

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

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Pool season going swimmingly as Shellbrook eyes new facility



The diving board remains popular at the Shellbrook Swimming Pool. But if the Parkland Pool Project Committee has its way, swimmers will have a whole new facility to enjoy.

Though some much-needed summer heat is only just coming to the Shellbrook area, the Shellbrook Swimming Pool has been in full swing through June and July, with lessons, fitness programming, and public swims being offered every day of the week.

Town of Shellbrook Recreation Director Jessica Kernohan estimates the Shellbrook Swimming Pool puts about 600 kids through lessons every summer. Given how full lessons have been so far this season, the facility looks like it will easily hit that mark again this year.

In between all the lessons and programming, the Shellbrook Swimming Pool's lifeguards found time to host a night swim fundraiser on Saturday eve-

ning, reeling in about \$450 through admission fees and the sale of glow sticks.

Where last season's night swim fundraisers were all about purchasing new equipment for swimmers to enjoy, lifeguard Gage Helm says this year the focus will mostly be on lifeguarding equipment, specifically a new lifeguard chair. However, he adds the facility could also use some new basketball nets.

Given how busy the Shellbrook Swimming Pool is, it's easy to forget it was built in 1971, making it 51 years old this summer.

This year, the pool liner was replaced. This is an expense the Town of Shellbrook incurs every five years, as UV light, chlorine, and the elements the pool is exposed to year-round cause the

liner to degrade. The pool has also experienced some plumbing issues with the splash pad (this has been a recurring issue, and a source of consternation for Shellbrook's town council, since it was installed).

Aside from this, however, Kernohan says there have been no major technical glitches at the facility.

"The pool has been running well. It's ageing infrastructure, but we do the best we can with what we have," Kernohan said.

While everything has been going swimmingly so far this season, a facility that's nearing the end of its lifespan is much like a ticking timebomb and it's only a matter of time before there's a catastrophic failure.

For Kernohan, the Shellbrook Swimming Pool is an important piece of the Town of Shellbrook's recreation portfolio — a fact supported by the town's recent recreation needs assessment, which showed aquatics was the number one activity people in the community participate in.

Fortunately, much like a group of community members and volunteers stepped up to renovate and modernize the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre, a committee has been formed to explore options for the swimming pool's future.

The committee has requisitioned a feasibility study, and is currently awaiting the results.

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SARCS names six volunteers of the month

In January 2022, the Spiritwood Sports, Area and Recreation Centre (SARCS) received an anonymous donation, and chose to promote and recognize a monthly volunteer within the Spiritwood community.

Each month in 2022, the small SARCS group gets together and chooses a recipient to receive the "Volunteer of the Month" award. They narrow it down to the community members who are active on volunteer boards, who promote fundraisers and events, who are always willing to lend a hand, or who make great contributions to the community.

They also welcome anyone to make nominations for this award.

For the month of January, Jason Reddekopp was the recipient. According to the members, Jason is an active volunteer more specifically in the curling rink.

"The work and time Jason spends on the ice surface shows just how big his heart is. His dedication is an inspiration to our community," SARCS members said.

For February, Les Walker was the awardee. According to the community members, Les has put in many years of volunteering and he puts his heart and soul into the community and

has been active in promoting, organizing, and participating in countless fundraisers, programs and activities throughout the years.

In March, Ed Szasz was the recipient. The members said that he spent tireless efforts over the years. They added that he volunteers not only through his leadership and expert salesmanship, but also through his accounting skills. He has also been a key member of Spiritwood Recreation Lotto, SARCS' Chase the Ace, Spiritwood Bull Riding, and the Mega Cash Lotto.

For April, Barb Szasz was the award recipient. The members said she has been very busy volunteering over the years. They added that

she has many community fundraisers, events and projects under her belt. They also said her generosity volunteering is seemingly endless, and that she is a true inspiration to the community.

In May, Paul Durette was the recipient. The members said they're grateful for the effort and commitment he has portrayed to SAD SAAC Park.

They're also grateful for the progress made at the ball diamonds, and he is one of the big reasons for that change.

For June, Jill Mayo was named the awardee for the month. The members said that she is always up for the challenge and tackles any event that comes her way.

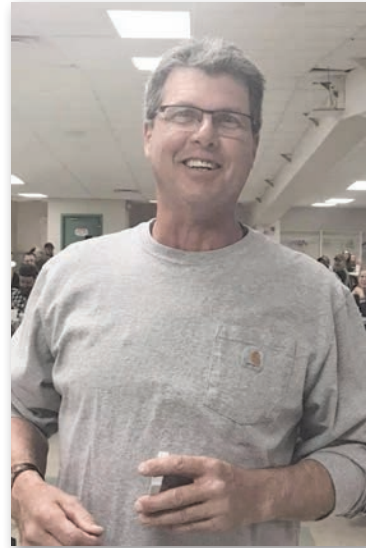
"I was surprised and honoured that they thought of me and that I was nominated as

well," Mayo said. "I'm not that kind of person that volunteers to be acknowledged for it later. I do so to help out and because there's a need. Overall, it was quite a humbling experience."

In addition to the Volunteer of the Month distinction, the recipients were each given a small token of appreciation. These tokens were purchased locally to support small businesses in Spiritwood.



Jason Reddekopp — SARCS' January Volunteer of the month.



Les Walker — SARCS' February volunteer of the month.



Edward Szasz — SARCS' March Volunteer of the month.



Barb Szasz — SARCS' April Volunteer of the month.



Paul Durette on the left — SARCS' May Volunteer of the month.



Jill Mayo — SARCS' June volunteer of the month.

NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT OF POLL

Whereas a poll is not required pursuant to *The Local Government Election Act, 2015* for the office of:

Councillor: Village of Leask

I hereby give public notice that no voting for the said office will take place and that the following person is elected by acclamation:

Councillor: EUGENE VERBONAC

Dated at Leask, Saskatchewan this 6th day of July, 2022.

Yvette Hamel
Returning Officer



UPCOMING SALES:

SAT., JULY 16TH – Connie Leask-Grant – Battleford, SK
10 kms south on Highway #4 (Biggar Highway)

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SAT., JULY 23RD – Walter & Rosella Martens – Glenbush, SK
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SAT., AUGUST 6TH – Flora Pages – Debden, SK
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BOARD MEMBERS WANTED

Lacrosse took off in Shellbrook this past year and we are now looking to form a lacrosse board to govern and manage the teams for next year.

We will be having our first meeting **July 26 at 7pm** at the **Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre.**

We will be looking to select the new board which will consist of 6 individuals.

Board members will be picked by nomination. 3 members will serve a 2 year term and 3 members will serve a one year term. The New board will be expected to design or adopt a constitution for the sport of lacrosse in Shellbrook. This board will be in charge of managing funds, purchasing equipment, administering registration, collecting fees, obtaining proper insurance, assigning coaches, scheduling practices, camps, tournaments and games. Board will also be active in training local officials to officiate home games.

This board will assign members to attend regular meetings with Prince Albert Lacrosse.

Monthly meetings to be held at the new boards decision. Meeting Minutes will be recorded and adopted at each meeting.

Please come out and help form our new board if the fastest game on two feet is of interest to you.

VILLAGE OF DEBDEN SALE BY PUBLIC TENDER

The Village of Debden offers for sale the following properties:

- a) Lot 17 Block 11 Plan 84PA00289 Civic Address 113 Park Ave Parcel #133176472
- b) Lot 18 Block 11 Plan 84PA00289 Civic Address 111 Park Ave Parcel #133176483

Tender must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Property Tender" and corresponding letter of property and addressed to:

Village of Debden
Box 400
Debden, Saskatchewan
S0J 0S0

Please describe the plans for the property and the timeline in which it will be completed.

Tenders must be postmarked by August 3rd, 2022.

A certified cheque to the Village of Debden for 10% of the bid must accompany the tender. Tenders submitted without certified funds will not be considered.

Highest, or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Successful bidder will have 30 days to provide the balance of cash to complete the purchase.

All legal costs, title transfer fees and applicable taxes are the responsibility of the purchaser and are in addition to the bid price.

Dated this 11th day of July, 2022

Tamara Couture
Administrator, Village of Debden

Pool season going swimmingly as Shellbrook eyes new facility

Continued from 1

“It speaks to the general state our current pool is in, as well as some options for upgrading or building a new facility,” Kernohan said of the feasibility study’s importance. “That study will be extremely beneficial in helping to apply for grants and funding.”

Parkland Pool Project Committee Chair Mark Klaassen says the Town of Shellbrook has done a fantastic job keeping the Shellbrook Swimming Pool operating for the past 51 years, but agrees there are reasons to be concerned about issues with major items like boilers, the pool tank, and piping, all of which would be costly to replace or repair.

Klaassen also feels the loss of the pool would be devastating, not just for the community but for the whole region, including communities as far

away as Big River, Blaine Lake, Spiritwood, and Glaslyn. Every July and August, the campground in Shellbrook’s Kinsmen Park (where the pool is also located) is filled with visitors, many of whom enrol their children in swimming lessons and spend time (and money) in town.

If Shellbrook were to lose its pool, the town would lose out on economic activity and parents would have to look to Prince Albert, Melfort, Rosthern, or North Battleford for options for swimming.

Aside from the economic rationale to repair or replace the existing pool, Klaassen says it would also be a boon for the Shellbrook Silverfins, as the current pool doesn’t meet Swim Saskatchewan’s standards to host meets and competitions.

A replacement would also allow for some other

key upgrades, including a zero-depth entry for little swimmers, spray features or a waterslide, a 25-metre lane pool to allow multiple programs to run at once, and upgrades to the change rooms, the mechanical room, and the lifeguard room.

