

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

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www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

Parkside Derby celebrates 40 years

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

It was a milestone year, filled with nostalgia and all the customary automotive mayhem, when the Village of Parkside welcomed about 3,300 people for the 40th annual Parkside Demolition Derby on Saturday, July 29.

Organized and run each year by a small corps of dedicated volunteers — as well as some folks who just decide to pitch in the day of — the derby has become a summer checklist item for people near and far, who come not just for the derby, but also for the slo-pitch tournament and the dance in the evening.

“It’s pretty much exactly how you’d want it to go — pretty much a perfect day,” Jory Segberg, president of the Parkside Community Club, said of this year’s event.

“The crowd seems to get bigger and bigger every year. We can’t get over how, after 40 years, people just keep coming,” he added, noting that some folks have been to all 40 derbies and are now bringing their children, making it a generational event.

In addition to providing a full day and evening of smashing and bashing, the Parkside Demolition Derby has raised significant funds for some important local and provincial causes. And this year’s derby certainly continued to build upon that legacy with another successful charity car auction.

The charity car was first introduced at the 2017 Parkside Derby, and, in its first year, it brought in \$3,900 for the Jim Pattison Children’s Foundation. Meanwhile, in 2018, a Joker-themed charity car raked in \$6,700 for STARS Air Ambulance.

At the 2019 derby, a replica of the General Lee from the TV show Dukes of Hazzard, dwarfed the first two years, selling for \$15,000 to Rob Forbes of Forbes Bros. And, following the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2022 charity car, built to support Ronald McDonald House, managed to beat that high watermark and go for \$16,000, thanks to Brad Toth of Thunder Ridge Farms.

This year, Toth and Thunder Ridge Farms showed their generosity again, purchasing the charity car for \$15,000. The funds from this year’s superhero-themed charity car will support Big Brothers Big Sisters organizations in Saskatchewan.

While giving back is the *raison d’être* of the Parkside Derby, its aim is to provide a day of entertainment for all ages. This year’s derby brought that in spades, from the barrel races right until the final smash.



After a day filled with smashing, Landon Peeteetuce accepted the 2023 Parkside Derby trophy from Parkside Community Club president Jory Segberg. *Photo courtesy of Kelsey Segberg*

Starting with the barrel races, truck driver Ben Tweedie was crowned the winner with an impressive time of 20.45 seconds. Close behind him in second place was first-time derby entrant Kegan Thiessen, who was followed by Logan Donohue in third place.

Moving to the derby action, the cars were up first. Driving the charity car, Wayne Bernard smashed his way through the competition in heat one,

while Derek Willoughby outlasted his opponents in heat two. Finally, in a performance worthy of the championship round, Steve Oborowsky topped heat three.

For winning, each of the competitors earned a guaranteed spot in the final.

In the warm-up truck heat, newcomer Kegan Thiessen played a strategic game to drive his way into the championship round. There, he met with Ben and Joel Beam and once again

smashed his way to victory and the trophy.

Shifting back to the cars, a pair of consolation heats gave any drivers who could get their vehicles running a chance to make it into the championship heat. Brendan Aug, Landon Peeteetuce, and Mark Nykiforuk topped the first heat, with Jesse Nyberg, Aaron Schell, and Darrel Gatzke taking the top three spots in the second.

Continued on page 16

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Spiritwood's annual Street Dance a popular family event

By **BEVRA FEE**
Spiritwood Herald
Reporter

The annual street dance that is hosted by the Spiritwood Volunteer Fire Department took place with its usual popularity once again on the fine evening of July 29.

Converting the 100 block of Main Street into a large stage, dance floor and cabaret is an all-day effort undertaken by the Fire Department in order to raise funds for the group's ongoing equipment needs.

Volunteer Fire Chief Ron Radke noted, "We are always fundraising toward our next purchase, so the money stays with the Fire Department for equipment needs."

The street dance is always intended to bring out the whole family, so ticket prices are held to a very reasonable \$10 and children aged six years and under are admitted free.

The music this year was provided by hometown boy and local favourite, Brody Siebert. Siebert and his band

returned "home" to a warm welcome from an audience of just under 500. The clear evening kicked off at 9 p.m. with a range of country rock covers and Brody's many hits.

A perennial Saskatchewan Country Music Award nominee and 2017 Male Artist of the Year winner, Siebert thanked the hometown crowd for coming out to support the Spiritwood Firefighters. Food was available on site, the beer gardens were roped off and full, and the happy crowd danced through one and a half sets before the delayed Canada Day Fireworks show was set off.

Also undertaken this year by the Fire Department, the popular fireworks show is made possible by a grant from the Government of Canada. Having been rained out on July 1, the alternate date was selected in conjunction with the next big event in July and proved to be a lively addition to the street dance. All eyes turned to the north end of Main Street for the pyro show, set off this year by mem-

bers of the Fire Department on behalf of Northern Lakes Economic Development Corp.

Preluding his set-ending song just as the fireworks got underway, Siebert played a tribute song to long-time Fire Department volunteer Deny Allchurch, who passed away earlier in the weekend. Incidentally, Deny was a key volunteer for the annual Canada Day fireworks show up until this year, and often ended his lake day early to come in and assist with setting off the fireworks or attend with the fire truck.



The delayed Canada Day fireworks capped off the dance in spectacular fashion.



Brody Siebert and his band get the evening's dancing started.



Grill master Bryce Olson prepares burgers.



A lively crowd enjoyed sitting and chatting as well as dancing to the music.



Volunteers from the Spiritwood Volunteer Fire Department ensured the evening run smoothly.

Thank you
Ed Walter wishes to thank the
Spiritwood Fire Department
and everyone who stopped to help
control the baler fire along
highway 378.

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RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF LEASK NO. 464				
PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN				
Notice is hereby given under <i>The Tax Enforcement Act</i> that unless the arrears and costs appearing opposite the land and title number described in the following list are fully paid before October 4, 2023, an interest based on a tax lien will be registered against the land.				
Note: A sum for costs in an amount required by subsection 4(3) of <i>The Tax Enforcement Act</i> is included in the amount shown against each parcel.				
DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY	Title No.	Total Arrears*	Costs	Total Arrears and Costs
BLK/PAR A-PLAN 101475288 EXT 30	111640665	3,760.59	445.00	4,205.59
BLK/PAR A-PLAN 101565402 EXT 8	152040271	748.79	445.00	1,193.79
NE 06-47-07-3 EXT 1	118086206	332.34	361.00	693.34
NE 06-47-07-3 EXT 2	118086217	433.08	361.00	794.08
NW 06-47-07-3 EXT 0	118086239	198.23	30.00	228.23
SE 06-47-07-3 EXT 1	118086251	433.08	361.00	794.08
SE 06-47-07-3 EXT 2	118086262	433.08	361.00	794.08
NE 07-47-07-3 EXT 0	118086295	163.72	361.00	524.72
NW 07-47-07-3 EXT 1	118086318	55.96	361.00	416.96
NW 07-47-07-3 EXT 2	118086329	55.96	361.00	416.96
SE 07-47-07-3 EXT 0	118086341	42.56	361.00	403.56
SW 07-47-07-3 EXT 85	120462948	188.23	30.00	218.23
BLK/PAR A-PLAN 101660330 EXT 84	118086363	146.65	30.00	176.65
NW 04-48-04-3 EXT 0	131372984	1,297.97	445.00	1,742.97
NE 25-48-04-3 EXT 1	149720238	916.45	445.00	1,361.45
SW 25-48-04-3 EXT 0	118189301	1,159.61	384.00	1,543.61
BLK/PAR L-PLAN 101613776 EXT 11	151164176	1,111.79	445.00	1,556.79
BLK/PAR M-PLAN 101613776 EXT 12	151164200	1,111.79	445.00	1,556.79
SE 10-48-05-3 EXT 3	154805047	265.30	389.00	654.30
NE 10-48-05-3 EXT 76	154805306	26.88	339.00	365.88
LOT 23-BLK/PAR 1-PLAN 87B11948 EXT 0	146197042	1,963.11	445.00	2,408.11
LOT 7-BLK/PAR 4-PLAN 78B17991 EXT 0	135504615	896.84	445.00	1,341.84

* Penalty is calculated to the date of the Notice and will continue to accrue as applicable.
Dated this 27th day of July, 2023
Donna Goertzen, Administrator

Nadine Wilson MLA
Saskatchewan Rivers

Parents have a right to know exactly what their children are being taught in class. They must have the final say on third-party material in classrooms.

People before Politics



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Kinettes' snack program support expands to Wild Rose

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Five years after they chose to join Shellbrook's schools in providing a healthy start to students' days, the Shellbrook Kinettes' enthusiasm for supporting the school snack programs hasn't waned, even if the way they help out has changed over the years.

Born out of discussions in the fall of 2017 — around the same time Shellbrook Elementary School introduced its monthly school snack program — the Kinettes' contributions to the programs began in March of 2018, with members of the Kinettes delivering healthy snacks to both the elementary school and WP Sandin High School once per month.

In its infancy, the Kinettes' snack program had a modest monthly budget of \$125. But through the support of local community groups and businesses, including the Shellbrook Kinsmen, the Shellbrook, Canwood, and Leask Affinity Credit Unions (through the Affini-

ty Staff fund and Affinity community funds, as well), the Parkside Community Club, and Shellbrook Bigway.

With the community support, the Kinettes were able to increase the snack program budget for each school to \$225 month. This, Kinette Tasha Cyr says, brought the total budget for the 2022-2023 school year to \$4,500.

And that's not the only way the program's changed.

"This past school year, we decided to give full control to the individual schools," she explained. "So instead of us getting the monthly fruit baskets to each school, we split those funds between the two schools and let them decide what's best for them and their students."

For its part, Shellbrook Elementary School is using its monthly funds as needed to provide snacks, breakfasts, and lunches for students who need the nutritional support.

Meanwhile, Cyr says WP Sandin has chosen to use its snack program funds to offer weekly fruit baskets for stu-

dents and stock up its breakfast carts, and adds that the Kinettes also helped the high school purchase an industrial-sized toaster to reduce morning wait times.

"Fresh fruit is available every week and this is huge," she said. "Both students and staff have shown appreciation for this program."

Another big change for the 2022-2023 school year, was that the Kinettes agreed to throw their support behind the breakfast program offered by Wild Rose School, in the form of a \$500 cheque (bringing the Kinettes total contributions to the three schools' nutrition programs to \$5,000 per school year).

