

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald



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Spiritwood Scotiabank to close in 2024



Spiritwood's Scotiabank branch will be closing its doors for good in July of 2024.

By **BEVRA FEE**
Spiritwood Herald Reporter

Those accustomed to doing their in-person banking at the Scotiabank branch in Spiritwood will soon have to travel much further to conduct their business.

After 96 years of serving the community, the branch will be closing permanently in July of 2024. Community members and clients began learning of the impending closure, which was decided upon by Scotiabank's head office in Toronto, last week.

The site of today's Scotiabank is the fourth iteration of a branch on Spiritwood's Main Street since it first established in the community in 1928.

One of two financial services in Spiritwood, the Scotiabank presently employs seven people.

Questions regarding the full rationale for the decision, the possibility

of any future presence, the fate of the building, and how the process will roll out went unanswered by Daniela Dasilva, Scotiabank's senior manager of corporate communications in Toronto, who instead issued only the following statement.

"After careful consideration we have made the difficult decision to close our Scotiabank branch in Spiritwood, SK, and relocate our in-person services to our branch in Prince Albert, SK, on July 18, 2024.

"With customer preferences changing, and more day-to-day banking being done digitally, we are continuing to evolve how we serve our customers and invest in areas that make it easier for our customers to bank with us from wherever they are.

"We are committed to supporting our employees, customers, and the community throughout this transition. We will continue to share more

details in the weeks ahead."

Once Spiritwood's Scotiabank officially closes its doors in July of 2024, it will mark the second closure of a financial institution in the coverage area of the *Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald* in the span of a year.

Back in June, the Village of Canwood bid farewell to its Affinity Credit Union Advice Centre. The decision by Affinity to concentrate its services in Shellbrook left the community without a financial institution, as Canwood also lost its CIBC branch in 2017.

Clients and community members in Canwood were first informed of the impending advice centre closure via mail and a press release sent out by Affinity in early February.

The announcement prompted a strong backlash from the community. And to address the community's concerns and answer their questions,

then-Affinity CEO Mark Lane attended a public membership meeting in Canwood in March, where he quickly dispelled any hope that Affinity would backtrack on its decision.

Instead, over the course of a 20-minute presentation and a 70-minute question and answer period, Lane outlined the reason for Affinity's decision, saying it was the result of a change in the financial services industry and an evolution of the role of physical banks in people's lives.

"[In 1979], 100 out of 100 transactions that the members of the credit union completed were conducted in branch," he said at the time. "The world has changed to a point where 89 out of 100 transactions are now completed through self-serve channels, like online banking, mobile banking, ATMs, contact centre calls, and tele-banking."

Continued on page 2



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WP Quarter Carnival a ghoulishly good time

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Ghouls and goblins, tricks and treats, and fun and games. All the hallmarks of some good Halloween fun were present in abundance, when WP Sandin High School's students and staff hosted the annual Quarter Carnival on the evening of Monday, Oct. 30.

Organized by members of the high school's Student Leadership Council (SLC), the Quarter Carnival was initially conceived as a fundraiser for Happy Hearts Childcare Centre when the first event was held back in 2014. Since then, it's become a must-attend Halloween attraction and an integral part of the high school's attempts to create ties between itself and the broader community.

As always, this year's event encouraged parents, children, students, and staff members to don their Halloween costumes and take part in a wide range of classic activities that were given a twist for the holiday. And after last year's event was short on scares, this year saw the Grade 12 students organize and execute an "operating room gone wrong" haunted house attraction to add to the night's tricks and treats.

"It takes a number of noon hours of planning and gathering of supplies to make it all come together," said SLC advisor Rhonda Berezowski. "SLC students from all grade levels support each other in choosing the activities."

Other treats available at the Quarter Carnival in-

cluded baked goods, donated by SLC students and parents for \$1 apiece, and hot dogs for \$2, making the event a low-cost way for the school to invite the community in for an evening of fun.

Though the Quarter Carnival is not officially billed as a fundraiser, all proceeds raised from the event go towards any other activities the SLC plans throughout the school year. By all accounts, this year's Quarter Carnival was another spooktacular success, bringing in more than \$800 for the SLC.

As has become tradition over the past couple of years, the Quarter Carnival wasn't the only source of tricks and treats in Shellbrook. The Town of Shellbrook's Recreation Department also got in on the fun, hosting its annual Halloween Skate at the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Halloween day.



"Chucky" takes part in the no-hands mini donut eating challenge.



Mini putt was one of many activities enjoyed at the Quarter Carnival.



Scooby Doo and Daphne stopped by the Quarter Carnival, looking for some Scooby snacks.

NOTICE OF POLL

[Section 81 of the Act]

Village of Canwood

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that:

- (1) A vote will be held for the election of:
Councillor: Village of Canwood
- (2) Voting will take place on the 6th day of December, 2023, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Canwood Village Office, 651 Main Street, Canwood, SK.
- (3) I will declare the results of voting at the Village of Canwood Municipal Office on the 7th day of December, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Dated at Canwood, this 2nd day of November, 2023.

Carmen Jean
Returning Officer

NOTICE OF ADVANCE POLL

[Section 83 and 84 of the Act]

Village of Canwood

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that provision has been made for an advance poll for all eligible electors.

Advance voting will take place on the 29th day of November, 2023, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. at the Canwood Village Office, 651 Main Street, Canwood, SK.

Dated at Canwood, this 2nd day of November, 2023.

Carmen Jean
Returning Officer

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Spiritwood Scotiabank to close in 2024

Continued from 1

With fewer members coming into advice centres, Lane said, credit union staff have seen their roles transition to providers of advice rather than transaction processors.

By shifting to a more regional strategy, based on a philosophy that customers and employees shouldn't be more than 50 kms or 30 minutes away from each other, Lane added that Affinity would be able to "invest in its online and mobile offerings and offer the best prices and products for clients."

Lane's explanation did little to appease community members. And after stating that the Canwood Advice Centre hadn't been a source of trouble or financial losses for Affinity, community members were further disappointed when Lane couldn't clearly explain why the closure was necessary for the company to pursue its strategy, or offer solutions to address their concerns about having to travel to Shellbrook to handle banking or being forced to carry more money on-hand (and risk becoming a target for criminals).

With files from Jordan Twiss, Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

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Here at every turn



WP Sandin tops girl's conference volleyball

By **JORDAN TWISS**

Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

The WP Sandin High School gymnasium was filled with all the sounds of volleyball on Saturday, Nov. 4, when the school's senior girl's volleyball team hosted five other squads for the 3A Conference tournament.

Joining the WP Sandin Aardvarks on the court for the tournament were teams from Spiritwood High School, Chief John Keenatch High School, Chief Ahtahkakahp School, Buffalo River Dene School, and Stobart Community School.

The six teams were split into two pools for round robin play, with WP Sandin, Spiritwood, and Buffalo River in one pool, and Stobart, Chief Ahtahkakahp, and Chief John Keenatch in the other.

Starting their tournament run with a noon match-up against Buffalo River, the WP Sandin team established its dominance early on by winning in two sets, with scores of 25-13 and 25-5.

Up next for the WP Sandin team was Spiritwood, which had also beat Buffalo River and was looking to battle for the top spot in the pool.

Despite some good back-and-forth volleys through the first set, WP Sandin gradually broke away with the help of its strong serve game and ended up with a 25-12.

But Spiritwood found its footing at the start of the second set, matching WP Sandin point for point and jumping out to an early lead. This prompted a timeout by WP Sandin, which allowed the team to regroup and rally.