Additionally, a new pool would be able to open up earlier in the season, because there wouldn’t be issues with the high water table, allowing for more lessons and programming to be offered.

“We want this facility, whether it be a renovation, repair, or replacement, to become a destination for families to spend the afternoon,” he said. “After all, there is no better place to be on a hot summer day than at an outdoor pool.”

This early in the exploration of the project, Klaassen says the committee is looking at every option: repair or replace,

build in the same location or elsewhere, etc. This decision will be guided by the feasibility study, as well as available finances.

Over the past 10 years, other communities, including Nipawin, Foam Lake, Rosthern, Outlook, Luseland, and Raymore, have spent anywhere from \$1.2 million to \$1.9 million to build new pools. While inflation has increased the price of everything, Klaassen is certain Shellbrook can get an “amazing new facility” in this price range (hopefully by the summer of 2024, if all the stars align).

“Our committee is very aware of budgets and operating costs of new facilities, and our goal is to keep the operational costs as close to the same as they currently are,” he said. “With improvements in efficiencies, and more modern technology, we would be able to increase the size of the pool without increasing costs.”

Parkside Community Club supports Bible school program



The Parkside Community Club recently donated \$500 to the Cameo Vacation Bible School program that takes place every summer in August. Pictured: Vacation Bible School organizer Pauline Mason and Parkside Community Club president Jory Segberg.

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In messy PC leadership race, the gong is king

And then there were five. Five candidates in the race to become the new leader of the federal Conservative Party, that is.

Completely out of nowhere, Patrick Brown, who had arguably been the top rival to presumptive frontrunner Pierre Poilievre, was given the unceremonious boot from the contest.

The Conservative Party of Canada's leadership election organizing committee announced Mr. Brown's expulsion from the race last Wednesday, citing "serious allegations of wrongdoing" that put Mr. Brown's campaign at odds with financing rules in the Canada Elections Act.

Conveniently, no details about the allegations, or anything uncovered through an investigation of the matter, were released alongside last Wednesday's statement.

Ian Brodie, the committee chair, has simply said all materials relating to the charges have been shared with Elections Canada. He added that the committee will make no further comments on the matter.

While Mr. Brodie claims the Brown campaign was given adequate time to refute the charges and failed to satisfy the committee's concerns, Mr. Brown alleges he only learned of his disqualification via media reports.

Despite party election rules stating that all decisions by the leadership election organizing committee are final, Brown has launched an appeal of the decision.

"This is reprehensible, undemocratic behaviour that breaks faith with hundreds of thousands of Canadians that embraced Patrick Brown's vision of a modern, inclusive Conservative party," his campaign said in a written statement. "This is an indictment of the (Conservative party of Canada), and a party that is not serious about winning a general election. It is an embarrassment. But, not for us."

Absent any tangible evidence to point to Mr. Brown's innocence or guilt, it's impossible to know the truth. Still,



JORDAN
TWISS
~
News Editor

it's hard to ignore the stench surrounding this whole scenario.

It isn't just fishy like the seafood department at the supermarket, it's fishy like a whole warehouse stuffed full of rancid anchovies.

On the one-hand, allegations and scandals seem to follow Mr. Brown around like a bit of toilet paper stuck to the bottom of his shoe.

As leader of the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party, Mr. Brown faced accusations of corruption and favouritism over hand picked candidates and unfair nomination contests.

Then, just as he appeared poised to lead his party to a big election victory, he was forced to resign over a pair of sexual misconduct allegations (one involving a 19-year-old). Though he faced no charges in either incident, he was, at the very least, guilty of poor judgment.

More troubling accusations followed months after, when Mr. Brown tried to shoehorn his way into a second run at the party leadership.

This time, he was alleged to have broken provincial ethics rules. A report filed by Ontario's integrity commissioner supported these allegations, highlighting four breaches of the Ontario Integrity Act relating to personal financial matters.

To this day, Mr. Brown has done everything in his power to paint this string of alleged wrongdoing as some elaborate attempt to undermine his success. And, apparently, enough people believe this explanation to have elected him the mayor of Brampton.

But with these latest allegations from the federal Conservative Party leadership race, it becomes much harder to believe Mr. Brown is just the unwitting victim of some grand conspiracy to anoint a different candidate as leader.

At the same time, however, there seems to be evidence that points to the knives being out for him from the moment he entered the race.

Recall that, after the ouster of former leader Erin O'Toole, there were calls by some in the party to have a short and



painless leadership contest. Indeed, some in the party might even have wished to forgo a leadership race altogether, and instead name Pierre Poilievre the new head of the party.

Since he entered the leadership race, Mr. Brown hasn't been shy about criticizing the Conservative Party establishment. He's been the most vocal opponent of Quebec's Bill 21, which prohibits public employees from wearing religious symbols, and an advocate for making the party more inclusive. Mr. Brown also hasn't refrained from challenging Mr. Poilievre on nearly every issue.

As a more progressive-leaning candidate, Mr. Brown almost always seemed to be at odds with the Conservative Party, which is yearning for a return to true blue conservatism after Mr. O'Toole's failed attempt to pivot to the centre.

This seems to have taken its toll on the members of the party who threw their support behind Mr. Brown's leadership campaign. In early June, two of Mr. Brown's backers, Dan Muys and Kyle Seebach, switched their allegiance to Mr. Poilievre, citing the need to heal the divisions in the party by "unifying behind Mr. Poilievre."

Were they simply trying to avoid a re-

peat of the contentious 2017 leadership race, which saw Maxime Bernier quit the party to start the People's Party of Canada? Or, were they bowing to internal pressures to fall in line behind the party's preferred candidate?

Then, there's Michelle Rempel Garner, who was arguably Mr. Brown's highest profile endorsement. In late June, after she'd quit Mr. Brown's campaign to mull a run for the UCP leadership in Alberta, it was revealed that there had been a push to eject her from the Conservative Party over her criticisms of colleagues.

Is it a mere coincidence? Or is it a rebuke of her more progressive ideals and her condemnation of what she once called the "toxic" environment within her own party?

Whatever's going on in the curious case of Mr. Brown, none of it offers a flattering reflection of the current state of the Conservative Party.

With only two months until the leadership election, the Conservative Party desperately needs to come together and begin to layout its vision for the next federal election in 2025.

Can it do this?

Based on what we've witnessed thus far, I wouldn't be in any rush to put away the gongs.

Shellbrook Chronicle

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Spiritwood Herald

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

Member of



VIEWPOINT

July 14, 2022

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Report from the Legislature

Summertime fun is officially underway as we celebrated Canada Day to kick off the month. It was a pleasure to see so many smiling faces celebrating together again.

As we take advantage of the nicer weather, our government is working hard to meet with as many of you as possible to gather ideas and information. We continue to work on completing the 30 goals in Saskatchewan's Growth Plan and would like to get as much feedback as possible.

After a challenging growing season in 2021, there are opportunities for the agriculture sector in 2022. Conditions vary across the province, but there is optimism in the ag community. The world is looking to Saskatchewan for the food, fuel and fertilizer we produce.

Knowing our products are in high demand, Saskatchewan's Growth Plan looks to increase the value of our exports by 50 per cent by 2030. We will support initiatives that will expand agri-food exports to \$20 billion, support the increase of crop production to 45 million metric tonnes and increase livestock cash receipts to \$3 billion.

Already, we have wit-



**HON. SCOTT MOE,
PREMIER**

~
MLA for Rosthern -
Shellbrook
Toll Free:
1-855-793-3422
scottmoe.mla@sasktel.net

nessed increased investment in the canola crush market, in line with our goal to crush 75 per cent of the canola that Saskatchewan produces. We are also working to see half of all pulse crops grown in the province, processed right here. This will help create more jobs in our communities, supporting families with good-paying jobs.

For this growth to be sustainable, supportive efforts are in place for water control and irrigation. The Water Security Agency (WSA) recently announced funding to prevent flooding and erosion problems that result in costly damage. Local governments, including rural municipalities, Conservation and Development Area Authorities

and Watershed Associations can apply for funding that is available, up to \$1 million.

WSA has expanded eligibility to include maintenance for constructed drainage projects, where previously, only natural watercourses qualified for funding. The funding is vital to support responsible agriculture water management. The deadline to apply is January 31st, 2023, with details available at www.wsak.ca.

Irrigation infrastructure is also receiving a boost in funding this year. The Ministry of Agriculture has announced an additional \$2.5 million to help producers finance new projects. By supporting producers in developing irrigable acres, we are creating sustainability that will generate new opportunities. Producers can access up to \$500,000 under the Irrigation Development Program. The funding supports irrigation infrastructure, such as pumps and pipelines, to create a secure water supply to the edge of irrigable parcels of land.

After much concern this spring from users, new reports from the WSA indicate that lake

levels have risen substantially in Lake Diefenbaker, surpassing 2021 levels. A late mountain thaw delayed runoff for Saskatchewan, a warmer spring resulted in more evaporation around the lake, plus a lack of precipitation for the area impacted water levels. Runoff from Alberta has now started to arrive in the region, allowing the Riverhurst Ferry to resume operations. Low levels had delayed the ferry's start to the season but is now available for travellers and producers looking to make it across the river.

With the increase in water activities across the province, the Ministry of Environment is reminding boating enthusiasts to help protect our waterways from aquatic invasive species (AIS). These plants, fish and invertebrates can damage habitats and fisheries, as well as power generation and water infrastructure. Once established, AIS can be impossible to eliminate and cost millions of dollars to manage each year.

One of the easiest and unintentional ways of spreading an AIS is by boat, canoe or other watercraft. As part of its



**HON. JEREMY
HARRISON
MLA**

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

equipment. Boat owners must stop at ministry inspection stations and are required to remove the drain plugs from their watercraft during transportation. You can learn more about helping keep our waters clean by visiting Saskatchewan.ca/invasive-species.

