

# Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

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Thursday, November 2, 2023

www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

## Shellbrook CN Station makes its final move



Shellbrook's CN Station has been readied for its final move, and was expected to leave town for good on Thursday, Nov. 2. The building is being moved to the rural property of its owner, Ken Hamilton.

By **JORDAN TWISS**  
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Though decades have passed since a train last rolled through Shellbrook, the old CN Station welcomed many a passenger to town throughout its life before it became the community's museum.

However, on Thursday, Nov. 2, the building was expected to bid farewell to Shellbrook and move to its new home just to the southwest of town: the rural property of its owner, Ken Hamilton (recent weeks had seen Hamilton bring in heavy equipment to ready the building for moving day, which was scheduled for Monday, Oct. 30, until a delay on SaskPower's end scuttled those initial plans).

Hamilton acquired the building in March, when the Town of Shellbrook auctioned it off alongside the train sta-

tion shed, the old Rayside School, and the remaining artifacts that were still housed in the former Shellbrook and District Heritage Museum.

For Hamilton, the interest in the building was personal and deeply rooted in his family's connection to Shellbrook and the history of the railroad.

Around the turn of the 20th century, Hamilton's grandfather came west from Ontario to build railroad grade, eventually receiving the contract to build all the Big River line coming from Shellbrook. He ended up buying land just a couple miles outside of Shellbrook to winter the horses he used for railroad construction. And after marrying, he decided to stay in Shellbrook and take up farming.

That farm has since been passed down to Hamilton and his generation, keeping the family connected to the

area.

"Over the last 100 years, my family has either come back to Shellbrook through that rail station, or left town through that station. There's 100 years of history there with our family," he said.

When he purchased the CN Station, Hamilton's original plan was to move it to his property, located one mile west and two miles south of Shellbrook, fix it up, and re-open it as a museum for the public to visit. But shortly after the auction, he began hearing calls from the community for the building to be left where it was.

Hamilton took this idea to Shellbrook's Town Council, to see if there was a way for the building to remain in place and generate revenue for the town, but was told this wouldn't be an option. As such, he's returned to his original idea of fixing up the station so

it can continue its life as a museum.

### The History

Construction of the Shellbrook CN Station was completed in December 1909, making the building one of the town's earliest buildings. In 1988, the property was a designated Municipal Heritage Property and transformed into the Shellbrook & District Heritage Museum.

Citing the potential costs to taxpayers to maintain and upgrade the building, Shellbrook's town council originally floated the idea of demolishing the station, and even drafted a bylaw to remove its heritage status, at a meeting held in May 2020. But, after outcry from the public, it voted to give the station a 90-day reprieve to allow interested parties enough time to put together a proposal to save the building.

*Continued on page 2*

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# Shellbrook CN Station makes its final move

**Continued from 1**

During this window, a proposal to turn the CN Station into an artisan's co-operative was brought forward by a local group that was interested in saving the building. However, these efforts were hampered by the COVID-19 pandemic and a lack of interest, and they failed to bear any fruit in the time

period allotted by council.

This allowed council to proceed with removing the station's heritage status at its Oct. 18, 2021, meeting and sealed the fate of the building (and the museum). Throughout 2022, items from the museum's collection were deaccessioned and returned to the families that had originally donated them, paving

the way for the remaining items and the buildings to be auctioned off in March.

The CN Station itself sold for a final bid of \$300, while the train station shed hauled in \$2,000. Meanwhile, the Rayside School required a second auction after failing to attract a buyer the first time around, and eventually

sold for \$5. All sales came with the caveat that the buildings be moved by Sept. 30.

With the land the buildings sat on being owned by the Town of Shellbrook, CAO Kelly Hoare says the town is looking to subdivide it for future use, which meant the buildings had to be moved.

## Canwood Library celebrates 65 years

By **DIANE JOHNSON & BEV WYATT**  
Canwood Library Board

A supportive and appreciative crowd gathered on Oct. 19 to celebrate and congratulate the Canwood Public Library Branch of Wapiti Regional Library on 65 years of service to the community.

Rural Municipality of Canwood, Village of Canwood, and Wapiti representatives brought greetings and praised past and present library board members for the many programs offered over the years to enhance the lives of patrons. It was a joyous occasion of reminiscing, admiring pictures, guessing interesting trivia, and enjoying cake and ice cream.

The special musical talents of Josh and Dyan Nordquist were enjoyed throughout the program, as

guests listened to and sang along to songs that were topping the charts in 1958! The "Cat in the Hat" even made an appearance to entertain guests with a Dr. Seuss story written 65 years ago.

Lucille Scott painted her magic on a commemorative feather to be proudly displayed alongside the community-created paper quilt marking the library's 65-year milestone.

Susan Hansen gave an informative overview of George Nielsen's book *This Is My Story*. George's father was one of Canwood's original business owners and founders.

There are so many positive memories that have been made at the library throughout the years.

Congratulations again on 65 productive years, Canwood Public Library.



Canwood Library board member Gerda Bruner assists former long-time librarian Hildegard Butz with cutting the commemorative cake.



Dyan and Josh Nordquist entertained the crowd with chart-toppers from 1958.



Lucille Scott painted a commemorative feather to mark the library's 65th anniversary.



Canwood Mayor Lorne Benson offered remarks on behalf of the Village of Canwood.

*Remembrance Day Service*  
**Saturday, November 11**

**SHELLBROOK ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION**  
Doors Open 10:00 a.m.  
Service Starts 10:30 a.m. ~ Shellbrook Theatre

[Section 83 & 84 of the Act]  
**NOTICE OF ADVANCE POLL**  
**Village of Leask**

**PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given that provision has been made for an advance poll for the By-Election for all eligible electors:

Advance Voting will take place on **Friday, November 24, 2023** between the hours of **2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.** at the Leask Community Hall, 169 Railway Avenue.

Dated at Leask, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023.

Yvette Hamel  
Returning Officer

[Section 81 of the Act]  
**NOTICE OF POLL**  
**Village of Leask**

**PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given that:

1. A Vote will be held for the By-Election of: Mayor – One (1) to be Elected
2. Voting will take place on Wednesday, **November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023** from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Leask Community Hall, 169 Railway Avenue.
3. I will declare the results of voting at the Village of Leask Office, at 15 Main Street, on November 30, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Dated at Leask, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023.

Yvette Hamel  
Returning Officer

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# Shellbrook mulls formal Rural Crime Watch group

By **JORDAN TWISS**  
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Shellbrook and area residents concerned about the state of rural crime gathered at the Shellbrook Theatre for a Rural Crime Watch presentation on Tuesday, Oct. 24.

Put together by Evan Davis and Jay Ferster, who manage the informal Shellbrook RM Rural Crime group on Whatsapp, the evening also saw representatives from the Ahtahkakoop-Shellbrook RCMP Detachment and the RCMP's Saskatchewan Enforcement Response Team (SERT) make presentations to the audience of about 110 people.

First, however, Davis set ground rules for the meeting, noting how discussions about rural crime can often become heated.

"Let's just keep positive forward motion, and we can all learn something, and hopefully go out of here equipped with more information so we can help keep our area safe for us, our families, and our neighbours," he said.

Kicking off the presentations from the RCMP, Sgt. Shannon Haggarty, commanding officer of the Ahtahkakoop-Shellbrook RCMP Detachment, outlined the detachment's area of coverage, which includes the town and RM of Shellbrook, town and RM of Canwood, Holbein, Ahtahkakoop, Mistawasis, Crutwell, Parkside, parts of the RM of Leask, and everything in between.

Haggarty noted the detachment polices this large geo-

graphic area with just 12 members (herself, two corporals, and nine constables). While she said the detachment is fortunate to only have one staffing vacancy, its officers are responding to more calls for service.

"In 2022, we responded to more than 5,000 calls/complaints. This year, we're at just over 4,300 [so far]," she said, noting the detachment receives tremendous support from the communities it serves. "Everything's increasing over the past couple years."

From here, the microphone was turned over to Cpl. Colin Marco, whose presentation outlined the purpose and goals of formal Rural Crime Watch groups and provided information about how to start a group and work closely with the RCMP.