"They have a fantastic program and we were more than happy to become a part of it," Cyr said, noting that the Kinettes have already made another \$500 donation to support Wild Rose's program through the 2023-2024 school year.

With most of the funds for the 2022-2023 school year being provided by the Kinettes, Cyr says the group is always

on the lookout for groups and businesses to lend support to the cause.

In the meantime, she says the Kinettes remain committed to running the program throughout the 2023-2024 in the way that best suits the needs of each school.

"Each year, we check in with the schools to see how we can improve our snack program and what the individual schools need the most. Then, we adjust to make it better."



Shellbrook Kinette Melissa Moe presents a \$500 cheque to Wild Rose School principal Carrie Grant-Walker. The funds will support the school's breakfast program. Photo Courtesy of Shellbrook Kinettes/Facebook

Northern Lights festival, camp return to Big River

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

From Aug. 14 through 20, Big River's Ness Creek site will once again be the place for bluegrass and old time music lovers to go, when The Northern Lights Bluegrass and Old Time Music Society returns for its annual Northern Lights Bluegrass and Old Time Music Festival and Music Camp.

This year's festival and music camp will bring more of what music lovers have come to expect from the experience.

Starting with the festival, which runs Aug. 18 to 20, the stacked line-up for this year includes bands from across Canada and the United States, such as North Carolina's The Well Drinkers, Martha Spencer & The Wonderland Band from Virginia, and Alberta's The Bix Mix Boys. From closer to home, Regina's Hummingbird Crossing and Saskatoon's JJ Guy and Cathy Sproule, The Barrelmen, and Steph Cameron are also sure to put on a show.

One highlight, says festival spokesperson Jille Shotton, will be the supergroup, Happy Trails, Prospector, which returns as a five-piece, pan-Canadian ensemble that met at the 2021 Northern Lights Bluegrass and Old Time Music Camp.

The five musicians — Nathan Smith, Patrick and Sarah Hamilton, Miles Zurawell, and Nico Humby — spent a week together teaching, jamming, laughing and taking "band photos" just for fun. They then joined forces on stage at the first Bluegrass at The Barn event as a finale, and since then they have booked numerous gigs together, are teaching at bluegrass camps across Canada, and have recorded an album.

In addition to the musical entertainment,

Sunday's festival line-up includes a gospel sing-along led by Hummingbird Crossing, and Saturday will see the 2022 songwriting contest winners announced.

Prior to all this, however, the focus will be education at the music camp.

Open to young and old alike, the music camp kicked off Aug. 14 and will run through Aug. 18. The camp offers a diverse range of classes and work-

shops for musicians of all skill levels, teaching banjo, guitar, mandolin, fiddle, dobro, upright bass, harmony singing, and even an introductory Fungrass music class for children.

What's more, the classes are all taught by artists who will be performing throughout the festival.

For more information, visit: <https://northernlightsbluegrass.com/>



Pan-Canadian supergroup Happy Trails, Prospector will be among the headliners this year, after meeting at the 2021 Northern Lights Bluegrass and Old Time Music Camp.



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Cabinet shuffle won't bring real change

Through his tenure as prime minister, Stephen Harper earned the moniker control-freak-in-chief for his heavy-handed use of his prime ministerial power.

Even Mr. Harper himself admitted he was as loathed by his friends as he was his enemies. And his record of muzzling scientists, and silencing opposition within the ranks of his own caucus, makes it easy to understand why.

No surprise, then, that his approval rating had dipped to 32 per cent just a few months before the 2015 election that saw him ousted by Justin Trudeau and his Liberal Party government (though, in his defence, few leaders post strong approval ratings after a decade in office).

Not to be outdone, Mr. Trudeau has now reached the same abysmal approval rating for the second time in his prime ministerial career, according to a July poll conducted by Abacus Data. The first time came all the way back in August of 2019, less than four years after he took office – a truly remarkable feat.

The latest wave of disapproval doesn't stop with Mr. Trudeau, either; it extends to his whole government.

As the Abacus Data poll suggests, Mr. Trudeau's government now trails Pierre Poilievre's Conservatives by 10 per cent nationally (38 per cent to 28 per cent), and has lost its edge in the key battleground of Ontario (down by 6 per cent), and in typically progressive British Columbia (down by a whopping 16 per cent).

Indeed, the only province in which the Liberals lead the Conservatives is Québec, where the Bloc Québécois is the most popular party among voters.

In another indictment of Mr. Trudeau's government, only 19 per cent of the poll's 2,486 respondents said they believe it deserves to be re-elected. Though, 31 per cent also said they see no good alternative to the sitting government.

Like with Mr. Harper, it's easy to see how Mr. Trudeau has fallen so spectacularly from grace. For all his criticisms of his predecessor, Mr. Trudeau seems to have discovered that Mr. Harper's style of governing suits him just fine.

As the new control-freak-in-chief, Mr. Trudeau has made it abundantly



JORDAN TWISS
~
News Editor

clear that he is not to be held accountable for any of his failings. From the SNC Lavalin affair, to the WE Charity scandal, to the rampant dysfunction in his government that apparently prevents him from being briefed on vital matters like a foreign government's attempts to undermine our democracy, none of it is his fault and no one should be asking any questions.

As an unabashed ideologue, Mr. Trudeau is also a master of wielding diplomacy like a rocket launcher. From the environment, to healthcare, to the COVID-19 pandemic, to race, gender identity, and sexual orientation, it's Mr. Trudeau's way or the highway.

For Mr. Trudeau, it's never been enough to hold the reins of public policy. Instead, he seems most interested in exercising control over everything we say, do, think, and feel. And all who dare question his orthodoxy will be shamed or cancelled into silence – labelled a bigot, a climate denier, or a conspiracy theorist.

If, at one time, there was enthusiasm and good will among Canadians for Mr. Trudeau's promise of a more inclusive and representative Canada, this enthusiasm has soured and become exhaustion at constantly being preached to and scolded.

What better time, then, to distract from the discontent with his government by reshuffling the deck of his cabinet?

The great reset (no, not the one made infamous during the COVID-19 pandemic) came last week, and is meant to refocus Mr. Trudeau's government to tackle the twin challenges of economic growth and affordability.

Among the highlights from the reshuffling, are new roles for prominent cabinet members like Anita Anand, Bill Blair, Dominic LeBlanc, and Pablo Rodriguez, and the departure from cabinet of Fisheries Minister Joyce Murray, Transport Minister Omar Alghabra, Public Services and Procurement Minister Helena Jaczek, and Mental Health and Addictions Minister Carolyn Bennett, who have announced they won't be running in the next election.

Meanwhile, high-profile ministers leaving the fold are Justice Minister



David Lametti, who courted controversy with the suggestion he would look at reviewing a 1930 policy that granted control over natural resources to the prairie provinces, and Public Safety Minister Marco Mendicino, who got himself in hot water by feigning ignorance over the transfer of convicted killer and rapist Paul Bernardo to a medium security prison.

Last but not least, Mona Fortier is out as Treasury Board President, after courting little controversy in her role.

To fill the gaps left by these seven departures, seven rookie backbenchers have been promoted to cabinet roles, including Gary Anandasangaree (Crown-Indigenous Relations), Arif Virani (Justice), Terry Beech (Citizens' Services), Soraya Martinez Ferrada (Tourism), Ya'ara Saks (Mental Health & Addictions), Jenna Sudds (Family, Children & Social Development), and Rechie Valdez (Small Business).

"This is a positive step in a moment of consequential impact in the world, and in the country," Mr. Trudeau said with his usual self-congratulatory flair. "We know times are challenging, but this is the team that is going to be able to continue the hard work rolling up their sleeves and delivering for Canadians."

Yet, although much has changed in Mr. Trudeau's inner circle, the reshuffle calls to mind a famous line from Shakespeare's *Macbeth*.

For all its sound and fury, Mr. Trudeau's cabinet reshuffle ultimate-

ly signifies nothing. The faces may be different, but in the end, shuffling a deck of playing cards doesn't change what's in the deck.

Similarly, moving cabinet ministers around like chess pieces doesn't change the fundamental problems with Mr. Trudeau's government – its proclivity for scandals, its blatant disregard for ethics, its policy that is grand on ambition but devoid of substance, and, of course, Mr. Trudeau himself.

Indeed, the only difference Canadians might notice is that there will be a new person providing non-answers to questions about the policies that matter to them.

At the end of the day, we still have a government whose environmental policy is built on a questionable carbon tax, an even more questionable focus on carbon capture and storage, and taxpayer-funded subsidies to large multinational corporations.

We also still have a government whose economic policy seems to be dependent upon faith, trust, and a little bit of pixie dust.

And last but not least, we still have a government that is centrally controlled by Mr. Trudeau, with the script and agenda coming from the PMO.

If Canadians want real change, as polls seem to suggest, the only way to get it is at the ballot box. Unfortunately, with Jagmeet Singh's NDP refusing to hold Mr. Trudeau's government to account, 2025 can't come soon enough.

Shellbrook Chronicle

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Spiritwood Herald

Serving the Communities of Spiritwood, Shell Lake, Leoville, Chitek Lake, Mildred, Rabbit Lake, Medstead, Mayfair, Bapaume, Belbutte, Glaslyn

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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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Report from the Legislature

Saskatchewan continues to receive great news on its economy. The province's AA (low) credit rating and stable outlook was affirmed in a recent release from DBRS Morningstar. When ratings from three major rating agencies (Moody's, DBRS Morningstar and S&P) are considered, Saskatchewan has the second highest credit rating among all provinces.

The province's wholesale trade for May 2023 was up 89.8 per cent from May 2022, for a total value of \$7 billion. This is also an increase of 47.9 per cent above April 2023. This record wholesale trade growth is proof that Saskatchewan's economic momentum continues.

Our province's strong and growing economy al-

lows our government to invest in the programs and services that matter most to Saskatchewan people. The Seniors Income Plan (SIP) benefit has increased to \$360 per month fulfilling our government's three-year commitment to better support seniors



**HON. SCOTT MOE,
PREMIER**

~
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across Saskatchewan. SIP provides seniors with financial assistance to help meet their basic needs, in addition to income they receive through the Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement. Eligible seniors automatically receive this benefit based on the filing of their most recent income tax return. This \$3 million investment will support 14,500 seniors, and marks the eighth increase to SIP since 2008 when the maximum benefit was just \$90 per month.

Our government just announced an investment of \$530,000 to provide bursaries for students and recent graduates joining Emergency Medical Services (EMS) here in Saskatchewan. You can learn

more at www.saskhealth-authority.ca.