We would like to hear from you. Conversations during the summer months help to inform us on the programs and services that meet your needs. Reach out to your local Saskatchewan Party MLA office with any concerns or ideas you would like to share. Our offices can also help with issues that you might be experiencing while trying to access our services.

program, the Ministry of Environment is out conducting roadside inspections and monitoring water bodies in the province. Public education is also a focus, including the Clean, Drain, Dry Program for watercraft and related

PICK OF THE WEEK

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Summer of connection

Coffee parties, Pow-wows and parades. The summer of 2022 is proving to be a time when people are coming out to come together once again.

In June, I met with constituents at meetings in a number of Saskatchewan Rivers communities. The vast majority of people that came out wanted to talk about how they were affected by overreaching government mandates.

A second topic that emerged was how badly the province's 2022-23 budget has failed to meet needs in the education system. The problems brought to my attention are extremely concerning. I will ask the government



**NADINE
WILSON
MLA**

~
Saskatchewan
Rivers
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to address these issues when the house resumes in the fall.

The Sturgeon Lake Pow-wow brought visitors and dancers from across North America to their community. My granddaughter, Jane, and I participated in the Grand Entry and experienced such gracious hospitality. Thank you for the heartfelt invitation and friendship.

During the long weekend in Candle Lake, I was amazed at the number of people who filled the streets for the parade. Clearly people are excited to re-connect with community and enjoy our Saskatchewan summer.

I am looking forward to attending a number of other events in the coming weeks including two 100th Anniversaries.

The Debden Centennial will be held July 29 to July 31. Albertville is celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the church opening in the St. Jacques/St. James Parish the same weekend. These are important milestones that are a testament to the heart of the people in these communities.

If you see me out and about, please take a moment to say hello and chat about what is on your mind.

As always, I may be contacted by email at saskatchewanrivers@sasktel.net, by phone at 306-787-0615 or by mail at RR5 Site 16 Box 4 Prince Albert SK, S6V 5R3.

PUBLIC NOTICE Rural Municipality of Big River No. 555

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

INTENT

To amend the zoning district map by rezoning C1 - Resort Commercial to RPM - Residential Park Model, the land described as Block E, Plan 102244182 Ext 0, in part of SE 01-57-07 W3 as shown in the sketch that forms parts of this notice.

AFFECTED LAND

Part of SE 01-57-07 W3, in the RM of Big River No. 555 shown within the bold line on the following map.

REASON

The reason for the amendment is to accommodate residential uses.

PUBLIC INSPECTION

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

PUBLIC HEARING

Council will hold a public hearing on August 8th, 2022 in the Big River Community Centre at 606 First Street North, Big River, SK at 10:30 pm. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing.

Issued at Big River this 14th day of July, 2022.

Michael Yuzik
Rural Municipal Administrator



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Mistawasis Nêhiyawak, govt's ink Treaty land deal

Thirteen years after they began, negotiations between Mistawasis Nêhiyawak, the Government of Canada, and the Government of Saskatchewan have ended in a tripartite settlement agreement on the Mistawasis Nêhiyawak Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) claim.

This settlement, which was announced Thursday, will allocate to Mistawasis Nêhiyawak a compensation amount of \$31.6 million. The Government of Canada will pay \$22.5 million of this amount and the Government of Saskatchewan will pay the remaining \$9.1 million.

TLE claims are intended as a remedy for cases in which First Nations did not get all the reserve land that was promised under a treaty signed with the Crown.

In 1876, Mistawasis Nêhiyawak adhered to Treaty 6, which provided

that the Crown set aside 128 acres of land per First Nation community member. In 1889, an Order in Council set apart 49,280 acres of land as reserve for the First Nation, enough for 385 people. Mistawasis Nêhiyawak affirm the total eligible membership at the time was 419 individuals, resulting in a Treaty land entitlement shortfall of 4,352 acres.

The settlement agreement supports Mistawasis Nêhiyawak in adding up to 29,394.18 acres of land to their reserve. Canada and Saskatchewan further agree to set aside a total of \$4.9 million as compensation to rural municipal and school divisions once taxable land is set apart as reserve.

"With the signing of Treaty 6 in 1876, Chief Mistawasis brought a new way of life for his people," Mistawasis Nêhiyawak Chief Daryl Watson said.

"Based on Treaty 6, the Government of Canada has fulfilled a long outstanding Treaty obligation owed to Mistawasis Nêhiyawak by signing the TLE Settlement Agreement. Righting this historical wrong will enable the Nation to realize the benefits owed to them for generations to come."

In a statement, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations Marc Miller said the federal government is committed to meeting its legal obligations under Treaty 6 and is glad to have reached an agreement.

"This important settlement is key to our commitment to address the wrongs of the past and the harm caused to Mistawasis Nêhiyawak," Miller said. "We remain committed to building trust and strengthening our nation-to-nation relationship with Mistawasis Nêhiyawak."

Don McMorris, Minister Responsible for First Na-



Mistawasis Nêhiyawak will soon add more land to its territory, after finalizing its Treaty Land Entitlement claim with the Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan.

tion, Métis and Northern Affairs, called the TLE agreement a key step in moving forward together with Mistawasis Nêhiyawak.

"Together, we can continue building a better quality of life for Saskatchewan people through new

partnerships, social developments, and economic opportunities. The Government of Saskatchewan is proud to work together with First Nations and Métis partners to advance reconciliation."

This TLE agreement marks the second major deal reached between a First Nation in the area and the provincial and federal governments in 2022. In April, Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation signed its own TLE with the governments.

Per the terms of that agreement, the Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation will receive \$30.7 million from the federal government and \$12.6 million from the provincial government, for a total of \$43.3 million.

Additionally, the Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation has the option to acquire up to 40,659.97 acres to add to their reserve lands, to compensate for a TLE shortfall of 4,115.2 acres.

Canada and Saskatchewan will also set aside \$6.7 million as compensation to rural municipalities and school divisions once taxable land is set apart as reserve.

In a statement released following the TLE deal, Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation

Chief Larry Ahenakew said the agreement made him optimistic about the future for his community.

"Thinking of our future generations, this settlement will provide for hunting and trapping lands, cultural and ceremonial lands, as well as additional lands for our members to benefit from," he said.

"In the not too distant future, this settlement will also provide for our members economic development opportunities and create much needed employment on Ahtahkakoop owned commercial and urban lands."

Canada has a longstanding policy and process in place to resolve specific claims by negotiating settlements with First Nations. Since Jan. 1, 2016, it has settled more than 180 specific claims with First Nations, totalling \$8.9 billion in compensation.

In fiscal year 2020-2021, 56 claims were filed with Canada, 46 claims were assessed (41 proposed for negotiation, and five not), and 36 claims were resolved.

Working in partnership with First Nations, Canada has resolved over 592 specific claims since 1973.

VILLAGE OF LEASK PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Village of Leask intends to adopt a bylaw under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* to amend Bylaw No.03/2012, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

INTENT

The proposed bylaw amendment will:

- include manufactured dwellings, mobile homes, and manufactured dwellings as part of the definition of a single detached dwelling;
- permit upholstery services as a home-based business;
- allow shipping containers as a permitted accessory use in the the CS, C1, C2, M, PR, and FUD Districts;
- allow shipping containers as a temporary accessory use, for a period of time not to exceed three months, in the R1, R2, RMH, and MU Districts; and
- provide development standards for shipping containers.

REASONS

The reasons for the amendments are to:

- provide for a broader range of housing options in the Village;
- facilitate upholstery services as a permitted home-based business; and
- provide expanded opportunities for the use of shipping containers.

PUBLIC INSPECTION

Any person may inspect the bylaw at the Village Office, located at 15 Main Street, in the Village of Leask, between the hours of 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM on Monday to Thursday, excluding statutory holidays. Copies of the proposed bylaw are available at the Village office.

PUBLIC HEARING

Council will hold a public hearing on July 20, 2022 at 6:00 PM at the Leask Community Hall 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 Village office before the hearing.

Issued at the Village of Leask this 27 day of June, 2022.
Yvette Hamel, Administrator



Town of Blaine Lake seeks TOWN FOREMAN

The Town of Blaine Lake is accepting applications for the position of Town Foreman. This full time permanent position is responsible for the day-to-day management, operations and maintenance of the Public Works and Utilities department.

Duties include but are not limited to:

- Leadership and supervision of public works staff
- Maintain and operate Water Treatment Plant and Lift Station
- Ability to service and maintain Town equipment as required
- Maintain Town properties
- Operating graders, payloaders, trucks, and other equipment
- Provide maintenance logs on all equipment
- Present Council with budget priorities

Qualifications for this position are:

- Valid Class 5A driver's license, abstract must be supplied
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Strong leadership skills
- Good public relations and communication skills
- **MUST** have Class 2 Water Treatment & Distribution Certificate
- **MUST** have Class 2 Wastewater Treatment & Collection Certificate
- Must be willing to submit to a criminal record check

Salary will be based on qualifications and experience. Applicants should submit a resume to:

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

Start date is as soon as possible.

The position will remain open until a successful candidate is chosen. The Town of Blaine Lake wishes to thank all applicants for their interest and advises that only those to be interviewed will be contacted.

Growing the Agriculture Industry in Saskatchewan

Did you know? Saskatchewan agri-food exports to the United States were valued at more than **\$4.3 billion in 2021**.

To support Saskatchewan producers even further, Saskatchewan's Growth Plan aims to increase the value of exports by 50 per cent and increase agri-food exports to \$20 million by 2030.



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



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

GM regulations must strike balanced approach

There are two areas of future development in agriculture which have long held my interest in a significant way.