Just as importantly, though, he offered those in attendance an important reminder about what Rural Crime Watch group members should and shouldn't be doing.

"Don't take any enforcement action. You're not police, and it's dangerous to confront a lot of people who are doing these sorts of things," he said, also reminding those interested in participating in a Rural Crime Watch group not to carry weapons or attempt to be vigilantes.

"The Role of Crime Watch members is to report all unusual or suspicious vehicles or occurrences immediately to the RCMP/call 911. Observe and report is the name of the game," he added.

Building on Cpl. Marco's points, Sgt. Haggarty touched on a common refrain from the RCMP, which is that every bit of

information, no matter how small or seemingly insignificant, can help police connect dots and solve crimes.

"I always tell people: just report even the little stuff. It doesn't take us long to open a little information file, and you never know what that might connect us to. Report on that stuff. Every little bit helps," she said.

Adding to the discussion about Rural Crime Watch groups, attendee Blair Thomas, a member of the Lake Country Crime Watch and Citizens on Patrol groups, touched on the importance of working closely with the RCMP so officers know when group members are patrolling.

He also touted the benefits of having a group, but stressed that it needs to be organized and have a clear plan to be effective at deterring crime.

"You can't just sit back. The more you're out there, the more these people know you're watching," he said. "We've gone from tons of break and enters and vehicle thefts to literally nothing."

Next up on the agenda was S/Sgt. Ryan How, the RCMP's Crime Reduction Team/SERT North Region Manager, who was in attendance to provide a presentation outlining the joint police operations being undertaken by area detachments and the RCMP's special units, as well as the successes they've had to date.

Throughout S/Sgt. How's presentation, a common theme emerged: quite often, police are dealing with prolific offenders who are out on the streets despite having committed sometimes dozens of offences (one individual, who wasn't named, had 75 previous criminal convictions and 17 pending criminal charges, but was still out on probation when he was arrested).

Facing questions about why criminals don't seem to stay in jail for long, How called this "the million dollar question," and noted that the justice system never seems to be represented at community meetings with the RCMP.

"Probably every criminal we deal with, it's not very often that it's a first offence. I don't even know in my [24-year] career if I've caught someone who's had a first offence. It's prolific offenders," Sgt. Haggarty added to the conversation.

Once the RCMP's presentations finished, the floor was opened to questions and the meeting concluded with the next step being for the community to organize and take the steps required to establish a formal Rural Crime Watch group.

## Elks grill up funds with Steak Night

By **JORDAN TWISS**  
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

The newly resurrected Shellbrook Elks Senior Hockey Club unofficially kicked off its inaugural hockey season with a Steak Night fundraiser, held at the Shellbrook Community Hall on Saturday, Oct. 21.

Partnering with the Shellbrook Kinettes for the event, which included a DJ'd dance after the supper, the Elks played host to about 170 guests on the evening, raising \$6,200 to cover the team's expenses for the upcoming hockey season, including new jerseys, registration costs, supplies, room updates and maintenance, and ice time for games and weekly practices.

"This fundraiser was a huge help to get us off to a great start," said Shellbrook Kinettes Tasha Cyr, who will also be helping the Elks out behind the scenes as a manager this hockey season.

Calling the event a "huge success," Cyr says the team is lucky to have such a ded-

icated committee and roster of players, who were willing to put in a lot of work over the course of the event and over the weekend to prepare and plan for the event.

To be certain, there was a lot to do to ensure the night went off without a hitch, including hauling in barbecues and supplies, washing 330 potatoes, cutting the vegetables for the salads, setting up and decorating the Community Hall, and cleaning up after the event was over.

Fortunately, local businesses and organizations helped turn the fundraiser into a real team event.

On the night of the event, while the Elks players were manning the grills and running the bar and the Kinettes were keeping the raffle draws organized, the Shellbrook Youth Travel Club cleared tables and washed dishes to ease the workload for the groups.

Meanwhile, WP Sandin High School loaned out its barbecues, Parkland Meats offered a steep discount on the steaks, and Shellbrook

Bigway loaned out its big barbecue and ensured the mix order was organized and ready for pick-up.

Elsewhere, while the Elks players and committee members put together a cooler basket, Lou's Bar, Grill, and Offsale donated a number of items for the full cooler raffle, Kerbside Convenience donated full cooler raffle items and assisted with the liquor license application, and Elk Ridge Resort donated a couple bas-

kets with golf passes.

"We were really unsure of what to expect, [but] the community support we received was amazing," Cyr said. "It was a fantastic collaboration. We couldn't have done it without our community."

With a good chunk of money raised to help cover the team's expenses throughout the hockey season, the Elks players can now focus on playing hockey.

The team's first home game in the 2023-2024 Twin Rivers Hockey League regular season campaign will be played at the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre against the Allan Flames on Friday, Nov. 10. Puck drop is at 8 p.m.



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### TOWN OF BIG RIVER PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that the Council of the Town of Big River intends to adopt a bylaw pursuant to Section 207 of *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* to amend Bylaw No. 2015-01, known as the Official Community Plan and Bylaw No. 2015-02, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

#### INTENT

The proposed bylaws will amend: Bylaw No. 2015-01, the Official Community Plan and Bylaw No. 2015-02, the Zoning Bylaw Zoning District Map, to rezone Lot 21 Block 9, Plan BS4857, as shown within the bold dashed line on the map below, from C1 – Core Mixed Commercial District to C2 – Arterial Commercial District.

#### AFFECTED LAND

The affected land is legally described as Lot 21, Block 9, Plan BS4857, which is located at 105 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue South as shown within the bold dashed line on the following map.

#### REASON

The reason for the amendment is to regulate and encourage development in the commercial highway district.

#### PUBLIC INSPECTION

Any person may inspect the bylaws at the Town Office in Big River on any judicial day from Monday to Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Copies are available to persons at a cost of \$1.00 each.

#### PUBLIC HEARING

Council will hold a public hearing on November 21, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. in the Board Room at Big River Community Centre, 606 1<sup>st</sup> Street North, in Big River, Saskatchewan, to hear any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaws. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing (or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing).

Issued at Big River this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2023.  
Noreen Olsen, Administrator



#### Appendix C

#### FORM L

[Section 78 of the Act]

### Notice of Call for Further Nominations RM OF SHELLBROOK NO. 493

**COUNCILLOR – RM of Shellbrook No. 493  
Division No. 2**

The returning officer or nomination officer will receive nominations of candidates for the above office(s):

(a) during normal office hours from **October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
until **November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

at Shellbrook Municipal Office, 71 Main Street, Shellbrook, Saskatchewan.

Nomination forms may be obtained at the following location(s):  
Shellbrook Municipal Office, 71 Main Street, Shellbrook, Saskatchewan

Dated at Shellbrook, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023.

**Duane Storey**  
Returning Officer



## Sask. Throne speech shows questionable priorities

All eyes were on Saskatchewan's Legislative Assembly last Wednesday, as Premier Scott Moe's government delivered its Throne Speech to kick off the fall sitting of the legislature.

Next to election campaign time, the Throne Speech is probably the source of the most excitement (and dread) for taxpayers when it comes to the political sphere.

Just like election campaigns see political parties of all stripes promise everything but the kitchen sink to voters, Throne Speeches set out the short-term priorities of the government of the day.

Going into last Wednesday's Throne Speech, the Sask. Party government had a lot of work to do in order to address the many and varied needs and wants of taxpayers – most of them tied to taxpayers' top-of-mind concerns about affordability and housing.

This year, for instance, was supposed to signal the start of the province's participation in the federal government's \$10 per day childcare scheme, which is intended to alleviate one huge cost all parents face.

However, a research brief released in early October found the province spent less than half the federal funding it received to implement the program, and created only 37 per cent of the childcare spaces it was supposed to (despite going overbudget by nearly \$300,000 on the creation of spaces).

Some of the challenges related to rolling out more affordable childcare have been tied to staffing issues, and the Sask. Party has tried to address this through pay increases for early childhood educators.