As Saskatchewan's economy continues to grow, we celebrate the industries that create this economic growth. Aug. 5 is Canada Food Day, an opportunity to celebrate Saskatchewan's world-class, environmentally sustainable products that feed people all over the world. Canada Food Day highlights the farmers and ranchers who grow the products served at consumers' dinner tables.

This year, as those agricultural producers are facing many challenges due to dry conditions, our government is supporting them in many ways. The Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) has doubled its low yield



**HON. JEREMY HARRISON
MLA**

~
Meadow
Lake
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threshold for this year to allow additional acres of low yielding crops to be diverted to feed. For more information, call 1-888-935-0000 or visit scic.ca.

Agriculture Minister David Marit requested the federal government conduct an AgriRecovery assessment to determine what assistance could be provided to livestock producers. The province also requested an early designation of the federal Livestock Tax Deferral Program to provide producers facing potential feed short-

ages with more options as they consider if they need to liquidate part of their herd. Our government is committed to supporting our farmers and ranchers to lessen the impact of these challenging conditions.

Our government also continues to urge the federal government to do everything within its power to facilitate a resolution to the BC port workers' strike. We are deeply concerned about the impact on our province's export-based industries. The efficient and reliable delivery of goods through these ports is key to maintaining Saskatchewan's reputation as a dependable trading partner.

As summer continues, there are many opportunities to enjoy what Saskatchewan has to offer. It will soon be the Saskatchewan Day on Aug. 7 and I wish everyone a safe and fun long weekend!

If you have questions, concerns or feedback, please contact my office.

In mid-summer, rural residents worry about heating costs

Rural residents of Saskatchewan are facing a crisis when it comes to home heating. Those currently using oil or propane have seen the costs more than double due to inflation and carbon taxes. While the province can rightly point the finger at the federal government for causing most of this, Premier Scott Moe's government has done nothing to assist those who need help to mitigate against it.

As a result, in mid-summer, I have been fielding calls from these residents who know that once winter hits, they will face crippling heating costs. On their behalf, I have written the following letter to the Minister of Crown Corporations, the Honourable Don Morgan. If this government has any compassion left at all, it must create solutions to assist our rural residents.

"July 24, 2023
Dear Minister Morgan,
Over the past two years I have received numerous calls from rural residents as to the extraordinary costs being quoted by SaskEnergy, to connect rural properties to natural gas lines. Residents are looking to this option due to the skyrocketing costs of oil, propane and electric heat. It is not unusual to be quoted \$80,000 or more.

Often, there are multiple property owners in the

same area that want to connect. Logically, SaskEnergy could allow the cost to service an area to be shared among property owners, but from the information I have received, each property owner is given a quote to service only their property, with no option for cost-share.

Additionally, SaskEner-

gy does not allow for any type of installment payments. The service must be paid in full immediately.

As a Crown Corporation, SaskEnergy is owned by the people and it should be finding ways to help citizens who have found themselves at the mercy of inflationary circumstance. Many of the affected residents are seniors, people who spent their lifetimes building our province and are now on fixed incomes. The exorbitant costs to just heat their homes is forcing some to leave their lifelong homes for more affordable options.

I urge you, as Minister responsible for SaskEnergy, to direct this Crown to investigate how to provide natural gas service to rural residents in a manner that is within financial reach of these property owners. Cost-sharing and installment plans should be considered as options.

This is an opportunity for the government to effectively serve these citizens by having the Crowns work for the people, not against them.

Sincerely,
Nadine Wilson MLA
Constituency of Saskatchewan Rivers"



**NADINE WILSON
MLA**

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**R.M. OF CANWOOD NO. 494
PUBLIC NOTICE**

In the matter of Section 13 of *The Municipalities Act*, being a statute of the Province of Saskatchewan and pursuant to the Public Notice Bylaw No. 2005-10 of the R.M. of Canwood No. 494, notice is hereby given that the Council will consider at their Council Meeting on August 22, 2023, the matter of closing and leasing the roadway to the west of the NW 26-54-07 W3 which lies to the south of the registered roadway, outlined in Title 123236557.

Any person opposing this closure will be given an opportunity to be heard at a public meeting of Council of the Rural Municipality of Canwood No. 494 to be held on August 22, 2023, at 641 Main Street, Canwood, Sask.

Dated in the Village of Canwood, in the Province of Saskatchewan, this 3rd day of August, 2023.
Lorna Benson, Administrator

TAX ENFORCEMENT LIST TOWN OF BLAINE LAKE PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN				
Notice is hereby given under <i>The Tax Enforcement Act</i> that unless the arrears and costs appearing opposite the land and title number described in the following list are fully paid before August 23, 2023, an interest based on a tax lien will be registered against the land.				
Note: A sum for costs in an amount required by subsection 4(3) of <i>The Tax Enforcement Act</i> is included in the amount shown against each parcel.				
DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY	Title No.	Total Arrears*	Costs	Total Arrears and Costs
Lot 1 Blk 2 Plan H3043	94805491	\$2,933.80	\$16.79	\$2,950.59
Lot 16 Blk 4 Plan H3043	144528037	\$2,562.66	\$16.79	\$2,579.45
Lot 17 Blk 4 Plan H3043	142414332		\$16.79	
Lot 26 Blk 4 Plan 101587226 Ext 1	42414324	\$1,430.63	\$16.79	\$1,464.21
Lot 12 Blk 5 Plan M4996	144090514		\$16.79	
Lot 24 Blk 5 Plan 101587260	144090536	\$4,469.15	\$16.79	\$4,502.73
Lot 20 Blk 5 Plan M4996	139880054	\$1,196.48	\$16.79	\$1,213.27
Lot 22 Blk 5 Plan M4996	138913353	\$1,875.33	\$16.79	\$1,892.12
Lot 1 Blk 6 Plan H3043	135844544	\$1,470.09	\$16.79	\$1,486.88
Lot 11 Blk 6 Plan H3043	154874199	\$5,448.52	\$16.79	\$5,465.31
Lot 21 Blk 6 Plan H3043	118990413	\$1,637.44	\$16.79	\$1,654.23
Lot 8 Blk 6 Plan H3043	148137251	\$659.23	\$16.79	\$676.02
Lot 4 Blk 9 Plan M4996	136315470	\$1,519.06	\$16.79	\$1,535.85
Lot 14 Blk 9 Plan M4996	134540872	\$1,393.75	\$16.79	\$1,410.54
Lot 8 Blk 11 Plan AV4151 Ext 0	118992235	\$624.69	\$16.79	\$641.48
Lot 9 Blk 11 Plan AV4151 Ext 0	118992257	\$1,425.44	\$16.79	\$1,442.23
Lot 15 Blk 18 Plan AV4398	98808625	\$1,689.72	\$16.79	\$1,706.51
Lot 20 Blk 18 Plan AV4398	143812650		\$16.79	
Lot 21 Blk 18 Plan AV4398	143859156	\$1,974.41	\$16.79	\$2,007.99
Lot 25 Blk 19 Plan AV4398		\$1,460.41	\$16.79	\$1,477.20
Lot 5 Blk 22 Plan BL5947	63805748	\$1,530.63	\$16.79	\$1,547.42
Lot 8 Blk 26 Plan B02796	128164912	\$1,756.39	\$16.79	\$1,773.18
Lot 3 Blk 27 Plan B2B06978	118436328	\$1,763.48	\$16.79	\$1,780.27
Lot 6 Blk 27 Plan 101586630	118436340	\$652.43	\$16.79	\$669.22
Lot 7 Blk 30 Plan 62B02689	99810756	\$1,849.66	\$16.79	\$1,866.45
Lot 8 Blk 34 Plan 65B11126	137170706	\$1,517.32	\$16.79	\$1,534.11
Pcl B Plan AY6826	137170683	\$2,274.48	\$16.79	\$2,291.27
Pcl T Plan BP881	150437381	\$5,578.26	\$16.79	\$5,595.05
Pcl S Plan BP881	150437370	\$1,416.79	\$16.79	\$1,433.58
Lot 2 Blk C Plan BT4121	85811160	\$466.71	\$16.79	\$483.50
Lot 3 Blk C Plan BT4121	85801160	\$1,099.13	\$16.79	\$1,115.92
Lot 23 Blk C Plan C62B06698	152022307	\$3,977.40	\$16.79	\$3,994.19
Lot 24 Blk C Plan C62B06698	152022325	\$3,977.40	\$16.79	\$3,994.19
Lot 9 Blk E Plan AV2196	127375735	\$1,436.45	\$16.79	\$1,453.24
Pcl S Plan AV4398	133245570		\$16.79	
Pcl T Plan AV4398	133245592	\$13,004.02	\$16.79	\$13,037.60
Lot 2 Blk 3 Plan H3043	145262325	\$1,397.31	\$16.79	\$1,414.10
Lot 5 Blk 1 Plan 102034167	139639775	\$745.00	\$16.79	\$761.79
Pcl E Plan K PLA		\$1,375.61	\$16.79	\$1,392.40

* Penalty is calculated to the date of the Notice and will continue to accrue as applicable.
Dated this 26th day of July, 2023
Danielle J. A. Vandale, CAO

Highlights of a Shellbrook Town Council meeting

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

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

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

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Otterson, and council began with its customary recognition of Truth and Reconciliation, then approved the meeting's agenda, adopted the minutes of its June 19 meeting, and moved on

to welcome Sgt. Shannon Haggarty of the Ahtahkakoop-Shellbrook RCMP Detachment, who was in attendance to provide a quarterly update.

Where crime statistics were concerned, Sgt. Haggarty noted an increase in break & enters, thefts, and vehicle thefts, both in town and in rural areas. She noted, however, that many of these incidents are crimes of opportunities, made possible by people leaving their garages open or their keys in their vehicles, and said the detachment tries to remind people to take precautions.

Elsewhere, Sgt. Haggarty informed council of plans to meet with the town's new Commu-

nity Safety Officer, and reported that a vacant position at the Shellbrook office had been filled, meaning the detachment is currently only short one officer in Ahtahkakoop.

Once Sgt. Haggarty departed, council moved in to reports. In recreation, councillor Miller expressed concern about the number of people he's heard questioning the value of the pool project.

In response, he says he always explains that the project won't cost ratepayers much, as the funds are mostly going to come from fundraisers or grants (similar to the model used for the renovation of the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre). Additionally, he said a new pool should lower operational costs for the town where energy consumption and repairs are concerned.

