

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

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Ballapooza a home run in second outing



Jugglers Joel (left) and Eli (right) get help from brave volunteers Myla, Ben, and Carmen for one of their tricks.

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

For one day only, on Saturday, June 10, the population of Shellbrook doubled, as an estimated 1,500 people poured into the Shellbrook Sports Grounds for Ballapalooza 2023.

While the event's name puts baseball and softball front and centre, and teams came from as far away as Meadow Lake, Battleford, and Warman to compete against the local squads and each other, ball was just the beginning of what was on offer throughout the day.

"Honestly, it is such a fun day. The kids have a blast, and it is so awesome walking around seeing the smiles on everyone's faces," said Tasha Cyr of the Shellbrook Kinettes, who host the event in conjunction with Shellbrook

Minor Ball and the Shellbrook Knights.

As the sophomore outing for Ballapalooza, Cyr says the organizing committee learned a great deal from the first effort, especially when it came to running the gate and ensuring a clean-up crew was in place for Sunday morning.

"There are a few things from this year we made notes on as well. So, we will be sure to tweak a few areas before next year's Ballapalooza," Cyr added.

Following last year's model, a canteen was made available from the opening of the gates at 9 a.m. until the evening, when the Parkland Pool Project Committee took over at the Centennial Building to host a supper fundraiser. With a \$1,500 donation from Beau 'Lac' Funeral Home to cover costs, and a matching donation of up to \$3,000 from Shellbrook Sco-

tiabank, the supper brought in more than \$5,000 to help with the project to build a new swimming pool.

For the youngsters, Kidzville made a triumphant return to the Shellbrook Sports Grounds, offering mainstays like balloon twisting, mini-putt, and Candace Wolfe's petting zoo, as well as new additions like bounce balls, sumo suits, and a smash room. As day turned to evening, the kid's entertainment also included a juggling show, put on by members of the Saskatoon Juggling Club (who were also on-site throughout the day, letting kids try out some of their equipment).

In entertainment targeted more at adults, there was also an antique car show, spin classes hosted by Prince Albert's S2dio, and the main event of the night: a celebrity slo-pitch game between the Shellbrook Minor Ball and

Shellbrook Minor Hockey boards that was filled with banter and some questionable umping.

With so much going on throughout the day, Cyr feels everyone who played a role in Ballapalooza's success — including her fellow Kinettes, the Shellbrook Knights, Shellbrook Minor Ball, the volunteers, and the businesses and local organizations that sponsored the event — deserve a big pat on the back for making sure everything ran smoothly.

"It is a great collaboration, and we are lucky to have such an amazing group of volunteers," she said, noting that Ballapalooza will absolutely be back for 2024. "I think it is a huge benefit to our town. It is a great day, and we are going to make it even better next year."

More photos on page 16



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Canwood School delights with variety night

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

The students of Canwood Community School showcased their talents to a standing room-only crowd in the school's auditorium on Thurs-

day, June 8, as the school played host to its first-ever Variety Show.

The idea for the show was brought forward by EA Tani Hamborg, who took inspiration from the many events put on by her youngest child's school in Rosthern and

the sense of community these events build.

Apart from providing entertainment, the hope was to rebuild the sense of school community that was lost during the COVID-19 pandemic, while giving the students a chance to perform and

build their confidence, whether they be singers, musicians, dancers, or actors.

"If you don't go to church, or if you don't go to lessons, you don't have as many opportunities to play or perform in front of people," she said.

"I thought it would be fun to have more of a variety, because not everybody's musical and kids love doing different things."

All told, somewhere between 40 and 50 students performed over the course of the evening. Unfortunately, a group from Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation was unable to make it out to perform as planned.

With Mrs. Hamborg and Hansyn Bahnuick serving as the show's MCs, the performance opened with Grades 1 and 2 students singing O Canada, followed by the group of Nova Vaagen, Sadie Schutte, Brooke Nordquist, Becca Schutte, and Elisha Johnson performing "Seven Bridges Road."

Up next, Brynlee Aiken displayed her fiddle talents, Ryder Benjamin wowed the crowd with magic, Reese Hamborg and Alyssa Gjerde performed a dance routine, and Londyn Bodnarchuk and her dad took the stage to play "Heck of a View."

Following these acts, Bria Benson took the stage for the Bria Benson and Mrs. Hamborg Show, featuring special guests Ryder Vaughn and Leif Nordquist, and self-taught pianist Creeson Thomas impressed

the crowd.

As the evening continued, Nova Vaagen, Sadie Schutte, Brooke Nordquist, Becca Schutte, and Elisha Johnson returned to the stage for Lollipop, Mrs. Michelle Smith presented a spoken word piece, and the Kindergarten to Grade 4 students performed "Rockin' Robin."

Last but not least, Becky Wilson played some fiddle tunes, Nova Vaagen, Sadie Schutte, Brooke Nordquist, Becca Schutte, and Elisha Johnson returned to perform "Lean on Me," and the Sweet Home Singers of Canwood performed "Sweet Home Alabama."

Those singers included: Becca Gjerde, Junior Lariviere, Leif Nordquist, Hudson Schutte, Elizabeth Peters, Anika Hinson, Max Lariviere, Lachlan Bodnarchuk, Rhonwen Johnson, Bree Isbister, Kendyl Dionne, Kloe Benson, Londyn Bodnarchuk, Jude Nordquist, Falyn Charbonneau, Shay Benjamin, Jessica McDonald, Aili Johnson, Ryder Benjamin, Athena Amistad, Macy Bill, Nica Villegas, Rebecca Schutte, Sadie Schutte, Brooke Nordquist, and Nova Vaagen.

Meanwhile, special guest appearances were made by: Han-

syn Bahnuick, Creeson Thomas, Leif Nordquist, Becky Wilson, Alyssa Gjerde, Reese Hamborg, Brynlee Aiken, Bria Benson, Axel Johnson, Michelle Smith, Mike Bodnarchuk, Kai Nordquist, Leif Nordquist, Jovan Johnson, Mrs. Hladun's Grade 1/2 class, Ryder Benjamin, and Ryder Vaughn.

With such a strong turnout for its first outing, Mrs. Hamborg says another variety show is likely to happen in future school years. In the meantime, she's excited to see all the ideas that have blossomed among her colleagues to build off the show.



Grade 3 student Londyn Bodnarchuk performs during Canwood Community School's Variety Show.



Self-taught pianist Creeson Thomas (Grade 12) wowed the crowd with his performance.

Photos: Rebecca Wilson

WP Grad continues parade tradition

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Who doesn't love a good, old-fashioned parade?

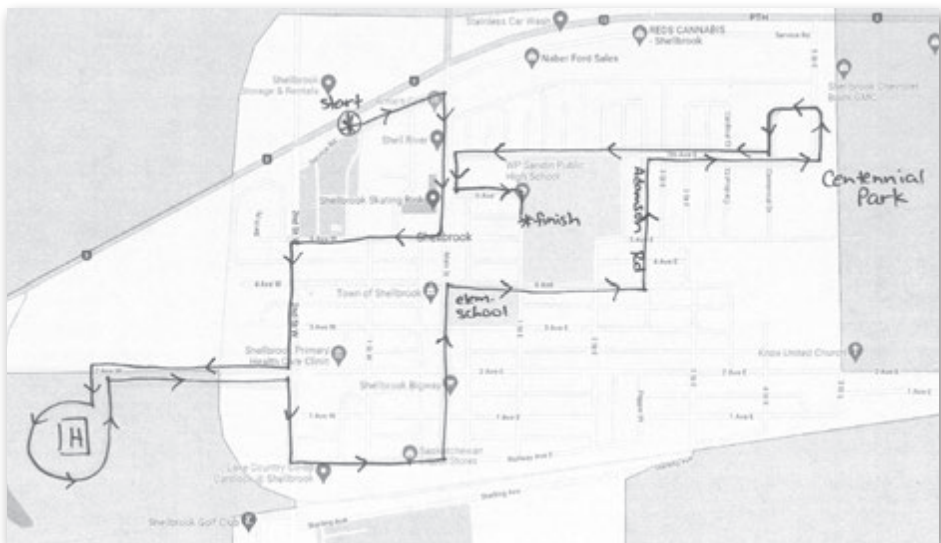
The 20 students in WP Sandin High School's Class of 2023 must be pretty fond of them, as the cohort has decided to carry on the tradition, which was started in 2020 — a year when graduation ceremonies were thrown into a state of disarray, and graduation committees were forced to think outside the box, by the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year's graduation parade is set for Friday, June 16, at 2 p.m. The parade procession will depart from the Shellbrook Motel and make its way down Main Street before turning onto 5th Avenue West to head out towards Parkland Integrated Health Centre to pay the elders in long-term care a brief visit.