The most recent of those is the potential of robotics for everything from tractors sans an on-board operator, to robotic 'bees' pollinating crops, to sprayers using sensors to only apply chemical to weed plants.

There is little opposition to robotic development, although it must in many cases be shown to be reliable and of course affordable.

The other area of development is seen by many to

be much more of a 'Pandora's Box' and that is genetically modifying plants and animals.

I recall years ago sitting entranced by a presentation in Yorkton by futurist and economist Dr. Lowell Catlett, who worked at the at New Mexico State University as I recall.

The presentation at the time was called 'The Future is So Bright You need to Wear Shades' – although that might be paraphrasing a touch.

Still, I recall him talking about farmers one day being able to raise goats which have been genetically modified to have



CALVIN DANIELS

cheetah skin.

At the time it sounded very much like something out of a sci-fi novel, but it was also intriguing to think just where genetic modification might take us.

Many consumers blanch at the idea of genetically

modifying plants and animals. While GM canola is not very much the norm, with most modified to not succumb to particular herbicides, there has been significant opposition to wheat going down the same path.

But herbicide resistance is only the tip of what genetic modification might mean.

For example, it was earlier this year that a genetically-modified pig heart was transplanted into an American patient.

The result of the operation was not what was hoped, with the patient dying some 40 days after

the operation. But initially it looked good from reports, which suggests that the technology may well be viable. That is potentially huge when you consider that organs for transplant are generally in short supply.

GM developments may ultimately be life saving.

Of course, getting GM organisms from successful development to where they are approved by government regulatory offices – in particular if they are to be for human consumption – can be a long, and costly process.

Depending on which side of the GM debate one

sits on, reams of red tape can be positive as it delays development of a feared technology, or as a road block to developments aiding producers and consumers.

What is of course needed is a balance, regulations which allow the science to grow, while still making sure there is a watchdog being vigilant.

Ultimately though, GM technology will grow. Whether that ever means there are 'cheetah-goats' is unknown, but the crops and animals we produce in the future are likely to be genetically different from today.

Crop Report: June 28 to July 4

Crops are quickly progressing across the province thanks to recent widespread rainfall and relatively warm weather. Although many areas continue to struggle with excess moisture and yellowing crops, others welcomed the rain as it has helped crops and pastures recover from dry conditions. Many crops are behind their normal stages of development for this time of year and warm temperatures would be appreciated to help them advance and for wet fields to dry up. The rain has come too late in the southwest and west-central regions and crops that were already prematurely advancing will

likely not be able to recover.

Sixty-one per cent of the fall cereals are now heading out while 28 per cent of the spring cereals are now at the shot blade stage; an additional 12 per cent is heading out. Fifty per cent of the flax crop is at the stem elongation stage, 62 per cent of the pulses are at the vegetative stage and 38 per cent are flowering. Fifty-four per cent of the canola and mustard is in the rosette stage while 16 per cent is now flowering.

Widespread rainfall ranged from trace amounts to 67 mm in the Vanguard area. There are reports of localized flooding

due to heavy downpours in some areas of the southeast.

Topsoil moisture conditions have improved this past week. Cropland topsoil moisture is currently rated as nine per cent surplus, 71 per cent adequate, 18 per cent short and two per cent very short. Hay and pastureland topsoil moisture is rated as eight per cent surplus, 66 per cent adequate, 22 per cent short and four per cent very short.

Haying operations have been slower than normal due to the frequent rain, high humidity, and lack of growth in some areas. Livestock producers now have eight per cent of the hay crop cut and three per cent baled or put into silage. Hay quality is rated as 19 per cent excellent, 62 per cent good, 16 per cent fair and three per cent poor. The recent

rain will improve hay crops, although estimated yields continue to be lower than average.

Pasture conditions have also improved and are now rated as 17 per cent excellent, 48 per cent good, 20 per cent fair, 13 per cent poor and two per cent very poor.

Crop damage this past week was due to localized flooding, strong winds, extremely dry soil conditions, hail and leaf spot diseases. Grasshopper populations have drastically increased in many areas and gophers continue to cause damage in many fields.

Producers are busy applying fungicides and insecticides, scouting for pests, fixing equipment and haying.

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

Hay and ditch mowing gets into full swing

During summer in Saskatchewan, farmers can salvage hay along provincial highways which provides an opportunity for those in need of feed for livestock. According to the Government of Saskatchewan, anyone may cut and bale hay, any time after July 8, without permission from the nearby landowner, provided mowing/salvage operations haven't already begun.

"The annual hay salvage and mowing program provides many benefits by taking into account the needs of area landowners, producers and motorists," Minister Jeremy Cockrill said. "The hay salvage and mowing program strikes a balance by combining the needs of different groups and delivering a cost-effective program."

Cutting grass along provincial highways provides many benefits as it optimizes snow storage in ditches which reduces drifting on the road surface during the winter. At the same time, it provides a neat appearance improving visibility and control of brush and noxious weed growth.

The ministry delivers the mowing program with the assistance of contractors. This year, approximately 41,000 hectares were tendered. The first cut began last month and focused on the northern region. The second cut of mowing will begin as early as July 15. Mowing in the west central and southwest regions including Swift Current and North Battleford

Districts begins August 15. This allows additional time to salvage hay in anticipation of below normal moisture conditions.

The Government of Saskatchewan is planning to improve more than 1,100 km of provincial highways this year, for a total of 3,500 km over the past three years. The government has set a 10-year Growth Plan target of improving 10,000 kilometres of highways. With this year's improvements, the province is ahead of the pace needed to meet this target.

The Government of Saskatchewan has invested more than \$11.5 billion in highways infrastructure, since 2008, improving more than 18,400 km of Saskatchewan highways.

PRINCE ALBERT LIVESTOCK SALES
A Division of Northern Livestock Sales



Mon., July 25, 2022

Regular Sale 8:30 a.m.

Direct Livestock Marketing Systems
DLMS
www.dlms.ca

the electronic auction market
team
www.teamauctionsales.com

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

Your independently owned & operated livestock marketing facility - working with the producers' best interest in mind

FEEDER FINANCE PROGRAM AVAILABLE - Please contact Glen

Brent 306-240-5340 • Glen 306-960-4732 • Boyd 306-841-7998 • Frederick 306-227-9505

Office 306-763-8463 ~ Fax 306-763-4620

For market info visit: www.northernlivestocksales.ca

Tornado touches down near Blaine Lake

Weather watchers near Blaine Lake were treated to a rare sight to behold on Friday evening, as a tornado touched down near the town.

In addition to the tornado near Blaine Lake, Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) confirmed that three other twisters were reported in the Paynton area near North Battleford.

"The Blaine Lake one was on the ground for a while," said Terri Lang, a warning preparedness meteorologist with ECCC. "We don't know the strength of them. They're rated based on the damage that they do. The damage has to be investigated, so that won't be known for a couple of days."

The funnel clouds followed an afternoon of heavy thunderstorm activity in the area, and led to an evening filled with tornado warnings for Blaine Lake. Communities in the broader area, including Shellbrook and even as far east as Prince Albert, were also on the tornado watch, and residents were



A tornado was spotted near Blaine Lake on Friday evening, and was quite the sight for storm watchers.
Photo Credit: Jeff Wizniak



encouraged to seek shelter if they saw funnel clouds forming.

"Right about on cue, they fired up and the tornadoes produced. We knew the potential was there," Lang said.

Tornadoes are rare, but not unheard of, in Saskatchewan. While there were just eight reported tornadoes last year,

there have been 15 catalogued so far in 2022, putting this year much closer to the annual average of 17.

"The last couple of years have been very quiet, so we kind of forget that this is more typical of what a severe weather season is like in Saskatchewan," Lang said.

In Blaine Lake, however, tornadoes are enough of a rarity that Fire Chief Thomas Lozowchuk called last Friday's phenomenon, and the damage it did to a farmyard, unlike anything he's ever seen before.

While there were no human casualties on the farm, one horse died during the storm. When Lozowchuk and his colleagues with the Blaine Lake Volunteer Fire Department arrived on scene, the damage was massive.

"Portions of the roof were ripped off," he said. "Lots of damage to the garage. He has a nice big horse trailer. It was just picked up, tossed. You couldn't even recognize it."

Grain bins were toppled over and some were crushed, he added, and though the tornado didn't hit his own farm, he says he found bins from another property on his land about a

quarter of a mile away.

While the tornado was close to town, it didn't come right into Blaine Lake, Lozowchuk said. Despite the damage the tornado caused on the farm, he added the community pitched in to help out.

"It was nice to see the community come together for someone in need," he said.

For nature photographer Jeff Wizniak of Yorkton, the experience of watching and capturing the tornado — the first he'd ever seen — was a surreal one.

Wizniak was in the area with two of his friends who also enjoy photography and storm chasing, and says they were all like excited children.

While the excitement briefly made him forget how to work his camera, he was glad to have captured shots of the tornado, and says he'll never forget when it first came into view or the size of the clouds.

"Later we realized how big it was and were concerned about the damage it may have done," he said. "I'm glad I got to witness it, and I'm glad no one was hurt."



Though no humans were injured during the tornado, a farm near Blaine Lake was hit hard, resulting in the death of one horse.
Photo Credit: Blaine Lake Fire and Rescue

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 Bretzlaff

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

Parkside
11 a.m. - Worship

ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

MENNONITE BRETHREN CHURCH

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

EVANGELICAL FREE

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

UNITED CHURCH

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

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

COWBOY CHURCH

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

Spiritwood Community Garden continues growth

The Spiritwood community garden has been operational since 2009. The site of the garden was once the old rodeo and chuckwagon grounds. It had been largely ignored for years with grass and weeds taking over. The area was tilled a couple times and work got started.