Meanwhile, Hoare touched on the popularity of the pool, noting that more children are enrolled in swimming lessons over the summer than are registered in minor hockey each year.

Moving on to the hospital and clinics report, Mayor Otterson informed council of a new bursary being offered by the Shellbrook and District Health Services Foundation to help medical office assistants receive education and training now required of them by CUPE. Like

other recruitment and retention incentives, the support includes a return of service agreement.

Closing out the reports, Councillor Anderson told council that Shellbrook Housing Authority remain 100 per cent occupied with a short waiting list. This is in contrast to affordable housing units in many other communities, where recently released data shows a drastically increased rate of vacancies over the past decade.

Shifting to unfinished business, council once again discussed a \$44,500 quote from Associated Engineering (AE) to draft a report about whether the filters can be removed from the lagoon at the recommendation of public works.

Mayor Otterson explained the filters were put in place to filter out phosphates and meet past provincial guidelines. However, he also noted Shellbrook is an outlier in having filters in place. Councillor Miller, meanwhile, suggested having a contractor come do the work for the town, rather than paying AE a large sum just to obtain a report.

In the end, council tabled the matter again to continue gathering information.

In another item of unfinished business, council carried a motion to allow the Shellbrook

Curling Club to take control over sign advertising at the curling rink. The funds raised through this are to be used for capital expenses, which must receive prior approval from council.

Moving on to new business, council took care of some housekeeping items by approving the town's 2022 draft audited financial statements, and by reversing several erroneous interest charges and billings.

Council next discussed a bronze plaque that was damaged by a mower at the Shellbrook Cemetery last year, with Hoare noting that she and town foreman Mike Tanchuk went to the cemetery to survey the damage and determined the plaque is irreparable.

Council was unanimous in its disappointment about the damage, and carried a motion to have the plaque replaced.

Up next, council discussed the idea of allowing golf carts to be used freely as a mode of transportation within town limits, in response to recent SGI rule change that allows municipalities to permit this.

Currently, the town allows golf carts to be used on roads to travel directly to and from the golf course, and has a similar policy for ATVs and snowmobiles. Citing safety concerns, especially around kids driv-

ing golf carts, council voted to leave the rules as they are but said it might also look into signage to clearly explain the rules.

Continuing with new business, council agreed with a recommendation from the Recreation Committee to have the ice ready for Aug. 28 to accommodate U18 AA hockey try-outs. Councillor Ledding noted the season is starting earlier and ending later this year, which is a win for the town and the rink.

In what became a lengthy discussion, council next looked at setting the 2023-2024 ice rates for the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre. While the Recreation Committee recommended sticking with the regular annual increase of 2 per cent, councillors Miller and Batten expressed concerns about whether this is adequate to cover the operational costs for the facility, given inflation over the past couple years.

Meanwhile, other councillors argued that raising fees any further could alienate user groups. But Councillor Miller countered that a more dramatic rate increase in the future could result in even more anger.

With a full "normal" season under the facility's belt, Hoare said the town is working on a cost analysis, which could influence rates in the future.

In the end, council carried a motion to stick with a 2 per cent increase, but said conversations will need to be had with user groups about future rates and the importance of fundraising.

Closing out the meeting, council passed one last motion to waive all hall rental fees for the Parkland Pool Project for the purposes of fundraisers.

TOWN OF SPIRITWOOD PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Town of Spiritwood intends to adopt a bylaw under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* to amend Bylaw No. 487/13, known as the Official Community Plan and Bylaw 486/13, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

INTENT

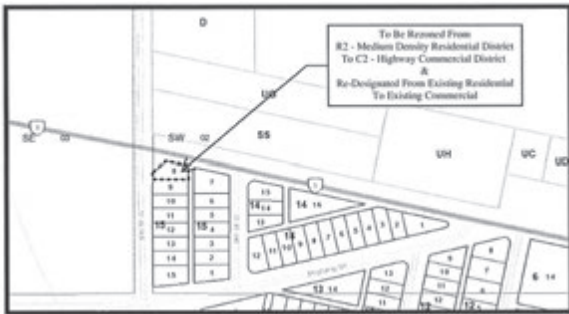
The proposed Official Community Plan amendment will:

- Re-designate from Existing Residential to Existing Commercial, Lot 8, Block 15, Plan BK4385, as shown within the bold dashed line on Sketch "A" below.

The proposed Zoning Bylaw amendment will:

- Rezone from R2 - Medium Density Residential District to C2 - Highway Commercial District, Lot 8, Block 15, Plan BK4385, as shown within the bold line on Sketch "A" below.

SKETCH "A":



REASON

The reasons for the amendments is to:

- Facilitate commercial development in the Town of Spiritwood.

PUBLIC INSPECTION

Any person may inspect the bylaw at the Town Office, located at 212 Main Street, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM on Monday to Thursday, and 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Friday, excluding statutory holidays. Copies of the bylaw are available at the Town Office at a cost of \$5.

PUBLIC HEARING

Council will hold a public hearing on August 22nd, 2023 at 6:45pm at the Town Office 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 Town Office before the hearing.

Issued at the Town of Spiritwood this 3rd day of August, 2023.
Rhonda Saam, Chief Administrative Officer

PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR HOUSE IS

Support the local businesses that support your
local newspaper.

Canada 

ADVERTISE
LOCAL 

Happy Saskatchewan Day!

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

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

Science keeps ag at the cutting edge

While there are certainly areas of concern these days for agriculture and of course for our world in general, we do have one thing going for us – science is seeking answers.

Given time, and sufficient funding, science is likely to come up with answers to many of our concerns.

However, how much time it will take is an unknown, which means the solutions may come too late in some cases.

And funding is difficult at times to source, and at times the pocket the money comes from may

mean dollars with strings attached to who owns the resulting technology (and just how much that technology might cost the public to actually benefit from).

We have certainly seen reports regarding specific drugs only be available at exorbitant costs as companies look to make huge returns.

It's one of the reasons there is huge concern in much of the agriculture sector about the oft called 'terminator gene' technology, where seed would grow, but the next generation will not. It would give



CALVIN DANIELS

the seed seller immense control and that brings into question what might happen long term regarding food security.

But of course, marketing and price are not decisions scientists make. They simply create and

others take over.

What got me on this train of thought was a recent *www.producer.com* article. In it, they reported Moolec Science, which has headquarters in Luxembourg and business operations in the United States and South America, has developed a genetically modified soybean that contains pork protein...

"Moolec scientists inserted pork protein DNA into the genetic code of soy to create the Piggy Sooy beans."

I am reminded of chicken parts being grown in a

sort of hothouse in Oryx and Crake, the 2003 novel by Canadian author Margaret Atwood.

The new science would seem to offer the opportunity to grow the new beans and then extract essentially pork protein, which of course opens the door to whether it's bean or meat, but that is for a later discussion.

This is pretty cutting edge stuff, and regulators and legislators are going to have some sleepless nights determining whether it should be allowed for broad production.

And no doubt, consumers are going to wade into the debate too, so don't expect to have this bean on the menu anytime soon.

Beyond the regulatory nightmare ahead though, pause to consider the science here.

If we are reading about the emergence of Piggy Sooy today, what is just around the corner? It apparently took a decade to create the new beans, so what amazing things will science unveil for farming in the next 10 years?

Therein lies the best hope for the ag sector as we move forward.

Crop Report: July 18 to 24

Crop yield potential has decreased in many parts of the province due to the dry heat, and producers are hoping for more rain before harvest to finish up seed filling. Harvest has begun in the driest areas of the province.

Desiccating of pulses has begun in the southwest and west central regions and combining of these fields will commence quickly. Cereal crops that cannot be harvested due to dry conditions and grasshopper damage are being salvaged for livestock feed to support neighbouring livestock producers.

There were several storms throughout the province this past week. Some resulted in rainfall amounts up to 37 to 40 mm, which will give crops some

reprieve from the heat stress and encourage seed fill. Many of the driest areas of the province received trace amounts of rain throughout the week. Producers are hoping for substantial moisture following harvest as some areas in the province have now gone more than 30 days without precipitation.

Topsoil moisture continues to decrease and is rated as 15 per cent adequate, 48 per cent short and 37 per cent very short. Hay and pastureland topsoil moisture is rated as eight per cent adequate, 43 per cent short and 49 per cent very short.

Crop conditions have also decreased due to extreme heat, rating from very poor to good. The areas of the prov-

ince where timely rain has fallen are showing higher crop conditions.

Haying operations are almost complete with five per cent standing, 13 per cent cut and 82 per cent baled or silage. Hay quality is rated as four per cent excellent, 66 per cent good, 29 per cent fair and one per cent poor. Livestock producers who have not received adequate rainfall this season are reporting water and feed concerns.

Strong winds, drought stress, hail, extreme heat, grasshoppers and gophers took their toll on some crops this past week. Many producers stopped applying pest control products. Producers are reminded to be safe during their harvest operations such as taking frequent breaks and to remember

to use every precaution available for fire prevention as the extremely dry conditions increase the risk of combine and grass fires.

Dry conditions can be stressful for producers and they are reminded to take safety precautions in all the work they do. The Farm Stress Line is available to provide support to producers toll free at 1-800-667-4442. For producers dealing with dry conditions, additional resources are available through the ministry website: Sask Ag Now or by contacting their regional office.

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

Healthcare woes show more gov't spending isn't the answer

By GAGE HAUBRICH
CTF Prairie Director

It takes three months for a patient in the Netherlands to get a knee replacement after seeing their doctor.

It takes 16 months in Saskatchewan.

After the latest budget, the Opposition New Democratic Party was quick to declare that the new funding isn't doing enough to address problems in the health-care system.

But, the provincial government is spending the most it ever has on health care this year, a trend that has been ongoing for years. In 2018, the government spent \$5.8 billion on health care. This year, it plans to spend more than \$7 billion. That's a spending increase that has kept pace with both inflation and population growth and makes up 38 per cent of the entire budget.

The Saskatchewan government is spending \$5,800 per person this year on health care. Far from being stingy, that's more than what other similar provinces are spending. British Columbia and Manitoba will both spend about \$5,300 per person on health care this year. Alberta plans to spend slightly less at \$5,200 per person. Wait times for a knee replacement are lower in these other provinces despite spending less per person than Sas-

katchewan.

The reality is that spending more money doesn't mean better results. It's about how the money gets spent that matters. Administration costs are one area where the provincial government needs to improve. As a proportion of total expenses, the Saskatchewan government spends more than double what Alberta does on administration. The cost of the average hospital stay in Saskatchewan is \$1,000 more than the Canadian average.