The procession will then head back to Main Street via Railway Avenue and swing by Shellbrook Elementary School, eventually taking 4th Avenue East and Adamson Road past Homestead Place, Heritage Place, and Centennial Park (so the kids from Happy Hearts can come watch). Once done there, the parade will return to WP Sandin High School, going along 7th Avenue East first.

Given the route, the grad committee recommends the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre, the Shellbrook Swimming Pool, the Community Hall, Main Street, 4th Avenue East, and 7th Avenue East as prime viewing locations for the festivities.

Immediately following the parade, the graduation ceremony will be held in WP Sandin's gymnasium at around 3:30 p.m.



The route for WP Sandin's graduation parade.

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Notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll of the Rural Municipality of Shellbrook No. 493 for the year of 2023 has been prepared and is now open for inspection in the office of the Assessor from 8:30 a.m. to Friday 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday from June 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2023.

A bylaw pursuant to Section 214 of *The Municipalities Act* has been passed and the assessment notices have been sent as required.

Any person who wishes to appeal his/her assessment is required to file his/her notice of appeal accompanied by \$200.00 appeal fee per roll number with The Assessor, R.M. of Shellbrook, Box 250, Shellbrook, Sask, S0J 2E0, by the 30th of June, 2023.

Dated at Shellbrook, Saskatchewan, this 30th day of May, 2023.
Duane Storey
Administrator

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Phone: 306-468-3055 email: hwy55ops@sasktel.net
Deadline: Friday, June 23, 2023

Project brings upgrades to Spiritwood ball diamonds

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Just a few short years ago, the ball diamonds at Spiritwood's SADSAC park were in a dire state.

Upgrades hadn't been done for a number of years, there were no dugouts, the fences were falling in, and there was no proper bathroom facility. Add into this drainage issues caused by the park's marshy landscape, and the ball diamonds were unusable after a little bit of rain, and unsuitable for hosting major events like minor ball league playoffs and tournaments.

Believing this to be unfair to the kids, who already have a short enough ball season without games being cancelled due to rain, Jackie Woytiuk, Tannis Franson, and Shirley Lehouillier decided it was time to get to work on fixing the diamonds.

"We wanted our kids to be excited to play at home and to be proud of our diamonds," said Lehouillier, who currently serves as president of Spiritwood Minor Ball.

"We needed to fix the drainage issues which required a lot of work leveling the ground, creating proper drainage, and bringing in sand and dirt to fix runoff areas. This was just so that our diamonds could be used after a little rain."

With a litany of tasks to be completed, the Spiritwood Ball Diamond Restoration Committee was formed in 2017 (and quickly grew in membership), and made tackling the drainage issue its first priority.

The committee brought in Owen Johnson out of Leask to level out the ground and correct the drainage. As part of his work, Johnson even donated a culvert to the project.

This was just the beginning of the work. The committee also levelled the three main diamonds out, added shale, worked the infield, planted grass in the outfield, and performed general yard maintenance of the land and planted trees.

Then, there was the purchase and installation of new backstops and fencing on two of the diamonds, and the construction of two dugouts each on two of the diamonds, as well as minor projects like painting the bleachers and dugouts and acquiring new garbage and recycling bins.

The most recent project undertaken by the restoration committee was the completion of a new, three-bathroom facility, which required one of the diamonds to be torn down and transformed into a common area.

It's a lot of work, and it doesn't come cheap.

Lehouillier says much of the funding for the project has come from the committee hosting events like the Festival of Treats, working canteens at events, and holding raffle draws, and from a community garage sale



Thanks to the work of Spiritwood's Ball Diamond Restoration Committee, the ball diamonds at SADSAC park now have a washroom facility with running water.

organized by Spiritwood Minor Ball.

The committee has also benefited from the generosity of the community, receiving \$7,000 from community volunteers who organized Beer Survivor, \$4,000 from a wrestling event sponsored by Martodam Motors this spring, and donations from local businesses and community members.

"To date this project has probably cost approximately \$200,000 in upgrades. And we aren't finished yet," Lehouillier said.

Going forward, Spiritwood Minor Ball has purchased picnic tables for the

ball diamond area and plans to plant some mature trees, and the restoration committee is raising funds to add more shale to the diamonds this year.

The committee also hopes to one day add a sheltered area, such as a gazebo, close to the diamonds, and build a small kitchen facility to be able to more efficiently run a canteen for ball games and tournaments. There are also plans to dismantle diamond #3, replace the fences and back stops, and add dugouts.

"The completion of

this project has been a long time coming and we can't wait to finish it," Lehouillier said.

"We hope that this sports facility will be admired and used for years to come. We want to continue to pass on our love for sports by making sure our youth have a proper facility to learn and play on."



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Feds setting stage for Canada's climate failure

When embarking on an ambitious undertaking – say, to prevent the world from roasting like a chicken – it's important to have goals in mind.

These can't be just any goals. To steal a bit of motivational philosophy, they should be S.M.A.R.T. goals, meaning they're Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound.

It's all well and good to have the vague aspiration to end world hunger, for instance, but without a clear plan of action to address the root causes of global food poverty, you won't get very far (or have any idea of what's working and what isn't).

The same holds true when it comes to tackling climate change.

Here, the goal of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's federal government is to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, after first reducing Canada's greenhouse gas emissions to 40 to 45 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030.

The 2005 benchmark the government's working off of is 732 megatonnes of greenhouse gas emissions. To be 40 to 45 per cent below this, Canada will have to slash its annual emissions to somewhere between 439.2 megatonnes and 402.6 megatonnes.

Yet, as of 2021, the latest year for which data is available, Canada's emissions actually increased to 670 megatonnes from 659 in 2020.

In other words, after six years in power, Mr. Trudeau's government had only managed to reduce emissions by eight per cent below 2005 levels. And it now has just seven years to reduce Canada's emissions by four times this amount.

The likelihood of this government hitting its 2030 target is looking decidedly grim. Especially if you consider that, in April, an audit by Environment Commissioner Jerry DeMarco found the government has no idea which of the more than 100 climate change policies it's introduced since 2015 are working.

"So the, 'Just trust us, it will all add up,' doesn't work until they actually start showing that they're able to meet a target," Mr. DeMarco said, not just of Mr. Trudeau's government, but of all federal government over the past 30 years, who have collectively failed to



JORDAN TWISS
~
News Editor

meet eight separate greenhouse gas emissions reductions goals.

In defiance of Mr. DeMarco's findings, and his own ministry's data, federal Environment Minister Steven Guilbeault insists everything is going according to plan.

"As they say, the proof is in the pudding. And that's what we're doing. We're bending the emissions curve," he said, conveniently omitting the part where the "curve" seems to be bending upward.

If ignorance is bliss, Mr. Guilbeault is undoubtedly the happiest man in Canada.

Here in reality, however, Canadians are stuck with a government with lofty ambitions to mitigate climate change, and seemingly no means or hopes of achieving them. If anything, its policies and decisions are actively undermining its goals.

In 2022, Mr. Trudeau's government was expected to publish an updated Carbon Management Strategy. Prophetically, perhaps, it's now missed this deadline by more than a year.

What's more, a recent investigation by *The Narwhal*, found the first draft of the government's strategy was penned with input from an executive from Suncor, one of the key corporate players in the oilsands.

This executive, as well as a representative from Shell, were part of a 13-person committee asked to provide private advice to Natural Resources Canada concerning carbon capture, utilization, and storage.

The very existence of this advisory group, and its composition, has been kept under wraps for the past two years, only becoming public thanks to a freedom of information request by *The Narwhal*. What we still don't know is what was discussed, and how the discussions impacted the government's planning.

We do know, however, that the federal government is now betting big on carbon capture and storage by offering up to \$12.4 billion in incentives and tax credits for those who invest in the technology.

We also know that oilsands players like Suncor are saying this isn't enough for Canada's industry to be competitive in the face of what the United States is offering: a tax credit of \$85 per tonne

WHEN THE CLIMATE CHANGE CHICKENS COME HOME TO ROOST



of CO2 stored, as well as funding up to two-thirds of operating and capital costs for developments.

Earlier this year, Cenovus Energy CEO Alex Pourbaix and Suncor Energy interim CEO Kris Smith said it's only fair for Canada to offer the same, if it wants industry to succeed here.

At the same time that it's focusing heavily on carbon capture and storage, which was so successful in Saskatchewan that SaskPower said "Hey, let's not try that again," it's also continuing to gamble on the Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion.

Purchased by Mr. Trudeau's government in 2018 after its environmental dithering caused Kinder Morgan to walk away, the expansion was at one time projected to cost \$5.4 billion and expected to be completed by late 2022.