Though Spiritwood continued to put up a fight, WP Sandin found its momentum and began to pull away, taking the second set 25-16 and winning the game.

With the victory and the top spot in their pool, WP Sandin was pit against Chief Ahtahkakahp School in the play-offs, with a chance at the finals and a guaranteed berth in Regionals on the line.

Pushed to the limit by their opponents in the first set, WP Sandin finally clinched the win by a score of 28-26 (the most points needed to win a set throughout the tournament). WP Sandin was able to wear down their opponents in the second set, winning by a

score of 25-16 and securing their spot in the final against Stobart.

Having won every set in the tournament so far, the WP Sandin girls kept this trend alive in a hard-fought first set against Stobart, coming out with a 25-21 win.

In an evenly matched opening to the second set, the teams traded point for point, with WP Sandin jumping out to a slim lead in the early going. Shellbrook kept this momentum going through the middle and late stages of the set, buoyed once again by a strong serve game that Stobart struggled to find an answer to.

In the end, WP Sandin claimed the set by a score of 25-21, winning the

game.

Both teams will now advance to Regionals, which will be played at WP Sandin on Friday (Nov. 10).

Speaking after the medals were handed out, coach Lou-Anne Stefankiw said she was proud of what she saw from her team throughout the tournament.

"It was a complete team effort, and everyone gave their best effort. That's all you can really ask for as a coach," she said, adding that her team earned its victory.

A factor in the team's success, says Stefankiw, was the different approach the team took this season. To help build skills, the team travelled to and competed at tournaments outside of their regular league play to get as much game time experience in as possible.

This meant early morning practices throughout the week to help work on skills, and weekends filled with tournaments (the team didn't take a weekend off throughout the season).

Stefankiw also credited her fellow coach Kelly Herndier, as well as new addition Mark Klaassen, who she says really helped the girls develop as a team and increase their individual skill levels.

Despite the team's success at Conferences, and the growth it's seen so far, Stefankiw knows the hardest games are still ahead, with Regionals and potentially Provincials in the cards.

"The biggest thing is to keep our minds in a really good spot. We want to be at the place where we're peaking in our season. We want to just keep bringing our game," she said.



WP Sandin's senior girl's volleyball team topped Conferences over the weekend. Back row, left to right: Coach Lou-Anne Stefankiw, Adison Kyliuk, Payten Keyowski, Maddi Nelson, Taylor Henderson, Brooklyn Klaassen, Kaile Cameron, coach Mark Klaassen, and coach Kelly Herndier. Front row, left to right: Abi Kyliuk, Ali Lamotte, Ava Ledding, Josee Schatkoske, Brielle Empey-McVicker, and Leah Naumann.



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Liberal's desperation may doom carbon tax

In politics, as in real life, mistakes sometimes happen and actions occasionally have unintended consequences. Rare, indeed, is the person or politician who hasn't said or done something they regret.

But, for the most part, accidents and mistakes are forgivable, assuming the person or politician who makes them genuinely wants to be forgiven (and makes an honest effort to earn their redemption).

The story changes, however, when actions are taken or words are spoken deliberately, as is so often the case with the government of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, which appears hell-bent on self-sabotaging its way out of office – either in the next scheduled federal election in 2025, or perhaps even sooner if it can't keep Jagmeet Singh's NDP onside.

From the SNC Lavalin affair to the WE Charity scandal, the last eight years of Mr. Trudeau's rule have been a case study in unforced errors.

This legacy of malfeasance continued most recently with a seemingly intentional effort by Mr. Trudeau to undermine the carbon tax, which was once meant to be his government's crowning policy achievement.

In all fairness, the carbon tax has never been universally beloved.

The government's heavy-handed approach to implementing the policy, to say nothing of the policy itself, has all but ruined the Liberals' odds of electing an MP in Saskatchewan and Alberta – both provinces that are disproportionately affected by the carbon tax, and other federal climate policies, due to their economic dependence on oil and gas.

On Oct. 26, Mr. Trudeau's government further soured its relationship with the two provinces, with its announcement of a three-year moratorium on the carbon tax for homeowners who heat their homes with heating oil.

Though the carbon tax exemption applies nationwide, it is largely seen as a benefit to the Atlantic provinces, because 30 per cent of homeowners in the region still use furnace oil to heat their homes (a much higher proportion than anywhere else in Canada).

Additionally, as part of what it's calling a new "energy affordability package," the federal government is rolling



JORDAN TWISS
~
News Editor

out plans to make it easier for homeowners to switch to electric heat pumps to heat their homes, starting with those in Atlantic Canada.

In this new package, the maximum amount of funding a homeowner can receive towards the purchase and installation of a heat pump will increase to \$15,000 from \$10,000.

No timeline has been given for when this change will be expanded to include other provinces and territories.

Elsewhere, those who live rurally or in small towns will see their carbon tax rebate boosted (currently, they receive a 10 per cent boost compared to urban Canadians, but this will now increase to 20 per cent).

"If you live in a rural community, you don't have the same options that people who live in cities do. We get that. So, this is more money in your pocket to recognize those realities, even as we continue to fight climate change," Mr. Trudeau said while announcing the change to the carbon tax.

The roll back of the carbon tax comes as Mr. Trudeau and his government have been taking a nosedive in popularity. In the latest poll from Leger, Pierre Poilievre's Conservative Party looked to be in majority territory, with 40 per cent of respondents saying they'd vote Conservative.

The Conservative-leaning sentiment holds true in recent polling focused specifically on Atlantic Canada – which has historically been a stronghold for the Liberals – leading to more than fair accusations that Mr. Trudeau's carbon tax exemption was a cynical attempt to appease Liberal MPs in the region and lure voters back to the Liberal camp.

Needless to say, the announcement of a carbon tax exemption that primarily benefits Atlantic Canada went over about as well as one would expect in Saskatchewan and Alberta. And Rural Economic Development Minister Gudie Hutchings only made matters worse by suggesting voters in the prairie provinces should elect more Liberals if they want to have conversations about carbon tax exemptions.

In response to the federal government's announcement, the provinces' premiers, Scott Moe and Danielle Smith, called for the same carbon tax exemptions to be made for natural gas.



Having made an exception for one type of home heating, Mr. Trudeau's government had effectively cornered itself into a no-win scenario.

It could either stick to its guns and only apply the exemption to home heating oil, further straining its relationship with the prairie premiers, or cave to their requests, and in so doing call into question the very purpose of the carbon tax.

Surprising no one, Mr. Trudeau emphatically stated there would be no more exemptions, noting that the purpose of the exemption on home heating oil is to give homeowners more time to make the switch to more affordable and sustainable alternatives.

Offering up a predictable rebuttal a couple days later, Premier Moe said he had instructed SaskEnergy to stop collecting and submitting the carbon tax on natural gas starting Jan. 1, 2024, if the federal government doesn't agree to an exemption. And, in a rare show of unity, Mr. Moe's Sask. Party government even unanimously backed a Sask. NDP motion calling on the federal government to remove carbon pricing from all forms of home heating.

If Mr. Trudeau and Mr. Moe prove unwilling to budge on the issue, the stage will be set for a high-stakes game of political chicken come Jan. 2.

Written into the carbon tax legislation are clear penalties for failing to remit the tax to the federal government. On the financial side, these include a fine of 20 per cent of the carbon tax

that should have been paid (in 2022, Saskatchewan's total was \$172 million, meaning a fine of \$34.4 million), and a separate penalty of at least \$1,000.