Instead of pumping more money into a system with problems, the government needs to focus on why the money it is currently spending, which is at an all-time high, isn't being used efficiently.

It didn't always used to be this way. In 2015, Saskatchewan had the lowest wait times in the country. Experts at the Fraser Institute attributed this success to the Saskatchewan Surgical Initiative. The SSI is a program where the government contracts certain surgeries to private clinics – paid for by the taxpayer – to free up resources in the government system.

To improve wait times today, Saskatchewan again needs to innovate and look at what other countries are doing right to solve our backlog.

The governments of New Zealand,

Australia, The Netherlands, Norway and Germany all have universal health-care systems that perform better than those in Canada while spending similar or less tax dollars, according to a report by the Commonwealth Fund.

The Dutch system offers a great example for reform. The Netherlands has lower wait times for knee replacements than all the provinces mentioned, while spending less. It works by requiring all citizens to purchase a base level of insurance. This insurance is funded both from the government and through premiums. Dutch citizens can then take this insurance and shop around for the best doctor or hospital, creating healthy competition between health-care providers. In the same report cited above, the Neth-

erlands scored second highest in the rankings, while Canada scored second last.

The Saskatchewan government could also learn from the European Union's Cross Border Directive. It's a policy that allows patients to travel from one EU country to another, pay for surgery, then be reimbursed for up to what it would have cost to get the procedure done at home. Research by the think tank SecondStreet.org shows this policy is cost-neutral for taxpayers, and it helps everyone get the care they need more quickly. Alberta Premier Danielle Smith is considering this. Saskatchewan should follow suit.

More money isn't the answer. Saskatchewan needs to reform its health-care system, without wasting anymore tax dollars.

NOTICE TO OUR READERS

Please take only as many newspapers from our newspaper bins as need to be read.

If you're looking for newsprint paper, please contact us and we can arrange a bundle(s) of recycled paper for your use at no charge.

Contact us at 306-747-2442.

Thank you for your understanding.

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

Pages in the Park provides summer literacy fun

By **BEVRA FEE**
Spiritwood Herald Reporter

The Pages in the Park initiative made its second visit of the summer to Spiritwood's Rivier Elementary School on July 26. Planned as a "pop up tent" for literacy, the backup plan was enacted when weather prohibited outside enjoyment.

Moved inside, the free initiative was sponsored by Light of Christ Catholic School Division (LOCCSD) and funded by a grant through the Ministry of Education. The schedule of Pages in the Park Pop Up Tents made its way around the LOCCSD, with Spiritwood seeing the action on July 12 as well.

Literacy kits, activities for the family — a playground scavenger hunt and word bingo, for example — and books to take home were all provided to

help keep youth engaged and reading through the summer holidays.

Kits included word searches and colour by numbers, as well

as books compiled by French immersion teachers Kahra Price and Terra Karp.

"We had 38 children attend the last Pages in the Park at

the Rivier playground, and we are hoping to have a good turnout again today," commented Price.

Hosted from 9:30 a.m. until

12:30 p.m., the July 26 visitors would have welcomed something fun to do on a rainy day, even if it meant going back inside the school.



From left to right: Kahra Price and Terra Karp of LOCCSD with some of the literacy kit materials provided at the Spiritwood Pages in the Park event on July 26.



Pages in the Park offered books and activities, including French immersion materials, to keep kids engaged with literacy throughout the summer.

Suspects arrested, vehicle sought in Witchekan death

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Following a nearly 10-day investigation, Saskatchewan RCMP Major Crimes has identified two individuals involved in a suspicious death on the Witchekan Lake First Nation on July 15.

Police have also identified the victim as 38-year-old Teddy Whitehead from the Pelican Lake First Nation, and have confirmed that he was the victim of a homicide.

On July 15, 2023, at

approximately 5:41 p.m., Spiritwood RCMP along with local EMS responded to the report of an assault of a 38-year-old male at a residence on Witchekan Lake First Nation. The male was declared deceased on scene, his family was notified, and Victim Services was engaged to provide support.

Due to the circumstances of the male victim's death, Saskatchewan RCMP Major Crimes was engaged and assumed carriage of the investigation, and soon determined the death

was suspicious.

As a result of the ensuing investigation, arrest warrants were issued for 32-year-old Nathaniel Sakebow and 35-year-old Chase Cardinal, who have each been charged with one count of manslaughter.

Cardinal, who hails from Vilna, Alta., was arrested by police without incident in Spiritwood on Wednesday, July 26, and made his first appearance in North Battleford Provincial Court on Thursday, July 27.

Meanwhile, after police issued a request

to the public to report sightings of Sakebow on Thursday, July 27, he was located in Saskatoon later that evening and arrested without incident by the Saskatoon Police Service. He remained in police custody and was scheduled to appear in Saskatoon Provincial Court on July 28.

With the two main suspects in custody, Saskatchewan RCMP Major Crimes is now looking to the public to report sightings on a white 2007 GMC Envoy mid-size SUV with Saskatchewan License Plate 342 MUN.

Saskatchewan RCMP Major Crimes says it is working diligently to

locate the vehicle and continues to follow-up on any information provided to further the investigation. Throughout, it has been supported by officers from the Spiritwood RCMP, North Battleford RCMP Forensic Identification Services, Saskatoon General Investigation Section, Saskatoon Police Service, and the North Battleford Provincial General Investigation Section.

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of the white 2007 GMC Envoy (Saskatchewan License Plate 342 MUN), is asked to contact the RCMP by calling 306-310-7267 (RCMP) or their police of jurisdic-

tion. Information can also be submitted anonymously by contacting Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or www.saskcrimestoppers.com.



Nathaniel Sakebow was one of two suspects taken into custody in connection with the death of Teddy Whitehead.

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.
1-780-690-2100

PRESBYTERIAN
Mistawasis
Sunday worship
11:00 a.m.
Rev. Katherine Bretzloff

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

Gideons International of Canada
Battlefords Camp
Phone Art Martynes
(306) 389-4633

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

BELBUTTE FULL GOSPEL
11 am Worship Service

PARTNERS IN WORSHIP
Shell Lake
Worship Services
Sunday 11:00 a.m.
Pastor Sarah Urano
306-841-7333

Locals win hardware at Indigenous Games

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

The 2023 North American Indigenous Games were held in Halifax, N.S., from July 15 to 23, and not only did a number of local athletes represent Team Saskatchewan, they also brought home some serious hardware with their performances.

In U16 male softball, Shellbrook's Kamden Shewchuk started at short-stop for Team Saskatchewan, on what proved to be a flawless run through the Games. The team started strong on day one of the preliminary round, topping British Columbia 15-1 and Ontario 13-3.

On day two, it continued its winning ways with a dominant 8-1 victory over Nova Scotia, and on day three it closed out the round robin with a tougher 10-6 contest against Manitoba.

Taking a perfect 4-0 record directly into the semi-final, Team Saskatchewan once again beat British Columbia — this time by a more modest margin of 7-0 — to earn its spot in the gold medal game against Manitoba.

Unfortunately, the two teams never got the chance to play for gold, as extreme weather forced the cancellation of the game. As a result, Shewchuk and Team Saskatchewan had to share the gold medals with Manitoba.

In U16 female softball, Maddison Nelson was representing Leask on the diamonds. Competing in a tough field

of seven teams, Team Saskatchewan had to fight its way through the preliminary round to finish with a 3-3 record.

Though the team's tournament started with a 13-5 loss to Manitoba, they were able to rebound on day two with a crushing 16-1 victory over Wisconsin. Buoyed by this victory, day three saw the team beat Nova Scotia 13-6, before suffering a 6-1 defeat at the hands of British Columbia.

A 12-3 loss to Ontario the next day left the team fighting for its spot in one of the medal games. Rallying on day five, Team Saskatchewan clinched a spot in the bronze medal game against British Columbia, with a dominant 19-7 win over Alberta.

Again, due to extreme weather, the teams never got the chance to play and were forced to share the bronze medals.

Meanwhile, over in track and field, two athletes in Holbein represented Team Saskatchewan proudly at the Games.

Up first, Rayne Cyr won silver medals in the U19 400-metre event, and another silver in the U19 4 x 400-metre relay. Next, Cashian Sandry earned a medal of every colour, with a gold in the U14 4 x 100-metre relay, a silver in long jump, and a bronze in the 4 x 400-metre relay.

Rounding out the hardware haul for athletes with local ties, Carson Favel, who hails from Ile-a-la-crosse but played two seasons with the Parkland

U18 AA Elks, claimed a gold medal in U19 shot put.

All in all, the 2023 North American Indigenous Games saw an impressive

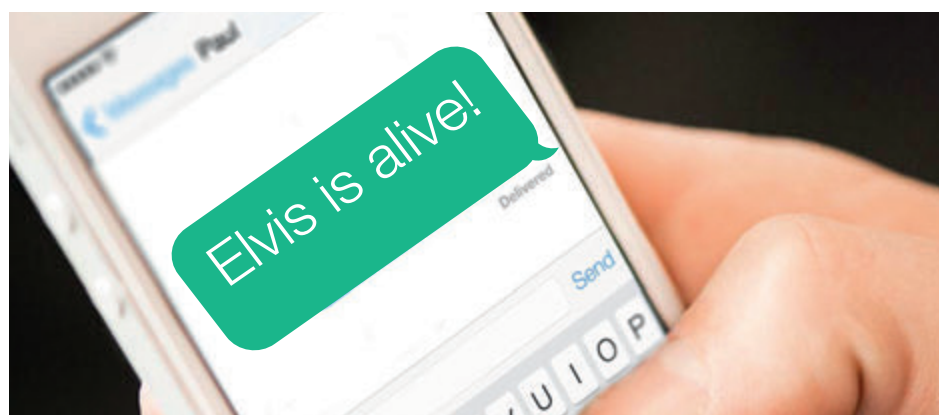
showing from Team Saskatchewan, as the province topped the medal standings with 176 medals — 50 gold, 64 silver, and 62 bronze.



Shellbrook's Kamden Shewchuk makes a clutch diving catch during U16 male softball action from the 2023 North American Indigenous Games. Photos courtesy of Team Saskatchewan Facebook



Leask's Maddison Nelson (left) smiles with teammates in the dugout during a U16 female softball game from the 2023 North American Indigenous Games.



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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 - 4pm; Wednesday 1pm - 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.

