just \, prior \, to \, the \, merger,$

Shellbrook was supposed to have a complement of nine physicians, including five contract physicians, three fee-for-service physicians, and one locum physician. With the recent addition of Dr. T. Adebayo, who has just started taking patients, and two Saskatchewan International Physician Practice Assessment physicians currently committed to the community, the clinic will be operating with its full roster sometime in July.

At the same time as Shellbrook's primary healthcare clinic is undergoing a major change, Parkland Integrated Health Centre (PIHC) is grappling with changes of its own. From May 20 until at least July 3, PIHC will be operating with 10 acute care beds instead of its maximum load of 20.

While not related to changes to the way physicians will be practicing, Couture says the closure of the acute care beds does speak to the current human resources challenges in healthcare, both locally and across the

rovince

Couture says PIHC is currently limited in its senior nursing staff after vacancies were left by retirements, nurses choosing to relocate and work closer to home, and maternity leaves. While the SHA is trying to recruit to fill these key positions, Couture says it was important, in the meantime, to focus on keeping Emergency Room services operating 24/7.

"In order to do that, we needed to limit our inpatient beds to give us the ability to shift staff over to the emergency department to support care," she said. "It doesn't mean we're not going to have gaps, but we're certainly trying to eliminate the gaps within the next month and a half."

"We've got a high volume of emergency cases that come in, and they're traveling quite a way to get to us. It's a large catchment area in Shellbrook. We just want to make sure people aren't having to travel that much further to get to emergency care."



As of June 1, the two clinics at the Shellbrook & Districts Health Complex have merged to operate under one banner.

Carswell wins Helen Ferris Library Award

Alanna Carswell, a former Shellbrook branch librarian and employee of the Prince Albert Public Library (PAPL), is the winner of the 2022 Helen Ferris Award. PAPL offers the Helen Ferris awards annually to assist students of the Prince Albert area to study library science.

Carswell is a Master of Archival Studies and Master of Library and Information Studies student at the University of British Columbia's School of Information.

Carswell says, "I was thrilled and honoured when I heard the news. I am so thankful that Helen Ferris established this award. I appreciate the timely financial assistance, especially as it helps me avoid student debt until the fall semester."

Helen Ferris taught at Connaught School in Prince Albert and lived in Christopher Lake after her retirement. Her bequest to the PAPL has two parts. The first, on display in the library, was a plaque inscribed "In memory of Mary E. Gillmor and all women residents of the City of Prince Albert and area prior to



1900." The second part of the bequest provided for annual scholarships or bursaries for students of library science and technology from Prince Albert and area, with one of \$1,000 for library technician students, and the other, which Carswell won, of \$2,000 for master's students.

Carswell adds, "I especially appreciate that Helen honoured women pioneers. In my undergraduate studies at the University of Saskatchewan, I became familiar with the Pioneer Questionnaires at the Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan. These are a trea-

sure trove of the indomitable spirit of our women pioneers."

Carswell started her masters online from her home in the RM of Shellbrook in January 2021. She then relocated to Vancouver in August 2021 when classes resumed on campus.

Carswell encourages other library science students in Prince Albert or area to apply. Information is available at https://www.princealbertlibrary.ca/index.php/about/awards.

Advertising Deadline is Friday 4:00 p.m.





A 'do nothing' approach won't stop gun violence

If politics had an Olympics and saying stupid things was one of the sports, Texas governor Greg Abbott would be taking home the gold, silver, and bronze medals.

Last week, less than 24 hours after a gunman massacred 19 children and two teachers at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, TX, Mr. Abbott had the gall to effectively shrug his shoulders and say the shooting could have had a worse outcome.

"The reality is, as horrible as what happened, it could have been worse," were his exact words.

Okay. Sure, it could have been worse. There could have been 30, 40, or even 50 children mowed down. So, let's all be thankful that parents, siblings, and friends, only have to grieve the needless and senseless deaths of 19 kids.

Mr. Abbott followed this insensitive statement by peddling the old "good guys with guns" myth, adding: "The reason it was not worse is because law enforcement officials did what they do: They showed amazing courage by running toward gunfire for the singular purpose of trying to save lives."

The trouble here, is that this doesn't at all line up with first-hand accounts from people who were on the scene.

According to reports, the 18-yearold gunman was briefly stopped by law enforcement shortly after arriving at the school. The shooter exchanged fire with the responding officers, wounding both of them, then forced his way into a fourth-grade classroom, barricaded the door, and continued shooting.

While parents who had rushed to the scene upon hearing about the active shooter urged officers to charge into the school (and even considered doing so themselves), police spent 40 minutes to an hour massing outside the classroom, afraid to break down the door because they didn't want to get shot.

The rampage was finally brought to an end when a SWAT-like Border Patrol team managed to get into the classroom and kill the shooter.

In the face of last week's unspeakable



News Editor

why an 18-year-old shouldn't be allowed to purchase AR-15s, hundreds of rounds of ammunition, and bulletproof vests, with as few limitations as possible – even as the annual number of gun-related deaths among children in the state has nearly tripled under his watch, up to 146 in 2020 from 54 in 2015.

Mr. Abbott has also soundly rejected his opponents' calls for reviews of Texas' gun laws, accusing them of trying to politicize the shooting.

Indeed, if past shootings are anything to go by, Mr. Abbott's takeaway from last week's mass shooting will be that gun laws need to be loosened further.

Following 2017's Sutherland Springs church shooting, in which 26 people were killed and another 22 were injured, a law was passed requiring places of worship to inform their congregations if they plan to restrict or ban guns.

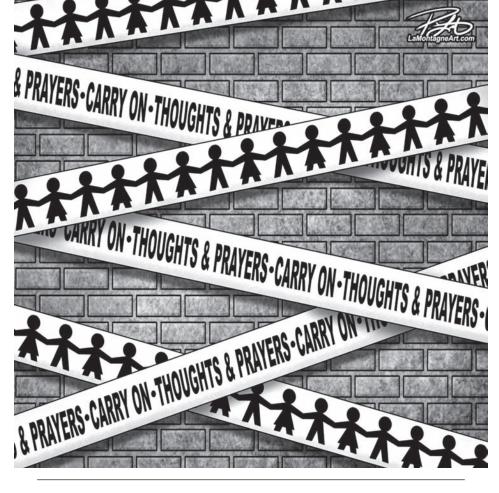
The next year, when a 17-year-old gunman killed 10 people and wounded 13 others at Santa Fe High School, the solution was to give teachers more access to guns on school grounds by removing the limit on the number of staff members who can be designated as armed school marshals. This law was amended in 2021 to allow the marshals to carry firearms in classes rather then keeping them locked

Also in 2021, legislation was passed to allow people 21 and older to carry a handgun in public without a license or train-

"Surely there's no state in America that's ever done as much protecting gun rights," Mr. Abbott boasted when he signed the legislation into law.

While Mr. Abbott has yet to talk about making any changes to Texas' gun laws, he has suggested his focus will be on increasing and improving access to mental health supports (though, he said he won't accept federal funds to expand Medic-

This is perhaps the only thing he's said since the shooting that makes a lick of sense. However, it rings hollow when one considers that he slashed \$211 million tragedy, Mr. Abbott still sees no reason in mental health program funding just a



month before the shooting, and that Texas ranks last in the United States for access to mental health services.

Still, Mr. Abbott's proposed solution is miles better than the remedy recommended by Senator Ted Cruz, who suggested schools should have fewer doors and more guns.

Mr. Cruz, like many others, remain wholeheartedly convinced that arming everyone to the teeth will prevent mass shootings (or at least limit the death tolls).

The problem with baseless speculation is that it can go both ways. Sure, having everyone carry a gun could prevent shootings from turning into mass casualty incidents. At the same time, it could just as easily result in more people being caught in the crossfire.

Nonetheless, Republicans in the United States would rather send kids to schools with armed guards, bulletproof windows, and metal detectors, than consider even the slightest imposition on the "right to bear arms."