The legislation also says those found to be violating the law could face imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, and specifies that "every officer, director or representative of a corporation who directed, authorized, assented to, acquiesced in or participated in the offence will be considered guilty."

Should the game of chicken escalate to this point, Mr. Trudeau's government will find itself at yet another no-win crossroads.

Will it finally concede defeat, rendering all its posturing nothing more than a waste of time? Or will it irreparably destroy its relationship with Saskatchewan by imposing the above penalties upon it?

Either way, Mr. Trudeau and his government have done serious harm to the carbon tax, to the extent that some Liberal strategists are suggesting it may have to make major concessions on the policy, or axe it altogether, to stand a chance in the next federal election – moves that come with the very real risk of alienating the party's base.

This situation, entirely of the Liberals' making, was unavoidable, and it once more calls upon us to reflect on the principles of sound policymaking.

In this case, the lesson for the Liberals should be that desperations breeds terrible policy.

Shellbrook Chronicle

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

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Report from the Legislature

Recently the Trudeau government announced a three-year exemption on the carbon tax for home heating oil. This exemption will primarily benefit families in Atlantic Canada, where a greater percentage of households use heating oil compared to the rest of the country; 40 per cent of households in Atlantic Canada heat their homes with heating oil compared to just 0.4 per cent here in Saskatchewan. Natural gas is our primary source of home heating, with 85 per cent of Saskatchewan households having natural gas furnaces.

With this decision, the federal government has chosen to make life more affordable for families in one part of the country, while leaving Saskatchewan families out in the cold. We are calling on the federal government to offer this same carbon tax exemption to Saskatchewan families by extending it to all forms of home heating, including natural gas.

If they do not, then, effective Jan. 1, 2024, SaskEnergy will stop collecting and remitting the carbon tax on natural gas. This will effec-



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tively provide Saskatchewan people with the same exemption that the federal government is giving Atlantic Canadians who use heating oil.

Early in this fall sitting of the Legislature and in advance of Remembrance Day on Nov. 11, our government passed Bill 139, The Saskatchewan Remembrance Observance Act. This bill ensures employees are able to wear a poppy at work if they choose, unless it poses a danger to health, safety or welfare of the workers or others. Our veterans, current and past, have fought for our freedom and peace in Canada, and providing the right for workers to wear

a poppy while in the workplace is a way to honour the sacrifice veterans and their families have made.

Our government also recently introduced amendments to The Workers' Compensation Act to provide increased cancer coverage for firefighters. Coverage will now include six additional types of cancers: penile, pancreatic, thyroid, soft tissue sarcoma, mesothelioma, and laryngeal. This brings the total presumptive coverage to 22 types of cancer, the most of any Canadian jurisdiction. The additional coverage is an important way we can help support firefighters and their families, who face risks and hazards every day as they work to keep us safe.

Saskatchewan recently recognized Aviation and Aerospace Week from Oct. 29 to Nov. 4, a time to recognize the important role this transportation sector plays in the province. Aviation supports various economic sectors in our province, including tourism, natural resources and agriculture.

Quality of life in our province is impacted by aviation as well, by connecting air

ambulances to communities to move patients, providing air services for policing to protect communities, and supporting evacuations during emergencies.

Our government invests in improvements at regional, community-owned airports in Saskatchewan through the Community Airport Partnership (CAP) program. The \$850,000 infrastructure program will provide cost-shared grants of up to \$275,000 per eligible airport project. Since 2008, our government has invested over \$10 million to support 43 community airports through the CAP program.

Our government also continues to invest in the four-point Health Human Resources Action Plan to recruit, train, incentivize and retain health care workers. As a part of this program, a new two-year Physician Assistant (PA) Master's program will begin at the University of Saskatchewan's College of Medicine in the fall of 2025. PAs practice medicine under a physician, often within a multidisciplinary health team. Saskatchewan recently announced the ad-



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dition of PAs to our health care system, helping to provide enhanced care and strengthen the health care system.

Nominations are now open for the 2024 Saskatchewan Order of Merit. Established in 1985, the Order of Merit allows us to honour outstanding citizens who have truly made our province a better place to live. Nominations will be accepted until November 30, 2023 by mail, courier or in-person; to learn more, visit www.saskatchewan.ca/honoursawards.

As the fall sitting of the Legislature continues, I look forward to hearing from you. Your questions, concerns or comments help government shape policy as we continue to build and protect Saskatchewan.

YOUR TWO CENTS ~ 100-Year-Old veteran remembers the fallen

Dear Editor,

I lost my right arm on Oct. 18, 1944, while serving with the Loyal Edmonton Regiment in Italy. I was staked at a farmhouse that had a children's treehouse located nearby. In the treehouse was a sniper who kept shooting at our boys. A tank then came which shot out shells, the shrapnel hitting my right arm.

When I returned home from the war, I joined The War Amps and have been a member ever since. This association was started by First World War amputee veterans to help each other adapt to their new reality as amputees.

Having just recently turned 100, I am reflecting this Remembrance Day upon all those who served in my regiment and never returned home. Their absence weighs on me and it is essential that we keep their memory alive. I take comfort in knowing that The War Amps and its young members will continue to keep spreading the message long into the future.

The sacrifices of those who served (and continue to serve) deserve to be remembered and honoured. Each Remembrance Day serves as a poignant reminder of the tremendous price paid by these brave individuals. Their selflessness and courage continue to resonate, and it is our duty to ensure that their legacy endures.

Lloyd Brown, 100
War Amps member

Moe government behind the curve, playing catch up

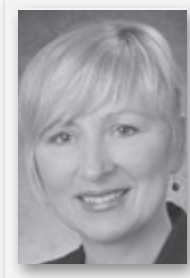
On so many fronts, the Scott Moe government is failing the people of Saskatchewan. Even when it looks like it is doing the right thing, it is too little, too late.

For over two years, I brought attention to the desperate state of seniors who rely on the Personal Care Home Benefit (PCHB). Finally, in the March 2023 Budget, the PCHB was raised from a cap of \$2,000 to \$2,400. But by that time, inflation had already eaten up any gains and many seniors are still unable to pay the cost of a private care home. One wonders if that is one of the reasons several private care homes in Regina and Saskatoon announced closures last month.

This summer, because of pressure brought by outraged parents' groups and myself, the government announced it would 'pause' sexual education programs delivered by Planned Parenthood and embedding the ARC Foundation's Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) program into all curriculum. But did the government even know its own bureaucrats were already in discussion on how to roll out these programs in Saskatchewan schools?

ers to report on every aspect of their property down to the last chicken. Rural people are now forming groups, trying to hold their RM Councils to account while it should have been the province scrutinizing the harms. This Scott Moe government has not even begun to address the firestorm that is brewing on this front.

In a few short years, our healthcare, once admired by the rest of Canada, is now in shambles. Too late to help anyone today, this government knee-jerks into action, finally announcing more local training seats to supplement their medical personnel poaching program in the Philippines. We should have been training more of our own people



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I had already been raising the issues of falling grades, lack of adequate student assessments, and inaccessibility of school administrations and school boards to parents. In some school districts this is at a crisis level, and only now has this government started to open its eyes.

This government is asleep at the wheel while the federal government infiltrates our Rural Municipalities with United Nations inspired programs that force produc-

earlier to meet the demands we knew were coming with an aging population.

A similar situation occurred last year with the Veterinarian shortage facing the Prince Albert area. I wrote to the government in support of expanded training and to make our region eligible for the Loan Forgiveness Program. After I published the letter in support of a lobby by a local Veterinary clinic, the government complied.