When the garden first started, a group of about seven or eight people planted the entire space and attempted to weed and care for the garden. The idea was to harvest

the vegetables and give them to the community kitchen. It was soon realized that this was far too much work for the people involved, so a new plan was further developed.

The garden idea was advertised and people could submit their names if they were interested in a space within the garden.

This idea was very successful and the garden has had between 12 to 20 participants each year.

The garden coordinator takes the names down, determines how

much space each gardener needs, and divides the plots based on that. This means that every space in the garden is fully used each year without any open spaces.

One goal of the community garden is to provide some spaces for peace and relaxation.

About four years ago, an area on the south side of the garden was developed and landscaped. There are areas to sit and relax and enjoy the view. Many of the shrubs and plants that were planted have been labelled so people can know what plant they are looking at.

There is also a rhubarb patch and some haskaps that community members are welcome to harvest, if they can get to the haskaps before the birds do.

On the north end of the garden is a gazebo, which has seating in it as well. It's an area designed to bring a picnic or just sit down for a rest.

The community garden group encourages everyone who ever comes by the area to visit the community garden and check it out. The vegetable garden itself is only for participants, but the landscaped areas on either end are intended for the public to use and enjoy.

The growth of the Spiritwood Community Garden was recently assisted by an \$800 Spiritwood & District Lions Club Community Grant. Funds for this grant are made available from the Saskatchewan Lotteries Non-Profit Community Group Program.



Many features have been added to the Spiritwood Community Garden over the years, including this gazebo.



The Spiritwood Community Garden is divided into plots to ensure every gardener has the space they need.



Left to right: Larissa Swityk-Conacher, Lion Megan Allard, Colleen Reddekopp, and Susan Siegel. The Spiritwood Community Garden is the latest recipient of the Spiritwood & District Lions Club Community Grant.

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.

PARKSIDE: Come join us in celebrating our 100th Church Anniversary 1922 - 2022, Parkside Pentecostal Church, 125 1st Ave. W, Parkside, SK. Sat., August 13 - Meet & Greet @ 2pm; BBQ @ 5-6pm; Evening Service @ 7pm (music and sharing night). Sun., August 14th - Coffee & Muffins @ 8-9:30am; Sunday Morning Worship @ 10:30am; Catered meal to follow service at Parkside Heritage Centre. Cost for meal ticket \$25 (pay @ door). R.S.V.P. by July 31st for meal tickets to: wledging@gmail.com or text/call 306-747-7645 (Wendy).

SHELL LAKE: Shell Lake Homesteader Hey-Days - July 15 & 16. Friday: Cinnamon Bun Sale & Farmer's Market. Saturday: Pancake Breakfast, Children's Parade 11am, Adult Parade 11:30am led by PA Highland Band, Hamburger BBQ at Legion 11am to 3pm, Music Jam Session with the Midnight Ramblers at the Lion's Hall at 1:30pm. Other activities in business and around Main Street. Come on down! YEE HAW!

PARKSIDE: 'LILIES IN BLOOM' Honeywood (Dr. A. J. Porter) Heritage Nursery Inc. Provincial Heritage Site Parkside, Sask. July 17th, 11am - 5pm (Kitchen closed at 4pm). Enjoy the awesome music of Bruce - Teri and Friends. Great artisan displays under & beside the Big Tent, Tours, Food, Refreshments, Potted Lilies & perennials! \$5.00/person, Children 10 and under free. Cash or Cheque only due to poor internet. Ph: 306-747-3307 or honeywoodn8@gmail.com Facebook @ Honeywood Heritage Nursery Inc

TRIPLE YOUR ADVERTISING

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

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Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

Box 10, Shellbrook, SK S0J 2E0

Ph: 306-747-2442 • Fax: 306-747-3000 • Email: chads@sbchron.com

Shellbrook Royal Purple presents Scholarship

The Shellbrook Royal Purple recently presented a scholarship to WP Sandin High School graduate, Ben Lafond. The Royal Purple awards a scholarship each year to the student with the third highest academic average in his or her class. Pictured, Royal Purple members Leola Skrupski (left) and Wendy Watt (right), and Ben Lafond.



SaskEnergy proposes rate increases over three years

SaskEnergy has filed a combined one-year commodity and three-year delivery service rate proposal with the Saskatchewan Rate Review Panel. The proposal would ensure the maintenance of safe, reliable and affordable natural gas service across Saskatchewan over the next three years.

The impact of the proposal on SaskEnergy's residential customer bills is an increase, on average, of \$11.95 per month (16.8 per cent) in year one, \$2.43 per month (2.9 per cent) in year two, and \$2.53 per month (3.0 per cent) in year three.

"SaskEnergy's residential customers currently have the lowest natural gas bills in Canada and will continue to have the lowest natural gas bills in the country if this proposal is approved," Acting President and CEO Mark Guillet said.

SaskEnergy bills consist of the commodity rate combined

with the delivery service rate. The commodity rate is set on a cost-recovery basis, reflecting the market costs of natural gas, with no profit or loss earned or incurred by SaskEnergy.

SaskEnergy is implementing the combined commodity and delivery rate increase on Aug. 1, 2022. Year two and year three delivery service rate changes would take effect on June 1, 2023, and June 1, 2024, respectively.

SaskEnergy has a hedging (price risk management) strategy that locks in the commodity price of natural gas for purchase in the future, providing some price stability and shielding customers from the extremes of market volatility.

"Following the sharp rise in natural gas prices in 2022, some utilities across Canada have implemented commodity rates of more than \$8 per gigajoule, which is almost double

what we are proposing," Guillet said. "Our hedging strategy has allowed SaskEnergy to propose a commodity rate of \$4.20 per gigajoule, which is much lower than the market price of natural gas. Without this strategy, SaskEnergy would need a commodity rate of at least \$6 per gigajoule."

SaskEnergy has been managing costs and limiting the extent of possible delivery rate increases through internal efficiencies such as business process changes, Crown collaboration, leveraging technology and mitigating operating and capital costs.

SaskEnergy's delivery service rate supports planned investment in system integrity and safety efforts of about \$50 million annually, as well as investment in the growing communities of Saskatchewan.

"Every year we invest in system expansion and upgrades,

leak surveys and repair programs. It is because of these programs that customers can be confident in the safety of our system and can expect the natural gas they need for their homes and businesses to be there with 99.99 per cent reliability," Guillet said. "This rate adjustment will allow SaskEnergy to continue maintaining, upgrading and expanding the system while managing the rising costs of fuel and other operating expenses impacted by inflationary pressures."

This would be just the second commodity rate increase by SaskEnergy since 2014. The last change to SaskEnergy's delivery service rate took place in April 2019.

Elsewhere, the Saskatchewan Rate Review Panel announced on Monday that it has approved SaskPower's proposed 4 per cent rate increase starting Sept. 1, and another 4 per cent

rate increase effective April 1, 2023.

"The bill impacts will be different for individual customers," the panel said in a release. "For a typical urban residential customer (monthly usage of 625 kWh), the bill increase from April 1, 2022, to April 1, 2023, will be approximately \$11 per month (10 per cent).

"However, the bill the customer pays, which includes taxes and levies, is expected to increase by \$14 (11 per cent). For a typical urban residential customer, their bill at April 1, 2023, will include \$24 in taxes (16 per cent of the total bill)."

The panel also approved a proposed rebalancing of its rates, which would put urban and rural residential customers into one rate class. That would result in the basic monthly fee increasing for urban customers and decreasing for those in rural areas.

GOOD NEWS

A LOVE OF THE GAME

Life has a way of moving on. That is, several changes have happened as the years have passed. My story starts over 60 years ago in the Town of Hay River, born into a family in the north. My recollection of the old town is somewhat foggy. I was only 4 years old when most of Vale Island was flooded in 1963.

I recall eventually moving to the New Town, where we lived in a house on River Drive. It's almost surreal, but I recall looking through a neighbour's window and seeing a T.V. for the first time and it was in black and white. At the time, Hay River would get four hours of TV per day. I think it was between 7 and 11 p.m.

As children, we made our own fun. We had this game called kick the can and we spent hours entertaining ourselves. At times, I headed over to the Ball Diamond hoping to find others there so we could play a game of scrub baseball. Later in life, I think it was first year of Pee Wee, I got involved in organized hockey.

Hockey, though less expensive back then, still was a cost. My mom allowed me to play at the encouragement of Dr. King. Hockey impacted my life and opened up opportunities to travel. We went to a lot of tournaments in northern Alberta, and some in B.C, and a number of times we were billeted out.

Probably the climax of my hockey was when we got to go the big tourna-

ment in Quebec City. We drove to Edmonton and then jumped on VIA Rail. I got to see Canada through a young guy's eyes. I met some people on the train.

We eventually got to Ontario, where I was introduced to a storm. I thought we got snow in the North, until I saw Ottawa being hammered with it. We were billeted out, and I stayed in Nepean (a city just outside of Ottawa). We got to see the Prime Minister, and we even went right into his office. Funny thing, today's Prime Minister has the same last name. I got his autograph one for myself and one for my billet. I still have mine.

I continued to play hockey. After I moved up from Pee Wee, I improved a little and made second line. That meant I didn't ride the pine as much. When I got a little older, I decided to hang up skates for awhile. I wanted to concentrate on my grades. In Grade 10 I recall I got 52 credits piled up. We needed 100 to graduate. I graduated and headed south, but never forgot the North. I was only 18 when I ended up in Red Deer College in pursuit of a prelaw degree. The Good Lord had other plans.

As life has it, I still had a love of the game. My wife and I eventually ended up pastoring a church in Saskatoon called Native New Life Church. We had a chance to join a league called NHL (no hit league). Well, for the love of the

game and Jesus, we pulled together a team. Not all our players were churchgoers, but we thought it as an outreach. Our team did well. The First Nations players seemed to have a skill to play. We eventually won the B side in the finals one year.