Because being a victim of a mass shooting isn't traumatic enough, let's make kids feel like they're going to school in a maximum security prison. Oh, and don't forget to send little Timmy and Mary to school with their bulletproof backpacks -

"You see Democrats and a lot of folks in and waiting for more children to die.

the media whose immediate solution is to try to restrict the constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens – that doesn't work, it's not effective," Mr. Cruz said on the day of the shooting in Uvalde.

"We know what does prevent crime, which is going after felons and fugitives and those with serious mental illness, arresting them, prosecuting them when they try to illegally buy firearms."

This so-called tough on crime approach didn't do anything to protect the students killed at Columbine High School (back in a time when we were still shocked by school shootings).

It didn't do anything to save the lives of the students and teachers murdered at Sandy Hook, or the victims of the mass shootings at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and Santa Fe High School after them.

And it wouldn't have done anything to stop last week's tragedy, because the shooter was a "law-abiding citizen" up until the moment he chose to pull the

Would tightening gun laws stop all mass shootings? Absolutely not. There are, after all, always people who will choose to live outside the confines of the law.

But better gun laws would certainly accomplish far more than sitting around

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Your Two Cents

The debate that could have been... but wasn't

I am offering what could best be described as a kind of 'analysis/paralysis' of yet another Conservative Party leadership debate. My mind seems stunned by the high expectations with minimal results that multiple debates have engendered. As a result, I am left with more questions than answers. I expect every Canadian who watched all three occasions feels the same.

Here are the burning questions that were never addressed by the organizing committee or any of the six credible candidates.

- 1. Why do you direct your anger to each other rather than to the Prime Minister and the Liberal Party?
- 2. How can we, as voters, expect that, following your diatribes, you could govern better than the current government?
- 3. Why would any of you be a best choice to achieve a breakthrough for unity among all the factions of Conservatives?
- 4. Why would you be the best choice to galvanize the Canadian electorate to support your Party?
- 5. How would you proceed to achieve a seat on the Security Council, an

initiative badly fumbled by our present government?

- 6. As Prime Minister, what else would you do to restore Canada's international prestige?
- 7. In these toxic times, with Canadians suffering optimal assaults, economically, environmentally, cultural, jurisdictional, social and moral, how would you restore hope, health and the quality of life for Canadians?

These are the reflections of the paucity of pragmatic and positive areas covered by the candidates.

And, what about the process of the debates?

Any presentation without audience engagement is a pale version of the real thing, especially for the energy levels of the participants. Whoever orchestrated the rules was no debater (although a diligent timekeeper). The constant pressure to control the time and the audience removed any fervour for the participants and interest for viewers. Many people I spoke with simply opted out early or switched to the comedy channel from the English debate.

Although the French format and

moderator were more open to interaction among the candidates, the handicap of limited French fluency made it a contest among only three, Jean Charest, Patrick Brown and Pierre Poilievre. The others gamely participated; but, in essence, were outside the ballpark and out of the game.

Technological glitches persisted in both official debates. It amazes me that we can send perfect streaming video from Mars; but we can't ensure two hours of uninterrupted political debate coverage during one of the most challenging times in Canadian history.

So, it boils down to this, folks.

Unless the Conservatives can sustain . . . and communicate . . . a cohesive, comprehensive, visionary, united and positive program of Canadian renewal, it appears that the only candidate to beat Trudeau is Trudeau, himself.

He is getting better with practice, has won three elections (even if a couple are minorities) and, with the at least temporary support of the NDP, is floating high.

Good government requires an even better opposition.

So, here's the emerging light in the

tunnel that can power the glow for Conservative action.

Although it has been downplayed so far, we're confronted with a global food crisis. A superlative action plan to accelerate Canada's agricultural production can bring our farmers and the opposition party to the fore. Nothing triggers support more than feeding hungry people.

Secondly, violence and cyber insecurity confront us at every turn. A policy positioning Canada to work as equal partners with our allies would contrast significantly with that of the present government's complacency.

Thirdly, prices are going through the roof - the public is being gouged on every front. A Conservative program of moderating prices could gain support in the House and restore the ring in the public cash register.

We have creative and caring thinkers in all parties.

The debates simply pointed out untouched opportunities for the Conservatives and all the others.

Norm Rebin has been a speech writer for political leaders of all major parties. He resides near Blaine Lake.

Spiritwood RCMP warns of scammers

The Spiritwood RCMP Detachment is warning the public, and especially seniors, to keep their wits about them when they're online or when they receive phone calls from numbers they don't recognize.

Sgt. Sebastian Herbert-Andrews of the Spiritwood RCMP Detachment says officers have started to notice an uptick in fraud complaints over the last three weeks, with at least five people reporting incidents in which they've been approached and/or swindled by scammers. In one particularly egregious Herbert-Andrews incident, says a victim was tricked out of \$100,000 over a number of years.

"Most recently, what we've tain amount of money."

noticed with these scams is they're working as a team. You'll have one who will call and say you've won a brandnew speedboat, but in order to get this vehicle, you need to send in your ID and pay the \$1,000 tax bill," Sgt. Herbert Andrews said.

"Then, the same group of fraudsters will call – and the big one where they're getting quite a bit of money – is they'll act like they're a detective from the detachment. More specifically, this person was saying that they're a detective with the Spiritwood RCMP, and that they had a warrant for their arrest. In order to get this removed, they have to send a cer- bers," he said. "These people people are very good at trick-

Sgt. Herbert-Andrews notes that the Spiritwood RCMP doesn't have detectives and doesn't call people to send money. He says in almost every case the victims of scammers are sending etransfers, cheques, Bitcoin, or gift cards to fraudsters who are working

Sgt. Herbert-Andrews says the Spiritwood Detachment is looking for more information on recent scams, but adds that it's made more difficult when the scammers are located over-

"What makes this very difficult is that 100 per cent use fake names and spoof numare in foreign countries that ing people."

don't always cooperate with investigations. So, it becomes very, very hard, if not impossible, to track the money and identify the actual person behind the phone."

Though there have been at least five scams or attempted scams reported in the past few weeks, Sgt. Herbert-Andrews suspects there could be more cases because victims often feel embarrassed or ashamed for being scammed. Those who do report incidents to police are often left feeling like it's their fault they got hoodwinked.

"We want the public to know it's not their fault," Sgt. Herbert-Andrews said. "These

To avoid becoming another victim of a scammer, Sgt. Herbert-Andrews advises the public to hang up and call the police if they feel like they're being pressured, or if they're being told they owe money or are in legal trouble. He also says to never pay anyone in gift cards.

"Don't send money," he reit-

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Saskatchewan is Getting Back on Track with Key Investments

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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



Highlights of a Shellbrook Town Council meeting

Shellbrook's Town Council met for its regular meeting in person and via teleconference on Tuesday, May 24.

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

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Otterson and council began by approving the meeting's agenda and adopting the minutes of its May 2 regular meeting. With no business arising from said minutes, council moved on to reports.

In the Parkland Pool Project Steering Committee report, Councillor Ledding informed council that committee members have opened up the canteen at the Shellbrook Sports Grounds and will be operating it throughout ball season to raise funds for the pool project. She also said an update on the ongoing feasibility study for the project, as well as an update on funding, were expected at the next committee meeting.

Discussing happenings at the Shellbrook Theatre, Councillor Nording said it's business as usual where movie nights are concerned (a recent screening of *Spider-Man: No Way Home* brought in a solid haul of \$900). Nording added that plans are in place to finish off the wheelchair ramp for the theatre.

Moving on to hospital and clinics, Mayor Otterson told council the two medical clinics would be merging as of June 1, in a bid to consolidate and preserve healthcare services locally. Mayor Otterson also said Parkland Integrated Health Centre has just 10 of 20 acute care beds operating, as well as Emergency Room services, due to nursing shortages.

Mayor Otterson said the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) is facing HR issues all around.