In recent days, many Saskatchewan people are quite happy that Premier Moe has challenged the federal government to take the carbon tax from natural gas or else his government will stop collecting it in January of 2024. But why the wait for January? Why not now?

Premier Scott Moe has neglected to say why he has put a delay on his threat. By January, Saskatchewan residents will already have paid bills with carbon tax they cannot afford today. And what about Saskatchewan people who heat with electricity, or propane? Too little. Too late.

Because this government refused to listen to constituents across the province, it was blindsided on all of these issues and many more, such as skyrocketing crime and mental health and addictions.

Scott Moe needs to get ahead of the curve and stop playing catch up.

TAX ENFORCEMENT LIST RESORT VILLAGE OF PEBBLE BAYE 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 January 9, 2024, 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 3-BLK/PAR 6-PLAN 99B09441 EXT 0	155814408	1,183.36	496.00	1,679.36
LOT 11-BLK/PAR 6-PLAN 99B09441 EXT 0	135955468	624.19	496.00	1,120.19
LOT 2-BLK/PAR 9-PLAN 101889265 EXT 0	136239150	459.99	440.00	899.99
LOT 3-BLK/PAR 9-PLAN 101889265 EXT 0	136239194	459.99	440.00	899.99
* On January 1, 2024 the 2023 taxes will become arrears and be added to the amount required to remove the property from tax enforcement proceedings. Penalty is calculated to the date of the Notice and will continue to accrue as applicable.				
Dated this 2 nd day of November, 2023 Terry Lofstrom, Administrator				

Shellbrook Legion hosts monthly meat draw

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

The Shellbrook Legion held its second-ever meat draw on Saturday, Nov. 4, inviting community members out for a chance to win meat packages and a 50/50 draw, socialize, and maybe enjoy a drink or two at the bar.

Running over two hours, the monthly meat draw sees tickets sold for four separate meat packages, each worth more than \$15. The packages are sold off in separate draws each half hour, with separate ticket sales for each package.

Winners for November's meat draw were Caroline Bosan, who won a ham, Cathy Moss, whose name was drawn for the pork chops, roast beef draw winner Randy Fajt, and Dylan Donohue, who won five pounds of chicken wings and the 50/50 draw.

Though turnout for the first two monthly draws hasn't been as strong as Shellbrook Legion member Henri Dagenais might have liked, support from sponsors, including Shellbrook Bigway and Parkland Meats has helped the cause.

Both businesses donated all four meat packages for the first month's draw, then half the packages for November's meat draw. Next month (Dec. 2), with a Christmas turkey included in the offerings, the Legion will be responsible for covering all the costs for the meat packages.

A new initiative, the Shellbrook Legion's meat draw was introduced to help the local organization with fundraising efforts. Without this, Henri says the doors of the Legion could close for good, which would also impact the community's annual Remembrance Day ceremony.

For her part, Shellbrook Legion president Helen Dagenais says she's been hearing a lot of talk recently about Remembrance Day no longer being observed after the last of the World War Two veterans die.

Citing Canada's involvement in other

conflicts, like the Korean War and the War in Afghanistan, Helen says there are still many veterans who deserve to be remembered and honoured for their sacrifices (and there will be more in the future, given Canada's ongoing involvement in other conflicts and peacekeeping missions).

She believes, and hopes, that Remembrance Day will remain a Canadian tradition for many, many years to come.



Shellbrook Legion president Helen Dagenais presents a ham to meat draw winner Caroline Bosan.



Shellbrook Legion president Helen Dagenais presents pork chops to meat draw winner Cathy Moss.



Shellbrook Legion member Henri Dagenais presents chicken wings to meat draw winner Dylan Donohue.



Shellbrook Legion president Helen Dagenais presents roast beef to meat draw winner Randy Fajt.

SPONSORED CONTENT

SASKATCHEWAN BLUE CROSS:

Introducing Health Plans with Guaranteed Acceptance

Saskatchewan Blue Cross is thrilled to announce the launch of its new Guaranteed Acceptance personal health plan. Driven by a mission to empower the people of Saskatchewan on their journey to whole health, this new product evolution is a testament of their commitment to supporting the health of Saskatchewan residents.

This plan is designed to provide comprehensive health coverage to all residents of Saskatchewan, regardless of their medical history or current health conditions. The Guaranteed Acceptance personal health plan is a non-medically underwritten insurance policy, meaning there is no review of medical history required or age restrictions that apply. The plan

guarantees coverage for all Saskatchewan residents with a valid Saskatchewan health card.

"This is a monumental and powerful shift in how Saskatchewan Blue Cross supports the health and wellness of Saskatchewan residents," said Kelly Wilson, President and CEO of Saskatchewan Blue Cross. "We're breaking down barriers that have stood in the way of everyone in Saskatchewan having access to the health insurance they need without restrictions."

The Guaranteed Acceptance health plan is a comprehensive plan providing extended health, prescription drug, dental coverage, out of province travel benefits and more. The plan offers immediate coverage with no exclusions and no waiting periods, no questions asked. The process is streamlined, with the ability to buy coverage instantly online. "We believe that everyone deserves access to quality health insurance. With this plan, your medical history and pre-existing conditions will not impact your ability to obtain coverage," said Wilson.

Saskatchewan Blue Cross is excited to embark on this journey towards a healthier and more inclusive future. To apply for the Guaranteed

Acceptance personal health plan or learn more about their comprehensive coverage options, visit www.sk.bluecross.ca/guaranteed

Terms & conditions apply.

ABOUT SASKATCHEWAN BLUE CROSS

For more than 75 years, Saskatchewan Blue Cross® has been committed to delivering exceptional health and wellness benefits, travel insurance and life insurance solutions to Saskatchewan residents and employers. A locally based, not-for-profit organization, it's recognized as one of Saskatchewan's Top Employers, one of the Top 100 Companies in Saskatchewan, one of Canada's Top 100 Brands (as part of the Canadian Association of Blue Cross® Plans), and proudly supports the wellbeing of more than 200,000 members. With a mission to empower communities on their journey to whole health and wellness, and a vision for a future of lifelong health and wellbeing for every person in Saskatchewan, this team is committed to advancing and benefiting the communities they call home. Learn more at: www.sk.bluecross.ca.

Invested in our communities.
Empowering *healthy lives.*



Science is key to feeding the world

If you like to eat and want everyone to go to bed each night with a full belly, you should be a lover of science.

The world has made zero effort to control population growth, so the number of mouths which need to be fed continues to grow.

And there are few new acres to come into food production — not at least without clear cutting critical forest.

So, we need to find ways to continually feed more from the same land base. To do that means producing more per acre of land.

The only way to do that is to boost yields, which can occur by maximizing nutrients, and by growing improved varieties, which have the genetics to produce more.

In terms of varietal development, it is a process that has taken place for well over a century.

Plant breeders have taken major steps forward, introducing varieties with genetics that offer better straw strength to avoid crop losses from lodging, increase rust resistance (once a major production impactor), and provide better yields.

Each step has occurred incrementally over the years. But when added up, these baby steps forward have had a huge impact in terms of offering consistently better yields.

Rare are the developments which make monster steps in production, but they do happen.

Creating herbicide resistant canola is one of the huge steps — although not an overnight thing, as years of research typically happen before farmers are planting a new variety.

Still farmers and scientists are always hopeful for the next 'big step'.

So, farmers had to be excited by the recent *www.producer.com* headline, 'Canola yields reach new heights'.

The article, by Robert Arnason, offers a look at a newer canola development, which could offer producers that giant step forward in produc-



CALVIN DANIELS

tion they always hope for.