Marlene and I moved to Semans for our first rural pastorate. We got all three of our boys in hockey. I was asked if it was possible to start a pick up team. Well, I still hadn't lost my love for hockey, so we did. We had the Corporal in our church and he had a way of bringing his officers out to the games. I made some contacts with some First Nations and they joined us, too.

When we left to pastor in Rocanville, I got to a place where I was content to just watch our boys play and let them develop a love for the game. It was no easy task having three boys in hockey.

How did I get this start? Well, I go back to Hay River where a young Doctor came to town with his wife Judy and took an interest in me. Dr. King has gone on to his reward, but I want to thank his wife Judy (Judith King) for taking the time and effort to reach a northern boy through hockey.

I don't always watch the big playoffs, but I certainly track it in replays and I still have a love for the game.

A fellow traveller,
Pastor David Bodvarson
SPA

Bilyk graduates from U of S



Kaitlyn Bilyk recently celebrated her convocation from the University of Saskatchewan, receiving her bachelor of science degree in animal bioscience. Kaitlyn is the daughter of Terry and Carol Bilyk, sister to Sarah, and granddaughter to Clifford and the late Arlene Neurauter, and the late Nick and Anne Bilyk. Her family wishes her all the best.

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Henderson a Canadian hero 50 years ago

It was all over Facebook and Twitter: June 17, 2022, was exactly 50 years since the break-in at the Democratic Party's headquarters at the Watergate Hotel in Washington, leading to the eventual resignation of President Richard Nixon. Those of a certain age remember it well, but did you also know that in June of 1972, Jack Nicklaus won his third U.S. Open, at Pebble Beach, and the next day, Greg Norman called him to see if he would accept \$1,000 to play on a tour in Saudi Arabia?

OK, just joking about that last bit, but it's interesting to look back at the world of sports in 1972 — a half-century ago — and see what observations we can make 50 years later.

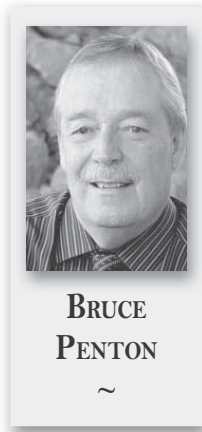
The Hamilton Tiger-Cats beat Saskatchewan Roughriders in the Grey Cup game that year. And don't think it couldn't happen again. Both teams are CFL contenders, and it wouldn't be far-fetched to think those two clubs could

make it to this year's big show in November.

The Los Angeles Lakers ran off a record 33-game winning streak in the NBA in 1972. Fifty years later, LeBron James of the Lakers averages 33 complaints per game about the officiating.

In June of 1972, the NHL was building a team to play the national (amateur) team from Russia in what would be known as the Summit Series. Paul Henderson, a late addition to the roster after finishing a distant 34th in the NHL scoring race in 1970-71, went on to score the most famous goal in Canadian hockey history. Fifty years later, anyone born before 1960 probably still remembers where they were when Henderson beat Vladislav Tretiak on Sept. 28, 1972. Fifty years later, fans are still lamenting Henderson's exclusion from the Hockey Hall of Fame.

Baseball has changed in 50 years. Back then, there was no Designated



BRUCE
PENTON

Hitter. No one had heard of performance-enhancing drugs. Roger Maris' 61 homers was still a magical number. Hank Aaron was still chasing Babe Ruth's career HR mark of 714. Vin Scully and Harry Caray were as well known as that year's home-run leader Johnny Bench (40) or strikeout king Nolan Ryan (329).

Perhaps the most profound sporting change from a Canadian viewpoint in the past 50 years has occurred in basketball. Even though the game was invented by a Canadian, James Naismith, there were no Canadians of significance in the league 50

years ago. After the Toronto Raptors were born in 1995, the sport flourished across the land. Steve Nash of Victoria is a two-time MVP. Two Canadians have been picked No. 1 overall in the NBA draft, Andrew Wiggins and Anthony Bennett. Wiggins played a major role in Golden State's NBA title run this spring. Twenty-five Canucks suited up with NBA teams this past season.

How will the next 50 years play out? Who knows? But maybe Henderson will be in the Hockey Hall of Fame by then.

• Columnist Norman Chad, on Twitter: "Deshaun Watson supposedly booked massage appointments with 66 different women over 17 months. This sounds more damning than it really is. Heck, I have ordered 66 different items from the Cheese-cake Factory menu over 17 months and no one's blinked an eye."

• Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "Major

League Baseball will allow its teams to sell sponsorships to cannabis companies that market CBD products, the Sports Business Journal reported. 'Spahn and Sain and Pray for Rain' is about to be supplanted by 'Cheech and Chong and Pass the Bong.'"

• Steve Simmons of SunMedia: "Canadian Chase Claypool recently declared himself to be a Top Three receiver in the NFL. And maybe math is not his best subject, considering he finished 53rd in catches last season in Pittsburgh and 35th in receiving yards. But it's good to have confidence."

• Lou Stagner (Golf Stat Pro), on Twitter: "I find it interesting they make PGA Tour players play in pro-ams. Imagine if LeBron had to play a half-court pickup game against Brad from accounting the afternoon of every home game."

• RJ Currie of sports-deke.com: "A British chef invented the Glam-burger, the world's most expensive burger at over \$2,000 Canadian. If

you're wondering about the most expensive hot dog in history — Deion Sanders."

• Headline at the onion.com: Phil Mickelson: 'Taking Money From The Saudis Leaves Less Money For The Next 9/11'

• Another onion.com headline: "Nation Unable To Enjoy Baseball Without Dozens Of Pitchers Hitting .124"

• Headline at fark.com: "Trevor Lawrence says Jaguars building 'something special' under Doug Pederson — presumably a gallows trap door."

• Dwight Perry again: "USC and UCLA? They went Piscataway — er, thataway, off for greener pasture\$ in the Big Ten."

• Comedy writer Paul Lander, via Twitter: "USC and UCLA's moving to the Big Ten, or, as it's also known, The ATM."

• Barrett Sallee of CBSsports.com: "Oregon has left the Pac-12 for the LIV Tour."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Fry takes second in U19 women's golf tourney

A three-peat wasn't in the making for Shell Lake golfing phenom Brooklyn Fry, who teed off in Golf Saskatchewan's 2022 Junior Women's U19 championship from July 5 to 7.

Instead of bringing home her third consecutive Junior Women's trophy, Fry was forced to settle for a second place finish, ending the third and final round of the tournament 18 shots back from winner Ella Kozak of Yorkton.

"It feels really good," Kozak said after the trophy presentation. "It was a good three days and a solid three rounds, pretty good weather, I'm happy with the outcome."

Kozak was in command of the tournament from the opening tee-off to the final putt. She shot a 78, or 5 above par, in the first round, giving her a slim four-shot lead over Fry, who managed an 82 or 9 above par.

On day two of the tournament, Kozak truly hit her stride by shooting a 73. This allowed her to grow her lead over Fry to 15 shots, after Fry failed to improve on her performance in round one and shot an 84 (11 over par) on the day.

While she didn't improve on her round two performance, Kozak still put in a solid third round by shooting

a 76, or 3 above par, to finish 8 above par for the whole tournament. Fry, meanwhile, put in her best round of the tournament with a third-round total of 79, or 6 above par, to end the tournament in second place at 26 shots over par.

Fry's three-day total put her 11 shots ahead of third place finisher Hallie Crozier, who shot rounds of 89, 85, and 82, respectively, to finish third in the tournament at 37 shots above par. Rounding out the field in fourth place was Autumn Neiszner, who finished at 39 shots over par after shooting an 85, an 88, and an 85 in her three rounds.

Up next for Fry after the Junior Women's U19 tournament was the 2022 Saskatchewan Amateur Women's Championship, which was slated to be played at Cooke Municipal Golf Course in Prince Albert from July 12 to 14.

The 2021 Amateur Women's Championship was claimed by Kozak, who topped Neiszner by a single shot. Kozak was not set to compete in this year's championship, having qualified for the United States Junior Girls Championship in Kentucky (only the second Saskatchewan woman to do so, after Anna Young in 2012).

Cameron and Bourdages 16th anniversary honoured with BBQ

The Spiritwood RCMP hosted and sponsored a Barbecue at the Cameron and Bourdages Memorial Park on July 7. The barbecue was held in ob-

servance of the 16th anniversary of the deaths of Constables Marc Bourdages and Robin Cameron, who were killed in the line of duty in 2006.

Roughly 300 came out to enjoy burgers, donuts, and drinks served up by RCMP members and staff, and door prizes were on offer as well.



Left to right: Sergeant Kelly West, Corporal Donovan Kajner, Sergeant Sebastian Andrews, Corporal Clay Parenteau, Barbara Tipewan DSA, and Constable Jerith Archibald honoured fallen officers Marc Bourdages and Robin Cameron with a 16th anniversary barbecue on July 7.

OBITUARIES

Donald Gemmill MacDonald



MACDONALD, Donald Gemmill

Died very peacefully at Canterbury Gardens, Peterborough, Ontario with his daughters Mary and Lynda by his side on July 9, 2022 at the age of 90. Born in Rabbit Lake, Saskatchewan, Don is

predeceased by his loving wife of 58 yrs, Sheila; lovingly remembered by his daughters Mary Blair (Greg) of Peterborough, Ontario and Lynda Keith (Drew) of Stouffville, Ontario as well as grandchildren Jessie, Laura, William and Elizabeth. Don is also survived by many wonderful nieces, nephews, and cousins in British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Ontario. Don is predeceased by his father Donald MacDonald and mother Laura Gemmill MacDonald, and brother Neil MacDonald (Muriel).