Now, the cost of the project has skyrocketed to \$30.9 billion and is slated to be completed at the end of this year. The federal government is backstopping the project with loan guarantees of \$13 billion, meaning we, the taxpayers, will be on the hook financially if Trans Mountain can't cover its debts. Based on the project's history to date, the government will likely need to put more on the line before the project is done and pumping oil.

Pair these decisions with the litany of other federal initiatives, including its new environmental regulations for pipelines and other resource projects, the carbon tax, the clean fuel regulations, the ban on single-use plas-

tics, and the heavy push towards EVs through incentives being offered to carmakers Volkswagen and Stellantis, and it seems, on the surface, like Mr. Trudeau's government is doing plenty to meet its climate change goals.

In actuality, this potpourri of policies is contradictory at worst, and ineffectual at best.

Though it has other uses, the carbon sequestered through carbon capture and storage is often used for enhanced oil recovery, which runs contrary to the whole purpose of reducing emissions.

Similarly, the \$30.9 billion spent on the Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion so far needs to be recouped somehow. And that somehow is by pumping a whole lot of oil for the foreseeable future.

Trying to reduce emissions, while taking steps that actively increase them and allowing oil and gas companies to shape public policy, makes about as much sense as dousing a fire with gasoline.

If Mr. Trudeau's government is serious about reducing Canada's greenhouse gas emissions – and that's a big if – it needs to get serious about setting clear and specific goals it can track and measure the success of, so they can be adapted as necessary.

Unfortunately, self-awareness has never been a strong suit for this government. With its blind ambition and willful ignorance, it's doing more harm than good and setting the stage for Canada's climate change failure.

Shellbrook Chronicle

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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.

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Intense wildfires across Canada demand immediate action

By **JENN PFENNING**
NFU President

At no time in my memory have so many fires ravaged so much of our country at one time. This unprecedented “fire season” follows other extraordinary weather and fire events that are happening with increasing ferocity and frequency year after year and around the globe. Our whole world is on fire.

We need solutions of two types. We need immediate help to aid those suffering now, and we need ambitious, forward-looking actions to slow and ultimately reduce the number of fires, their severity, and the damage they do.

We need immediate aid for those directly impacted by fires and smoke. While the rest of the population can shelter indoors, farmers and farm workers must work outside in health-imperiling smoke, or risk lost crops and lost wages. Farmers need access to resources that enable them to provide safer working conditions for themselves and their workers. We need programs and policies that support employers to provide the protections and skills that

will safeguard workers’ health and well-being. This is a human-rights issue, a justice issue.

In the medium-term, we need to double and then re-double Canadian efforts to reduce GHG emissions and, thus, cease driving climate change which is accelerating and proliferating these fires. The fires on our landscape are a direct result of the fires in our power plants, automobiles, and furnaces – and the inaction of our governments: Canada lags behind all of its Group of Seven (G7) peers. Compared to countries such as England, Germany, and even the US, we have done the least to reduce emissions. The often-nearly-invisible smoke from fossil-fueled cars, homes, and factories is driving the warming that is incinerating our forests and darkening our skies. To deal with the big fires “out there” we need to stop the billions of little fires all around us.

In addition to reducing our climate-destabilizing and forest-fire-intensifying emissions, we need to better manage our forests. Clearcuts and failed regeneration strategies leave forests drier and more

fire-prone. To reduce forest fires, we must maximize forest health with laws and policy to protect intact forest ecosystems and old growth forest from extractive industrial logging, which will safeguard essential biodiversity and provide a buffer against run-away climate change. Canada must enforce an immediate end to deforestation in Canada as called for at UN COP 26.

Finally, even if we reach net-zero emissions by 2050, fire numbers and intensity will continue to increase for decades as a result of the excess GHGs already in the atmosphere. Climate change

will increasingly imperil farms, homes, and communities. We need to be prepared with massively expanded firefighting capability. The National Farmers Union calls on all provincial and federal governments to very rapidly and significantly scale up firefighting capacities to ensure we have the personnel, equipment, and aerial firefighting resources we need before the next fire season hits.

Such an increase in personnel and equipment will be costly. Many Canadians will be hard-pressed to take money from their annual incomes to fund this needed

expansion. And they should not. Fossil fuel companies should pay the costs of fighting the fires their products are now intensifying. It would be reasonable to impose a significant tax on fossil-fuel company profits to cover the cost of the increased firefighting their products have made necessary.

As farmers who grow Canada’s food, we are on the front lines of the climate crisis. We are increasingly alarmed by the intensifying hostility and unpredictability of the climate. We call on our government for a response that is truly equal to this threat.

Sask. needs to permanently end small business tax

By **GAGE HAUBRICH**
CTF Prairie Director

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation is calling on the Saskatchewan government to permanently reduce the small business tax rate to zero as the current reduction is set to expire at the end of June.

“Small businesses are still struggling to recover and rehire their neighbours so they need a tax

hike about as much as a farmer needs hail,” said Gage Haubrich, Prairie Director of the CTF. “The government is already on course for a near record tax take this year and it doesn’t need to tighten the screws on small businesses.”

In 2020, the government of Saskatchewan lowered the small business tax rate from two to zero percent. On July 1, it will start to go back up.

Continued on page 6

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WP Sandin hosts Evening of the Arts

By **JORDAN TWISS**

Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

The students of Shellbrook's WP Sandin High School took their audience on a trip through Greek mythology on Thursday evening, as the curtain rose on their second annual Evening of the Arts.

Playing to a large crowd at the Shellbrook Theatre, the students staged their own take on *The Hysterical History of the Trojan War* by playwright D. M. Larson. As its name suggests, the play is a retelling of the story of the Trojan War from Homer's *The Iliad*, in which the Trojans and the Spartans battled one another (with the conflict ending with the now infamous Trojan Horse).

Unlike the mythical tale, however, *The Hysterical History of the Trojan War* is filled with humour, pop culture references, song parodies, and even a little bit of history.

The production, helmed by teacher/director Pam Boettcher, featured a large cast of characters, with many of the young actors taking on more than one role.

In alphabetical order, the cast included Clinton Boyer as Patroclus (Achilles' Cousin), Brooklyn Klaassen as Cassandra (Princess of Troy), Mason Mamchur as Poseidon and Agamemnon, Airionna McQuillan as Helen and Zeus, and Navarra Mumm

as Hera and a guard.

There was also Marcail Philp as Athena and Achilles, Abby Piprell as Hector, Cashian Sandry as Paris, Gaia Smart as Homer and Odysseus, Kallie Smith as Menelaus and Ajax, and Sara Verbonac as Apollo.

Last but certainly not least, Harmony Robillard and Jordyn Musgrave served as the Homerettes, Homer's back-up singers, Gracie Tang, Vayda Kreese, Thora Lenz, and Dylan LaMotte played Spartan soldiers, and Nash Helm, Brett Gallerneault, Chris Page, and Josh Collins played their Trojan counterparts.

In addition to benefitting from the guidance of Mrs. Boettcher, the production was assisted by Dori Banda, who handled costuming for the young actors, the sound and light crew of Chris Dean, Tyler Gerstner, Sawyer Mamchur, and Jack Sharron, and students in WP Sandin High School's commercial cooking class, who served up baking in the canteen.

As its name implies, the Evening of the Arts featured more than just theatre. Throughout the evening, art pieces created by WP Sandin students were up for auction.

All funds raised through donations at the door, the canteen, and the silent art auction, go directly to WP Sandin's Fine Arts Program, and will support the school's future artistic endeavours.



Lovers Paris (Cashian Sandry) and Helen (Airionna McQuillan) receive a dire warning from Cassandra (Brooklyn Klaassen).



The Goddesses Hera (Navarra Mumm), Athena (Marcail Philp) and Apollo (Sara Verbonac) discuss placing bets on the outcome of the Trojan War.



King Agamemnon (Mason Mamchur) makes his entrance, inspiring fear and obedience in his troops.



Odysseus (Gaia Smart) approaches Troy with the infamous Trojan Horse.



Ajax (Kallie Smith) and Hector (Abby Piprell) duel amidst the chaos of battle.

Sask. needs to permanently end small business tax

Continued from 5

Manitoba's small business tax is zero percent. The Alberta NDP is pushing to eliminate small business taxes in that province.

The Saskatchewan government collected a record amount of taxes in 2022. Including collecting \$1.1 billion more in corporate taxes than originally projected.

The three year savings to small businesses from the tax cut is about \$189 million. Annually, that represents only eight per cent of the windfall corporate income tax the government collected last year.

Over the last three years, the average small business saved about \$6,100 due to the tax cut.

"Small businesses create jobs and help drive the economy," Haubrich said. "Instead of raising this tax and hurting business owners, the government needs to scrap it completely."

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

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



Legislation must be crafted with care

Increasingly how farmers farm will be dictated by government regulation.

Where regulation of business by government is not new, agriculture has long operated with perhaps less interference than most sectors.