CANWOOD: The Canadian Grand Masters Sendoff Fiddle Show & Dry Dance — Monday, August 21, 7pm - 11pm, Canwood Elks Community Centre. Featuring Saskatchewan fiddlers and Saskatchewan participants attending the 2023 Canadian Grand Masters Fiddling Competition in Truro, Nova Scotia. Austin Castle (Swift Current, Sask CGM Rep), Booker Blakley (Saskatoon), Lucas Welsh (Meadow Lake, Guest-Guitar & Fiddle), Becky Wilson (Canwood), Elisha Johnson (Canwood), Trent Bruner (Guest - CGM House Accompanist). Admission: \$15/Adult, \$5/Children 12 & Under, Preschoolers Free. Tickets available at the door. Arranged with help from the Canwood Library Branch of Wapiti. Everyone welcome!

SPIRITWOOD: Spiritwood Horticulture Society Annual Show — Tuesday, August 15, 2023 @ Spiritwood Civic Centre. Doors open to the public @ 2pm; Awards & Presentations @ 6:30pm. *Entry drop-off is Mon., Aug. 14 from 1pm - 9pm* Entries accepted for Rural or Urban Yard &/or Garden or Commercial Store Front Flower Pots until Sun., August 6, 2023. For more information or to enter contact Roberta Wasden @ 306-883-2865 or 306-883-7392.

SHELLBROOK: Walter Willoughby Horticultural Society — 60th Annual Horticulture Show, Thurs., August 17th, 2023, Shellbrook Community Hall. Doors open at 2:00 p.m. Awards at 4:00 p.m. Everyone welcome. Youth & Adult show books available. Please contact: 306-747-3301 for more information.

BIG RIVER: Northern Lights Bluegrass & Old Tyme | Music Camp: August 14-18, 2023 | Festival: August 18-20, 2023. At the Ness Creek Site, Big River, SK. The Well Drinkers; Martha Spencer & The Wonderland Band; Happy Trails, Prospector; The Bix Mix Boys; The Barrelmen; Hummingbird Crossing; Steph Cameron; JJ Guy & Cathy Sproule & More! Workshops, Pickin' Shack, Square Dancing, Sunday Morning Gospel, Children's Activities. www.northernlightsbluegrass.com

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Minutes of a Spiritwood Town Council meeting

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

The regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Spiritwood was held in the Council Chambers at the Spiritwood Town Office, 212 Main Street, on June 27, 2023, at 7 p.m.

In attendance were: Mayor Gary von Holwede, Councillor George Pretli, Councillor Bryan Wingerter, Councillor Ragnar Latus, Councillor Shane Colley and CAO Rhonda Saam.

Absent were: Councillor Brad Nemish, Councillor Jim Bedi.

A quorum being present, Mayor Von Holwede called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.

Pretli: That the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried

Pretli: That the minutes of the regular meeting on June 15, 2023, be approved as presented. Carried

Delegation: Northern Lakes Economic Development Corporation - Bevra Fee - 7:15 p.m.

Bevra Fee entered the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Discussed the Northern Lakes Economic Development Officer position job duties and hiring process and what the position and duties look like moving forward.

Bevra Fee left the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Wingerter: That the correspondence be filed as present-

ed. Carried

Wingerter: That the Accounts for Approval, Cheque No. 32672 to 32688 & payments #1339 to 1341 in the amount of \$33,937.13 be approved as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the Bank Reconciliation for the month of May 2023 be approved as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the Financial Statement for the month of May 2023 be approved as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the reports be filed as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That we advertise in the Spiritwood Herald for two consecutive weeks the public notice of intent to accommodate commercial de-

velopment in Spiritwood by adopting Bylaw No. 547/23, being a Bylaw to Amend Bylaw No. 486/13 known as the Zoning Bylaw;

And, That Bylaw No. 547/23, a Bylaw to amend Zoning Bylaw No. 486/13, be read a first time. Carried

Colley: That we provide municipal approval to the Dirty Pitches Ball Team to host a Slo-Pitch tournament with bar service/liquor permit at Sadsaac Park in Spiritwood, SK starting Aug. 25 to 27, 2023, with beer gardens to be open on:

- Aug. 25 from 7 p.m. to Aug. 26 at 2 a.m.; and
- Aug 26 from 2 p.m. to Aug. 27 at 2 a.m. Carried

Wingerter: That we are in favour of moving forward with entering into an agreement with the Rural Municipality of Spiritwood No. 496 for the provisions of Fire Protection Services and maintaining the municipal fire department as per the information provided regarding the proposed Fire Department Levy calculation and estimate. Carried

Latus: That we replace the broken pane of glass as requested on the basement window located at Lot 10 Block I CA5071, due to the claim of a town operated mower throwing a rock at the window. Carried

Latus: That this meeting be adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Grain Contract issues far from 'settled'

By IAN BOXALL
President, APAS

Grain contracts are in the media again, and with many areas in Saskatchewan experiencing drought conditions, there is a concern that many farmers will suffer a repeat of 2021, highlighting a longstanding problem with contracts.

For many Saskatchewan grain farmers, this isn't news. Over the past few years, farmers have been raising concerns around the lack of transparency grain purchase contract terms and conditions. These concerns were exacerbated by the drought in 2021.

In response to these concerns, APAS has been advocating for

more balance into grain contracts by improving clarity of terms and conditions to help create greater transparency and accountability for both buyers and sellers.

After the 2021 drought, APAS and SaskCrops hired Mercantile Consulting Venture Inc. to create a report to identify the common issues experienced by farmers, plus potential solutions. The full report was released in July 2022 and is available on the APAS website.

The report validates the concerns raised by Saskatchewan farmers when it comes to their comfort with grain contract terms and conditions. Specific concerns focused on four areas:

lack of transparency in calculating buyout and administrative fees, settlement costs, timing of buyouts, and inconsistency in handling contract shortfalls.

While many producers showed an interest in standardizing grain contracts and standard contract resolution procedures, many are also questioning the use of forward contracts as they are now written due to the lack of transparency and added risk.

For example, contract terms should not transfer an unfair amount of risk – in terms of grain handling, transportation, and market risk, to farmers. The report outlines several examples of these risks be-

ing reallocated through contracts, including how railcar availability can impact farmers through expanded or delayed delivery windows, even though farmers are not involved in those commercial negotiations.

Grain contracts are important business tools to facilitate transportation and sales, as well as to manage market and price risk. Improving contracts to enhance efficiency and transparency is not only positive for grain farmers, but also buyers and the entire industry. Therefore, APAS believes this issue should continue to be a top priority for our industry and for the Canadian Grain Commission (CGC).

The CGC has a role in bringing buyers and sellers together to facilitate a process to address these issues. The CGC can assist in adopting a standardized contract that is fair and balanced to both parties, educating producers about contracts, as well as facilitating contract disputes.

APAS has met with the Western Grain Elevator Association (WGEA) to discuss contract concerns following the release of the report last year. Going forward, we need to initiate discussions with stakeholders and government bodies to move this issue and our recommendations forward.

This isn't about shift-

ing production risk from farmers to grain companies. Instead, we want to clearly define contract terms and conditions, so farmers better understand their responsibilities, clarify timelines, and know their options available when either party is unable to fulfill a contract.

An efficient grain supply chain depends on trust and cooperation between all partners along the value chain. More consistency, transparency and accountability in grain contracts will benefit the entire industry by smoothing product flow while helping to ensure farmers and grain buyers can capture international market opportunities.

GOOD NEWS

RAMBO & RUSTY

By LORNE VALUCK
Parkside Pentecostal Church

One day, as I was leaving the farm after tending to the animals, I felt an urge to do one more check.

At first things looked ok, but then I noticed Rambo, our Dorper ram, laying in an odd position, with his back against a shelter and all four legs in the air at about 45 degrees - not a good sign.

As I approached him, I was relieved to see movement. Rambo was struggling to get up, but to no avail, and was laying out.

I grabbed his legs and rocked him into a normal position. He got to his feet, a bit disoriented, but eventually walked away.

Rusty, our rooster, it would appear, lives to torment – constantly chasing and roughing up our smaller rooster, and quite often taking a run at me.

One day, we put Rusty and a couple hens in a separate enclosure with the Guinea fowl. We thought he'd like the company. They'd all get along, and life would be more pleasant for the other

rooster, and me.

Let's just say, "what goes around, comes around", or in Biblical terms, "you reap what you sow".

The Guineas decided to "put the run" on this big red rooster. A couple of them got into sort of a tag team effort, chasing Rusty, hanging on to his tail feathers, and pecking at his comb.

Finally, the rooster was playing out, panting and weakly squawking.

Even though I viewed this event as somewhat of a sweet irony, it had quickly turned to distasteful tyranny.

I grabbed my chicken catching apparatus, a wire crook or hook attached to a hockey stick, and in a moment, captured and rescued Rusty.

Now I had the guy who loved to intimidate and chase me, in my arms.

I've heard that one way to deal with an ornery rooster is to hold him firmly and quietly, showing him you're in control. Then, after a time, calmly set him down and let him go.

Sometimes he will gain a respect and appreciation that will lead to a change in attitude.

When I rescued Rambo, I hung

around for awhile to make sure everything was ok.

Rambo is a ram, and can be a bit rammy. Not mean, just rammy.

But after a couple minutes, he actually sauntered over to me and rubbed his head against my leg and arm in kind of an affectionate manner – like he appreciated what I had done for him a few minutes earlier. And, in a few days he even started eating treats out of my hand.

I'd like to say Rusty the big red rooster has turned into a real barnyard pet, enjoyable to watch, pecking and grubbing around for his next snack, sounding out a homy cock-a-doodle-doo every so often.

Not so. It didn't take long for him to get back to posturing, stalking, and chasing – same old, same old.

Romans 2:4 says, "Don't you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can't you see that his kindness is intended to turn you from your sin?"

Funny, my rooster, Rusty, and a lot of people don't appreciate what they've

been rescued from, or what help is available to them through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

God is so kind, patient and tolerant with us, with me, with you.

As Paul says to the Romans, God's kindness is meant to draw us out of sin, not to give us the impression that He takes sin lightly.

Are you going to respond to God's goodness like Rambo or like Rusty?

What a great day to make a life changing choice. Let God's love and goodness move you to a closer relationship with Him.

Father God, I need your help. Forgive me.

Thank you, Jesus, for rescuing me. Holy Spirit, Change me.

Amen – So be it.

Got any good recipes for chicken soup?