The story focuses on the efforts of Liping Wang, a researcher at the University of Guelph, who has used gene editing and transgenic technology to create canola plants with corn genetics.

Why is that significant?

Well, the story goes on to explain, "The corn genes are changing how the canola makes starch, which in turn boosts yield. Greenhouse tests show that the canola plants can produce 50 per cent more pods and 50 per cent higher yields."

The results to date are in the controlled environment of a greenhouse. But if field trials, expected to start in 2024, capture even half of the results found inside, it would be massive for canola producers.

Imagine a new variety a few years down the road, based on the lines of transgenic canola from the UofG, boosting farmer canola yields by even 25-30 per cent, potentially with no other production change other than variety selection.

While regulatory channels will mean the breakthrough could be years from approval, this is hugely exciting. And it's made even more exciting by the suggestion the technology could likely be extended to other crops.

That is a possibility that offers hope from science to feed our growing world population in the years ahead.

Shell Lake seniors celebrate birthdays

By DAVID JENSEN
Shell Lake 50 Plus Club

The Shell Lake Fifty Plus Seniors gathered on Oct. 30 to celebrate birthdays for the months of July through October. Eleven members who celebrated their birthdays during that period were present. Unfortunately, a few others had other commitments and were unable to attend.

The evening began with a total of 25 members in all gathering at 7 p.m. Prior to the party, members participated in various activities. Some members played games of dominoes, cards, and eight-ball, while others just gathered

to visit.

Magically, at just after 8 o'clock, the birthday tablecloths and centrepieces appeared. Those celebrating were ushered to the table to be served. Happy Birthday was sung. A choice of coffee or tea, and a choice of two delicious cakes, which were cut into generous pieces, were served. Suddenly, the chatty room became silent, except for the odd lip smacking "Mmm" of appreciation.

The party was completed in good time, especially for the curling fans wanting to see how the Canadian Men's Team fared. Alas, it did carry on longer than the World Series game.



Shell Lake 50 Plus Club birthday celebrants. Front row, left to right: Aida West, Phyllis Johnson, Faye Brewer, Donna Prafke, Chris Lindsay, and Sandra Lang. Back row, left to right: Don Weiers, Corrie Rush-Battersby, Nel Heckel, Peggy Grandberg, and Ken Grandberg.

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 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

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

VILLAGE OF LEASK House Burn Cleanup & Restoration of lot 209 1st 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 1st 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 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

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

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RCMP news highlights – Nov. 9

By **JORDAN TWISS**

Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

One more arrested in extortion case

Police have arrested one of two outstanding suspects wanted in connection with an extortion case that occurred on the Sturgeon Lake First Nation in September.

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



Brianna Forest, 24, is wanted in connection with an extortion case on the Sturgeon Lake First Nation.

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 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 were each charged with one count of pointing a firearm, and Naytowhow was charged with three counts of weapons possession contrary to order and fail to surrender authorization.

Following a nearly month-long investigation, police nabbed Felix at a residence on the Sturgeon Lake First Nation. They also arrested 20-year-old Rylan Hanson from Buffalo Narrows and 22-year-old Savannah Burns from Sturgeon Lake First Nation on outstanding warrants from Meadow Lake and Big River RCMP, and subsequently charged Burns in connection with the extortion case.

As the Saskatchewan RCMP’s Warrant Enforcement Suppression Team (WEST) and Prince Albert RCMP continued efforts to locate Naytowhow

and Forest, investigation determined that Naytowhow was in a residence on the Sturgeon Lake First Nation on Oct. 30.

Officers from Saskatchewan RCMP’s WEST, Prince Albert RCMP, Combined Traffic Services Saskatchewan, Police Dog Services, North District Management Team and Critical Incident Response Team worked for numerous hours to have Naytowhow surrender to police. In the end, a conducted energy device was deployed and he was arrested.

A search warrant was executed at the residence after Naytowhow’s arrest, and officers located and seized a sawed-off shotgun.

Naytowhow appeared in Prince Albert Provincial Court on his outstanding charges on Oct. 31.

Police continue efforts to locate Brianna Forest, who is described as being approximately 5’7”, with brown eyes and brown hair.

Members of the public are urged to report information on her whereabouts 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/>.

Man charged in August homicide

Following a months-long investigation by the Saskatchewan RCMP’s Major Crimes unit, charges have been laid in connection with the homicide of 27-year-old Phillip Okemow, who was found deceased on MacIntosh Point in Emma Lake the morning of Aug. 21, 2023.

On Nov. 1, with the assistance of Saskatchewan RCMP’s Prince Albert detachment, Prince Albert and Saskatoon Warrant Enforcement and Suppression Teams (WEST), Police Dog Services and Critical Incident Response Program, the adult male was arrested at a residence on Sturgeon Lake First Nation (the RCMP had issued a press release this day, advising of an increased police presence in the area).

Wesley Naytowhow, 41, from Sturgeon Lake First Nation is charged with one count of second degree murder. He was also arrested on an outstanding warrant from Prince Albert RCMP for possession of stolen property over \$5,000 and failure to appear in court.

Naytowhow was expected to appear in Prince Albert Provincial Court on Nov. 3.

Saskatchewan RCMP Major Crimes continues to investigate.

This isn’t Naytowhow’s first brush with the law, nor is it his first violent criminal offence. In December of 2020, Naytowhow stabbed and as-

saulted a man at a residence on the Sturgeon Lake First Nation.

After entering a guilty plea in August of 2021, Naytowhow was granted 348 days credit for time spent in remand and was left with 381 days left to serve. In addition to his sentence and probation, he also received a lifetime firearm prohibition, and was ordered to pay \$515 in restitution.

Man arrested in Big River assault

The Big River RCMP Detachment has arrested a man wanted in connection with an assault at a residence in Big River.

On Oct. 10, Big River RCMP received a report of an assault at a residence in Big River. Investigation determined an adult male approached a residence and damaged it, including setting a small fire inside of it. He then assaulted an occupant of the residence.

No serious physical injuries were reported as a result of this incident.

During the course of its investigation, Big River RCMP identified 35-year-old Elvis Dreaver as a suspect, and subsequently charged him with one count of arson, one count of mischief under \$5,000, and one count of assault with a weapon.

A warrant was issued for the arrest of Dreaver, who was also wanted by Big River RCMP on a charge of being unlawfully at large for violating conditions of a temporary absence/reintegration leave from a correctional facility.

On Nov. 3, officers with the Big River RCMP Detachment located and arrested Dreaver at a residence in Big River, and charged him with another count of assault and three counts of failing to comply with a probation order.

Dreaver was expected to make his first appearance in Prince Albert Provincial Court on Nov. 6.

Big River break and enters

The Big River RCMP Detachment is looking for the public’s help identifying suspects involved in a rash of break and enters and thefts.

In a bulletin issued through the Saskatchewan Crime Watch Advisory Network on Nov. 2, the detachment said it received multiple reports of break and enters and thefts at seasonal residences in the Village of Victoire on Sept. 18. During these incidents, police say various tools, electronics, and camping equipment were stolen.

Anyone with information about these incidents is urged to contact Big River RCMP at 306-469-2590. Information can also be submitted anonymously by contacting Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or www.saskcrimestoppers.com.

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 4th 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 1st 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 2nd day of November, 2023.

Noreen Olsen, Administrator



Lest We Forget.



Let us remember the sacrifice made by those who have served our country in times of military conflict and peace to defend our freedom.