That can of course be seen as a positive by producers, although increasingly the public is concerned about how farmers farm. It might be suggested the concerns arise from most people having no idea how food is produced, and that lack of knowledge is something where misinformation can quickly take root and cause concern among consumers.

That isn't to suggest producers can't do some things better, but when you have elected officials – again many not having direct farm knowledge in many jurisdictions – legislation can go too far, and become prohibitive to production.

In North America in particular, it is easy to think changes are positive with little concern about production because food shelves in stores are generally always full (though, there is a larger question about feeding the world in a fashion which is cost effective, and allows producers to make a dollar too).

It's a balancing act that seems to be tilting to-



CALVIN DANIELS

ward legislative decisions that are edging too far in terms of farmers being able to operate reasonably.

For example, the hog industry stateside is expecting turmoil to arise after the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a California law cutting off that giant market from most North American pork.

"The law, known as Proposition 12, also affects other meats such as chicken and beef. It bans the in-state production and sale from any source of meats not produced to the law's specifications, which defines not only the type of animal production systems allowed but also technical details required for compliant systems," reported a *www.producer.com* article.

"While the intention known as 'Prop 12' is to force livestock producers to offer systems such as open housing for gestating sows that many people believe are more humane than individual stalls, the technical

specifications mean that many barns that have been retrofitted or built new around open housing won't be acceptable . . .

"Small numbers of barns with open housing have been built, but few with the required amount of space per sow defined by Prop 12. For instance, even with open housing, the new law dictates that each sow must have at least 24 sq. feet of room, which is more than most contemporary systems provide."

Clearly the industry – even those moving toward greater sow freedom – have a different vision than California legislators. And while you

should not simply believe anything from a particular group without some research, I'd be less trusting of largely urban elected officials.

But here the die has been cast, and it could lead to pork shortages in California, and a glut in other jurisdictions where pork typically sold into the huge California market goes.

It's a case of legislation at least needing a phase-in period to adjust so as not to disrupt markets, but that clearly is not happening.

If legislators are going down the road of greater control of how farmers farm, they should at least tread with some care.

Crop Report: May 30 to June 5

Many producers in the province have finished seeding, with others very close to done. Ninety-six per cent of the crop is in the ground, up from 89 per cent last week and just slightly behind the five-year average (2018-2022) of 97 per cent. Rain was welcomed by many to improve moisture conditions, but also caused delays for those trying to finish seeding. There were many reports of rain in the form of heavy storms, which resulted in localized flooding in some areas. There have also been reports of heavy winds and hail causing damage to crops and property in some areas.

Producers in the west-central region have virtually completed seeding with 99 per cent of their crop now seeded. Seeding is at 98 per cent completion in the northeast and northwest re-

gions of the province, 96 per cent in the southwest, and 94 per cent in the east-central and southeast regions.

Rainfall was received throughout the province last week. While it was welcomed by producers in the drier areas of the province, it also caused flooding and delays for many. Much of the rain was localized, with some areas receiving trace amounts and many receiving more. There was 64 mm of precipitation in the Glenavon area, 53 mm in Mossbank, 45 mm in Rhein, 34 mm in Garrick and 11 mm in Mayfair.

Moisture conditions are overall improved in the province this week. Cropland topsoil moisture is rated as seven per cent surplus, 78 per cent adequate, 14 per cent short and one per cent very short. Hay and pastureland topsoil moisture is rated as five per

cent surplus, 75 per cent adequate, 17 per cent short and three per cent very short.

Heat and moisture in much of the province have supported crop development. Warm temperatures with high night-time lows have progressed some crops ahead of normal. Thirty-one per cent of the fall cereal crops are reported as being in the jointing stage, 26 per cent are in the shot blade stage and 12 per cent are in the heading stage, while 46 per cent of the spring cereals are emerging and 40 per cent are tillering. Forty-two per cent of the canola is emerging and 42 per cent is in the seedling stage, along with 34 per cent of flax being in the seedling stage. Forty-nine per cent of pulse crops are emerging and 43 per cent are in the vegetative stage.

There were various causes of crop damage this past week. Scattered, but widespread storms caused flooding, hail and wind damage throughout multiple areas of the province. Heat and drought are also causing stress in the crops. There were reports of insect damage caused by grasshoppers and flea beetles, as well as gophers.

Producers have been busy finishing up seed, spraying, checking crops, picking rocks, and moving cattle to pasture. Producers are encouraged to take all safety precautions in all the work they do. The Farm Stress Line can help by providing support for producers toll-free at 1-800-667-4442.

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

Amistad places third at Prov. Remembrance Day contest



After placing first at the branch, zone, and district levels, Athena Amistad, a Canwood Community School student, has earned a third place finish at the Provincial level of the Legion's Remembrance Day Poster Contest for her junior black and white poster. Pictured: Athena receives her certificates and cheque from Canwood Legion President Bob Thompson.

By BOB THOMPSON, Canwood Legion

Eckel wins March dessert



The Spiritwood Public Library presented the March Dessert of the Month to Vanessa Eckel (left). The presentation was unfortunately delayed due to scheduling conflicts. The dessert was made by Library Board member Dana Doucette (right).

By HEATHER GATZKE, Librarian

Canwood Royal Purple hosts Senior's Tea

By CANWOOD ROYAL PURPLE

The Canwood Royal Purple hosted its annual Senior's Tea on Wednesday, June 7, in the Canwood Elk's Community Hall, with approximately 50 people in attendance.

The Seniors were entertained with numerous musical numbers played on the piano and fiddle, as well as singing. The piano players were: Charley Bather, Falyn Charbonneau, Hudson Schutte, and Shae Benjamin, and the fiddle tunes were performed by Elisha Johnson and Rebecca Schutte.

Mrs. Tani Hamborg and Mrs. Heather Hladun brought the students from the Canwood School and worked with the kids to supply the entertainment. The Grade 1 and 2 students used sign language to sign and sing O Canada, a group of three students sang Lollipop, Lollipop, and another group sang Rockin' Robin.

Following the entertainment, strawberry shortcake and refreshments were served to the folks in attendance.



Members of Royal Purple, front row, left to right: Linda Young and Violet Granberg. Back Row, left to right: Amie Bather and Eileen Hamborg.



Members of Royal Purple, from left to right: Sandra Willner, Donna Lovberg, Eileen Hamborg, and Wendy Otterson.

Shell Lake Legion observes Decoration Day

By CAROLYN LALONDE
Shell Lake Legion

On Thursday, June 8, Shell Lake Legion Branch #15 held their annual Decoration Day Ceremony.

President Christine Wollms opened and closed the event.

Sergeant at Arms Jack Klassen led the colour party of Don Weiers, Bernard Lalonde, Brittany Hatch, and Chanelle Weir. Anita Weiers gave the mayoral address and led the musical. The spiritual message and prayers were led by Padre David Jensen.

Finally, Gwen Stringer-Klassen led in the laying of the wreaths.

A 'tail-gate' lunch completed the event.



Shell Lake Legion members, from left to right: Bernard Lalonde, Carolyn Lalonde, Brittany Hatch, Chanelle Weir, Anita Weiers, Jack Klassen, Gwen Stringer-Klassen, and Don Weiers.



Some of the guests enjoying the Tea.



Musical duet by Charley Bather (left) and Falyn Charbonneau.

PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Parkside
10:30 a.m. Worship
Pastor Lorne Valuck
306-747-3572
Shellbrook
Adult Study
9:30 a.m.
Sun., 10:30 a.m. - Worship
Pastor David Bodvarson
306-747-7235
Canwood
Summer: 10 a.m. - Worship
Pastor Bob Wrench
306-468-2138

Leask Gospel Tabernacle
Sunday 11 a.m.
306-466-2296

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. Canon David Butorac
306-961-1634
Minister's Warden:
306-922-5159
H.C. Service with Rev.
Butorac - 2nd 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
Sun. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
(10:30 a.m. June - August)
306-468-2525

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. Mariusz Zajac
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. Mariusz Zajac
St. Agatha's - Shellbrook
Mass - Sunday 11 a.m.
St. Henry's - Leask
Mass - Sunday 9 a.m.
Mistawasis
1st & 3rd Sundays 1:30 p.m.
Fr. Tuan Doan

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 9:00 a.m.
Rev. Sarah Urano

UNITED /ANGLICAN

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

CATHOLIC SUNDAY

Spiritwood - 9:00 a.m.
Leoville - 11:00 a.m.
Chitek Lake - 1:00 p.m.
SATURDAY
Medstead - 6 p.m.
Shell Lake - 8:00 p.m.
Everyone Welcome
Fr. Ramel Macapala

COWBOY CHURCH

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

LAKELAND COMMUNITY CHURCH

(Corner of 1st Ave. and 4th
St., Spiritwood)
Sun., 11 am - Worship
Service & Sunday School
Pastor Michael Kluthe
306-883-2380

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

MENNONITE BRETHREN

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

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

BELBUTTE FULL GOSPEL

11 am Worship Service

PARTNERS IN WORSHIP

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

Willoughby Memorial tourney played at Hidden Hills

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

The Hidden Hills of Shellbrook Golf Course kicked off what is certain to be a busy season of golf tournaments with the Jim Willoughby Memorial Golf Tournament on Saturday, June 10.