But given the work that still needs to be done, it wouldn't have been surprising if childcare had been one of the priorities outlined in the government's Throne Speech (and the government does intend to "continue to add more childcare spaces").

The Sask. Party government also has much work to do in healthcare, to address diagnostic and surgical wait times, and human resources challenges.

The problems in healthcare are especially acute in rural Saskatchewan. Since 2021, the community of Broadview has "temporarily" been without acute care services, and outpatient and emergency services in Wilkie have also been "temporarily unavailable."



JORDAN TWISS  
~  
News Editor

Meanwhile, as of October, Lanigan, Watrous, Redvers, and Wolseley were all on long-term reduced services and hours of operations, Biggar was only providing sporadic ER services, and Radville's hospital had moved to virtual ER care after the town lost its doctors. Closer to home, Spiritwood's Collaborative Emergency Centre saw six closures throughout September and October.

At the same time, urban ERs are bursting at the seams on some days, and the number of people waiting more than three, six, or 12 months for surgeries has increased considerably since 2010 (though, the government says wait times have come down about 10 per cent from their peak during the COVID-19 pandemic).

Still, Saskatchewan Health Authority data covering 2022 found the province had the worst wait times in the country for knee and hip replacements, with median wait times of 466 days and 309 days, respectively.

Elsewhere, in long-term care, the past month has seen at least four facilities in Regina announce impending closures.

First, on Oct. 4, Parkview Villa and Princess Villa homes informed residents they would be closing Nov. 2 (today), giving them less than a month to find alternative accommodations.

Next, families and residents of the Precious Memories Villa were given just 72 hours to relocate.

And finally, Regina's Lutheran Home is expected to shut its doors by April 2024, leaving another 62 residents without accommodations in a city where the average wait time for a bed was already more than 50 days.

Despite all this, the Sask. Party's only commitment in its Throne Speech, aside from previously made mental health and addictions announcements, was to carry on with the status quo of its Health Human Resources Action Plan (which the provincial auditor has said will leave the healthcare system with a shortage of 2,200 "hard to recruit" workers).

Meanwhile, the throne speech promised nothing new for seniors or long-term care, and instead only saw the government pat itself on the back for its past handling of both portfolios.

Under the umbrella of affordability, the Sask. Party government had many paths it couldn't have taken to help folks cope



with the rising cost of living. It could have cut residents another \$500 affordability cheque, or temporarily suspended the provincial fuel tax, or even rolled back last year's expansion of the PST.

Citing a tightening of the province's finances, Premier Scott Moe said before the Throne Speech was even delivered that another affordability cheque was off the table. And the other two options don't appear to have been considered.

Instead, the Sask. Party government plans to introduce a new Saskatchewan Employment Incentive program to bolster the income of low-income working families with dependent children.

Looking at affordability through the lens of housing, the Throne Speech also promises a PST rebate for new home construction that will return 42 per cent of the PST paid, and a Secondary Suite Program to offset the costs of building suites inside a primary residence in a bid to increase rental availability.

This is great for people who can afford to build new homes, but nothing else contained in the Throne Speech will help Saskatchewan residents with the day-to-day of struggling to afford groceries and other essentials.

Also conspicuously absent from the Throne Speech is the education portfolio, save for promises to build new schools in Regina, Saskatoon, Lanigan, Moose Jaw, and La Loche.

With affordability, education, and healthcare seeming to be barely more than an afterthought for the Sask. Party government, you may ask what its top

priorities are.

Well, thankfully, the Throne Speech ditched the Sask. Party's tired "growth that works for everyone" slogan in favour of the simpler theme of "Build and Protect."

While the both sides are concerned with the province's economy, the protect side also refers to international instability caused by the Russian-Ukrainian and Israel-Hamas conflicts, and also to the federal government.

Calling Ottawa one of the "biggest threats" to Saskatchewan, the Throne Speech includes a promise to "Protect Saskatchewan's economic autonomy by using The Saskatchewan First Act to refer the federal Clean Electricity Regulations, the Clean Fuel Standard and the oil and gas emissions cap to the Economic Impact Assessment Tribunal."

Other "top priorities" include a bill to raise the legal age for smoking and vaping to 19, to bring it in line with the restrictions for alcohol and cannabis, and a Saskatchewan Remembrance Day Observance Act, which will make it illegal for employers to prohibit employees from wearing poppies.

Both of these are sensible changes, but the fact that the Sask. Party government believes them worthy of inclusion in the Throne Speech shows just how out of touch it has become.

As the fall sitting of the Legislature gets under way, this government desperately needs to reevaluate its priorities and focus its energies on what Saskatchewanians truly need.

### 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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Phone 306-747-2442 or Fax 306-747-3000

Editorial: chnews@sbchron.com  
Advertising chads@sbchron.com

### C. J. Pepper, Publisher

Jordan Twiss, Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter  
jordan@sbchron.com/chnews@sbchron.com

Bevra Fee, Spiritwood Herald Reporter  
(306) 883-7058 or bevrafee@yahoo.ca

Meghan Penney, Composition/Pagination & Advertising Sales  
chads@sbchron.com

Karen Stene, Bookkeeping/Reception  
accounting@sbchron.com

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.;

Friday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. & 1 to 4 p.m.;

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## Report from the Legislature

The fall sitting of the Legislature is now underway following the Speech from The Throne, delivered by Saskatchewan's Lieutenant Governor Russ Mirasty. The speech laid out our government's plan to continue to build and protect Saskatchewan over the next year.

Together with Saskatchewan people, our government will continue to build a strong province, a strong economy, strong communities and strong families. And we will protect what we have built together from the risks of global uncertainty and from a federal government that seems intent on shutting down important parts of our economy.

We will continue to build a strong economy and create new jobs by attracting people, talent and business investment to our province. During this session, our government will introduce a new Investment Attraction Strategy to create jobs by building opportunities in emerging sectors, growing existing industries and connecting the world to Saskatchewan.



HON. SCOTT MOE,  
PREMIER

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

To compliment the investment plan, we will release the Saskatchewan Jobs Plan to recruit, train and retain a highly skilled workforce. This plan will ensure growth in the province's economy creates new job opportunities while addressing labour shortages in key sectors and public services.

To further support strong families, our government will introduce the Saskatchewan Employment Incentive program. The program will bolster the income of low-income working families with dependent children.

To promote new home construction and protect new homeowners from

rising costs, the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) Rebate for New Home Construction will be reinstated and extended retroactive to April 1. This rebate returns 42 per cent of PST paid – about 2.5 per cent of the total house price, excluding the land value – for a new house.

Our government is also introducing a Secondary Suite Program. This program will help homeowners with the costs of building a rental suite within their primary residence and increase the availability of rentals.

As our government continues to work with Saskatchewan people to build a strong economy, one of the biggest threats to our province's economy is our own federal government. Their Clean Electricity Standards, Clean Fuel Standard regulations, and proposed oil and gas emissions cap will kill thousands of jobs and devastate our resource sector.

That is why during this session our government will use the Saskatchewan First Act to refer these policies to the Economic Impact Assess-

ment Tribunal, which will look into the economic harm caused by these destructive federal policies.

As our government continues to focus on building strong communities, we are investing in programs and services to protect those struggling with mental health and addictions. We will implement our recently announced Action Plan for Mental Health and Addictions, investing \$49.4 million when fully implemented in five years and adding 500 new addictions treatment spaces – more than doubling the number of treatment spaces in the province. Our government will also implement the new Provincial Approach to Homelessness, investing \$40.2 million over the next two years to create 155 new supportive housing spaces, 120 new permanent emergency shelter spaces, and 30 new complex needs emergency shelter spaces.

During the Throne Speech, our government outlined the bills we will introduce this session to continue building Saskatchewan and protect



HON. JEREMY HARRISON  
MLA

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all we have built. New legislation will expand presumptive cancer coverage for firefighters to include six additional types of cancer, giving Saskatchewan the broadest presumptive cancer coverage for firefighters in Canada. Our government will also introduce a bill designed to reduce smoking and vaping, including raising the legal consumption age from 18 to 19, consistent with the age for alcohol and cannabis consumption.