Don was born on August 16th, 1931 and raised on the OXO Cattle Ranch near the hamlet

of Bapaume, Saskatchewan and educated at OXO Primary School (named after the brand of the Ranch). At the age of 14, Don left the ranch due to acute asthma; completing his education at Albert Public School and Nutana Collegiate Institute in Saskatoon.

In 1949, Don joined the Hudson's Bay Company, taking a 6-month leave of absence to acquire a commission in the Canadian Army. He met Sheila in Winnipeg while working for HBC. They married in 1960 and honeymooned East to Ontario where Don joined Smith Manufacturing, followed by Allied Chemical C.L., W.R. Grace Canada and

Thiokol Fibres Canada. In 1973, Don and Sheila acquired a Canadian Tire franchise in Deep River, Ontario and in 1979 a Canadian Tire franchise in Grand Falls, Newfoundland and Labrador. In 1980, moving back to Ontario Don and Sheila founded Microwire Products, retiring & selling the business in 1993.

Don and Sheila bought their first home in Lorne Park, Ontario; home of the infamous Wooded Wanderers. Following business interests, the family moved to Burlington, Ontario, Deep River, Ontario, Grand Falls, Newfoundland & Labrador. Prince Ed-

ward County, Ontario and landing in Grimsby, Ontario where they remained for 32 years until moving to Peterborough in 2015.

Don's dedication to family and friends was unparalleled. His genuine interest in the lives of those around him was exemplified by the many wonderful friends he amassed over his years and the many volunteer roles he took on; including but not limited to Rotary (1975-2015), Lincoln Community Care, founding member of Probus in Grimsby, West Lincoln Memorial Hospital Board of Directors and Albright Manor Board of Directors. Don

was an avid golfer, curler and an extremely "generous" poker player.

Mary and Lynda would like to thank the incredible staff at Canterbury Gardens for their service, love, support and friendship given to their dad, mom and their families while at Canterbury.

A private celebration will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to www.treecanada.ca or your local food bank.

Arrangements entrusted to Nisbett Funeral Home, Peterborough (705-745-3211). For online condolences, please visit www.nisbettfuneralhome.com

Leonard Emile Pages



In loving memory of Leonard Emile Pages

Leonard was born August 22, 1941, in Canwood, SK and passed away after a battle with cancer, at the age of 80 years on June 19, 2022, in Canwood, SK with his wife Flora by his side.

Leonard moved around quite a bit in his childhood, starting school in Mattes, then moving with his parents to Jackson Lake and finally to Debden. After attending school, he worked in the bush for a few years. He then went onto farming at his parents' homestead. He met Flora in the early sixty's and got married November 12, 1966. They both had worked side by side until it was too much land to keep milking cows. Leonard then started a hobby farm which he built a bit bigger every year. He did what he loved best. Flora and Leonard bought a house in Debden in 2004 and lived there together until his passing.

Leonard enjoyed gardening and watching his fruit trees produce good sized apples. He loved to go fishing and hunting in his spare time, he also loved watching hockey, boxing, and horse races on TV. He also loved reading books on those cold days.

Leonard is survived by his wife of 55 years, Flora; his siblings, Cecile (Rejean Vallarand) of Montreal, QC, Louis Pages of Queen Charlotte, BC, Philip (Karen) Pages of Reed Deer, AB.

Leonard is predeceased by his parents, Peter, and Irene Pages; his brothers Albert, Victor and Leo Pages; his parents-in-law, George and Alice Arcand.

In lieu of tributes, donations can be made in the memory of Leonard to the Debden (Debden, SK) cemetery or the Canadian Cancer Society (1910 McIntyre Street, Regina, SK, S6P 2R3)

Friends and family wishing to send online condolences may visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home and Crematorium, Tammy Smart Funeral Director, Shellbrook 306-747-2828.



Sharon (née: Edeen) Ramsay passed away peacefully in the Victoria Hospital in Prince Albert, SK on June 19th at the age of 76.

Sharon Dianne Ramsay was born in Kinistino on April 20, 1946 to Isidor and Elma Edeen. At the age of 3, Sharon and her family moved to Canwood. She completed all her schooling here and then went onto the University of Regina to study to be a Lab Technician. During her school years she was very involved in sports such as volleyball, curling and softball. After completing university, her first job was at St. Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon. After working a few years in Saskatoon, Sharon and Audrey Sturby got on a boat in New York and travelled to South Africa, Australia, England and Sweden. Upon arrival back in Canada she found employment in Calgary, and after a few years went back to Australia to work. This venture was only

supposed to be a year or two but ended up as a lifetime. She met the love of her life, Bob Ramsay and they were married in January of 1980. Sharon became a step-mother to two teenage daughters and a son from Bob's previous marriage. She moved into their Northern Beaches home and continued to work at Sydney Hospital. In the late 1980s Sharon transitioned into a full-time partnership with Bob working for his established business. She dedicated herself to sharing his ambition to develop, manufacture and distribute early-childhood educational products.

They travelled extensively in pursuit of their business interests, for leisure and to maintain loving connections with family and friends, ever networking and forging business partnerships in Australia, Hong Kong, Canada, New Zealand and the USA. Sharon worked long and hard, until she could no longer do so. When at home in Sydney, Sharon loved being a grandmother to her four Australian grandchildren, loving them and making them feel special at every opportunity. Sharon was loved, respected and held in high esteem by her late husband, step-children, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandchildren and dedicated staff members. Sharon was a very amazing person. Although the

miles were great between Australia and Canada, she made a point of keeping in close contact with many family, friends and relatives in Canada.

Sharon is survived by her brother, Greg Edeen of Canwood, SK, her three step-children: Susan Ramsay of Kearney, Ontario, Karen (Ken) Rinkel and their son Jasper of Frenchs Forest, New South Wales, Australia, Scott (Nicole Franzen) Ramsay and their children, Aidan, Bronte and Grayson of Manly Vale, New South Wales, Australia, her Aunt and Uncle, Shirley & Howard Gronvald of Melfort, Saskatchewan, brother-in-law, Dick (Carol) Ramsay of Calgary, Alberta and numerous other relatives.

Sharon was predeceased by her husband, Bob Ramsay in 2020.

The Memorial Service was held on Friday, July 8th at the Canwood Elk's Community Hall in Canwood, Saskatchewan at 2:00 pm local time. The service was recorded and a link will be placed on this web page the following day for folks that are unable to attend the service in person to watch.

In lieu of other tributes, memorial donations may be made in memory of Sharon to the Canwood Elk's Community Hall or Canwood Regional Park or Canwood Skating Rink or the choice of the donor.

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- Donna Lovberg & Lynn Anderson, Funeral Directors, Shellbrook, SK 306 747 2828

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Luncheon to follow @ Spiritwood Civic Centre

MEMORIALS

Craig Allen
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Beloved husband of Maureen Allen (née Senum), West Kelowna, BC formerly from Shellbrook, SK.
Gone but not forgotten. Always will be loved by Maureen, Brett and Jaime and brother-in-law Terry Senum (Edmonton, AB).
Rest in Peace.

CARD OF THANKS

Our family truly appreciates all the support that we have received at the time of Robert's passing. Sincere thanks for all the cards, hugs, comforting words, prayers and masses, food, flowers, visits, phone calls, facebook messages and donations to Leask Marcellin Fish & Game. Thank you to Rene Brodie, Riley & Kirk for the eulogy. Very well presented. Thank you to Father Michael Haulman for the wonderful service. Thank you everyone for the readings, carrying of the urn

and the cross, the Bisson family from Manitoba for their music and singing at "Robert's Celebration of Life", thanks to Jaycee Wells, putting the slide show together with the help of the family. Well done.

Funk's Funeral Home out of Rosthern, we thank you so much for your guidance and kindness. To all the workers for preparing and serving the lunch also to everyone who has helped us in any way, we sincerely thank you.

To Dr. C. W. DeVilliers (family doctor), Dr. Shah (kidney specialist), all nurses, Home Care out of Hafford, who took such good care of Robert during his illness - either in the hospital or at home. Thank you.

For everyone who attended "Robert's Celebration of Life". We are all so grateful for your love and support.

Madeline, Marc, Brodie, Riley, Monique, Gil, Rene, Jaycee & Kirk

Don't let slugs force you to sell your house

By Erl Svendsen

I joke that I sold my last house because I found myself sharing the garden with a multitude of slimy slugs. That wasn't really the reason for moving... at least not the only one.

Slugs are gastropods, not insects. They are related to snails and clams rather than to flies or beetles. They should not be confused with pear slugs which are insects (the larval form of a sawfly), found on cotoneaster, pear, mountain ash and other related woody plants.

Slugs are nocturnal and the most telling clue that they are resident in your garden, aside from their damage, is the silvery trails they leave behind. Their preferred habitat is damp - which unfortunately describes a lot of territory.

Growing up on the West Coast where slugs come in many shapes, sizes and colours, I particularly remember the banana slug named for its resemblance to said fruit in colour AND size. Thankfully, in most Saskatchewan gardens, you'll typically only encounter the diminutive grey garden slug (*Deroceras reticulatum*): small, 1-2 cm long, dark to light grey, shiny and, of course, slimy. Don't let their size fool you. What they lack in size, they can rapidly make up in numbers, laying 200-300 eggs at a time. And in numbers, they are voracious, decimating leafy plants (e.g. hostas) and many other garden plants including root crops like potatoes and carrots (unfortunately not dandelions in my experience).

Selling your home is not a guaranteed or a long-term solution because slugs or their tiny eggs can move in from the neighbour's yard, on plants from the nursery or your friends, on borrowed tools and even on the bottom of your shoes.