The tournament is an annual staple for the golf course, and is held in honour of Jim Willoughby, who was passionate about golfing for much of his life. Willoughby and his family have also been mainstays in Shellbrook's minor sports community for as long as anyone can remember, both as players and as referees, and Willoughby is also remembered through an annual hockey tournament that is played in the winter.

"It's really all about having fun. It's a celebration of [Jim Willoughby's] commitment to sports in Shellbrook," said Hidden Hills manager Len Stener, noting that the more fun-focused golf tournament brings in a younger crowd, as well as people who wouldn't typically come to the golf course.

All told, 88 golfers participated in this year's Jim Willoughby Memorial Golf Tournament, enough for 22 teams.

After the final tee-off, the long drive trophy was won by Dallyn Peekeekoot, and this year's championship trophy went to the team of Evan Williams, Sheri Williams, James Isbister, and Ryan Sasakamoose.

"It was very successful for the golf course, and everyone had a good time," Stener said.



Shane Willoughby tees off to begin the annual Jim Willoughby Memorial Tournament.



Shane Willoughby presents the long drive trophy to Dallyn Peekeekoot.

Royal Purple awards Brain Injury Awareness poster prizes

By **RHONDA LENNARD**
Shellbrook Royal Purple

Brain injury awareness and prevention is the Royal Purple's cause. Therefore, every year, Canadian Royal Purple lodges across Canada approach schools to have their students submit posters.

The poster contest is a Royal Purple project to help bring awareness and prevention to brain injury and the importance of protecting the brain. It is open to students in Grades 1 through 8, with the competition split into four age groups of two grades each.

Prizes are awarded for the top three entries in each age group, starting at \$40 for first place, \$30 for second prize, and \$25 for third place in the local contest. The top three entries move from the local contest to the provincial competition, where the top entries in

each category advance to nationals.

This year, the contest was judged by Shellbrook Mayor Amund Otterson, Cpl. Chad Price from the RCMP, Pastor Randall McLeod from Parkside Lutheran Church, and local resident Al Dion, who had the difficult task of choosing the winners in each category.

Four students' posters from Shellbrook went on to win at the provincial level, including Taelynn Strandberg, Avery Wallin, Bridgette Matthias, and Emma Lauder. These four students are moving on to the national level for judging.

Participants at the local level this year included, Mrs. Mason and her Grade 2 class from Leask Community School, Mrs. Verbonac and her Grade 3 class, Mrs. Ledding and her Grade 4 class, and Ms. Cowles and her Grade 5 class, all from Shellbrook Elementary School.



Shane Willoughby presents the championship trophy to Evan Williams, Sheri Williams, James Isbister, and Ryan Sasakamoose.



Royal Purple members Pat Radchuk and Rhonda Lennard present to Shellbrook Grade 4 student Avery Wallin, whose entry is moving on to the national level.



Royal Purple members Pat Radchuk and Rhonda Lennard present to Shellbrook student Bridgette Matthias, whose entry is moving on to the national level.



Royal Purple members Pat Radchuk and Rhonda Lennard present to Shellbrook Grade 5 student Emma Lauder, whose entry is moving on to the national level.



Taelynn Strandberg, Grade 5 student from Shellbrook, whose entry is moving on to the national level.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

SHELL LAKE: Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 11am - 4pm; Wednesday 12 pm - 5 pm

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

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

CANWOOD: Canwood Branch of Wapiti Regional Library. Tuesday 10am - 3:30pm; Thursday 3:30pm - 8pm; Friday 1:30pm - 4:30pm. Kids Club is Fridays 3:30pm - 4:30pm, Crafter's Choice is the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

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

LEASK: Wapiti Library & Legacy Gallery Hours - Tuesday 9am - 2pm; Wednesday 3pm - 6pm; Friday 1pm - 5pm

MARCELIN: Wapiti Library - Thursday 2pm - 7pm; Saturday 9am - 2pm. 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 2pm - 6pm; Tuesday 12pm - 8pm; Wednesday 2pm - 6pm; Thursday 12pm - 6pm; Friday 10 am - 5pm (Story Time 11am - 12pm); Saturday 10am - 4pm.

LEASK: Leask Wheatland Lodge Auxiliary - Outdoor Flea Market. Location: Leask (Hwy 40 & 2nd St N) Friday, June 16, 2023 - 10am to 4pm. BBQ Lunch & Music - 11:30am to 1pm. Table Rental - \$15. Contact Joanne McHanson 306-466-7735. Your support helps us to enhance the lives of our residents.

MEDSTEAD: The Playground Committee of the Village of Medstead announces New Playground Opening - Sunday, June 18 from 11am to 2pm, corner of 2nd Street & 2nd Avenue, Medstead. Join us for welcoming remarks from our local community, government and committee members, ribbon cutting, bbq lunch with cake, and playtime for the children.

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OBITUARIES

Daniel Sean Augusta



Daniel Sean Augusta
May 8, 1989 - May 26, 2023

On May 26, 2023, Daniel Sean Augusta of Winnipeg passed peacefully at home with his family at his side. He will be deeply missed by parents Kevin and Brenda Augusta, brother Scott, aunt Shelley Augusta, uncle Dean (Elaine) Byers, cousins Erin, Ryan, Mandy, and Ty, an extended family

across the country, and many friends. Dan was predeceased by grandparents John and Phyllis Augusta of Shellbrook, and Bob and Marleen Byers of Star City, SK.

Dan was memorable – you couldn't meet him and not remember him. He had a great sense of humour. He saw the world through glasses just slightly askew and all who knew him experienced his comedic timing, storytelling skill, and love of the pun. Along with co-conspirators Jessy Ardern and Ariel Levine, whom he met through The Shakespeare Company at Manitoba Theatre for Young People, he co-founded The Struts and Frets Players. Their mission was to breathe new life into old stories and share them with a

wider audience. This collaboration resulted in six Winnipeg Fringe Theatre shows, lots of laughs, the occasional tear, great reviews, and deep and lasting friendships. Dan completed a degree in Theatre and Film at the University of Winnipeg following his graduation from Miles Macdonell Collegiate in Winnipeg in 2007. His theatre work included roles in *Revenge of the Meek*, *Ripple Effect*, *The God Box*, *The Winter's Tale*, and *The Ghost Sonata*. He also appeared on film in *The Capture of the Green River Killer* and *New in Town* featuring Renée Zellweger and Harry Connick Jr.

In 2017 Dan joined Sick + Twisted, a theatre company dedicated to "exploring the experience of living with a disabili-

ty." His one-man show entitled *Full Disclosure* in their first disability cabaret, *Lame Is*, was a personal and courageous exploration of the company's belief that "truth in performance is not dependent on bodily perfection." The power of art to change and broaden perspectives was important to Dan and after performing in two disability cabarets, he joined the board of the company.

Dan was a foodie and a great home chef. After a childhood that included long periods of nourishment by intravenous only and years of tube feeding, he became passionate about cooking, applying his curious mind to the art and science of food preparation. In 2023 he created a book of recipes dedicated to encouraging home cooks, self-de-

scribed foodies, curious minds, and kitchen putterers to keep learning and to not let the perfect be the enemy of the good. While others baked bread through the pandemic, Dan grew mushrooms and made kombucha. Our family meals will be less flavourful without Dan's urging to "just add a little more."

Dan wanted to be remembered for who he was - a caring and vital human being, a good friend, a loving son and brother, and someone intellectually engaged with the world. Dan was a frequent flyer in the health care system. He and his family were and are extremely grateful for the excellent care and treatment he received in Winnipeg, Toronto, and the United States. Daniel, and therefore our

family, was the recipient of more than one miracle. For this we thank every nurse, doctor, Child Life Specialist, medical student, physiotherapist, occupational therapist, respiratory therapist we met over the past thirty-four years. From you we learned how to help our son and brother live his life.

Dan was interred in a private graveside service on May 31, 2023. A celebration of life will follow in the months ahead... we need time to celebrate Dan's life in the way he deserves. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to: Manitoba Theatre for Young People, 2 Forks Market Road, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4X1 or Young Adult Cancer Canada, PO Box 29055 Torbay Road, St. John's NL A1A 5B5.