These new announcements come along with our government's commitment to continue the work we've already be-

gun. We will continue to build new hospitals and health facilities, while continuing work on the Health Human Resources Action Plan to recruit, train, incentivize and retain health care workers. We will continue to build new schools, while expanding online learning opportunities through the Saskatchewan Distance Learning Corporation and adding more childcare spaces in communities across the province. We will continue to expand our government's support for community-based organizations that enhance access to services, such as mental health services for children and youth and second stage housing.

Our government, together with the people of our great province, will keep building Saskatchewan and we will protect all we have built. As we continue this work, we look forward to hearing from you. If you have questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact my constituency office.

## Philip Miller wows crowd at Mont Nebo

By DEBBIE JENSEN

On the evening of Friday, Oct. 20, the Mont Nebo Hall rang with the powerful voice and masterful 12-string guitar playing of Philip Miller.

Originally from Shellbrook, Miller treated the crowd to country and rock classics from the '50s through the '90s, each sounding amazingly true to the original and delivered with gusto.

Artists from Hank Snow to Elton John were represented, and by his third number, and throughout



Philip Miller performs at a concert at the Mont Nebo Hall on Oct. 20.

the show, Miller had the audience singing along. In his second set, Miller invited requests to the delight of the audience members, who were hard pressed to ask for anything he couldn't play.

Since he grew up in the Sturgeon Valley area, Miller also had many personal stories to share, including playing at the wedding of audience members.

In the break between sets, there was a lunch provided by the community and time for visiting, making for a very enjoyable evening.

Between admissions sales and the evening's 50/50 draw, which was won by Virginia Kasner and donated right back to the Mont Nebo Hall, the show raised \$600.

All money raised goes to upkeep of the hall, to help pay for power, heat, insurance, and any needed repairs. Meanwhile, community members volunteer their time at local events, like potlucks, jam sessions, and barbecues, so the hall can continue to be used by the community.

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



**HIDDEN HILLS  
OF SHELLBROOK  
Golf Course**

Hidden Hills is accepting applications for part-time and full-time work for the Golf Pro Shop and lounge for the 2024 golf season.

Employment is seasonal, beginning May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Send resume to **Len Stener** at:  
**shellbrookgolf@sasktel.net**

### VILLAGE OF LEASK Culvert Replacements BY PUBLIC TENDER

The Village is requesting Contractors to provide pricing for the following: Replacement of **two** culverts (13.4 m) & (9.8 m) within the Village of Leask. Work to be Completed as agreed upon by Council and Contractor.

Tenders will be received by Village of Leask Administrator in Office, by Mail P.O. Box 40, Leask, SK S0J 1M0, by fax at 306-466-2239 or email [admin@leask.ca](mailto:admin@leask.ca) until **4:00 pm, WEDNESDAY, November 15, 2023.**

**Tender Requirements**  
Bidders are required to review the complete tender documents available through the Village Office or on the Village website at: [www.leask.ca](http://www.leask.ca)

The Village reserves the right to refuse any or all Tenders.

For further information contact Yvette Hamel, Administrator Village of Leask  
Phone: (306) 466-2229 [admin@leask.ca](mailto:admin@leask.ca)

### VILLAGE OF LEASK House Burn Cleanup & Restoration of lot 209 1<sup>st</sup> Ave Leask, SK BY PUBLIC TENDER

The Village is requesting Contractors to provide pricing for the following: Clean up and restoration of Lot 9 Parcel "A" Plan 63PA00509, one (1) foundation removal at 209 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, Leask, SK. All concrete, foundations, slabs and piles must be removed; void filled with granulated material. All material from demolition is the responsibility of the Contractor to remove and dispose of. Date work to be completed by December 30, 2023.

Tenders will be received by Village of Leask Administrator in Office, by Mail P.O. Box 40, Leask, SK S0J 1M0, by fax at 306-466-2239 or email [admin@leask.ca](mailto:admin@leask.ca) until **4:00 pm, WEDNESDAY, November 15, 2023.**

**Tender Requirements**  
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The Village reserves the right to refuse any or all Tenders.

For further information contact Yvette Hamel, Administrator Village of Leask  
Phone: (306) 466-2229 [admin@leask.ca](mailto:admin@leask.ca)



# Spiritwood Rec Centre a hub for winter activity

By **BEVRA FEE**  
*Spiritwood Herald*  
Reporter

The ice is in and the teams showed up for the first hockey tournament of the season. Saturday, Oct. 28, was the official kickoff to what will be a busy season for both the arena and the curl-

ing rink in the Spiritwood Rec Centre. Hockey teams are up over last year, with two girls' teams in the mix; curling team entries for league play are also up over last year.

The Ice Breaker Tournament, perennially the first tournament of the year, got underway for

the weekend on Saturday morning. Entries were up from last year's event – a popular event that sees a Halloween Dance in the Mezzanine end out the evening on Saturday.

Curling action got started on Monday, Oct. 30, with league play.

Head ice maker Jason Reddekopp volunteered at the rink for every spare moment since early October to ensure the sheets were ready to go for the start of curling season.

Full time staff – Glennalda Saam, Sue Kahl,

and Fraser MacFarlane – are all back to get the 2023 season started, with Marvin Balbon fill-

ing in part time as the newest Zamboni driver, replacing the retired Joyce Willick.



Teams get warmed up for first game of Ice Breaker Tournament at the Spiritwood Rec Centre.



Ice Maker Jason Reddekopp inspects the stones in a final step before curling starts.



Full time staff at the Spiritwood Rec Centre, from left to right: Glennalda Saam, Sue Kahl, and Fraser MacFarlane.

## Job Opportunity – Administrator Village of Canwood

The Village of Canwood is currently seeking applications for the position of Administrator. The successful candidate will report directly to Council and will provide recommendations and updates that support Mayor and Council while ensuring that policies, bylaws and directives are carried out in a professional and efficient manner.

The successful candidate must possess superior verbal and written communication skills; have a strong knowledge in municipal accounting and finance; exhibit leadership and be community oriented. Preference will be given to a candidate who is currently certified in Local Government Administration and should also be eligible for a membership with UMAAS.

Village of Canwood population is 318 as of the 2021 census. Canwood is ideally located 45 minutes north west of Prince Albert, beside the Canwood Provincial Forest and supports a large rural area. We have a very informative website linked below where applicants can visit to learn more about the village.

The successful applicant is preferred to possess the following qualifications:

- Extensive knowledge in accounting and payroll policies and procedures;
- Prior municipal experience and knowledge of the Munisoft computer system;
- Proficiency in use of Microsoft Office applications such as Excel and Word;
- Works well independently and within a team environment;
- Discretion with matters pertaining to confidentiality;
- Ability to organize and prioritize workloads while also meeting strict deadlines and maintaining a high degree of accuracy;
- Must interpret policies, bylaws and legislation appropriately when responding to certain situations or requests;
- Excellent communication and public relations skills are required;
- A criminal background check will be required.

The position offers a competitive wage based on the UMAAS Salary Guideline, pension and group benefit plan once a probationary period is completed. Please submit your resume and references to:

Email: [canwood.town@sasktel.net](mailto:canwood.town@sasktel.net)

Village of Canwood

Box 172, Village of Canwood, SK S0J 0K0

Telephone: (306) 468-2016 | Fax: (306) 468-2805

Visit the village's website: [www.canwood.ca](http://www.canwood.ca)

We thank all of the candidates for their interest in this position and advise that only those selected for an interview will be contacted. This job posting will be active until successfully filled.

## WP Students attend national leadership conference

By **RHONDA BEREZOWSKI**  
*SLC Advisor*

Four students from WP Sandin Public High School, Taylor Henderson, Maddison Nelson, Alison LaMotte, Payten Keyowski, attended the Canadian Student Leadership Conference (CSLC) in Saint John, New Brunswick

from Oct. 10 to 15 along with SLC advisor Rhonda Berezowski. Student leaders from every province joined together for the first face-to-face conference since 2019.