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World Cup win would cement Sinclair's legacy

If an unseeded player like Marketa Vondrousova can shock the tennis world and win the women's singles at Wimbledon, if eighth-seeded Florida Panthers can make it all the way to the Stanley Cup final, then there's no reason why Canada's women's soccer team can't win the FIFA Women's World Cup.

For the sake of Christine Sinclair, perhaps the world's greatest female soccer player ever, a win by Canada at the 2023 championship currently being staged in Australia and New Zealand would be a perfect caper to a cap-filled career on the pitch.

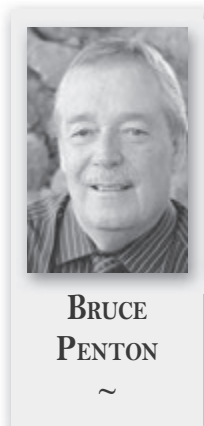
Sinclair's skills are still world class, but the Burnaby, B.C. star is 40 years old and, well, Old Man (or Woman) Time always wins in the end. With more than 320 caps (international games while representing her country) to her credit and a world-best 190 goals in those games, Sinclair's status as the best female soc-

cer player of all time is secure, but her career is missing one important ingredient: a FIFA Women's World Cup championship.

Canada is not one of the world's powers in the sport, but our country is not one of the worst, either. Ranked seventh in the world going into the World Cup, it wouldn't be considered a gigantic upset if Sinclair and Co. were to win. After all, the team reached the quarterfinals when it hosted the World Cup back in 2015. Canada also has a gold and two bronze medals in the past three Olympics.

The Canadian team is competing in a pool with Nigeria, the Republic of Ireland, and Australia, and finishes the round-robin portion of the event July 31. Finishing first or second in their pool would put the Canadians into the playoff round of 16 starting Aug. 4.

A heavy dose of humility comes over Sinclair whenever someone calls



BRUCE PENTON

her the best player in the world, but the numbers back it up. And winning the FIFA Women's World Cup in her sixth attempt would settle the 'world's-best' argument for good.

It's unlikely Sinclair would be around for a seventh Women's World Cup in 2027, but if she still knows how to put the ball into the net, and is tired of doing commercials for the sandwich chain Subway, retirement might be pushed back. If Gordie Howe can play in the NHL at age 51, Christine Sinclair still scoring big goals on the world stage at age 44 is not out of the

question.

- An RJ Currie groaner at sportsdeke.com: "Iowa firefighters were surprised to find a man they just rescued from a chimney was buck naked. That's right, wearing his birthday soot."

- Phil Mushnick of the New York Post, who hated the MLB all-star game uniforms: "Once again, the final score in the MLB All Star Game: The team in the blue pajamas 3, the team in the teal pajamas 2."

- Headline from the Canadian parody website The Beaver: "'Who gives a (blank) about the CFL?' asks man who recently started watching professional Pickleball"

- Another one from The Beaver: "Leafs fan only wants most talented player in franchise history to re-sign if it's at a discount"

- Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "Stephen Curry shot a hole-in-one at a celebrity golf tournament in Lake Tahoe. Maybe this will be the

key in finally turning things around for poor Steph Curry."

- Columnist Rick Rielly on Donald Trump after the former president shanked a wedge in a golf clip that went viral: "He chips like Edward Scissorhands. If he's a 3 (handicap), Chris Christie is a high jumper."

- Columnist Sam Farmer of the San Francisco Chronicle, prior to the men's final at Wimbledon: "If Djokovic wins, how many versions of 'Escape from Alcaraz' are we going to see?"

- Vancouver funny guy Torben Rolfsen: "Sportsnet intro-ing the Blue Jays fans' annual takeover of Seattle with 'Lunatic Fringe' by Red Rider."

- Jack Finarelli of the sportscurmudgon.com, on a great Casey Stengel quote: "Casey Stengel knows a few things about winning and losing in MLB. "Good pitching will always stop good hitting and vice-versa."

- RJ Currie again: "According to 3downnation.

com, the Edmonton Elks continue to monitor the air quality at Commonwealth Stadium. This may be due to: a) Smoke from Alberta's unusually high number of wildfires; b) How badly the home team stinks.

- Headline at the on-ion.com: "Lionel Messi Admits He Didn't Even Know Where America Was Before Signing To Play There"

- fark.com headline: "Mets name official distillery, having already given their fans many reasons to drink"

- Another one from fark.com: "Coming soon to a grocery store near you in Buffalo . . . NY Jets toilet paper"

- An observation from Sunmedia's Steve Simmons, on his new 'favourite player' in the Canadian Football League: "Carthell Flowers-Lloyd, the special teamer with the Hamilton Tiger-Cats. His initials: CFL"

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Local talent takes stage at U15 Nationals

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

With the calendar turning to August, and 2023 softball Provincials now in the history books, it's clear this was another successful year for local softball programs.

In the U15 AW Girls Provincial tournament, the Parkland Predators, comprised of players from Shell Lake, Debden, Shellbrook, Rabbit Lake, and Waldheim, and led by head coach Dillan Simonar and assistant coaches Allison Simonar and Nicole Philp, won gold and earned a spot in Westerns in Richmond, B.C. from Aug. 10 to 13.

Elsewhere, the Shellbrook Heat finished their season with a bronze medal in the U13 B Girls Provincial tournament, and the U11 Parkland Predators came home from the U11 Open – North Provincials with bronze medals as well.

Though baseball has become the dominant summer sport

for boys in Shellbrook, local talent was still showcased at the U15 Boy's Open Provincials, as Aiden Tait, Davin Schmitz, and Lane Keyowski suited up for the gold medal-winning Valley Vikings, a team that features athletes from Debden, Shell Lake, Spiritwood, Shellbrook, Laird, Hague, Rosthern, and Wakaw.

Meanwhile, Dalyn Thiel and Arland Anderson played for the silver medallist Prince Albert Astros.

Now, with Prince Albert (and the Prince Albert Astros) set to play host to the 2023 U15 Boy's Canadian Fast Pitch Championship at Prime Minister's Park from Aug. 9 to 13, all five of these local players will be taking their place on the big stage against the best Canada has to offer.

When the tournament kicks off on Aug. 9, they'll be joined by fellow Saskatchewan teams the Saskatoon Selects and Ochapowace Loud Voice, a strong contingent from Ontario that includes the Napa-

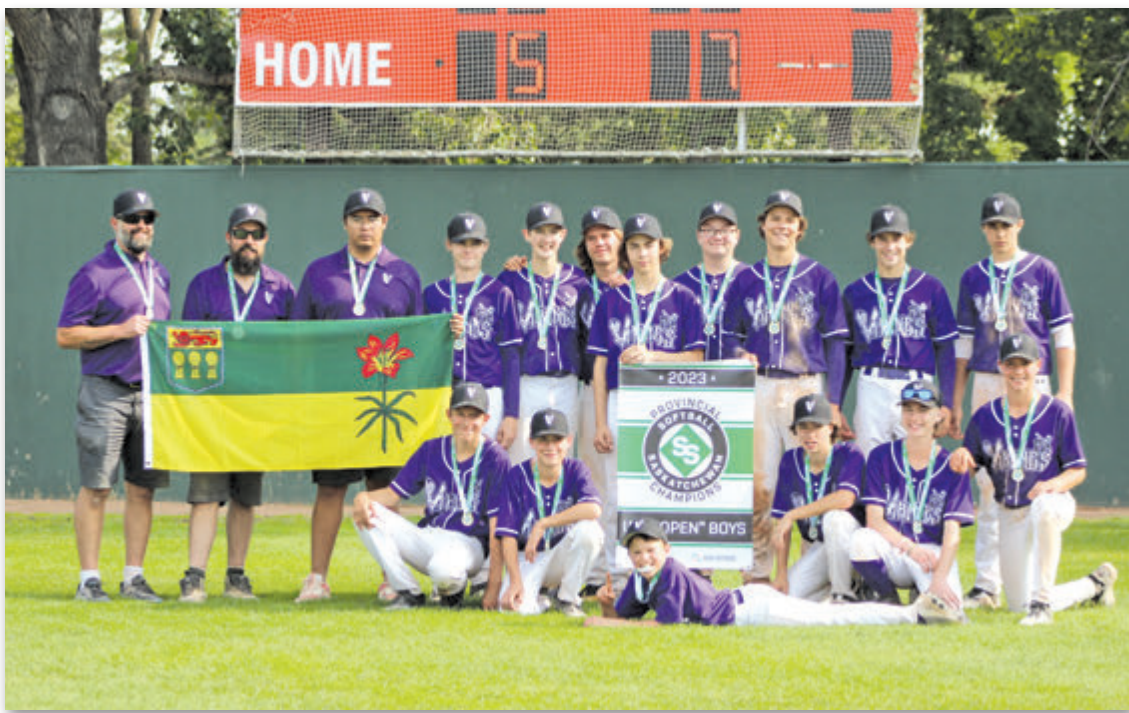
nee Express, Wilmot Thunder, Tara Longhorns, and Elmira Heat, Nova Scotia's East Hants Mastodan's, and Newfoundland's U15B team.

The home-town Astros kick

off their Nationals run with a showdown against the Tara Longhorns at 10 a.m. on Aug. 9, and the Vikings will follow-up with a game against the East Hants Mastodons at

12 p.m.

For a complete schedule of all the action, visit: <https://softball.ca/u15boys> (the schedule can be found by clicking on results)



The U15 Valley Vikings are set for Nationals in Prince Albert. The team features some local talent, including Davin Schmitz (back row, fifth from right), Aiden Tait (back row, third from right), and Lane Keyowski (back row, far right).

CHECK IT OUT!

Shellbrook Chronicle Website

www.shellbrookchronicle.com

Spiritwood Herald Website

www.spiritwoodherald.com



OBITUARIES

Richard "Dick" Buck

RICHARD 'Dick' BUCK
January 4, 1967 – July 8, 2023

With broken hearts we announce the passing of Richard Buck at the age of 56. A loving Husband, Father, Stepfather, Papa, Brother, Cousin, In-law, and Friend, he will be deeply missed by so many.

Richard was born in Port Alberni, BC to In-

grid and Alex Buck. He grew up in Shell Lake, SK but made his home in Meota and North Battleford for the past 15 years, where he and his family operated their septic business.

Richard loved working with his hands – he could fix just about anything – and he was always ready to lend a hand to friends and neighbors. He also enjoyed being outdoors – sledding, quadding, fishing, hunting, and spending time around a fire, visiting, sharing stories, and having a beer.