There are ways to fight back. Start by making your garden less hospitable by removing daytime hiding places such as wooden boards, bricks, stones, and garden gnomes. Remove all decaying vegetation throughout the season especially in the fall.

Trapping slugs is a good next option. They are attracted to yeasty, fermenting odors. But don't waste your beer: add a package of bread yeast to a cup of water sweetened with sugar, stir and set aside

to bubble away for a couple of hours. Add an inch of the yeast solution to any shallow container (e.g. empty cat-food or tuna tins). Place several in the garden in the early evening, about 10 feet apart. Next morning, empty the containers (hopefully filled with drowned slugs) and repeat. Another option is to place short boards in the garden. In the morning, just scrape any cowering slugs off the bottom-sides into a bucket of soapy water or straight into the garbage. Repeat. Another effective trap is an upside down rind of a half grapefruit. Slugs can't help themselves and will be found munching away in the morning on the inside. Simply dispose of rind, slugs and all. Repeat.

There are a number of other control options, most of which are safe to use around the home, your children and pets. Slugs are said to avoid wood ash and coffee grounds (some coffee shops give bags of grounds away for free). If nothing else, the ash and grounds will help enrich your soil. To a slug, crushed baked egg shells sprinkled around the garden act like razor wire, as does diatomaceous earth (DE), a powdery substance composed of sharp fossilized microscopic hard-shelled algae or diatoms. There are several registered insect and slug control products that are 100% DE (e.g. Safer's Insectigone). Pool-grade DE is not effective in controlling slugs and other insects because it has been exposed to high heat during processing, altering it significantly. Wear a facemask to avoid breathing in the fine particles when sprinkling them around the garden. Reapply after heavy rains.

After a meal of eco-, human- and pet-friendly iron-based slug and snail killer, slugs stop feeding permanently and die (look for products containing sodium ferric or ferric phosphate). As a last resort, there are also registered metaldehyde-based slug control products. While very effective, metaldehyde is poisonous to slugs, people and pets alike and should be used with care.

Erl gardens in Saskatoon and enjoys being a climate zone denier by trying new and interesting perennials.

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

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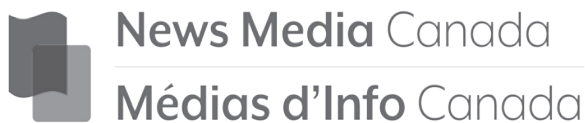


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Minutes of R.M. of Blaine Lake meetings

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

The Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Blaine Lake #434 which was held in the RM's Municipal Office on Tuesday, May 3, 2022.

Present Council Members and Administration attended as follows: Gerry Strelieff — Reeve, Michael Chudskov — Division 1, Lee Dolezal — Division 2, Alan Lavoie — Division 4, Tim Stupnikoff — Division 5, Assistant Administrator Alan Tanchak, and Administrator Linda Klimm.

Absent: Courtney Swystun — Division 2, and Glenn Lamontagne — Division 6.

The meeting was called to order by Reeve Strelieff at 7 a.m.

Mark Curry provided Council with a lead hand report from 7:07 a.m. to 7:20 a.m.

Chudskov: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the March 23, 2022, Public Hearing minutes as presented. Carried

Stupnikoff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the April 19, 2022, Regular Meeting minutes as presented. Carried

Stupnikoff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the April 29, 2022, Special Meeting minutes as presented. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 accept the April 2022 Statement of Financial Activities, Income Statement, Budgetary Control, Chequing Account Statement, and Bank Reconciliation as presented. Carried

Chudskov: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 purchase a 1.5 years' supply of oil from Brandt. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the List of Accounts for Approval, including cheques #5809 to #5826 with the total payable amount being \$17,132.67. Carried

Chudskov: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the Additional Accounts for payment as presented by Administration, totaling \$5,504.70:

- \$770.34 Northern Tire & Lube
- \$1,064.53 Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board
- \$3,291.21 CIBC Visa
- \$378.62 Receiver General for Canada. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the presented Council Indemnity totaling \$1,835.60:

- Gerry May \$165.00
- Lee Mar \$780.00
- Tim Jan-Apr \$890.60. Carried

Chudskov: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434

approve the Division 1 road work requested to build a ditch on the west side of RR#3052 and a culvert to drain to the east. Carried

Dolezal: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approve the ratepayer price of gravel at \$12 per yard plus the cost of loading and hauling. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 hire Jake Wiebe at a cost of approximately \$3,000 to do pit restoration at the pit located at SW 11-42-07 W3m. Carried

Chudskov: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 authorize that a road maintenance agreement to be sent to Ongrade Contracting for the road haul from SW 36-44-07 W3m to the Town of Blaine Lake. Carried

Chudskov: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 adopt the budget for the 2022 taxation year. Carried

Strelieff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 set the municipal mill rate at 6.9 mills for the 2022 taxation year. Carried

Strelieff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 file make a statutory declaration for the Clearing The Path (CTP) Grant for 12.14 kms at \$1,200/km for a total of \$14,568. Carried

Dolezal: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434

approve the development permit of a residence for the landowner of SE 16-44-06 W3m. Carried

Dolezal: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approve the building permit of a residence for the landowner of SE 16-44-06 W3m. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 acknowledge the reject sand gravel permit received from the Ministry of Highways, and that it be noted that the permit was issued for 3,000 cubic meters at \$3.00 per cubic meter, due to a price increase from previous levels. Carried

Chudskov: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 acknowledge the correspondence received from Wood advising of a Notice of Change of Legal Entity and Request for Assignment and Novation, and that Reeve Gerry Strelieff be authorized to sign the documentation on behalf of the municipality. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 acknowledge the SD Research Permit application outlining the environmental surveys for the clay clap project for 4.8 kms of roadway on the Blind Line Road. Carried

Chudskov: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 adjourn, the time being 8:25 a.m.

Special Meeting May 27

Swystun: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 authorize Dmytryshyn & Sons Contracting Ltd. to return to crushing work, and that random samples be taken by Alan Tanchak and submitted to Wood for analysis. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 authorize LaFarge Aggregates to maintain the surface of the road (excluding the shoulders) for the intense hauls to/from the Whiteshore pit, and that the municipality will maintain the shoulders of the road. Carried

Strelieff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 hire Clarence Hoehnes (sic) to fence the gravel pit located at SW 11-42-07 W3m. Carried

Strelieff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 authorize the landowner of SE 02-45-07 W3m to apply dust control, and that a copy of our dust control policy be sent with a letter. Carried

Strelieff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 direct Administration to send a letter to Reban Farms that the municipality will not be reimbursing them for snow clearing as the charges were not previously cleared by Council. Carried

Strelieff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 adjourn, the time being 8:45 a.m.

World Cup a boondoggle for taxpayers

By Jay Goldberg, CTF

Consider this: for every minute that Toronto and Vancouver host World Cup games, taxpayers will be on the hook for \$644,000.

Last week, Canadians learned that Toronto and Vancouver have been tapped to host five World Cup games each as part of North America's bid for the 2026 World Cup.

Politicians in both cities have been trying to sell taxpayers on their plan to spend an absolute fortune to host just 17 per cent of the 2026 World Cup games.

Toronto Mayor John Tory is trying to convince taxpayers that this is a huge boon for the city.

"I think it's going to be one of the greatest sporting occasions in the history of the city," said Tory.

Toronto taxpayers aren't so convinced.

In total, for Canada to host 10 World Cup games, the estimated cost is approximately \$600 million. And that's before the cost overruns that everyone knows will be coming.

What do politicians claim will be the benefit?

According to the city of Toronto's own projections, local businesses will see an influx of \$307 million from hosting the games. That includes a "boost" of 3,300 jobs, most of which will likely be temporary.

But a report prepared for Toronto city council this spring indicated that the cost to taxpayers for hosting the five Toronto games will be \$290 million.

In other words, the economic gains the city expects to make are only \$17 million larger than the cost coming out of taxpayers' wallets.

Does that sound like a huge boon for the city?

The city is also understating the costs and overstating the benefits.

First, there's a trade-off cost. With \$290 million, 63,000 Torontonians with homes valued at \$750,000 could have a one-year property tax holiday.

Second, the economic benefits are also tenuous at best. Research in the United States found that hosting Super Bowl games only leads to roughly 10 per cent of the economic benefit the NFL advertises.

And then there's the cost overruns. The 2010 Vancouver Olympics saw cost overruns of 17 per cent of the total budget, while the 1988 Calgary Olympics saw a cost overrun of 59 per cent.

Even if the cost of hosting World Cup games in Toronto comes in just six per cent over budget, the cost of hosting the games will be higher than any indirect economic benefits the city expects to gain.

Does that sound like a prudent economic plan?

There's another question: why should

taxpayers be on the hook for any money if only a fraction of the expected economic gains will lead to more tax revenue? Not only will hosting the World Cup games likely be a net money loser, but losses for taxpayers will be even more lopsided.

Agreeing to host World Cup games because of potential gains for businesses without regard to taxpayer costs is the very definition of corporate welfare.

Taxpayers in Toronto and Vancouver should be outraged. Neither city can run operating deficits, meaning the bill for hosting the World Cup games will be paid for through higher taxes or reduced government services.

But taxpayers outside of Toronto and Vancouver should be outraged as well.

The federal government will be on the hook for approximately \$200 million for Canada to host the 10 World Cup games, meaning taxpayers all across the country will be financing this fiscal boondoggle.

Should taxpayers in Saskatchewan be on the hook for a handful of World Cup games in two cities thousands of kilometers away? The obvious answer is no.

While Canada's governments have been "awarded" World Cup games, no money is yet out the door. Taxpayers should tell Canada's politicians that the country shouldn't be wasting tax dollars on their political vanity project.

Canada should rip up the deal and let taxpayers in the United States and Mexico get stuck with the bill.

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