The theme of the conference was Harboring Leadership, and students participated in a number of workshops and spirit groups, organized a Relay

for Life (that raised \$15,000 in 24 hours), and listened to keynote speakers that focused on developing leadership skills, resiliency, forgiveness, and empowerment.

Students had the opportunity to listen to Orlando Bowen, a former Toronto Argonaut who endured a career ending accident; Drew Dudley, bestselling author and the creator of the renowned TED talk, The Lollipop Moment; Jam Gamble, TV host from The Social; and Bean Gill, a paralysis recovery pioneer.

Attending this conference was a great way to reignite the spirit of the Student Leadership Council that has been so active in WP Sandin. WP Sandin students were able to meet other students from all across Canada and discuss various activities, games, and spirit weeks that are successful at the school level.

Being a part of the SLC not only develops leadership skills, but also promotes teamwork for the common goal of having fun. Like-minded students were able to develop deep rooted friendships in a very short amount of time.

The hope is that the students who attended CSLC will be able to encourage participation in all student-led activities, and to make lasting memories in high school.



From left to right: WP Sandin students Taylor Henderson, Maddison Nelson, Alison LaMotte, and Payten Keyowski, along with SLC Advisor Rhonda Berezowski, attended the Canadian Student Leadership Conference (CSLC) in Saint John, New Brunswick from Oct. 10 to 15.

## Community Rink Affordability Grant Application Period Open until January 15th, 2024

A \$2,500 grant is available for each ice surface, per year for municipally-owned facilities, schools, Indigenous communities and non-profit organizations. To learn more and register, please complete the online form found on the [Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association's website at www.spra.sk.ca/funding/our-grants/](http://www.spra.sk.ca/funding/our-grants/).

**Hon. Jeremy Harrison**  
MLA for Meadow Lake  
[jharrisonmla@sasktel.net](mailto:jharrisonmla@sasktel.net)

**Hon. Scott Moe, Premier**  
MLA for Rosthern-Shellbrook  
[scottmoe.mla@sasktel.net](mailto:scottmoe.mla@sasktel.net)



## New ag education program shows promise

What is the future of farming in regard to attracting the next generation?

That is a question which really needs some thinking about by farmers today.

Certainly, farming won't be at the top of most youth's career wish lists, and there will be varied reasons for that.

To start with, we know there are fewer farmers today, and family size is not what it once was, so there are less youth with that direct connection to farming that might consider it a career path. Among urban youth, the connection to a farm — grandparents, uncles, etc. — are fewer too, so they won't learn to appreciate farming riding in the cab of a tractor.

So, non-farm youth need something else to attract them to consider agriculture as a career path. Unfortunately, the image often shown of farming is not as positive as it should be.

While farmers manage to produce food for the world at a generally reasonable cost when you set aside all the non-food items that end up in that expensive bag from the supermarket, that is not the first image many



CALVIN DANIELS

think of.

The impact of crop protection products on pollinators and wild birds, the threat of fertilizer run-off into water sources, the loss of wildlife habitat for farmland, and other stories, often dominate social media, where too many turn for what they assume is legitimate news.

So how does the ag sector turn the narrative to attract the next generation?

Well, education of course.

That's why a new initiative is so interesting, as it proposes a way for farmers to fund better farm education.

Agriculture in the Classroom Saskatchewan's (AITC-SK) recently announced the launch of its Acres for Education campaign, an initiative aimed at providing educational opportunities for today's youth to con-

nect with agriculture.

"The Acres for Education campaign highlights the importance of education in igniting a passion and interest in agriculture. The next generation of consumers and agriculture leaders, innovators, and employees are in classrooms today, and AITC-SK has identified students as the key to a sustainable and resilient agriculture future. By engaging students in agriculture education initiatives, AITC-SK strives to inspire them to care about our food system, build understanding and support for modern farming practices, and expose students to the diversity of careers in an exciting and rewarding industry," detailed a release on the launch," said Sara Shymko, Executive Director of AITC-SK, in a news release.

"Students today will soon graduate and begin making decisions related to their career pathway. It is crucial that they have agricultural touch points throughout their education journey, to inspire understanding of our food system and support for our producers."

The campaign's unique

approach challenges farmers to donate 10 cents per acre of land they farm to agriculture education.

"There is a lot of talk about the looming labour crisis in agriculture, and now we need action. We can't leave it up to others to solve this problem. As producers, we need to get involved in finding solutions," says Kristjan Hebert, President of the Hebert Group.

"One way we can do

that is to donate monetarily, but just as important, is connecting with your local schools so kids can visit your farm and have memorable experiences that may impact future career choices."

Acres for Education has an ambitious goal of raising \$250,000, which represents 2.5 million acres of Saskatchewan farmland being donated. The goal may seem bold, but with more than 37 million acres of farmed

land in the province, donations for approximately seven per cent of the acres would transform the agriculture education landscape for our youth.

Farmers are familiar with the idea of a check-off on sales to fund research to support their farm future. This is even more foundational in the sense it educates about agriculture to help create the next generation of farmers.

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Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

## OBITUARY

### Paul John Olsen



OLSEN – Paul

Paul John Olsen was born on July 24, 1934, at Nurse Lidstrom's in Canwood, SK. Paul passed away on October 25, 2023, at the age of 89 years.

He married Eileen Berg on October 27, 1962, and together they had 3 children, Kenneth, Dennis, and Lynn.

Paul farmed and drove a school bus for 33 years. He was an active mem-

ber of the Parkland Fiddlers and the Canwood Senior Citizens Club. Paul & Eileen had a passion for travel and music which took them to many destinations around the world. They especially enjoyed traveling for fiddle events. Paul will be dearly missed by all who knew him and shared in his life's journey.

Paul is lovingly survived by his wife Eileen; his children Dennis (Tammie) Olsen of Calgary, AB, and their children, Matthew & Nathan Olsen; Lynn (Josh) Wood of Holbein, SK, and their children, Jenna, Morgan, and Ryder Wood.

Paul is predeceased by his parents, Jorgina (Jensen) and Peter Olsen; his parents-in-law, Clarence & Gertie (Taylor) Berg; and his son Kenneth Olsen.

A service was held for Paul on Monday, October 30, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. at the Zion Lutheran Church in Canwood with Rev. Emmanuel Aristide officiating. There was a time of refreshments and fellowship following the service at the Canwood Community Hall provided by the Canwood Lutheran Ladies.

In lieu of tributes, memorial donations may be made in memory of Paul to the Zion Lutheran Church (Box 358 Canwood, SK S0J 0K0). Family and friends wishing to share email condolences are welcome to visit [www.beaulacfuneralhome.com](http://www.beaulacfuneralhome.com) Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home & Crematorium, Donna Lovberg, Funeral Director, Canwood, SK. 306-468-2244.

## 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 12pm - 5pm

**BLAINE LAKE:** Wapiti Library - Wednesday 11am - 6pm; Friday 11am - 5pm; Saturday 10am - 4pm. Contact us for more info 306-497-3130, [www.wapitilibrary.ca](http://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 2pm - 6pm; Friday 1:30pm - 5pm. 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 2pm - 8pm; Wednesday 2pm - 8pm; Thursday 12pm - 6pm; Friday 10 am - 5pm (Story Time 10:30am - 11:30am); Saturday 10am - 4pm.

**SHELLBROOK:** Remembrance Day Service - Saturday, November 11 @ Shellbrook Theatre. Doors Open 10am, Service Starts 10:30am.

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# Matthews' hot start bodes well for Leafs

Auston Matthews has always been able to put pucks past National Hockey League goaltenders, but his blazing hot start to the 2023-24 season might be an indication that the best is yet to come.

For only the second time in the past 100 years, a player, Matthews, scored hat tricks in the first two games of the season. Not surprisingly, the only other NHLer to do it since 1917-18 was the guy who may wind up as the NHL's all-time goal-scoring champ, Alex Ovechkin, who turned the trick at the start of the 2017-18 season.

Matthews, who grew up in Phoenix, Arizona, an unlikely location for development as one of the world's best hockey players, needed only 11 shots on goal in the Toronto Maple Leafs' first two games to get to six goals — and it could be a harbinger of things to come. He's completely healthy, has a new four-year contract worth \$53

million, has talented line-mates and obviously hasn't lost his scoring touch.