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

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



Canwood Fall Supper feeds 300 Associates host another rousing jam session

By **LORRAINE BENSON**
Canwood Hall Committee

On Sunday, Oct. 24, the Canwood Hall Committee revived the Fall Supper Social, which has not happened in Canwood since 2019. The snowflakes did not deter more than 300 hungry people, who decided to come out to the Canwood Elks Community Hall and support the event.

Roast beef, ham, potatoes, gravy, carrots, turnips, coleslaw, buns, coffee, tea, and dessert were all on the menu. There were also tickets sold for a quilt, handmade by Sherry Moar, and the lucky winner of the prize was Pamela Oleynick.

The proceeds that were raised at the event go to the operation and maintenance of the hall.



The stage at the Canwood Elks Hall was turned into a table, and desserts were lined up for guests to choose from.



The revival of the Canwood Fall Supper Social brought out 300 hungry guests.



Young volunteers worked the ticket box for the draw of a quilt made by Sherry Moar. Pamela Oleynick was the lucky winner.

Associates host another rousing jam session

By **BEVRA FEE**
Spiritwood Herald Reporter

On Oct. 21, the Associates, led by organizer John Roth, held their monthly jam session with a strong group of entertainers. Sound technician Glen Cherry had the speakers fine-tuned and up to par, while Cathy Cherry did an excellent job of organizing the performer lineup.

Richard Hinson brought the crowd to their feet with the "Auctioneer Song" and Morgan McNabb stepped up with his guitar to pick out "Ghost Riders in the Sky."

Glen and Cathy Cherry brought the house down with the song "Ghost Chicken in the Sky," and the seniors from the Spiritwood & District Health Complex were still laughing when they left for their home.

Entertainers donate their time and travel, and, along with club members

and supporters of the jam events, they help bring life, laughter, and enjoyment to the community.

Hosting the 50/50 ticket sales were Shelley Allard and Megan Allard, and the lucky winner was Ken Grandberg. With proceeds from the event, the Associates made a \$200 donation to Hartley Clark Elementary School's lunch program.



Associates representative Sherry Heyden (left) presents a \$200 cheque to Gail Franson for Hartley Clark Elementary School to support its lunch program.

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 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.

SHELL LAKE: 5th Annual Sip & Shop Christmas Market - Friday, November 17, 5 to 9 pm, Shell Lake Lions Hall. \$2 Admission. Over 20 vendors! Food served by Global Pinoy 5 to 8 pm.

TRIPLE YOUR ADVERTISING

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

\$60.00 plus G.S.T. - A savings of over 30%

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Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

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Minutes of an RM of Spiritwood meeting

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

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Spiritwood No. 496 was held on Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2023.

In attendance were, Reeve Shirley Dauvin, Division 3 Terry Wingerter, Division 5 Heather Warkentin, Division 6 Bevra Fee, Administrator Colette Bussiere, and Foreman Darcy Laventure.

Absent was, Division 1 Larry Vaagen, Division 2 Dale Wasden, and Division 4 Dennis Laventure.

A quorum being present the meeting was called to order at 8:04 a.m. by Reeve Shirley Dauvin.

Wingerter: That the Foreman's report having been read now be filed. Carried
Foreman Darcy Laventure left the

council meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Councillor Bevra Fee acknowledged a conflict in the matter of the request for office rental space.

Warkentin: That the minutes of the Aug. 8, 2023, Regular Meeting of Council be approved as presented. Carried

Warkentin: That the Draft Environmental Carrying Capacity Study for Big Shell Lake be acknowledged as read. Carried

Wingerter: That the Administrator's report having been read now be filed. Carried

Delegate, Darren Ulmer joined the council meeting at 11:04 a.m. to discuss the proposed plan of subdivision on SW 04-49-12-W3.

Warkentin: That the request to bring Lot 1 Blk 3 up to the Safe Building Elevation, as per the proposed plan of

subdivision, revised Aug. 31, 2023, and under the direction of the engineering firm, Cattaral & Wright. Carried

Delegate Darren Ulmer left the council meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Fee: That the CSO reports having been read now be filed. Carried

Wingerter: That the bank reconciliation for the month ending Aug. 31, 2023, be accepted as presented. Carried

Warkentin: That the "List of Accounts" as listed on the attached Schedule "A" forming part of these minutes be passed for payment: Cheque No. 14349-14403 (\$736,415.74), Payroll File No. 426, 428 & 429 (\$53,666.53), and EFT No. 2023-0051-0059 (\$573,525.30). Carried

Warkentin: That the Statement of Financial Activities for the month ending Aug. 31, 2023, be approved as presented. Carried

Fee: That revisions be made to the Draft Enforcement & General Penalty Bylaw. Carried

Warkentin: That the discretionary use application for a second residential dwelling to be constructed on NW 04-54-11-W3 be approved under the following conditions:

- that the applicant construct and upgrade the right of way to an all-weather road;
- that the applicant construct an approach to RM standards;
- that an interest be registered on title for the garden suite. Carried

Fee: That the discretionary use application for a commercial kitchen be tabled. Tabled

Wingerter: That the discretionary use application for a tire shop & the retail sale of groceries & fuel be tabled. Tabled

Wingerter: Council for the RM of Spiritwood No. 496 recommends approval of the proposed subdivision application for a single residential parcel located on SW 08-49-11-W3 under the condition that the applicant construct an approach to the proposed parcel in accordance with the RM of Spiritwood approach policy. There are no incompatible land uses in the vicinity that would make this unsuitable for the intended use. Carried

Warkentin: That we enter into a

pre-authorized debit plan agreement with Prairie Centre Credit Union for the provision of services in connection with pre-authorized debit payments. Carried

Councillor Bevra Fee declared a conflict of interest and left council chambers.

Wingerter: That the request to lease office space be tabled. Tabled

Warkentin: That we agree to the terms and conditions of the Order for meeting management services provided by Catalis Technologies Canada, Ltd. Carried

Fee: That we approve of the purchase of 7 fire suits, 7 pairs of boots & 12 pairs of gloves from Trans Care Rescue in the amount of \$19,320.20 plus applicable taxes. Carried

Wingerter: That two (2) pails or containers of pest control products be provided to residential or farm properties at no charge. Additional pest control products can be provided at cost. Advance notice for large amounts of pest control products will be required. Carried

Wingerter: That the request to place sand fill in the environmental reserve in front of Lot 8 Blk 1 in The Cove be declined. Carried

Warkentin: That the request to place sand in the environmental reserve in front of Lot 7 Blk 1 in The Cove be declined. Carried

Warkentin: That the duplicate tax payment in the amount of \$1,734.66, e-transferred & applied to Roll 5781 000 be refunded. Carried

Fee: That the council meeting be closed to the public at 2:25 p.m. under the authority of Part III of The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, to go in camera to discuss Human Resources. Carried

CAO Colette Bussiere left council chambers at 2:32 p.m.

CAO Colette Bussiere returned to council chambers at 2:37 p.m.

The regular meeting of council was out of camera and resumed at 2:37 p.m.

Fee: That the correspondence, having been read, now be filed. Carried

Warkentin: That the meeting be adjourned.

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

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.
Pastor Josh
1-780-690-2100

PRESBYTERIAN

Mistawasis
Sunday worship
11:00 a.m.
Rev. Stewart Foster

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

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

Parkside
11 a.m. - Worship

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

Leoville - 9:30 a.m.
Spiritwood - 11:15 a.m.
Shell Lake - 2:00 p.m.
SATURDAY
Medstead - 6:00 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 - 11:00 am

BETHEL

Medstead
2nd Sunday, 10 am -
Worship
Pastor David Jensen
4th Sunday, 10 am -
Worship
Pastor David Jensen

MENNONITE BRETHREN

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

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Battlefords Camp
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(306) 389-4633

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Shellbrook
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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

Ranking of LIV players impossible to tell

Taylor Gooch, Cam Smith, Brooks Koepka and Bryson DeChambeau are obviously four of the world's best golfers. But where they rank in the world is up for debate because... well, there are a few reasons.