Lorna Jean Pearson



PEARSON, Lorna Jean of Meota, SK passed away on June 2, 2023, at the age of 97. Lorna is survived by her sister Linda Ard and children Donna (Al), Beth (Norm), Joyce, Sally (Jerry), Gordon (Shelley), Brad (Kelly)

along with several grandchildren, great grandchildren, great-great grandchildren, numerous nieces, and nephews.

Lorna was born in North Battleford December 2, 1925. Grew up in Prince, attended normal school in Saskatoon, when finished she taught at log cabin #4963 back in 1944-45. She met and married John Pearson in 1945. Then in 1946 they moved to the Pearson Family homestead where they raised their children. In 1976 they sold the farm and moved to Green Lake where they managed a government

pig farm. They later retired in Chitek Lake, Saskatchewan. Lorna was always an avid writer - she would sit at the end of the day and write in her journal. She, for years, would write hand-written letters and send them snail mail. As she had correspondence with people all over the world when internet became a thing, and she got her first computer she could start sending emails - that was very exciting for her. If you were travelling somewhere she probably knew someone there you should look up. She kept a daily journal, wrote a

weekly newspaper article for the Spiritwood newspaper while living in Chitek Lake. When she sold Chitek Lake and moved to Meota she then wrote for the North Battleford newspaper providing them the Meota news. She loved living in Meota and made many great friends, was very active with the Do Drop Inn Seniors Hall. Never missed an event or Friday cards unless she herself was away. She loved learning new things, camping, traveling in the motor home, knitting, crocheting, card games, computer games, her

iPad with her always for emails, jig saw puzzles, words with friends and time with family above all things.

Funeral Service was held on Monday, June 5, 2023, at 1:00 PM at the Meota Community Hall, Meota, SK. With Rev. Nora Borgeson officiating. The Eulogy was given by Carrie Sandstrom and Sonya Bouvier. Honorary pallbearers were considered "All those who shared in Lorna's life", active pallbearers were George Shepherd, Dave Shepherd, Avery Shepherd, Scotty Shepherd, Jim Shepherd, and

Trever Poole. Interment followed at the Meota Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to the Meota Do Drop Inn Senior Centre or Charity of Choice.

Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com. A complete obituary will be updated when available. Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home and Crematorium, Delores Beaulac - Funeral Director, Spiritwood, SK (306) 883-3500.

Jean Elisabeth Springett



SPRINGETT - Jean Elisabeth
1944 - 2023

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Jean Elisabeth Springett.

Jean was born in Canwood on November 29, 1944, with the aid of

nurse Lindstrom, the midwife.

Jean passed away in the Shellbrook Hospital on May 25, 2023, at the age of 78.

She got her education at Canwood High School where she excelled in many sports. Her first job was at City Hospital in Saskatoon as a dietary aid. Years later she worked in central supply in Calgary, Edmonton, and Yellowknife Stanton Hospital where she earned her certification. She moved to Red Deer, Alberta, her chosen place to live, and worked at the Red Deer General Hospital for 21 years before retiring to Canwood. Jean was a very

caring and giving soul and her years of working in the hospital benefited many others.

Jean loved to travel, and she has lived in the Yukon, Northwest Territories, Manitoba, and Alberta before retiring. She traveled to destinations many of us could only dream of. After retiring Jean enjoyed gardening and her yard. Her yard will be remembered for her colorful decor and solar lights. She loved to share her produce and flowers with friends. People will miss seeing her walk her little dog, Rosie. Jean had many lifelong friends, more notably Lavern Adrian

and Eileen and Malcolm Green. Jean will be sadly missed by many of her past co-workers who kept in touch.

There will be a private family interment of Jean's cremains in the Canwood North Cemetery on Sunday, July 2nd, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. This will be followed by a Come and Go lunch in a celebration of Jean's life for friends and family at Jean's yard from 2:00 p.m. on, where you may feel free to share your favorite memories of Jean.

Jean was predeceased by her parents, Ray and Myrtle Robertson, her sister Evelyn and her brothers-in-law, Ken

Ingram and Trevor Barge. Jean will be missed by her two loving sisters Ruth Barge and Mary Ann (Ron) Rusnell and their families, and by her two brothers George (Darlene) and Bill (Marilyn) Robertson of Canwood. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of tributes, memorial donations may be made in memory of

Jean to the Debden Heritage Manor (Box 608 Debden, SK. S0J 0S0). Family and friends wishing to share online condolences are welcome to visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home & Crematorium, Donna Lovberg, Funeral Director, Canwood, SK. 306-468-2244.



CHECK IT OUT!

Shellbrook Chronicle Website
www.shellbrookchronicle.com

Spiritwood Herald Website
www.spiritwoodherald.com

OBITUARIES

Monty Rae Thompson



THOMPSON – Monty Rae

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Monty Rae Thompson.

Monty was born on June 10, 1945, at Section 23, Township 54,

Range 8, West of the 3, Saskatchewan. This was more commonly known as the Wrixon/Erinferry area. He has resided in Big River all his adult life.

Monty passed away March 1, 2023, at the Shellbrook Integrated Health Facility at the age of 77, after a very brief battle with cancer.

Monty's parents moved from Webb, SK to the Wrixon area in 1941. Monty was the eldest of two sons born to Neil and Grace Thompson. He went to school at Bodmin and Big River on Urgel Burnett's bus. Monty started working at the Erinferry store in 1961 and drove the school bus

from 1963 to 1966.

He was a mechanic at Carmen Weir's Esso Station & Garage from 1966 to 1978. Next, he worked for Lyle Yurach in the construction business from 1978 to 1981. The Big River Tree Nursery was his workplace from 1981 to 1998. Monty spent from 1998 until he retired in 2004 with Saskatchewan Wildfire Management at the Big River base. He considered it his dream job as he was a true "maintenance specialist" and loved the challenge of keeping everything in working order.

Monty was a volunteer firefighter for the Town of Big River and enjoyed

snowmobiling and boating. He loved working in his shop, was an excellent gardener, and carried on cooking all his mom's traditional holiday recipes including raspberry jam.

Monty is lovingly remembered by:

Patricia (Dennis) Thompson (sister-in-law) and their family;

Niece Catherine (Ellery) Demedash and their children Nicholas, Christopher, and Rebecca;

Nephew Brian (Amy Ingram) Thompson;

Niece Heather (Jay Hawranik) Thompson;

Bernard (Eva) Larsen (special friends) and their family;

Niece Courtney Larsen; Niece Naomi (Jeremy) Marose and their son Madden;

Nephew Noland (Shannon) Larsen and their children Brielle and Thomas;

Monty leaves to mourn many long-time family and community friends, former co-workers, and neighbours.

He is predeceased by:

His parents Archibald "Neil" and Catherine Grace Thompson (née: Gordon);

His brother Dennis Thompson;

Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, and some cousins.

A celebration of life was

held June 10, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. in the Big River Legion Hall, Big River, SK with Pastor Jake McCrea officiating. A private burial followed the celebration of life in the Big River Cemetery.

Donations in memory may be made to the Big River Long Term Care Auxiliary.

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 and Crematorium, R. Mark Muir Funeral Director, Big River, SK (306) 469-2277.

Larry "Dale" Westgard



Westgard – Larry "Dale"

Dale was born February 9, 1948, in Eston, SK to Henry and Anna Westgard. They lived at White Bear, SK until 1956 when they moved to Leader, SK. He did not like school much so he had quit and went out to work. Over the years he worked oil rigs, construction (road building), heavy equipment operator & mechanic. He never did have a mechanic ticket due to his dislike for schooling but could repair any heavy equipment he tackled. He had a lot of tickets in his life, but a heavy equipment mechanic ticket was not one of them.

He worked a lot of years at Points North in Northern Saskatchewan. Over those years he would either quit or his brother Bob would fire him, and within a week

they would phone for him to come back. Sometimes he would go right back up and sometimes he would let them "stew" for a while. He also at one time had a dragline and dug dugouts for farmers. He decided to go trucking and haul gravel. He had a semi and a belly dump trailer then changed to a different semi with an end dump trailer. He hauled gravel until he decided to retire.

When Dale came to Canwood he was working for a construction company building the new highway. He made a lot of good friends and probably a few enemies, but Dale would always call a spade a spade, no beating around the bush. If he didn't like someone they knew it, his friends were friends for life. Over the years Dale pulled many of pranks on many people around Canwood. Way too many people reading this know a lot of them or were recipients of those pranks.

It was in Canwood where he met and married Gail (Thall). Dale loved kids and he would load up his jeep with the boys and take them cruising. We are quite sure those boys who are now men in their 30's, 40's and 50's can recite

Dale's poetry and sing his little songs, and some can probably even call a square dance.

His love of children grew even more with the birth of every grandchild. He was such a proud Papa. He was also blessed with a great-grandson, Barrett Penner two months ago.