Teammate Morgan Rielly says the best is yet to come. An *NHL.com* feature written by Mike Zeisberger quoted Rielly saying "He's going to do a lot of damage on a lot of records."

Instead of the Leafs being just a run and-gun offensive team, led by Matthews, Mitch Marner, William Nylander and John Tavares, Toronto is now a more rounded team this season after new general manager Brad Treliving got the key to the vault and spent some money on free agents.

The Leafs now boast a lineup featuring more gritty and 'sandpaper'-type players, with the addition of Ryan Reaves, who might just be the heavyweight champion of the NHL's hockey-fighting fraternity; Tyler Bertuzzi, whose uncle Todd played a hard-nosed game during his 18-year NHL career;



BRUCE  
PENTON

and Max Domi, whose father, Tie, was known for aggressive play and remains one of the Leafs' all-time favourite players. Treliving also signed defenceman John Klingberg, but his reputation is that of an offensively skilled player whose defensive play is often lacking.

Still, the roster additions have made the Leafs one of the most exciting teams in the league and if they can get solid goaltending from the duo of Ilya Samsonov and Joseph Woll, they won't be an easy out come playoff time. While more likely to win

a game 6-5 than 2-1, the Leafs easily have the firepower to win many of those high-scoring games. With Matthews and Co. leading the way, of course.

Calder Trophy winner (top rookie) in 2016-17; Hart Trophy winner (MVP) in 2021-22; two-time Rocket Richard Trophy winner (most goals), Matthews would love to add one more piece of silverware to his collection — the Stanley Cup. It seems the pieces are fitting together nicely in Canada's largest city for that to possibly happen for the first time since 1967.

• Bob Molinaro of *pilotonline.com* (Hampton, Va.): "Before rolling your eyes at the proposed inclusion of flag football at the 2028 Summer Olympics, keep in mind that the '24 Paris Games will introduce breakdancing as a medal sport. Now you can roll your eyes."

• Mike Bianchi of the *Orlando Sentinel*, on X, after Tom Brady said the NFL is softening up

and becoming like flag football: "So now that he's retired he wants the game to be more physical."

• Los Angeles Rams' head coach Sean McVay, whose wife is pregnant, on possibly missing a game for the birth of his son: "I'm not going to miss a game. My son knows better than to come during a game."

• Mike Bianchi again: "Anthony Richardson played in five NFL games this season, was knocked out of three of them with three different injuries and now is out for the season with a bum shoulder. Sadly, I fear A.R. has the speed and strength of an oncoming locomotive, but the fragility of a butterfly's wings."

• Another one from Bianchi: "Question: What has less forward progress — the Tampa Bay Bucs running game or a snail on a treadmill?"

• Canadian parody site *The Beaverton on Scotiabank Arena* in Toronto maximizing revenue

with ridiculous charges: "People in the stands will be charged \$15 for each time they say the name 'Auston Matthews.'"

• The Beaverton, in the same story: "Since there is no correlation between the Leafs winning and people attending, we realized there is no need for any correlation between money and food either."

• RJ Currie of *sports-deke.com*: "A nine-year-old showed cat-like reflexes by catching his baby brother who had fallen off a table. Metro UK called him a hero; the Denver Bronco called him with a contract offer."

• *Fark.com*: on the inscription of a headstone of an avid golfer: "Guess what? I'm 6 under."

• *Fark.com* again: "Russell Wilson has \$39M guaranteed next season. Any significant injury would guarantee another \$37M. Safest to bench him now."

Care to comment? Email [brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca](mailto:brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca)

## Elks teams score road wins over weekend

By JORDAN TWISS

Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

### Elks (8) vs T-Birds (7)

The Shellbrook Senior Elks Hockey Club made its long-awaited return to the ice on Saturday, Oct. 28, traveling to Bruno to kick off its 2023-2024 Twin Rivers Hockey League campaign against the Bruno T-Birds.

Through 60 minutes of high-octane, high-scoring hockey, the Elks proved they were back and ready to compete, downing the T-birds by a score of 8-7.

The Elks wasted no time putting their mark on Saturday's game, as Matthew Flodell tallied just after the 90 second mark, on assists from Cole Duperreault and Ethan Beaulac, to put them up 1-0. And just three minutes later, the Elks found themselves with a commanding 3-0 lead with the help of two power play goals.

Duperreault scored the first power play goal, with assists from Rylan Moe and Ethan Beaulac, and Brendon Canaday netted the second on a helper from Tyler Rock.

As the teams settled into the game after the frantic opening, the T-Birds finally found their footing and closed the gap on a goal from Cody Bergermann, assisted by Hunter Edmonds and Tyler Leier. But the Elks had an answer, as Duperreault netted his second of the night just 30 seconds later, on an assist from Flodell, to put the Elks up 4-1 at the end of the first period.

In a second period marked by penalties, it was all about power play and

shorthanded goals for both teams. Still, the Elks continued to dominate the majority of the action. Despite this, it was the T-Birds' power play that struck first, as Josh Roberts scored on assists from Blake Berschiminsky and Justin Broeckel.

The next time the Elks got into penalty trouble, however, Duperreault baled them out by scoring an unassisted hat trick goal. At the same time, the Elks power play continued to fire on all cylinders, as Moe scored unassisted and Jody Blais tallied on a helper from Ethan Beaulac to give the Elks a 7-2 lead.

As time wound down on the second period, the Bruno power play scored once more when Berschiminsky found the back of the net with an assist from Cody Thiel. But the Elks' penalty kill proved to still be dangerous, when Brendon Beaulac scored with an assist from Blais bringing the end-of-period score to 8-3 for the Elks.

Where the Elks dominated the scoreboard through the first 40 minutes of the game, the final 20 minutes saw them hanging on for dear life as more penalty troubles allowed the T-Birds to rattle off four unanswered goals.

Edmonds started the scoring off with a shorthanded goal, assisted by Roberts, and Carter Tarnowski scored on the power play shortly after, with assists from Berschiminsky and Thiel.

With the score closed to 8-5 in favour of the Elks, the T-Birds made a mad dash in the final few minutes in an effort to force overtime or steal the win from their opponents. Helped by

another power play, the T-Birds would tally two more times but fall just short of a comeback.

Michael Solar scored the first power play goal, with an assist from Broeckel, and Berschiminsky scored his second of the night on an assist from Roberts.

With a win under their belt in their season opener, the Elks head off to Rosthern this Sunday, Nov. 5, to face off against the Rosthern Wheatkings.

### U18 Elks (5) vs Wolfpack (3)

Also on the road over the weekend, were the U18 AA Elks, who travelled to Melfort for a showdown with the North East Wolfpack on Sunday, Oct. 29.

Having experienced an uneven start to their 2023-2024 regular season, the U18 Elks followed the lead of their senior Elks counterparts, securing a hard-fought 5-3 win over the Wolfpack.

The opening 20 minutes of Sunday afternoon's game were all Elks, as they outshot their opponents 22-7 and made the most of a pair of power play opportunities to take a strong 2-0 lead in the period.

Tyson Gagnon started the scoring for the Elks, with an early power play goal assisted by Colton Sommerfeld and Jake Boettcher. Later in the frame, Kaiden Couture tallied on the power play, thanks to assists from Brendan Aug and Kendon Skalicky.

Moving to the second period, the pendulum began to swing in favour of the Wolfpack, as Carter Corbett scored on an assist from Taylor Cole-

man to close the gap to 2-1, and Kieran Patterson netted an unassisted goal to knot the game at 2-2.

Later in the frame, Skalicky restored the Elks' lead with an assist from Aug, but the Wolfpack tied it right back up on a goal from Coleman, assisted by Cameron Percy and Will Sochaski.

Following a long goal drought, it was Corvan Stewart who reclaimed the lead for the Elks late in the third period, on assists from Skalicky and Couture. With time winding down, and the Wolfpack pulling their goalie, Stewart secured the Elks' 5-3 win with an empty netter, assisted by Skalicky and Sommerfeld.