Rounding out the reports, council said it was pleased with a meeting it had with RCMP Cpl. Dana Martin, the new corporal for the Ahtahkakoop-Shellbrook RCMP detachment. Above all else, council welcomed the news that Martin will be working out of the Shellbrook detachment office.

In the Mayor and Council forum, an open session where the mayor and councillors can share any news not covered under reports, Councillor Knight said he's continuing to consult with Prairie Clean Energy on the feasibility of a pellet plant in Shellbrook. Currently, Knight said, the company has sourced a market for its product and is working on a business plan to present to the provincial government. Council agreed the facility would be a great thing for Shellbrook (especially when coupled with the new OSB mill coming to

Prince Albert, and the ongoing work to re-open the city's pulp mill).

Councillor Miller, meanwhile, spoke of the need to work to make better use of the town's prime highway commercial property.

Elsewhere, Hoare said the cannabis facility at the old Shellbrook Union Hospital is expected to begin operations at the end of September, once the final federal regulatory approvals are received.

Shifting to new business, council passed a motion to develop a plan to close the existing alley adjacent to the Hidden Hills of Shellbrook Golf Course's parking lot. Meanwhile, in response to a request from the golf course to remove gravel from a rail right of way, council chose to send the matter to Public Works.

Up next, council approved a request from WP Sandin High School's graduation committee to host the annual graduation parade. It also

agreed to a request to ensure dust suppressant has been applied to the roads along the parade route.

Taking care of a couple housekeeping items, council wrote off charges for an account that was charged GST twice and approved a work plan submitted by SaskPower.

Council then approved a request from a property owner to build a garage on their property prior to having a residence on the lot. While she noted this went against the town's policy, Hoare noted the residence was on order but not expected to arrive by the time the owner needed it.

Moving on, council reviewed tenders for its sewer rehabilitation project. In the hopes of staving off another catastrophic infrastructure failure, council recently decided to finance the project and complete it in one year, rather than continuing to budget it out over the next 10 years.

Council received two tenders for the project: a \$1.5 million bid from ACME, and a bid of \$710,228 from Insituform. Noting the tenders were identical aside from the price point, council made the decision to go with Insituform. Councillor Miller was especially pleased with the new cost estimate, which is about 43 per cent of the \$1.65 million the project was originally quoted at.

Wrapping up the meeting, council agreed to sell off a trio of municipal-owned properties on 2nd Street SW once the properties have been appraised by a real estate agent



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Spiritwood Herald Website www.spiritwoodherald.com







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Climate change raises questions for future farmers

When you start to talk about climate change you know it's a conversation which will have at least some rolling their eyes in full out denial that it exists — or exists only as part of nature's cycle.

When I pause to think about the future for humankind, I truly hope the climate change deniers are proven correct.

But what if they are simply in denial and the current evidence, which suggests change is happening and having a generally negative impact, is indic-

ative of dramatic changes ahead?

If those changes happen, can we adapt as a species?

It is a question which is particularly troubling for farmers.

The operation of growing food, from the diesel fuel being burned by tractors, to the use of nitrogen fertilizer to grow bigger crops, to cattle producing manure, can all impact the environment and be part of what is contributing to climate change.

But the production of food is about as important



an enterprise as there is.

We might well survive without fuel consuming airplanes, or gasoline powered cars, but we won't last long without food.

So, farming has to con-

tinue. It is quite reasonably the last enterprise you would stop in any future attempt to curb climate change, if it came to that.

But the farm sector is also one which will be directly impacted if climate change continues. Shifting weather patterns change what producers in a given area may be able to grow in the years ahead.

And if severe weather is a more common occurrence moving forward because of climate change, it is also farmers who are going to be impacted rather directly.

Droughts, wetter than usual springs, late springs, or early fall frosts, are all weather happenings which are bad news for crops.

Overall, the farmer of the not too distant future is likely to be growing crops that are not the ones they grow today, and they will be growing those crops under different circumstances in terms of what Mother Nature is doing.

The question though, which is perhaps most

pertinent and still without a clear answer, is how quickly the changes may happen.

If change comes quickly, and there are those fearing we will reach a point of no return sooner than we realize, can the agriculture sector adapt as quickly?

If the farm sector can't keep pace with the changes climate change might bring, the security of our food system will be in dire circumstances, and that is indeed a troubling thought about our future.

Governments fund carbon sequestration research on pasture, forage lands

Canada's Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau and Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister David Marit announced \$3.2 million in funding for research on carbon sequestration in perennial forage and pastures.

The funding was approved under the Strategic Research Initiative (SRI) which advances research to address complex challenges faced by the agriculture and agri-food sectors.

"Carbon sequestration is important to help mitigate the effects of climate change," said Bibeau. "This research will improve our understanding of the best practices for managing our grazing systems, and ensure producers will be well-positioned to further contribute to the sector's long-term sustainability."

The project, jointly undertaken by Dr. Angela Bedard-Haughn of the University of Saskatchewan and Dr. Cameron

Carlyle of the University of Alberta over the next five years, will examine soil carbon stocks in perennial forage systems across Saskatchewan, and investigate the link between producer management practices and carbon stores to identify practices that promote carbon sequestration. One of the outcomes of the project will be maps providing an accurate estimate of carbon in Saskatchewan's pasture and rangelands.

"Our agriculture industry is grounded in best practices, and this project will add to it by confirming how we can mitigate climate change by managing our grazing systems," Marit said. "This is the kind of ag-related research we continually encourage and prioritize in Saskatchewan to keep our producers competitive, sustainable and working toward a future we can count on."

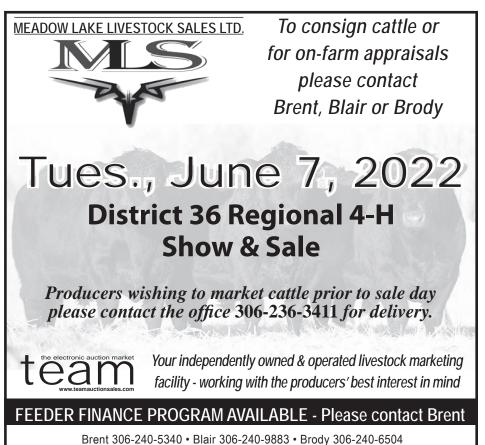
The application included 11 letters of support from different industry organi-

zations, which reflects the importance of this work to the provincial agriculture sector, and the project is co-funded by the Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association which contributed \$100,000 to the total amount and a \$25,000 in-kind commitment.

"The carbon economy must be built on a credible foundation," Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association Chair Arnold Balicki said. "Despite a lot of activity, there still needs to be this baseline building on hay and grassland. This should help cattle producers credibly participate in whatever the carbon opportunity is. Meanwhile cattle producers will continue managing their land for productivity along with the biodiversity and carbon sequestration that are intrinsic to grazing cattle."

"Creative, collaborative and co-operative research is how our institution strives to deliver long-term benefits and resources for Saskatchewan's agriculture sectors," University of Saskatchewan Vice-President of Research Baljit Singh said. "This project will contribute significantly to our understanding of a complex issue. A better understanding leads to better decision making and practices within the industry. Ultimately, that is the kind of discovery the world needs."

The SRI is funded through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a five-year, \$3 billion investment by federal, provincial and territorial governments that supports Canada's agriculture, agri-food and agri-products sectors. This includes a \$2 billion commitment that is cost-shared 60 per cent federally and 40 per cent provincially/territorially for programs that are designed and delivered by provinces and territories, including a \$388-million investment in strategic initiatives for Saskatchewan agriculture.



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Sask. United Party seeks provincial recognition

A new provincial political party is gearing up to enter the fray, and a pair of recognizable names are leading the charge to receive the 2,500 signatures required for it to be registered as an official party.

Nadine Wilson, the independent MLA for Saskatchewan **Rivers** who resigned from the Saskatchewan Party Caucus last September over claims she misrepresented her COVID-19

vaccination status, has hitched her wagon to the fledgling Saskatchewan United Party and says voters are looking for different representation provincially.