Dale loved hunting, fishing, camping and spent lots of time at Ernest & Peggy's "Shack Tent" in Waskesiu. He was even a good seamstress and would borrow Monica's sewing machine to repair his work clothes and that was a good thing because Gail couldn't sew a button on properly.

Dale is survived by his wife Gail Westgard; his son Jonathan (Michelle) Thall and their children, Cheyenne (Kevin) Penner and Gunner Thall and great-grandson Barrett Penner, daughter Llewella (Rob Hundt) and son Craig (Susan) and their children Luke and Kara; his in-laws, Gary (Karen) Thall and family; his brothers, Bruce (Sylvia), Richard, Garry, Stan, Emery and Curtis (Debbie); his sisters Lillian and Marjorie (Rodger Boylan); his sister-in-laws, MaryAnn and Linda; as well as

numerous nieces and nephews.

Dale was predeceased by his parents Anna and Henry Westgard; his brothers Bob, Ron, and Norris; his sister Annette (Kallechy); his in-laws Lewis Kallechy, Elsie Westgard and Ernest and Peggy Thall; as well as some of his nieces and nephews.

Dale will always be remembered for his love of family and friends, his sense of humor, his

unforgettable laugh, his little poems and songs, Merle Haggard tunes, watching the Blue Jays ball games and his love of Pilsner. He passed away just the way he would have wanted, it was fast and he did not have to suffer. He left us with a lot of great memories. He will always be loved by family and friends and will never be forgotten.

There will be a private family service held

at a later date. In lieu of tributes, memorial donations may be made in memory of Dale to MS Canada. 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 & Crematorium, Lynn Anderson, Funeral Director, Canwood, SK 306-468-2244.

Shellbrook Kinettes support Little Red Hens



The Shellbrook Kinettes and Shellbrook Mamas have thrown their support behind the new charitable venture, Little Red Hens, which provides free monthly diaper bundle deliveries to moms in the area, by donating \$500 to the cause. Pictured here, left to right, Little Red Hens founders Sarah Johnson and Tani Hamborg accept the cheque from Shellbrook Kinette and Shellbrook Mamas founder Kat Mackin-Smith.

Photo: Kinette Club of Shellbrook Facebook

What happens when you don't advertise?

Very little.

Should it be the Final? Or Finals?

Pressing questions from the world of sport that have no definite answers, but offer a variety of possibilities:

For instance:

Why is it called the Stanley Cup Final but the NBA Finals?

Was Paul Maurice pushed out of his job as coach of the Winnipeg Jets, or did he really quit in mid-season of 2021-22 of his own volition?

Was the Maurice decision to quit Winnipeg and take over the helm of the Florida Panthers a great decision or a really great decision?

Why can't Rory McIlroy, he of the immense talent and the third-ranked golfer in the world, win his first major championship since 2014?

Can we say that Gavin McKenna, the wunderkind of the Medicine Hat Tigers and still only 15 years old, is heading for the same hockey stratosphere that Connor Bedard occupied the last couple of seasons?

How often do the Calgary Flames' fans rue

the day that Matthew Tkachuk flew the coop?

Why won't the NHL take advantage of the Arizona Coyotes' serious dilemma (no rink; no plan for a new rink) and allow the franchise to be moved to the hockey hotbed of Quebec City?

Which is more likely to happen first — somebody surpassing Joe DiMaggio's 56-game hitting streak of 1941, or Wayne Gretzky's 92-goal season in 1981-82?

With gambling and betting sites ubiquitous around pro sports these days, isn't it just about time that Major League Baseball reconsidered its lifetime ban of Pete Rose?

Is there a medical presence in the front office of the Philadelphia 76ers, whose coaches went from a Doc (Rivers) to his replacement, Nurse (Nick)?

Would a 2025 trip to Las Vegas in late September be absolutely perfect for a sports junkie, who could possibly see a Golden Knights



BRUCE PENTON

pre-season hockey game, an Athletics baseball game and a Raiders' football game over a three-day period?

Won't it be great to have Toronto's Milos Ronic return to competitive tennis this summer, joining countrymen Felix Auger-Aliassime and Denis Shapovalov on the pro circuit, after a two-year injury-related absence?

Will the Blue Jays' roster ever again rival the talent level of the 1993 squad, which trotted out seven all-stars — Roberto Alomar (2B), Joe Carter (OF), Pat Hentgen (P), Paul Molitor (DH), John Olerud (1B), Duane

Ward (P), and Devon White (OF)?

While Vernon Adams, Dane Evans, and Dominique Davis might all be dependable CFL quarterbacks for the B.C. Lions, will B.C. fans be able to come to grips with the departure of superstar Nathan Rourke, who signed in the off-season with Jacksonville Jaguars?

What was the No. 1 ingredient that propelled Florida Panthers to the Stanley Cup final — the coaching of Paul Maurice, the never-quit performance of Matthew Tkachuk, the goaltending of Sergei Bobrovsky, or merely momentum?

• Spotted on Cardinals Nation 24/7 on Twitter: "The last pitch Bob Gibson ever threw was hit for a grand slam by Pete LaCock. A decade later there was an Oldtimers' game at Wrigley Field and LaCock stepped to the plate and Gibson hit him."

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "Just over four months after he went into cardiac arrest

during Monday Night Football, Damar Hamlin was at training camp for the Buffalo Bills. And I once missed a football practice because I had a case of the hiccups."

• Comedy writer Gary Bachman: "Baseball has a stat 'exit velocity.' It refers to how fast A's fans leave after another loss."

• Janice Hough of leftcoastsportsbabe.com: "So this year the Cheez-It Bowl in Orlando is going to become the Pop-Tarts Bowl. Should be fun for announcers. 'That was a sweet pass'; 'they're in a real jam here...'; 'think this team is toast.'"

• Mike Bianchi of the Orlando Sentinel: "Did you see where Nick Saban just got back from a vacation in Italy? In related news, he secured a verbal commitment while taking a gondola ride with a five-star linebacker from Venice's Franchetti High School."

• Bianchi again: "Word is Nick Saban also visited The Ruins of Pompeii,

which reportedly reminded him of Auburn's football program."

• From upjoke.com: "It's a good thing our favourite sports drink was invented at University of Florida. If it was developed at Florida State University, Gatorade might have been called Seminole Fluid instead."

• RJ Currie of sports-deke.com: "What's the difference between Conor McGregor and Connor McDavid? One competes in a sport known for brutal, bloody fighting; the other works in mixed martial arts."

• From fark.com: "Blue Jays fans show their support for Anthony Bass's anti-LGBTQ+ position by booing him for an entire inning."

• Steve Simmons of Sunmedia: "H.G. Wells wrote The Invisible Man and it's not a story of Mark Shapiro disappearing everytime there is anything resembling controversy around the Blue Jays."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

GOOD NEWS

OUR CHOICES ARE IMPORTANT

By DAVE BODVARSON

Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly

I find it interesting that the Gospel of Luke only recorded three of Jesus' seven statements on the cross. I am writing about one of them and that is "Today you will be with Me in paradise."

I called this message Choices.

I understand that the name Calvary comes from the Latin, which means "a skull." The Aramaic word is Golgotha, the place where Jesus was crucified.

It is true that each Gospel writer had a reason for writing their Gospel. I think that Jesus' prayer for His enemies, and His ministry to the repentant thief, fit well with Luke's purpose to show Jesus as the sympathetic Son of Man who cared for the needy.

Let me share a few verses here.

Luke 23: 39-43: "Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed

Him, saying, 'If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us.'

But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong.'

Then he said to Jesus, 'Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.'

And Jesus said to him, 'Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.'

It was providential, or in God's planning, that Jesus would be crucified between two thieves. This gave both of them equal access to Jesus. Besides that, both had the opportunity to read what Pilate wrote: "This is Jesus of Nazareth the King of the Jews."

As we read, one thief mocked Jesus and told Him to rescue him from the Cross. I like the other thief. It likely took

some courage to defy the first thief and the crowd. It likely took faith for him to trust a dying King.

I have always appreciated what this example teaches me. It teaches that this man was saved wholly by grace; it was a gift of God. (Eph. 2:8-9). He certainly didn't deserve salvation, nor could he earn it. His salvation was personal and guaranteed by the word of Jesus. The one made the wrong choice the other made the right choice.

When I was in Grade 8, I was sitting at my desk in the Diamond Jenness High School in Hay River. It was Sept. 28, 1972. I sure appreciated the teacher saying that the last minute of the game between Canada and the Soviet Union was going to be played over the intercom. If you remember, there was only 34 seconds in the game and Paul Henderson scores the winning goal to lead Canada to win the series. Wow! I wrote an article about this, and Paul Henderson heard about it and he gifted me his book and a recording on this moment.