After Sunday's win, the U18 AA Elks sit at 3-4 on the season, placing them in the middle of the pack. This Saturday, Nov. 4, they return to Shellbrook to host the Saskatoon Crunch.



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The family of the late Mae Atkinson would like to thank all those that sent flowers, cards, donations and messages of condolence. Thank you to Murray Hannigan for officiating the service and to our pianist Linda Bator. Thank you to the Shellbrook Royal Purple ladies who provided lunch at the funeral. Also a big thank you to Beau Lac Funeral Home for attending to all the arrangements.

Thank you to the doctors, nurses and staff at the Parkland Integrated Long Term Care Home for the care Mom received over the last 8 years. A special thank you to Mom's two "special moms" that spent the extra time and effort with her and would step in when we kids couldn't be there.

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# Throne Speech promises to 'build and protect'

By **JORDAN TWISS**  
*Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter*

The Government of Saskatchewan opened the fall sitting of the Legislative Assembly with Lt. Gov. Russ Mirasty's delivery of a Throne Speech focused on "building and protecting Saskatchewan" on Wednesday, Oct. 25.

"Together with Saskatchewan people, we will continue to build a strong province, a strong economy, strong communities and strong families," Premier Scott Moe said in a statement. "And we will protect what we have built together from the risks of global uncertainty and from a federal government that seems intent on shutting down important parts of our economy."

In the days before the Throne Speech, Premier Moe had promised measures to address affordability were forthcoming. However, none of the measures outlined in the speech directly addressed cost-of-living like last fall's \$500 affordability cheques — a decision Premier Moe attributed to a tightening of the province's finances and a need for his government to be fiscally prudent.

Instead, the Throne Speech promised the introduction of a new Saskatchewan Employment Incentive program to boost the income of low-income working families with dependent children.

On housing affordability, the Throne Speech includes a PST rebate for new home construction, which will return 42 per cent of the PST paid, as well as a Secondary Suite Program to increase rental availability.

Focusing on the government's promise to "build and protect" Saskatchewan's economy, the Throne Speech includes a slew of measures, including the in-

troductions of a new Investment Attraction Strategy and a new Saskatchewan Jobs Plan, and an emphasis on increasing Indigenous employment and participation in the economy through the Saskatchewan Indigenous Investment Finance Corporation.

Maintaining the government's opposition to federal climate policies, the Throne Speech argued the carbon tax is increasing the "cost of everything" and the Clean Electricity Standards and net-zero emissions target of 2030 are unrealistic.

The Throne Speech also claimed new federal regulations will "kill thousands of jobs and devastate the province's resource sector," which the government says is already following some of the most environmentally friendly practices in the world.

To protect Saskatchewan's economic autonomy, the government is promising to use the Saskatchewan First Act to refer the federal Clean Electricity Regulations, the Clean Fuel Standard and the oil and gas emissions cap to the Economic Impact Assessment Tribunal.

"My government will continue to build affordable, reliable, sustainable power generation and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050," the Throne Speech read. "We will not risk plunging our homes, our schools, our hospitals, our special care homes, our businesses into the cold and darkness because of the ideological whims of others."

On health, mental health, and addictions, the Throne Speech promises the implementation of the new Action Plan for Mental Health and Addictions, which includes the creation of 500 new addictions treatment spaces across the province, the new Provincial Approach to Homelessness, and

the continued implementation of the Health Human Resources Action Plan.

The government also plans to continue to reduce the pandemic-related surgical backlog, expand mental health services for children and youth in several communities, create 30 new Complex Needs Emergency Shelter spaces in Regina and Saskatoon, and continue work on hospital and health facility projects in Regina, Saskatoon, Prince Albert, Weyburn, La Ronge, Grenfell and other communities.

Though the Throne Speech came in the midst of stalled contract negotiations between teachers and the province, the government's saw no new measures related to education. Instead, the government's priorities are to continue a number of new school builds, to continue to expand online learning opportunities through the Saskatchewan Distance Learning Centre, and to continue to create more childcare spaces to facilitate the rollout of \$10 per day childcare.

Finally, the Throne Speech outlined four specific bills the government intends to introduce in this sitting of the legislature, including an update to the Workers' Compensation Act to expand presumptive cancer coverage to fire fighters to include six additional types of cancer, and changes that raise the legal age for smoking and vaping to 19, bringing them in line with the legal age for alcohol and cannabis consumption.

Elsewhere, a change to the Protection from Human Trafficking (Coerced Debts) Amendment Act will relieve human trafficking victims of negative credit factors incurred through coercion, and the new Saskatchewan Remembrance Day Observance Act to protect individuals' right to

wear a poppy in all Saskatchewan workplaces.

"A strong and growing province means more homes, more businesses, more families, more opportunities, more careers and more futures have been built, right here in Saskatchewan," Premier Moe said. "It means more hospitals, more schools, and more highways have been built right here in Saskatchewan. And it means there is so much more to be built in the years ahead."

The priorities outlined in the Sask. Party's Throne Speech drew swift criticism from both opposition parties in the legislature.

The Sask. NDP called the speech "hollow," and said it was missing important action on affordability and other priorities for residents of Saskatchewan.

"There's an emergency in our emergency rooms and Moe still hasn't come forward with any game-changing solutions for healthcare," NDP Leader Carla Beck said in a statement. "Moe says he's concerned about housing, yet his government sat on its hands as dozens of seniors were thrown out of their homes this last week. The rising cost of living and healthcare crisis are clearly not priorities for this government."

Meanwhile, the Sask. United Party criticized the government for "throwing money" at problems and lacking a comprehensive strategy to address the rising epidemic of addictions and crime.

"The drug and crime epidemic has reached alarming levels, threatening the safety and well-being of Saskatchewan residents," the party said in a statement. "Unfortunately, the government's speech failed to provide the necessary solutions and left Saskatchewan families without hope for a safer future."

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# RCMP news highlights

By **JORDAN TWISS**  
*Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter*

## Two arrested, two sought in extortion case

Two suspects have been arrested, and police are hunting for two more, in connection with an assault and attempted extortion on the Sturgeon Lake First Nation.

According to an RCMP press release, the Prince Albert RCMP Detachment began investigating after receiving reports of gunfire on the Sturgeon Lake First Nation on Sept. 19.

"After further investigation, it was determined that several individuals assaulted and attempted to extort an adult male, who was taken to hospital with injuries described as non-life-threatening in nature," the RCMP said in a statement. Police confirmed later on that the victim, who has not been identified, had been shot.

Following police investigation, 41-year-old Ian Felix, 32-year-old Jared Naytowhow, and 24-year-old Brianna Forest, all from Prince Albert, were each charged with one count of extortion with firearm, one count of aggravated assault, one count of assault with a weapon, one count of careless use of a firearm, one count of discharge of a firearm with intent, one count of forcible confinement, one count of using a firearm in the commission of an offence, and one count of uttering threats against a person.

Additionally, Naytowhow and Forest are each charged with one count of pointing a firearm, and Naytowhow is charged with three counts of weapons possession contrary to order and fail to surrender authorization.

Once the suspects were identi-

fied, warrants were issued for their arrest, and Prince Albert RCMP began working to locate them with the assistance of Saskatchewan RCMP's Warrant Enforcement and Suppression Team (WEST).

On Oct. 18, officers from WEST were conducting proactive patrols on the Sturgeon Lake First Nation and observed a vehicle that had been reported as stolen from the Melfort area. Officers followed the vehicle to a residence and the driver of the vehicle was arrested. Officers identified him as Ian Felix, and he was also arrested on his outstanding warrant.

In the midst of the arrest, officers also located and seized eight restricted firearms and ammunition from the residence and stolen vehicle.

Following his arrest and further police investigation, Felix was hit with additional charges, including six counts of careless use of a firearm, and single counts of operation of a vehicle while prohibited, possession of property obtained by crime, less than or equal to \$5,000, possession of a firearm arm with a tampered serial number, possession of firearm/weapon/device/ammunition in motor



**Jared Naytowhow.**

vehicle, possession of restricted firearm/prohibited weapon with ammo without licence/registration, and weapons possession while prohibited by an order.