"People are exhausted with playing left-right politics and they are beginning to realize that we are all citizens of this province, and we are going to need to unleash the power of this province by uniting its greatest resource: the people," Wil-

"People just don't care about their historical political affiliations anymore. They simply don't recognize the Government or the opposition and are left without porepresentation. People are uniting for a greater vision for this province, and I think we are starting to see the beginning of something many communities are going to support because it's about serving their families," she added.

Saskatchewan United Party began as a steering committee in December 2021. The hopeful party's leadership says the committee was founded in response to "overwhelming calls from all corners of the province both in rural and large municipalities, as to the political, economic and social crisis taking place in Saskatchewan."

The steering committee says it spent four months investigating these concerns, and chose to form a new provincial political party, "with the aim of bringing the province back together and healing the many divides which have existed as a result of the mismanagement, incompetence, and in some cases, perceived misfeasance of various levels of the current Government of Saskatchewan."

Many of the Sask. United Party's concerns are about the current Government of Saskatchewan's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic, and in particular Premier Scott Moe's comments last fall that life would "get uncomfortable" for those who refused to be vaccinated.

At the time of these comments, Saskatchewan was in the midst of the highly infectious Omicron wave, which overwhelmed the province's ICUs and forced patients (almost all of them unvaccinated) to be moved to Ontario for

Still, Wilson says there is plenty of support out there for the Sask United Party's vision of better governance.

"We have been moving around the province, those of us who are like-minded, and have found each other. We have formed a new movement called Saskatchewan United," Wilson said. "This seems to be bringing people hope and unity that they are very valuable citizens in Saskatchewan and that they have a place in Saskatchewan. That we're a diverse society and no one group should be ridiculed or given favouritism."

Joining Wilson in the Sask. United Party's ranks as an advisor is former Battlefords-Lloydminster MP and Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz, who says he was left "politically homeless" after Premier Moe's comments last fall.

Ritz says there's a lot of angst in the province over the COVID-19 pandemic, and is critical of how both the federal and the provincial governments have handled it.

"We're looking at lots of money that has been spent with no accountability really attached to it yet," Ritz said. "We're looking at a health-care system that is still overburdened with backup surgeries and so on that were never taken into account."

"At the end of the day, it's the lack of a plan," he added, calling on the government to speak out against federal travel mandates. "Saskatchewan has a lot of autonomy within this confederation we call Canada that I don't think they're exercising the way that they

Apart from its focus on the pandemic, the Sask. United Party's guiding principles include human rights and civil liberties for all, an improved and localized health system, a school curriculum free of ideologies, a focus on provincial over national and international interests, accountability, consultation, and transparency, small government with less bureaucracy, economic prosperity, balanced budgets and lower taxes, improved social programs, personal responsibility over government intrusion, and environmental stewardship.

According to the Elec-Saskatchewan website, a prospective party must have 2,500 signatures with 1,000 of them living in at least 10 different constituencies which need at least 100 electors. Once registered, a party can incur expenses, solicit and receive donations, be part of the political contributions tax regime and field candidates for election.

Six parties are already registered including the Buffalo Party, NDP, PC Party, Sask. Green Party, Sask. Liberal Party and the Saskatchewan Party.

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Praise & Worship

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

PARTNERS IN FAITH

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

UNITED /ANGLICAN Worship Services

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

CATHOLIC SUNDAY

Spiritwood - 11:15 a.m. Leoville - 9:30 a.m. Shell Lake - 2:00 p.m. Chitek Lake - Closed for the Season Everyone Welcome SATURDAY Medstead - 6 p.m. Father Ramel Macapala

PARTNERS IN

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

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

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

MENNONITE **BRETHREN**

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

FIELDS OF HOPE (HOFFNUNGSFELDER) MENNONITE CHURCH

Glenbush Worship - 10:00 am 1st Sun. (June, July, Aug.) Worship - 10:00 am at Rabbit Lake Mennonite Church

BETHEL

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

Gideons International of Canada

Battlefords Camp Phone Art Martynes (306) 389-4633

EVANGELICAL FREE Mont Nebo

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

LAKELAND **COMMUNITY CHURCH** (Corner of 1st Ave. and 4th

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

BELBUTTE FULL GOSPEL

11 am Worship Service 1st Sun., 7:30 pm - Hymn Sing Pastor Floyd Berg

COWBOY CHURCH

Spiritwood Every Wednesday Night 7 pm Spiritwood Legion Hall Pastor Rick Martin

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 Bretzlaff

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

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

Praise & Worship

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

MENNONITE BRETHREN CHURCH

month

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

EVANGELICAL FREE

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

UNITED CHURCH

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

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Debden Sun. Mass - 9:30 a.m. Fr. Dong Doan Big River - Sacred Heart Sun., 11:30 a.m. - Mass Whitefish Sun., 2:30 p.m. - Mass. Victoire

Sat., 7:30 p.m. - Mass. Fr. Dong Doan St. Agatha's - Shellbrook

Mass - Sunday 11 a.m. St. Henry's - Leask Mass - Sunday - 9 a.m.

Mistawasis 2^{nd} & 4^{th} 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

Pre-K Family bowling day scores a strike

The Pre-Kindergarten families of Rivier Elementary School went on a bowling spree at the Spiritwood Bowling Alley on May 25 at 4 p.m.

School teacher Jade Hagel said that the school aims to have at least five family events in a year,

as it's important to give children opportunities to bond with each other outside of school premises and have fun.

This bowling event was the school's first family-focused event this year, and also the first family event since the COVID-19 pandemic arrived in Saskatchewan in 2020. The school says it plans to host more activities for families in the coming months.

Nine or so families participated in the event, with the kids donning their bowling shoes and rolling balls down the alleys. Some parents were also able to play and interact with each other, while the kids were busy bowling, purchasing snacks, and running around.

It was, all in all, an amusing day for families to get together with their little ones.









Rivier Elementary School hosted a well-attended bowling event for Pre-Kindergarten students and families on May 25.

Crop Report: May 17 to 23

Seeding progress climbed throughout many regions in the past week, despite a storm that brought snow and rain to parts of the province. Fifty-two per cent of the 2022 crop is now seeded, up from 33 per cent last week. This is still behind the five-year average (2017-2021) of 78 per cent for this time of year. The rainfall received over the past week in drier areas will help improve soil moisture conditions and establishment of early seeded crops.

The west central region is the farthest along with 81 per cent of the crop seeded. Seventy-six per cent of the crop is seeded in the northwest, 73 per cent seeded in the southwest, 44 per cent seeded in the southeast, 22 per cent seeded in the northeast and 21 per cent seeded in the east-central region of the province.

The east received significant amounts of precipitation. The Hudson Bay area reported 88 mm, the Jedburgh area 85 mm, the Rama area 83 mm, the Indian Head area 32 mm and the Biggar and Cando areas 11 mm. While rain is welcome in the eastern half of the province, many producers are eager to continue their seeding operations.

Soil moisture continues to improve across the province, mainly in the eastern regions where most of the spring precipitation was received. Cropland topsoil moisture is rated as 15 per cent surplus, 58 per cent adequate, 18 per cent short and nine per cent very short. Hay and pastureland topsoil moisture is rated as six per cent surplus, 63 per cent adequate, 20 per cent short and eleven per cent very short.

Pasture conditions are rated as 10 per cent excellent, 27 per cent good, 36 per cent fair, 16 per cent poor and 11 per cent very poor. Pastures in the

western half of province are struggling to establish this spring due to very limited precipitation causing many livestock producers in the area to continue to feed cattle on farm.

Earlier seeded crops have started to emerge where moisture is sufficient, but cool weather over the past week has slowed development of many crops. In general, most crops are rated as normal for their development except for canola, which was rated as 67 per cent behind. This is likely due to the extremely dry conditions in the southwest and west central regions, delaying growth and the recent cool weather across the whole province. Most of the crop damage this week was due to minor flooding, light frosts, drought conditions and flea beetles. Producers continue to report that there is a shortage of farm equipment parts. There are also some reports of input and herbicide shortages throughout the province.