I actually heard Paul Henderson's life story twice in Saskatchewan. Once in Raymore and once in Watrous. This devotion is about choices. I would have not known this till years later when Paul gave his testimony. He said he felt prompted by the Holy Spirit to be on the ice. He made a choice that was normally reserved for coaches, calling a player off the ice so he could go on.

During slavery days, some northern visitors in New Orleans were watching

a company of slaves shuffling along the dock, returning to their work. They were said to be spiritless, indifferent to life itself. But there was one fellow who stood out. He walked with his head erect and with unbroken spirit. Someone was so surprised he asked, "Who is this fellow?"

The answer was, "That fellow just can't get out of his head that he is the son of a king."

He actually was. Even after a lifetime of hardship which had broken the spirits of others, he was still the son of a king. I am absolutely convinced that as believers if we get caught up in the Our Heavenly Father's love for us it will do wonders.

I think a basketball in one's hands is worth about \$19. But a basketball in Michael Jordan's hand is worth \$33 million.

A baseball in one's hand is worth about \$6. But a baseball in Mark McGuire's hand is worth \$19 million.

Two fish and five loaves of bread in one's hands is a couple of sandwiches. But two fish and five loaves of bread in God's hands will feed thousands.

It depends whose hands it's in.

Nails in one's hands can build a birdhouse. But nails in Jesus' hands will produce salvation for the entire world.

So, choices are important. Let's choose to put our hopes, dreams, and worries in God's hands.

I sure appreciate the thief on the cross who put his destiny in Jesus. What he did, we can do.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the estate of James Hiram Van Eaton, late of Shellbrook, Saskatchewan, deceased. All claims against the above estate, duly verified by statutory declaration and with particulars and valuation of security held, if any, must be sent to the undersigned before the 15th day of July, 2023. NOVUS LAW GROUP Barristers & Solicitors 1200 Central Avenue Prince Albert, SK S6V 4V8 Attention: Bill Cannon Solicitors for the Estate 2-24

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Minutes of a Village of Leask council meeting

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

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Village of Leask held at the Leask Community Hall on April 19, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

Present were Mayor John Priestley, Deputy Mayor Zach Waldner, Councillors Valerie Priestley, Charles Smith, and Eugene Verbonac, and acting administrator Yvette Hamel.

The mayor called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

5:32 p.m. - 6:09 p.m. Delegate Randall Johnson of TJ Disposals - Carbotura Presentation

Waldner: That the agenda be adopted as presented with the following additions: 1. SHA Board Invitation, 2. SUMA Workshop Report, 3. Christmas lights. Carried

V. Priestley: That the additions to the agenda be approved. Carried

Waldner: That the Minutes of March 15, 2023, Council meeting, March 17, 2023, Special meeting, and March 21, 2023, Special meeting be approved as presented. Carried

V. Priestley: That the Village of Leask accept the Maintenance report as presented. Carried

Waldner: That the Village of Leask accept the Water Treatment and Lab Testing reports as presented. Carried

Waldner: That the Village of Leask approved the attached list of accounts payable being: cheques 9919-9944, and online payments 23035-23060 totalling \$60,652.54, & Cheques 9945-9949 being Council indemnities total \$3,477.01, be approved as presented. Carried

6:13 p.m. Due to pecuniary interest, Deputy Mayor Waldner left the meeting.

Verbonac: That the Village of Leask approve payment of cheque 9918 totalling \$443.88 to Leask Mechanical regarding repairs to carwash and removal of snow block on grader as approved by motion 2023-121. Carried

6:15 p.m. Deputy Mayor Waldner returned to meeting.

6:15p.m. Due to pecuniary interest, Mayor John Priestley left the meeting.

Waldner: That the Village of Leask approved payment for fire proof safe purchased for Village office, cheque 9917 totalling \$1,648.34 payable to Mayor John Priestley as Village of Leask credit card was declined. Carried

6:17p.m. Mayor John Priestley returned to meeting.

V. Priestley: That the Village of Leask accept the March 2023 bank reconciliation and the statement of financial activities as presented. Carried

Smith: That the Village of Leask acknowledge the 2023 Education Property Tax Mill

Rates as presented: Agricultural Property 1.42 mills, Residential Property 4.54 mills, Commercial/Industrial Property 6.86 mills & Resource Property 9.88 mills. Carried

Smith: That the Village of Leask distribute the \$3,747.00 Saskatchewan Lotteries April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024 Grant as follows:

1. Leask Golf Course: \$500.00
2. Leask Happy Homesteaders: \$750.00
3. Leask Wapiti Library: \$898.50
4. Leask Recreation Board: \$700.00
5. Leask Community School: \$898.50.

Carried

V. Priestley: That the Village of Leask accept the Leask Community Hardware Store report as presented by Yvette Hamel. Carried

Waldner: That the Village of Leask grant Mayor John Priestley signing authority on any and all banking and financials regarding the Leask Community Hardware Store. Carried

V. Priestley: That the Village of Leask Hardware store cancel the letter of credit with Rona and apply for a line of credit of \$50,000.00, guaranteed with the Leask Hardware Store Max 1 GIC, further, reinstate online banking, and grant Yvette Hamel access to online banking. Carried

Waldner: That the Village of Leask employ Brian Diehl, Alyssa Bagongon and Fran Ferster to work at the Leask Community Hardware Store. Carried

Waldner: That the Village of Leask accept Leask Golf Club annual report as presented, noting board members: Jo-Anne McHanson secretary/treasurer; Gordon Harris, Ryan Hoffman, Tom Springs, Robert McHanson, Ed Lucier, Stacey Sutherland, further acknowledge Roy Hamilton's resignation as president of Leask Golf Club, and appoint Owen Johnson Jr. as President. Carried

Smith: That the Village of Leask appoint Brad Butler to the Emerald Lake Regional Park Board to complete the one-year term. Carried

Waldner: That the following correspondence having been supplied to council for information be approved as presented. Carried

Waldner: That the Village of Leask donate \$100.00 to Crime Stoppers program. Carried

Verbonac: That the Village of Leask accept the Rink Committee report as presented by Councillor Charles Smith. Carried

Waldner: That the Village of Leask accept the SAMA report as presented by Councillor Valerie Priestley. Carried

Waldner: That the Village of Leask accept the Fire Committee report as presented by Mayor John Priestley. Carried

Smith: That the Village of Leask accept the SUMA Annual Convention report as presented by Councillor Valerie Priestley.

Carried

Smith: That the Village of Leask approve Administrators report as presented.

• Camp Site Monthly Rate, • Fire Hydrant Inspections, • Mentorship Report, • Grey Cup Legacy Grant, • Garbage Collection. • Ground Water Report. Carried

Verbonac: That the Village of Leask charge rental rates of \$12.00 per night or a monthly rate of \$300.00 for the Leask campground. Carried

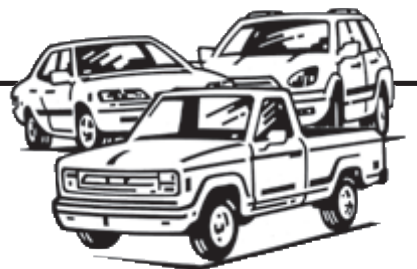
V. Priestley: That the Village of Leask accept Carmen Jean's mentor report as presented. Carried

V. Priestley: That the Village of Leask accept TJ Disposal's proposal to bring a large roll off bin, on May 10, 2023, locate it at the rink parking lot, for disposal of appliances, furniture, etc. TJ Disposal would set and collect the tipping fees. Carried

J. Priestley: 8:08 p.m. That the Village of Leask Council move to in camera. Carried

V. Priestley: 8:16p.m. That the Village of Leask Council return from in camera. Carried

Verbonac: That this meeting be adjourned at 8:19 p.m.



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Ballapooza a home run in second outing



Parkland Predators player Peyton Turner gets high fives from her teammates for her in-the-park grand slam in a U15 game against Tisdale.



One of many new additions to Ballapalooza, the bounce balls were a real smash hit.



It wasn't just children who were interested in Candace Wolfe's petting zoo.



Baseball was a big part of Ballapalooza 2023, with teams coming from near and far to compete.



A Melfort runner beats the throw to first base in a game with the U13 Parkland Heat.



Balloon twisting returned for Ballapalooza 2023, allowing kids to have a variety of animals made, like this duck.



The evening closed with a celebrity slo-pitch game played by the Shellbrook Minor Ball and Shellbrook Minor Hockey boards. Pictured: Jamie Skarpinsky beats the throw to first base (depending on who you ask).



The U11 Shellbrook Knights face off against the La Ronge Hooks in baseball action.



Making its first appearance at Ballapalooza, the car show saw an impressive variety of classic vehicles.



Joel the Juggler balances precariously while playing with fire, during the evening's juggling show.