Most of all Richard loved us, his family, and we knew that he would do anything for us. While he was known to be stubborn and grouchy at times, he was the strongest man we knew. He muscled through any

difficulty with determination and courage. But as strong as he was, he was a softy too. He was a very special 'Papa' to the little ones in his life. They all loved that he played with them, and he always seemed to have a grandchild or two following him around as he fixed vehicles and worked in his shop.

It is fitting that Richard was able to make a difference in someone else's life through the gift of organ donation. We are so grateful for that.

Please join us at an informal gathering to come together to remember Richard on Saturday, August 12th, 2023, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at the Shell Lake Lions Hall, 2 Ave East, Shell Lake, SK.

Albert Lenard Davidson

Albert Lenard Davidson, late of RM of Big River, SK, passed away on Sunday, July 23, 2023, at Parkland Integrated Health Centre in Shellbrook, SK.

Albert Lenard Davidson was born April 7, 1933 in his grandparents Thomas and Zora Pollard's farm home at Blaine Lake. His parents Alex and Blanche moved by horse and wagon with cattle in 1934 to homestead in the Big River area. The Rapid Bend school district. Albert farmed with his

father all his life. Albert was a trapper, hunter, and farmer and for extra money in the hard times Albert and Wilbur Keating did a lot of cord wood.

Albert is lovingly remembered by:

His sister Margaret Corbett and family: Cathy (Mark); Robert (Angie) - Leah & her daughter Blake, and Isaac; David (Linda) - Morgan and Harrison

His brother Lloyd (Nancy) and family: Darren (Joyce) and children: Karlene - Olivia and Paola; Nathan; Matthew (Leah); Danae (John) - Jack

Edwin (Rhonda) and family: Brittany (Chris); Dustin (Dynel) - River; Faith

Roxanne (Trevor Mitchell) and children: Taylor (Jorge); Jordan (Kaitlyn); Nicole (Jeremy)

Amelia (Jonathan) Oostenbrink

Predeceased by:

His parents: Alex and Blanche Davidson (née Pollard)

His paternal grandparents: David and Rachel Davidson

His maternal grandparents: Thomas and Zora Pollard

Numerous aunts, uncles, and other relatives.

Funeral was held at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at Big River Evangelical Free Church. In Lieu of tributes memorial donations in Albert's memory may be directed to the Big River Cemetery. 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, Lynn Anderson Funeral Director, Shellbrook, SK 306-747-2828.

Charles Bruce Wreford

Charles Bruce Wreford
1931 - 2023

Peacefully, with family by his side, Bruce passed away at Parkland Integrated Health Center in Shellbrook on July 21st.

Born in Prince Albert on June 27th, 1931, Bruce was the eldest child of CHF "Bob" Wreford and Joyce (née Farmer) Wreford. His two siblings, Dennis and Amy came along later.

Bruce first attended school in Boro Green and later completed a course in Gasoline and Diesel Motors at the University of Saskatchewan. During winters and some summers, he worked away from the farm with the wages he earned going into improvements to the Wreford farm holdings.

In 1956, Bruce met

the love of his life, Doris Ellen Forbes, a young nurse from Big River. They were married in 1961 and moved to the family farm where they built a new home near to Bruce's parents in 1964. Here, they raised their family of three sons while Doris continued her nursing career and Bruce ran the farm. Bruce enjoyed living on the farm right up until his admittance to hospital this June.

Bruce spent his 92 years building a life to be proud of - one spent caring for his family and contributing to his

community. He embodied and lived the values of integrity, honesty, respect, and responsibility, and so very many were the richer for it. Over the years, he contributed to many organizations in the area including the Wheat Pool Committee, Canwood Co-op, Canwood Curling Club, 4-H Club and the Royal Canadian Legion.

Bruce is lovingly remembered by his sister Amy, sons Dannie, Terry (Dawn), their

children Carter and Gillian, John (Sherri) and their children Denon, Dallas and Amy, brothers-in-law Bud Forbes (Grace), Ken Forbes (Cindy McLean), sisters-in-law Gladys Rudolph and Lorrie Forbes and numerous other family members. He was pre-deceased by his parents, his wife Doris, his brother Dennis, and numerous other family members.

There will be a time of fellowship and reminiscing at the Can-

wood Legion Hall on Wednesday, July 26th at 2:00 PM. Donations in Bruce's memory may be made to the Canwood Legion Branch #132.

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, Donna Lovberg Funeral Director, Canwood, SK 306-468-2244.

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Mosses and Mushrooms

By PATRICIA HANBIDGE

The mushrooms that seem to magically appear almost overnight in our lawns are the fruiting bodies of a fungus. Fungi cannot manufacture their own food and must obtain it from an external source. In most cases, the clusters of mushrooms in our lawns are present because they are part of the natural process of decomposition of stumps or roots left from a tree removal or even from construction debris. Sometimes mushrooms appear to be marching across the lawn as they follow the path of a root underground. Do not worry about a few mushrooms in your landscape as they will not damage the lawn. If you find them unsightly, they can be picked or raked. They will generally disappear as the weather becomes dry.

There is another kind of mushroom that appears in lawn areas - and this one is worthy of some treatment. Fairy rings appear as circles of dark green or brown circles in the lawn. In wet weather, small tan mushrooms often appear in the ring. If you dig into the fairy ring you will find a white, fibrous net-like growth, the mycelium, throughout the soil. As the growth spreads, the ring grows along the outer edge. The mycelium can become so

dense that water will not penetrate and the grass above it dies.

Fairy rings can be present on any kind of lawn but are found more often on dry, under fertilized lawns. Control begins with good lawn maintenance. The spike and soak method is the only real method of control for fairy ring. Use a garden fork to make holes through-out the ring. The holes should be about 4-6 inches (10-15 cm) apart. The area must then be soaked every day or two for at least a month, especially if the ring has dry grass in the center. A teaspoon of dishwashing liquid in a gallon of water can be sprayed on the area before soaking. The soap will act as a wetting agent and helps the water soak into the affected area. If the ring is small, it is possible to remove the entire ring along with at least 18 inches of soil on each side of the ring. The soil must be removed to a depth of at least 2 inches below the mycelium. Fairy rings will die out when they approach sidewalks, flower beds, or other cultivated areas. Two rings meeting will also cause the death of both rings.

Mosses appear when grass is weakened by unfavorable growing conditions. Mosses prefer damp, heavily shaded areas and are often found on the north side of buildings. In addition, heavily

compacted soil and low fertility encourage growth. Moss is not harmful to lawns but rather occupies the bare spots in lawns as grass thins. If moss is not deeply rooted, it can be raked out. There are chemical controls available but unless the conditions which encourage moss growth are changed, the moss will return. Several cultural practices will discourage moss growth. It is a good idea to plant shade tolerant grasses or shade-loving plants or shrubs. Fertilize the lawn regularly. Avoid soil compaction by staying off wet lawns. If your lawn is compacted it can be aerated. Avoid overwatering. Reduce thatch by vigorous raking. Where shade is the result of trees and

shrubs, pruning and thinning will allow more light into the area and better air circulation. As conditions which favor grass growth are improved, the grass will compete better with the moss.

It is important to remember that both mosses and mushrooms will grow when conditions are right for them to thrive. Sometimes as gardeners, it is wise to bow to the forces greater than we and to focus on other more important tasks.

Hanbidge is the Lead Horticulturist with Orchid Horticulture. Find us at www.orchidhort.com; by email at info@orchidhort.com; on facebook @orchidhort and on instagram at #orchidhort.



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Parkside Derby celebrates 40 years

Continued from 1

After the drivers were given a final break to work on their vehicles, it was time for the main event. Like all the heats that came before it, the championship round didn't disappoint. And after the smoke settled on the final hit of the evening, Landon Peeteetuce was crowned the 2023 champion, leaving Mark Nykiforuk to take second place, and Darrel Gatzke in third.

Apart from the prizes awarded to the derby winners, there are also awards for the best dressed vehicle, and the Mad Dog (best entertainer). Though he was unable to repeat as a derby champion, Cody Sommerfeld did claim this year's best dressed award with his Super Mario-themed paint job.

Meanwhile, after voting by cheering, the audience named Steve Oborowsky this year's Mad Dog.

Looking back on yet another successful Parkside Derby, Segberg credits its longevity to its many supporters over the past 40 years, including the drivers who put hundreds of hours into their vehicles each year and put on an ex-

citing show, and those who make sure the event runs without a hitch.

"It's because of our volunteers and the community around it," he said. "We have such good support from our local businesses and volunteers. There's always someone there when you need a hand."

For this reason, the Parkside Community Club used the milestone 40th anniversary of the derby to recognize the many drivers who have won over the years.

"It was good to honour them, because they started this whole thing," Segberg said.

"The first guys, when they decided Parkside needed a new curling rink, their fundraiser was going to be a demolition derby and a dance. They managed to get six or eight guys to drag cars out of the bush and smash 'em up. Then, they just kept coming back."

Though there was much to celebrate with the 40th Parkside Derby, there was also a solemn atmosphere around the derby grounds. This year marked the first derby without Darrel Martin, who had been one of



In recognition of the 40 years of the Parkside Derby, past derby winners were brought into the ring to be honoured.
Photo courtesy of Kelsey Segberg

the event's key organizers since the beginning.

In his honour, the derby committee chose to name the derby ring the Darrel Martin Memorial Speedway.

"Growing up, you'd see Darrel running the ring. The ring was his baby. He organized the flaggers and all that," Segberg said. "It was a hard day that way, but he would have been pretty proud of how it turned out."



After the final pitch, The King Fisher Howlers were this year's slo-pitch tournament winners. *Photo courtesy of Kelsey Segberg*



Truck driver Ben Tweedie stops just inches away from the barrel. He recorded the best time in the barrel races and took home the prize.



In his first Parkside Derby outing, Kegan Thiessen accepted the truck derby trophy from Parkside Community Club president Jory Segberg. *Photo courtesy of Kelsey Segberg*



Derek Willoughby smashes into what's left of Steve Oborowsky's vehicle in action from the derby's championship round.



Cody Sommerfeld and Logan Donohue (621) collide head-on in the second heat.



Mad Dog Steve Oborowsky plows into Aaron Schell en route to winning the third heat.



Joel Beam crashes into Ben Beam while being rear-ended by Keegan Thiessen during the truck derby's championship round.



Eventually winner Landon Peeteetuce smashes into the charity car, sending it up onto the concrete barrier in action from the derby's first heat.



Jesse Nyberg and Cody Sommerfeld crash head-on in the second consolation heat.