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

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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: Pickleball Courts at Shellbrook Richardson Pioneer Centre, Curling Rink Section starting May 24 - June 9. Seniors & adults interested in "Learn to Play" sessions must register prior to May 25th. Contact Sally at (306)747-7535. \$40 for a 10-session players card incl. 4 hours of free lessons. Your first introductory session is FREE. Come try it out (paddles provided)! Tues.: 1:30-3:30pm - Seniors Regular Play; 6:30-8:30pm - Adult Regular Play. Wed.: 6-7:15pm - Seniors Learn to Play; 7:30-8:45 - Adult Learn to Play. Thurs.: 6:30-8:30 - Adult Regular Play. For more info contact: Sally (306)747-7535.

SHELLBROOK: The Ministerial Association invites you to celebrate with us — July 1st, Canada Day! Breakfast @ 9am at the Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly, #61 — 2nd Street West. Sponsored by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #111. Donations go toward the District Ministerial Association.

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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 Monday, April 11, 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, Division 6 - Ron Herzog, and Administrator - Duane Storey.

Delegations:

10 a.m. Tasha Cyr and Mark Klaassen Parkland Pool Project.

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

Reeve Oleksyn called the meeting to order at 8:35

Skauge: That the following items be added to the Agenda: Clay Capping, Joint Council Meeting. Carried

Strube: That the Agenda be adopted as amended. Carried

Strube: That the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council of March 2, 2022, be approved as presented. Carried

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

Strube: That the bank reconciliation for the month of February 2022 be approved as presented. Carried

Skauge: That the accounts payable dated April 1, 2022, as attached hereto and forming part of these Minutes, being regular cheque numbers 12683 to 12740 in the amount of \$129,072.83 and payroll cheque numbers 14189 to 14205 in the amount of \$39,063.01 be approved. Carried

Ferster: That Administrator Duane Storey be approved to attend 2022 RMAA Convention May 16 to May 19, 2022, in Regina. Carried

Strube: That the Administrators Report for the month April 2022 be accepted as presented. Carried

Strube: That a letter be sent to the Department of Highways in regards to the addition of two deer crossing signs on Highway No. 240 west of NE-14-51-03-W3 and west of NE-02-51-03-W3. Carried

Skauge: That brighter and bigger "6000lb Road ban in effect" signs be placed on Oil Surface No.693. Carried

Delegation Tasha Cyr and Mark Klaassen entered the Council Chambers at 10:10 a.m. to discuss the Parkland Pool Project.

Delegation Tasha Cyr and Mark Klaassen left the Council meeting at 10:35

Hamel: That two \$500 Scholarships for students who reside in The Rural Municipality of Shellbrook No. 493 for the 2022-2023 academic year be approved. Carried

Joelson: That the allocation of the 2021-2022 Sask Lotteries grant that was allotted to the Shellbrook Senior Association in the amount of \$682.85 be redistributed to:

- Shellbrook **Parks** Board (swimming pool) \$341.43
- **Public** Wild Rose School \$341.42. Carried

Foreman Bill Aug and

Todd Lande entered the Council Chambers at 11:25 a.m. to update Council of Municipal Operations.

Delegation Foreman Bill Aug and Todd Lande left the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

Skauge: That the quote for proceeding with re-zoning and new zoning maps estimated at \$7,000 provided by Northbound Planning Ltd be approved. Carried

Skauge: That the information provided in regards to the Holbein Lagoon be received and filed. Carried

Herzog: That in response to letter received from Delbert Dynna Law Office dated April 7, 2022, in regards to NE-16-52-03-W3 Road allowance, that the ratepayer be informed that any fence erected must not impede the municipal road allowance or road surface parcel number 134858302 title No.118729064. Carried

Joelson: That the contract for gravel crushing for 2022 at \$5.00/cubic yard plus applicable fuel surcharge be awarded to Triple R Contracting Ltd. Carried

Skauge: That the request for the 2022 Parkland Physician Recruitment Levy be increased to \$7/capita from

\$5/capita be approved. Carried

Strube: That the request for letters of support from Parkland Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee be approved. Carried

Joelson: That Arnold Anderson's operation of a Community Marina at Wilf's Beach for the 2022 season be approved. Carried

Skauge: That the correspondence received March 9, 2022, from Agriculture in the Classroom be received and filed. Carried

Strube: That due to the closure of Gord Krismer and Associates, Council appoint the following from Nor-Sask Board Services as panel of the municipalities 2022 Board of Revision:

- Timothy Furlong
- Kirby Fesser
- Glen Neuert

Sabrina Saccucci

And that Mike Ligtermoet be appointed secretary of the Board of Revision. Carried

Joelson: That the correspondence received March 29, 2022, from Honeywood Heritage Nursery be received and filed. Carried

Herzog: That the correspondence received March 31, 2022, from District #33 Rat Board be received and

Strube: That the request from Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency for the municipalities assistance to complete their 2022 Ag Land Reinspection Program for the Rural Municipality of Shellbrook No. 493 be approved. Carried

Skauge: That discussions in regards to Clay Capping be referred to 2022 Budget meetings. Carried

Strube: That suggested topics to be discussed at the joint Council meeting of The Town of Shellbrook and The Rural Municipality of Shellbrook No. 493 scheduled for April 14, 2022, be as follows: Community Safety Officer, Fire Hall, Parkland Pool Project. Carried

Skauge: That the Correspondence be received and filed. Carried

Skauge: That the following SARM Correspondence be received and filed: RM 493 2020 Traffic Count. Carried

Strube: That the meeting be adjourned at 3:47 p.m. Carried

Three charged in 2020 death in Shellbrook

Nearly two years after a man died under suspicious circumstances in Shellbrook, three men have been arrested and charged in his death.

The victim, 20-year-old Wesley Custer of Denare Beach, was dropped off at Parkland Integrated Health Centre (PIHC) in Shellbrook on the night of Aug. 21, 2020, with what police described at the time as "serious injuries." Custer later died in hospital, and police began investigating his death as suspicious.

Immediately following Custer's

death, police put out a call for information to the public and approached businesses along Shellbrook's Main Street to review their security footage from the evening Custer was dropped off at PIHC.

Recently, police had a breakthrough in the case around Custer's death, making a trio of arrests this month. All three of the arrests took place in Saskatchewan correctional facilities.

After discussions with Crown prosecutors, Saskatchewan RCMP first arrested a 34-year-old, identified by police as Evan Ledoux, at the Prince Albert Correctional Centre in relation to Custer's death. Ledoux was arrested on outstanding charges from the Ahtahkakoop-Shellbrook RCMP Detachment and the Prince Albert Police Service in May.

Ledoux faces a charge of manslaughter in Custer's death. Ledoux also faces a long list of charges, including aggravated assault and several weapons-related charges, in relation to the assault of a woman which was reported earlier this month on Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation. The woman reportedly required hospitalization for her inju-

Ledoux, according to Saskatchewan RCMP, will make his next court appearance on the manslaughter charge at Prince Albert Provincial Court June 6.

A second person was arrested and faces a charge in relation to Custer's death last week. The second person, identified by police as 42-year-old Curtis Ledoux, now faces a charge of accessory after the fact to murder and was arrested at the Prince Albert Correctional Centre May 22. Ledoux will also appear June 6 at Prince Albert Provincial Court.

The third person arrested, identified as 23-year-old Tyson Lachance by RCMP, was arrested at the Saskatoon Correctional Centre May 25. Lachance faces one count of second-degree murder in Custer's death and made his first court appearance in Prince Albert May 26.

None of the charges have been proven in court.

GOOD NEWS

It is for all but it only works for those who trust Him

I had a dad who was Icelandic. Dad was born in Manitoba. His dad (my grandfather) came from Iceland. Being Scandinavian, I would have thought he had a Lutheran background, but he didn't. He was raised Unitarian, or at least had Unitarian roots. I think I am correct in saying this church holds to a universal gospel.