Felix appeared in Prince Albert Provincial Court on all charges on Oct. 20.

Following further police investigation, two individuals at the residence where Felix was arrested, 20-year-old Rylan Hanson from Buffalo Narrows and 22-year-old Savannah Burns from Sturgeon Lake First Nation, were arrested on outstanding warrants from Meadow Lake and Big River RCMP.

Burns was also charged in relation to the Sept. 19 report of extortion, and now faces charges, including two counts of aggravated assault, and single counts of extortion with a firearm, assault with a weapon, forcible confinement, possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, and uttering threats against a person.

Burns also appeared in Prince Albert Provincial Court on Oct. 20.

Police say they are continuing work to locate and arrest Jared Naytowhow and Brianna Forest.

Naytowhow is described as being approximately 5'10" tall, weighing approximately 200 lbs, with brown eyes and black hair. Forest is described as being approximately 5'7", with brown eyes and brown hair.

Police advise members of the public not to approach Naytowhow or Forest if they see them. Instead, any information should be reported to their local RCMP Detachment at 310-RCMP (7267). Information can also be submitted anonymously by contacting Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers at

1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or <https://saskcrimestoppers.com>.

## Two arrested in vehicle theft

Two men have been arrested in connection with a vehicle theft in the early hours of Monday, Oct. 23.

According to an RCMP release, the Prince Albert RCMP Detachment received reports of a vehicle being stolen at around 4:30 a.m., and quickly determined through an investigation that a pick-up truck had been stolen from outside a business just south of Prince Albert.

Officers began working to locate the stolen vehicle. On Oct. 25, officers from the Saskatchewan RCMP's North Battleford Crime Reduction Team (CRT) were conducting patrols on Sturgeon Lake First Nation and located the stolen pick-up truck. They attempted a traffic stop. The vehicle did not stop for police.

Later that day, investigation determined the vehicle was parked outside a residence on Park Bay East in Melfort.

Two adult males were arrested inside the residence, with the assistance of officers from Saskatchewan RCMP's Melfort and Tisdale Detachments, the Warrant Enforcement and Suppression Team (WEST), Prince Albert and Melfort Combined Traffic Services Saskatchewan, the Critical Incident Response Team and Police Dog Services.

A search warrant was then executed at the residence, during which time officers located and seized a loaded and modified prohibited firearm.

Investigation determined the two adult males were both on warrant.

Jack Sanderson, 32, from Sturgeon Lake First Nation was arrested on a warrant from Prince Albert RCMP for charges including possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000 and operating a motor vehicle while prohibited.

Dave Smith, 49, from Melfort was arrested on a warrant from Melfort RCMP for charges including possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000 and trafficking property obtained by the commission of an offence.

Both Sanderson and Smith appeared in Melfort Provincial Court on Oct. 26, 2023.

In the meantime, police continue to investigate.

Anyone with information should contact their local RCMP detachment at 310-RCMP (7267). Information can also be submitted anonymously by contacting Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or [www.saskcrimestoppers.com](http://www.saskcrimestoppers.com).

## Shellbrook stolen vehicle sought

On Monday, Oct. 30, the Ahtakakoop-Shellbrook RCMP detachment issued an alert through the Saskatchewan Crime Watch Advisory Network asking the public to assist in locating a stolen vehicle.

Police say the vehicle, a 2010 four-door Chevrolet Malibu with Saskatchewan license plate 579 NBP, was stolen out of the Shellbrook area in the morning of Oct. 30. The vehicle has visible front-end damage.

Those who see the vehicle are advised not to approach. Instead, any information related to the advisory should be shared with the RCMP by calling 310-RCMP (7267), or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

## Last chores for fall

By **PATRICIA HANBIDGE**

By the time Hallowe'en arrives it is always a bit of a toss up whether we have snow and whether all the little ghosts and goblins will be able to enjoy their trick or treat rituals or if they will be a brief event. We have been fortunate, but some things can always be counted upon....by this time of year we will generally have a lot of below freezing temperatures!

In spite of the length of autumn we have, it seems that there are always some chores left to be done when the ground has become white! I am not sure if anyone else follows a schedule like mine, but over the years I have come to accept that I will be outdoors doing some work in the garden while wearing heavyweight gloves.

On days when the sun shines and I have an inkling to get some fresh air, you will likely see me pattering around in the beds with secateurs in hand. I like to leave any perennials that might have winter appeal, but those that are not nice to look at, I will generally cut them back and add to the compost pile if time permits. Do remember that anything that is vertical will trap snow and benefit your garden with added moisture.

Any plants that were newly established would benefit from some extra protection for the winter. Prior to the mercury dipping lower, mulch around these plants to ensure their crowns are well insulated. If you have any tender bulbs or perennials that you wanted to lift and keep, it is likely a bit too late for

that unfortunately. I tend to grow perennials that can easily survive our climate, but there are usually a number of plants that I grow that will usually not make it through our winter. The decision to keep or let freeze has most likely now been taken out of our hands.

If you have any tender summer bulbs that you have tucked away – keep a close eye on them while in storage. I tend to tier the storage for any tender bulbs and plants that I store with their storage beginning in an insulated but unheated garage and then later into the basement in a cool corner until they start to grow. One day, it is my hope to have a root cellar!

As the season moves on, we may still have a day here or there that is warm enough to still enjoy some outdoor chores. I use this time to organize and put away any tools or other garden paraphernalia so I can easily access them in spring. Tools that were used could be cleaned up a bit more, sharpened and oil the handles so we are ready for spring.

May the end of fall find you enjoying all the root crops from your garden while nibbling away at the tomatoes, squash and onions. Don't forget to carve your pumpkins for Hallowe'en and then make some tasty pumpkin treats. As it gets cooler, enjoy a roaring fire inside and plan for what you will be growing next year.

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

## GOOD NEWS

### THE CHURCH IS FOR SINNERS, NOT SAINTS

By **RANDALL MCLEOD**  
*Immanuel Lutheran, Parkside*

Many people think that the church is a place for good people, or people who think they are good, to gather and congratulate each other about how good they are. You may have heard that, or even experienced that. But that is not the "True Church."

Martin Luther teaches us that the church has three arms. The Empirical arm, the Visible arm, and the Hidden arm (the true church). The Empirical arm is made up of the hierarchy, the building, the administration, and such. The Visible arm is all those who attend services. The Hidden arm (hidden because it can be, and must be, found) is made up of the true followers of Christ.

All too often the first two arms have a substantial component made up of people who are involved for selfish purposes, and so we see discreditable conduct in the name of God. But also in this group are those who may put on a good front but have no real connection to Christ whatsoever. Both of these groups will be utterly rejected from entering God's Kingdom, as we see in the parable of the separating the just from the unjust (Matthew Ch. 7).

That leaves us with the Hidden arm, or the True Church. These are the true followers of Christ who go about doing the things of God, quietly, behind the scenes, but, nevertheless, they are still numbered in the visible and or empirical arms because we are cautioned not

to forsake gathering together.

God tells us, however, that He will, at the appropriate time, separate the wheat from the weeds. So don't abandon church because there are hypocrites and sinners there; hypocrites and sinners need church, they desperately need to hear the gospel preached.

The bible tells us: "He will not break a bruised reed." If you can see that you are bruised and battered and broken, Jesus is just the right medicine for you.

So, the true church is out there. Seek it out. But when the true church goes to church, we do not do so because we are good people. No, no. We go because we have seen just how flawed we are. We have seen just how desperately we need a saviour. We go because we are broken, our souls are sick, and we need the healing that only Jesus can provide.

Church, by itself, can't change who we are. Maybe it can change what we do, but what we do will not gain us the kingdom. Sinners do not get into heaven, only saints get into heaven, and only through the application of the appropriate medication, that is the blood of Christ, can we be healed, saved, delivered, redeemed. That is to say; changed from sinner to (as yet unperfected) saint.

Jesus said this: "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

So, you see, the True Church is a hospital for sinners, not a gymnasium for saints.