Debate Point One: LIV golfers no longer receive world-ranking points because they play on a tour, the Saudi Arabian-based LIV Tour, that does not qualify for such points. Why not? Because the people who conduct and control the Official World Golf Ranking (OWGR) system say that LIV tournaments do not follow the OWGR rules of qualification. Such as LIV's 54-hole, no-cut tournaments.

Debate Point Two: The golf establishment despises, no... a better word would be 'hates', LIV. The golf establishment hates the idea that some of the world's best, along with many run-of-the-mill golfers, were presented with gazillion-dollar cheques to join LIV for the supposed betterment of golf globally.

LIV's efforts to have its golfers receive world-ranking points took another recent hit when the OWGR board (comprised of representatives of the golf establishment which, remember, despises LIV) again rejected an application to have its players receive world-ranking points. These points are valuable because in most cases, they help to determine who gets into the four major championships in golf — the Masters, U.S. Open, the Open Championship, and the PGA. Some LIV players have pre-qualified for some of those events, but the vast majority depend on their status on the world-ranking list to make the field.

Gooch is one example. He led the LIV Tour in money earnings in 2023, yet is currently ineligible to play in the majors because his world-ranking position has fallen to 201 from 40 at the end of the 2021 season. But what does it mean to lead the LIV Tour in money? How does one compare Gooch playing against only 47



BRUCE PENTON

others, probably 25 of whom would struggle to make ends meet on the PGA Tour, while World No. 1 Scottie Scheffler and the likes of Rory McIlroy, Jon Rahm and Colin Morikawa routinely take on fields of 155 others, all of them with proven credentials.

How does a Gooch LIV victory over 10 or 12 great players compare to a victory on the PGA Tour? Might it translate to a top 10? A 21st-place tie? It's impossible to tell. Golf fans know from past performance that Koepka, Gooch, Smith, etc., are (or have been) great players but there's no way to compare them to all golf-

ers in the world unless a comparable system is established.

Perhaps the OWGR could allow LIV tournaments to offer a lower number of world-ranking points due to strength of field. For example, winning two LIV tournaments might be equal, when considering strength of field, to, say, a couple of seventh-place finishes on the PGA Tour, and points awarded accordingly.

That way, the world can see how Gooch, Koepka, etc., compare to their golf rivals around the world. Otherwise, LIV golfers are simply barnstormers, collecting only money, not honour or lasting legacy.

• NY Post columnist Phil Mushnick, who revels in sarcasm, said he doesn't mind listening to football analyst Tony Romo, who pulls down \$18 million a year from CBS, "but he's not worth a dime over \$17 million."

• Super 70s Sports, on X: "Nellie Fox struck out 216 times over 19 major league seasons from 1947

to 1965, a span of 10,351 plate appearances. Kyle Schwarber (of the Phillies) struck out 215 times this year."

• Oilers TV host Gene Principe of Sportsnet, showing off some food fare from Nashville that included one of 11 types of hot dogs and having the meat slip off his plate onto the floor. "Oh, I'm a loser. Not a wiener. But to be frank, they're pretty good."

• Football columnist Peter King reports that Vancouver singer Michael Bubl  has an unusual name for his fantasy football league team: "The Vancouver Cannots."

• Astros' fan David, on X, reacting to the belief that Sen. Ted Cruz's attendance at Houston games is a curse to the Astros: "Hope that Bryan Abreu comes in and intentionally throws at Ted Cruz."

• Mike McIntyre of the Winnipeg Free Press, on accompanying the Jets on their first major road trip of the season: "The first two stops happen to be Las Vegas and then

Arizona — which not only warms my heart, but all other body parts as well."

• Bob Molinaro of pilotonline.com. (Hampton, Va.): "Going into Sunday's game vs. the Commanders, the Eagles should be a little worried that Jalen hurts."

• Steve Simmons of SunMedia, on the gambling-related suspension to Shane Pinto: "The grand contradiction of the Pinto suspension: Last season he wore a Bet99 decal on his Ottawa Senators helmet. You can promote gambling in the NHL, you just can't do it."

• Greg Cote of the Miami Herald, on Coyotes' Travis Dermott defying an NHL directive to not use pride tape on sticks: "May other, bigger stars on skates be brave enough to follow suit."

• Headline at the onion.com: "Victor Wembanyama Admits He's A Little Overwhelmed By Speed, Intensity Of NBA Groupies"

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Elks teams suffer tough losses over weekend

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Both the U18 AA Parkland Elks and the senior Shellbrook Elks were in action over the weekend, with the former hosting the Saskatoon Crunch at the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre on Saturday night and the latter hitting the road to face the Rosthern Wheatkings on Sunday.

In games against tough opponents, both teams skated away with losses — Parkland fell 7-2, while Shellbrook lost by a final tally of 8-3.

U18 Elks (2) vs Crunch (7)

Though the scoreboard would suggest Saturday night's match-up between the Elks and the Crunch was a one-sided affair, the action on the ice through the first 40 minutes of the game tell a much different story.

The Crunch jumped out to an early lead, when a laser-eyed Ryder McKinnon tipped home a rebound out of midair, with an assist from Hunter Thomas. And nine minutes later, a power play allowed Easton Kozak to tap in another rebound on assists from Maverick Rowlett and Thomas.

And yet, the Elks remained very much in the game. And in

the final minute of the opening period, they rallied and closed the gap to 2-1, when Kaiden Couture found the back of the net on a sharp-angled shot. Kendon Skalicky and Brendan Aug assisted on the goal.

After a long goalless drought in what was a hard-hitting and fast-paced second period, the Elks pulled even with a goal from Skalicky that slipped right through the pads of Crunch netminder Ethan Rathgeber. Corvan Stewart and Lane Keyowski earned assists on the play.

The Crunch had an immediate answer, scoring on a rush off the ensuing faceoff. The goal was Kozak's second of the night, and Hunter Thomas earned himself another assist

on the play.

The Elks had the Crunch on the ropes for the remainder of the second period, and in the early going of the third frame. But then, they suffered a defensive collapse that allowed Elias Flory to extend the Crunch's lead to 4-2. Logan Petruic earned the lone assist on the goal.

The Elks continued to put up a fight, but the Crunch began to wear them down, going up 5-2 on a 2-on-1 rush and a beautiful top-shelf wrist shot from Tristan Yaremko. Thomas Harding assisted on the play.

The Crunch tacked on two more later, as Alex Blocka scored on assists from Yaremko and Harding, and Thomas

tallied on the power play with assists from James Hirschfield and Rowlett, securing the Elks' 7-2 defeat.

With the loss, the Elks fell to 3-5 on the season but remain in the middle of the Centre Four Conference standings. They now have a week off to rest and refocus.

Elks (3) vs Kings (8)

In a rough outing in Rosthern, the senior Shellbrook Elks fell behind the Wheatkings early on and stayed there for the remainder of the game.

The action kicked off just after the four-minute mark of the first period, when the Wheatkings rattled off two goals in just 32 seconds. Brayden Anderson scored the first, with an assist from Devan Thiesen, and Brett Weiman tallied on helpers from Paul Ayres and Riley Lehmann.