I read about a pastor who had a conversation with an intelligent man who was a universalist. He had this belief that God would ultimately save everyone. He would argue: "After all, did not Jesus die for the sins of the whole world?"

That is true but there is a difference between the efficiency of Jesus' atonement (it is for all) and the efficacy of Jesus' atonement (it works only for those who

trust Him).

I have been working through Jesus' parables and just taught on the Parable of two debtors. Jesus was a master teacher, and He would use parables to teach important truths. Jesus has this dinner with Simon the Pharisee. During the course of the meal, a woman came and began to wash Jesus' feet with her tears and anoint them with oil. Simon wasn't too impressed. Simon's comment was "This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner." (Luke 7:39)

Well, Jesus used this a teaching moment and taught a parable.

Jesus said in Luke 7:41 -48: "Once upon a time, there were two men in debt to the same moneylender. One owed him fifty pounds and the other five. And since they were unable to pay, he generously cancelled both of their debts. Now, which one of them do you suppose will love him more?"

"Well," returned Simon, "I suppose it will be the one who has been more generously treated."

"Exactly," replied Jesus, and then turning to the woman, he said to Simon, "You can see this woman? I came into your house, but you provided no water to wash my feet. But she has washed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. There was no warmth in your greeting, but she, from the moment I came in, has not stopped covering my feet with kisses.

You gave me no oil for my head, but she has put perfume on my feet. That is why I tell you, Simon, that her sins, many as they are, are forgiven; for she has shown me so much love. But the man who has little to be forgiven has only a little love to give."

Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

I like the way one preacher put it: "The woman was not more lost than the Pharisee. She only felt her guilt and need for mercy far more than Simon did."

It is for all but only works for those who trust Him.

Blessings,

Pastor David Bodvarson

SPA

Flames-Oilers a great sports rivalry

For a sports fan, there's nothing quite like a great rivalry. For a hockey fan, that's defined by the Battle of Alberta.

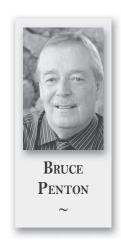
For the first time since 1991, a National Hockey League playoff series involved the Calgary Flames and Edmonton Oilers. The last two weeks of May featured the two Alberta rivals, and it not only provided an intense on-ice event, but an equally intense off-ice showdown. Case in point: a bar in Red Deer, located within one kilometre of precisely half-way between the province's two major cities, has a dividing line smack dab in the middle of the establishment — Flames fans on one side, Oilers fans on the other. Sharpen the tongue but leave the hardware at home.

Alberta's hockey fans, non-hockey fans, people of all ages and all stripes have an opinion about the Battle of Alberta. There are always bragging rights at stake, and politics even enters the

fray, because the governing UCP has its strength in Calgary, while the opposition NDP is strongest in Edmonton.

The vast majority of fans simply enjoyed the friendly back-and-forth, although some obviously took it more seriously than others. On the world stage, the Battle of Alberta hardly registers as a well-known sports rivalry, but in Canada, it's by far the biggest. Football might have its Blue Bombers-Roughriders battles, or its Argos-Ti-Cats confrontations, but nothing compares with Oilers-Flames. Globally, however, Yankees-Red Sox ranks up there, as do the Federer-Nadal battles on the tennis court. The best baseball hatred, however, might be between the Dodgers and Giants, both of which were born in suburban New York before moving to the West Coast in the late 1950s.

What are your favourite sports rivalries? How about Ali-Frazier? Those of a certain age will re-



member that one. Followers of Premier League soccer in the UK will say there's nothing more intense in the world of sports than Manchester United and Manchester City. On a smaller scale, Pats vs. Warriors in southern Saskatchewan certainly gets fans' blood boiling. Tiger-Phil was pretty good on the PGA Tour, a full generation after Arnie-Jack. If you need full names on those golf references, you're not a true sports fan.

Winning is all that matters to the competitors in these rivalries, but for fans, the buildup and the trash talking is what elevates these battles from the mundane to the can't-miss.

- Scott Ostler of the San Francisco Chronicle, on only one food truck outside at an Oakland A's home game as a sad sign of the times: "Used to be there were eight or 10 to choose from. Pretty soon it will be just a guy selling day-old churros and two kids with a lemonade stand."
- Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "Kiara Thomas was arrested and charged with assault in Laurel, Mississippi, for punching an umpire at a 12-year-old girls softball game, WLBT-TV reported. The capper? In her mugshot, Thomas rocks a 'Mother of the Year' T-shirt."
- From the 'What????' department, found in Phil Mushnick's NY Post column: "During a recent Michigan-Minnesota women's softball telecast, ESPN's Lisa Byington advised, 'The last thing you want to do is walk the leadoff hitter, especially with nobody

on base."

- Headline at TheBeaverton.com: "Sportsnet apologizes for interrupting gambling commercial with hockey."
- Patti Dawn Swansson, on news that wrestler Ric Flair will climb into the ring this summer at age 73: "Hey, if Mick Jagger can prance around on stage and pretend he can still sing at age 78, why can't Ric Flair pretend he can still fake fight?"
- Bob Molinaro of pilotonline.com (Hampton, Va.): "It's reported that after one year as an NBC football studio analyst, former Saints quarterback Drew Brees is out. Hardly enough time to know he was in."
- RJ Currie of sports-deke.com: "Over the last five playoffs, the Toronto Maple Leafs are 0-9 in elimination games 0-4 in Game 7. Even my 1990 VW is better in the clutch."
- Headline at TheBeaverton.com: "Stanley
 Cup 'Playoffs Participant' banner raised

again at (Toronto's) Scotia Bank Centre."

- Headline at Fark. com: "Nike to Kyrie Irving: Just do it ... with another shoe company."
- Dwight Perry again: "Former Duke basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski was paid nearly \$3.3 million in base salary, \$2 million in bonus pay and just over \$7.2 million in other reportable compensation in 2020, according to the university's federal tax returns. Looks like he's perfected his bank shot."
- Vancouver Giants coach Michael Dyck, to Kamloops This Week, on why he wouldn't criticize the officiating after a 4-2 WHL playoff loss: "With the price of gas these days, I can't waste money on fines."
- Another one from fark.com, on Steph Curry completing his degree 13 years after leaving Davidson: "Hopefully, he can find work now that he graduated."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Be like Popeye and eat your spinach!

By Sara Williams and Jackie Bantle

Popeye the sailor man, invented by Elzie Crisler Segar, first appeared as a comic strip character in 1929. By 1932, Popeye was telling the world about spinach. Placed in a hopeless situation, a can of spinach would miraculously appear. Popeye would quickly consume its contents, gain superhuman strength and save the day. Thus, several generations of children were told by their parents to "eat their spinach." Thankfully, frozen and fresh spinach are now available through our prairie winters and it is easily grown in our gardens. Spinach is an excellent source of vitamin C, high in calcium, magnesium, potassium, a good plant-based source of iron and is one of the earliest vegetables to seed in the garden.

The genus name may have been derived from isfanakh, a Persian word for "green hand." Spinacia is from the Medieval Latin, probably originating from the Latin word spina, referring to the spiny seeds. Oleracea means vegetable-like.

Our garden spinach (Spinacia oleracea) is believed to have developed from a wild form, Spinacia tetranda, still found in the Caucasus, Iran and Afghanistan. It was first cultivated by the Persians (in what is modern Iran) and 647AD had spread via Nepal to China. It was brought to Spain by the Moors. By 1351, it was common enough that "spinachium" had appeared on a list of food that monks were permitted to consume on fast days. In his Herbal of

1597, John Gerard in England described it as "watery and tasteless," but wrote that it would be good for those with a hoarse voice or who had trouble breathing.

Spinach can be seeded early in spring, as soon as the ground is thawed: plants can withstand a few degrees of frost. Sow seeds 1.5-2 cm deep. For full sized spinach plants, space rows 30cm apart. For baby spinach leaves, rows can be closer together or scattered in a 30-60cm wide bed. With air temperatures above 10°C, seedlings should emerge in several days. Depending on the cultivar, baby spinach leaves will be ready for harvest in as little as 4 weeks after sowing.

Spinach can be grown as a 'cut and come again' crop ie. that means that spinach can be cut again and again and leaves will grow back from the same roots. When spinach is grown as a 'cut and come again' crop, it is usually harvested as baby spinach and can be grown as close as 3-4cm apart. To produce full sized spinach leaves, thin plants to 7-10cm between plants. Harvest spinach leaves by cutting petioles with a sharp knife just above the soil line.

Because spinach is such a fast grower, consider doing multiple plantings throughout the growing season for a consistent supply. Seed a short row every 2 weeks from early May to mid-August. Plants that are seeded between July 1st and August 15th may need to be harvested as baby spinach as spinach tends to bolt (flower)

under high day temperatures. Bolting spinach has been a problem as long as spinach has been grown. In 1784, the D. Landreth Seed Company in United States had developed a slow-bolting spinach variety called 'Bloomsdale' which is still available today.

When purchasing spinach seed, gardeners may encounter three different types of spinach: savoy, semi-savoy or flat/smoothleaf spinach. Although there is not much difference in the flavour or nutrient value of the different types; the leaf appearance is unique to each type. Savoy spinach has curly, crinkly leaves that are slightly thicker than other types. Semi-savoy spinach plants are slightly more upright and have less crinkly leaves than the savoy spinach types. As the name suggests, flat or smooth-leaf spinach has flat leaves. The flat leaves are the easiest type to wash: flat leafed spinach is the main type to be used in frozen spinach.



Fully grown 'Tyee' savoy spinach leaf.

Photo credit: Jackie Bantle

New Zealand spinach (Tetragonia tetragonioides) is a slightly vining leafy plant that produces copious amounts of greens during the summer: it is not a true spinach. New Zealand spinach requires warm temperatures and a longer time period for seeds to germinate as compared to Spinacea oleracea. New Zealand is sometimes referred to as perennial spinach however, it is not perennial on the Prairies.

Malabar spinach (Basella alba) is a perennial vining plant native to tropical areas of Africa and Asia. The leaves are oval to heart shaped, semi-succulent and mucilaginous when cooked. When eaten fresh, Malabar spinach is similar in flavour to Spinacia oleracea but with a slight peppery, citrus flavour. Malabar spinach is very frost sensitive and should be started indoors about 6 weeks prior to transplanting out for best results.

Recommended fresh spinach cultivars include: 'Tyee', 'Space', 'Kolibri' (baby type), 'Escalade', 'Avon'.

Retired from the University of Saskatchewan, Sara's most recent book is Growing Fruit in Northern Gardens with Bob Bors. She's been hosting garden tours for over 20 years - to Great Britain, Ireland, Europe, Turkey and Iceland.

Jackie Bantle is a horticulturist living on an acreage north of Saskatoon.

This column is provided courtesy of the Saskatchewan Perennial Society (SPS; saskperennial@hotmail.com).

OBITUARIES

Nora Lucy Gallant



GALLANT – Nora Lucy It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our Mom, Our AMA, Nora Lucy Gallant on Friday, May

20, 2022 at the age of 79 years in Shellbrook, SK.

Nora was born at Erinferry, SK on September 24, 1942, to Lawrence and Eva

As a child she attended Winter Lake, Park Valley, and Debden schools. She moved into Big River where she lived with her Granny Clara Klyne while going to High School.

In Big River, Nora met Gerard Gallant, they married in October of 1959. Six children were born to Nora and Gerard. As a mining family, they lived in many places, Big River, Banff, Creighton,

Flin Flon, Allan, Bradwell, Rocanville, Shebandowan and Ignace Ontario, then back to Saskatchewan to Gurensey. Nora and Gerard separated. Mom then worked as a waitress in Gurensey, Radisson, and Mirror Alberta.

1998, Mom then moved back to Prince Albert, SK so she could be close to her Mother Eva in her final year.

In 2000 Mom moved to Big River where she waitressed at Third & Main for many years. She also worked at Saskatchewan Environment as a custodian until her retirement in December

She continued to help Third & Main serving at banquets. Mom enjoyed sewing and mending for many and continued to do so until her very end. Mom had many quiet hobbies, such as reading, cross-stitching, and knitting. In August 2020 Mom moved to Shellbrook to be closer to family. While living at Homestead Place she made many new friends.

Rest easy now Mom, your work is done...we now have an AMA angel.

Nora leaves to cherish her memory her 5 children, Sherry (Sten);

(Tanya); Terry; Dawn (Bill); Todd (Debbie); her 16 grandchildren; 26 great grandchildren; 1 great-great grandchild; her 5 sisters, Cathy, Clara, Darlene, Susan, Louella; her 2 brothers, Mervyn and Vernon. Nora is predeceased by her infant daughter, Kimberley; her infant grandson, Joshua; her parents-in-law, Lawrence & Eva Klyne; her brother, Philip Arcand.

The Memorial Service for Nora will be taking place on Saturday, June 25, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. at the Big River Community Hall with Delores Beaulac officiating.

At mom's request a private interment will take place on a later date. Thank you to the dedicated staff at the Shellbrook Hospital. In lieu of tributes, memorial donations may be made in memory of Nora to the Big River Royal Canadian Legion (Box 435 Big River, SK SOJ 0E0). Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit www. beaulacfuneralhome.com Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home, Tammy Smart – Funeral Director, Shellbrook, SK 306-747-

Larry Krakalovich



KRAKALOVICH - Larry Peter

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Larry Peter Krakalovich, late of Shellbrook, SK on May 16th, 2022, at the age of 72. Larry was born on February 26th, 1950, in Benito, MB to Peter & Mary Krakalovich, then 3 years later his sister Sandra was born.

As a youngster, Larry traveled with his parents in a little homemade trailer to vari-

ous job sites such as logging camps and gravel pits where his dad worked. The family eventually settled in Pilot Butte, SK where he started school until they moved to Regina in the late 1950s. Larry attended Haultain School and then Balfour Tech High School after skipping two grades.

After high school, he attended Toronto's Ryerson University and gained his Bachelor of Commerce degree. Through the years he continually upgraded his education and worked in Regina as a financial advisor. He decided to change careers and started in the field of real estate. Eventually, he transitioned into appraisals and worked on unique and interesting real estate. He appraised treaty land for the **Indigenous and First Nations** people, and for each piece of land he had to investigate the history of Saskatchewan. He spent many hours in the Glenbow Museum and other sources of history to help with his appraisal. He also appraised fishing lodges, lumber camps, and other unique land sites.

He continued to work in Regina and met the love of his life, Judy. They got married in March of 1994. Together they moved to Shellbrook, SK where they lived most of their married life and finally called it home.

Larry had a witty sense of humor and shared a lot of jokes. He would randomly share words of wisdom with his kids too. "You won't be doing that again" was heard more than once throughout the years of teaching life lessons.

Larry was charismatic and loved socializing with his cousins and his friends, of which he had made many over the years, and some have been friends for decades. Larry was a very positive person who was passionate about living life to the fullest. He loved being outdoors and most of his hobbies included nature. He spent many hours hunting, fishing, golfing, camping, exploring on his ATV, and quad, or just going for drives in the country. He created lasting memories with his grandchildren when they were fishing together, having water fights, blowing bubbles, or attending demolition derbies. He also enjoyed pool, playing cards with friends, riding motorcycles, and playing his guitar.

Larry and Judy had a love for travel, they went to New Zealand and South Africa plus did many camping trips with their dear friends Alwyn and Loretta. They spent many winters in Yuma, AZ with family & friends.

He is survived by his two daughters Dana Rubin (Paul LaClaire) & granddaughters

Makenna, Hunter Addison; Cheryl Krakalovich (Curtis Husum) & grandson Austin; stepchildren Duane Schemenauer (Cheryl Praski) & grandchildren Tristen & Lauryn; Tammy Hornung (Blaire) & grandchildren Ryker & Bryn; his sister Sandra Graham (Gary); his nephews Lawrence Babin (Dianne) & their children Haiden, Kaiya & Ryder; David Babin (Jocelyn) & their children Jaxon & Jennavive; his aunts Nell & Elizabeth Serediuk, Natalie Pikula, Clara Krakalovich & many cousins; his sistersin-law Janet Richter (Al), Marilyn Breker (Lawrence Melis), Rita Dash & Carol Grierson (Scott).

Larry is predeceased by his loving wife Judy in April 2022; his son Paul in May 1976; his grandson Kade in November 2004; his father Peter Krakalovich in February 2008; his mother Mary Krakalovich (nee Serediuk) in March 2017; and his faithful dog Misty.

A sincere thank you to Dr. Ghumka at Shellbrook Hospital, STARS Ambulance, Dr. Cenkowski, Dr. Stuglin, Dr. Zhai, and all the staff at the Royal University Hospital CCU and Cardiac Wards in Saskatoon, as well as all of Larry's family, friends, and neighbors who helped in more ways than we can

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that a donation be made to STARS Ambulance in Larry's name would be much appreciated. A Private Memorial will be held at a later date. Condolences can be sent to the family on our website at www.mackenziechapel.ca. Arrangements in care of MacKenzie Chapel & Crematorium. Brian & Bev Stobbs, Mark Gyoerick - Mel Curle. 306.763.8488.

Agnes Mann



MANN, Agnes Bernice of Regina, Saskatchewan, passed away May 18, 2022 at the age of 99 surrounded by family. Agnes was predeceased by her husband George; sons,

Wayne and Randy; and near Ordale. Mom met and to pass the long winters. they resided there. infant daughter Beverly. She is survived by her daughter Linda; son Curtis (Janice); daughters-inlaw, Shirley and Rosalind; grandchildren; greatgrandchildren; greatgreat grandchildren; and one sister-in-law, Bernice Enstrom.

Our beloved mother was born in Bowser, British Columbia January 12, 1923 and at the age of 5 moved to Saskatchewan with her mother and siblings when her father was killed in a logging accident. She attended a one-room school two miles from their farm

married our father George when he was a Wheat Pool Elevator Agent in Ordale. They moved to Mont Nebo, then to Leask where they raised four children. Mom and dad enjoyed curling, square dancing and church involvement as a couple. Many summers were spent as a family in an old log cabin at Emerald Lake. When the last child left home they began mixed farming.

Mom's skill in gardening was revealed in huge vegetable gardens and gorgeous flower beds. She crocheted, knitted and created pictures with embroidery Mom had a farm accident that left her disabled but that did not stop her from enjoying life. They bought a large motor home and enjoyed travelling through the west of Canada which led to them moving to Penticton, B.C. to live near their sons Wayne and Curtis. Mom and dad enjoyed their time discovering beautiful camping areas and spending time with family in B.C. Mom moved to Prince Albert, Saskatchewan to live near her sister when our dad passed. She spent many special days with Randy and his family while

In 2008 mom moved to Regina to live near Linda and enjoyed a beautiful airy and cheerful apartment with a view of a park for 11 years until her health deteriorated. She spent the last few years of her life as a resident of Parkside Extendicare and thought the workers who took care of her were wonderful. She loved her children, adored her grandchildren, and was entertained and made even happier by her great and great-great-grandchildren.

Agnes was very much loved and admired. We will all miss her dearly.

She has left us with memories to cherish and some to laugh about, all of which are shared with warm hearts. A special thank you to the staff of South Wing, Parkside Extendicare for the compassionate care they provided. In lieu of flowers please make donations to the charity of your choice. To leave an online message of condolence, please visit Agnes' tribute page at www.speersfuneralchapel.com



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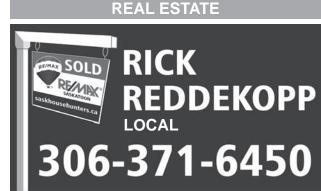
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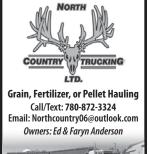
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NOTICE TO **CREDITORS** In the estate of Lorraine Braun, late of Victoire, in the Province of Saskatchewan, deceased. All claims against the above estate, duly verified by statutory declaration and with particulars and valuation of security held. if any, must be sent to the undersigned before June 23, 2022

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In the estate of Larry Krakalovich, Peter of Shellbrook, late Saskatchewan, deceased. All claims against the above estate, duly verified by statutory declaration and with particulars and valuation of security held, if any, must be sent to the undersigned before the 1st day of July, 2022. NOVUS LAW GROUP **Barristers & Solicitors** 1200 Central Avenue Prince Albert, SK S6V 4V8 Attention: Bill Cannon Solicitors for the Estate

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Watch for West Nile virus this summer It's been 20 years since West Nile a dead magpie in Regina in the sum-

virus was first detected in Saskatchewan and while the risk has decreased in the last few years, all residents are asked to continue to use best practices to protect themselves against mosquito bites.

"It's a fact of life that prairie summers include mosquitoes but most of those that find us at our campsites, in our yards and in our parks are merely a nuisance," Health Minister Paul Merriman said. "Simple prevention can save you from more than just itchy ankles. Keep West Nile virus in mind when heading outdoors."

"West Nile virus is now considered endemic in Saskatchewan," Deputy Chief Medical Health Officer for Saskatchewan Dr. Julie Kryzanowski said. "While the number of Culex tarsalis mosquitoes detected in Saskatchewan has declined in recent years, taking precautions against mosquito bites is always a

West Nile virus was confirmed in

mer of 2002 with the first human case confirmed in the province the following year. Since 2007, the number of West Nile cases in Saskatchewan has substantially declined. In 2021, there was only one human neuroinvasive disease case and no one has died of West Nile virus in Saskatchewan since 2018.

This summer, the Ministry of Health will transition to a more targeted approach to mosquito surveillance. Provincial mosquito monitoring will continue in three communities (Saskatoon, Regina and Estevan) and will be used in combination with environmental conditions to approximate the threat of West Nile virus provincially.

Weekly West Nile virus reports will continue to be posted publicly each week beginning in June on the Government of Saskatchewan website at https://www.saskatchewan. ca/residents/health/diseases-andconditions/west-nile-virus.

You can reduce your exposure to mosquito bites by:

- · Using appropriate insect repellent when outdoors;
- · Wearing light-coloured, loose fitting, long-sleeved tops and long pants when outdoors;
- · Reducing the amount of time spent outdoors between dusk and dawn when Culex tarsalis mosquitoes are most active;
- Maintaining door and window screens so they fit tightly and are free of holes; and
- Reducing mosquito habitat (standing water) around your home and yard.

Most people who become infected with West Nile virus experience no or mild symptoms. A small number of people may develop a more serious condition known as West Nile virus neuroinvasive disease. If you have been bitten by a mosquito and experience fever, confusion, neck stiffness or an unusually severe headache, seek medical attention.

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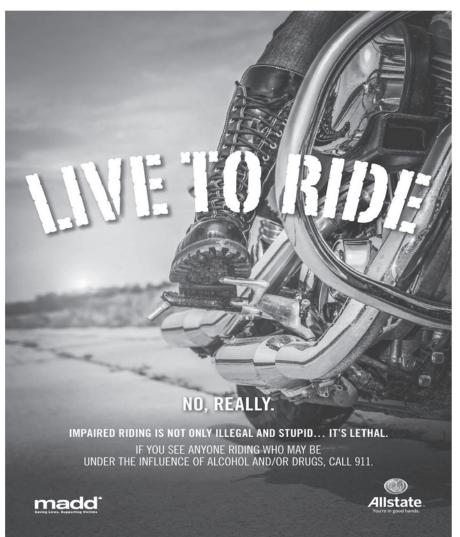
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