On the power play a couple minutes later, the Wheatkings took a commanding 3-0 lead on a goal from Michael Epp, assisted by Liam Tittle and Brett Blatz. The Elks finally fought back in the dying seconds of the period, with Cole Duperreault scoring on helpers from Matthew Flodell and Brendon Beaulac.

Where the first period was mostly controlled by the Wheatkings, the second pe-

riod saw them take over the game completely, scoring four unanswered goals in just under seven minutes.

Epp started things with his second goal of the night, earning assists from Blatz and Lehmann, and then Anderson followed up with his second of the game, with Ethan Regnier and Weiman assisting on the play.

Later on, Zach Flemming struck with an assist from Blatz, and Blatz finished off the scoring with an unassisted goal.

The Wheatkings tacked on one more for good measure in the first couple minutes of the third period, as Weiman tallied his second goal of the night with assists from Tysen Smith and Thiessen.

After this, however, the Elks found their skates on a goal from Burk Gosselin, assisted by Ethan Beaulac. Devin Dicus added a too-little-too-late goal later on in the period, capping off the scorecard at 8-3 for Rosthern. Brendon Canaday and Ethan Beaulac assisted on the goal.

With the loss, the team sits at 1-1 on the season. This Friday evening, the team plays its home opener against the Allan Flames. Puck drop for the game is 8 p.m.



U18 AA Elks forward Brody Anderson looks to pounce on a loose puck in front of a wide-open Saskatoon Crunch goal.

OBITUARIES

Lucille Cote

entertaining. She always made room for a few more when friends dropped in. She and Maurice enjoyed travelling and visiting family on their way to their winter home in Phoenix, Arizona.

Predeceased by her husband Maurice in 2016, Lucille's memory is celebrated by:

Joanne (Robert), Jan (Karen), Roger (Darlene), Neil (Toby), John (Barb).

Thanks go out to the staff at Sunnyside Adventist Care Home in Saskatoon. In lieu of flowers please send donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

The Memorial service will be held Saturday, April 13, 2024 at 11:00 am in Martensville, Saskatchewan at the Cherished Memories Funeral Home.

To leave condolences for the family, please visit www.saskfunerals.ca

Cherished Memories is honored to be entrusted with Lucille's arrangements.

COTE, Lucille
April 27, 1932 -
October 26, 2023

Our Mom blessed our lives for 91 years. She grew up just outside Arborfield, Saskatchewan in a large, welcoming French family.

Mom trained as a nurse at St Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon and worked in Shellbrook for most of her career but the role she valued most was that of wife and mother.

She raised five children with a kind heart and a sense of humour. She cherished all of her 12 grandkids and 12 great-grandkids. She enjoyed reading, crocheting, playing cards, learning Spanish, gardening, cooking, and



It is with heavy hearts that the family of Gerald Terry Metrunc announce his peaceful passing on Oct. 25, 2023 at Victoria Hospital in Prince Albert, SK.

Gerald was the eldest son of Steve and Mary Metrunc born May 26, 1937, in Myrnam, AB. He grew up enjoying the outdoors with his siblings, cousins, and friends, speaking often of how they would walk to the toboggan hill and play until their mitts were frozen, only to have to still walk home. He shared fond memories of going to his Baba and Dido's homestead

Gerald Terry Metrunc

to work in the hay fields and help with harvest. At age 11, Dad contracted rheumatic fever which left him with a weakened heart. He was no longer allowed to be as active as before, but that gave him the opportunity to explore his musical interests, becoming accomplished in both the accordion and the piano. For a short time he played in a band. He would sit down at the piano or pull out the accordion and play some of his favorite 50s hits and Ukrainian favorites for us as we grew up.

He received his Bachelor of Science of Agriculture from the University of Alberta in 1959 and for a short time worked as an agrolgist selling farm chemicals. He decided to return to university and completed his Bachelor of Education from the University of Alberta in 1962 and started teaching in Edmonton. Dad was not one to let life pass him by; rather he followed his love for Ukrainian culture and became a founding member of the Ukrainian Shumka Dancers, dancing with them for 10 years. He also joined a teacher's curling league where he met the love of his life, Anne Markowski. They were married August 29, 1964, and continued to teach in Edmonton and maintain an active role in the Ukrainian Orthodox church and Ukrainian community. In 1969, Gerald and Anne decided to move their young family of Moira and Lilia out of the city to build their home on the same yard as Anne's parents, joining them in continuing to build the family farm. Gerald and Anne continued to teach full time at Leoville Central School while growing their mixed farming operation and adding to their family Mark, Daria, and Gregory. Dad also became deeply passionate about organic farming practices, achieving certified organic status in 1975.

Hospitality was at the core of our home. Our table had company most days of the year. Whether it was a short coffee with farm help or a neighbor, distant family coming for a visit, staff parties, or exchange students from across the globe, our guest book boasts visitors from every in-

habited continent. Dad was an attentive listener to people's stories and loved to honor the pioneers' sacrifices and values. He gave us the gift of family connections by scheduling regular trips to Myrnam to visit his parents, siblings, and extended relatives which has linked us down through the generations. Dad made every effort to attend functions that would keep him connected to his friends and family – MGM annual reunion, homecomings, 2005 Metrunc reunion, Shumka's anniversary celebrations, etc.

Dad's strong work ethic and Orthodox faith instilled a dedication to the good of others and the community which directed so much of his energy and joy. He was a longstanding member of many committees/organizations, including Alberta CYMK provincial president, Leoville Lions, Mohyla Institute, Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, etc. Dad supported all his children to be involved in extracurricular sports and clubs and drove out of his way to pick up other kids to give them opportunities to play on teams and be involved in activities. Commitment to the greater good was woven into many of his decisions. Beyond his local interests, Dad kept up with world affairs. Dad felt much sorrow at the recent invasion of Ukraine and ongoing war and devastation. He sought ways to alleviate the suffering of the people through humanitarian means.

After 25 years at Leoville Central School, Dad retired from teaching but would still sub occasionally and also taught adult upgrading for a time. He continued to farm full time with his family until a few years ago when his health became more compromised. Even though he didn't always feel well, he and mom continued to travel to see friends and family, watch grandchildren Ukrainian dancing and playing sports, take in cultural shows and events, all the while regenerating his energy and love of life. Dad lived a full life and left all who met him with a sense of his resiliency and motivation to do all he could with the time and gifts

God had given him.

Gerald leaves to mourn his passing: Anne, his loving wife of 59 years; and their children: Moira (Mark) Stoll, Lilia (Patrick) Livingstone, Mark (Elizabeth) Metrunc, Daria (Dennis) Michayluk, and Greg (Krystal) Metrunc; grandchildren: Kalyna (Kris), Calum (Keely), Emily, John, Catherine, Megan, Melodya, Dmitrius, Isaac, Thomas, Anastascia, Maxim, and Theodore; sisters: Vivian (Orson) Gadowsky, Carol (Marko) Mihajlovich; sisters-in-law: Vivian Couture, Mary (Henry) Konopelski, Pilahia (Tom) Filarchuk; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends. Gerald is predeceased by his parents: Steve and Mary Zoe (Sorochan) Metrunc; infant sister, Dianne; brother, Ron Metrunc; grandson, Zachary Metrunc; parents-in-law: Joseph and Pauline (Sarchuk) Markowski.

The Prayer Service was held on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 6:00 pm, and the Funeral Service was held on Thursday, November 2, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. Both Services were held at Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Glaslyn, SK. Following the funeral service, lunch was served at the Glaslyn Community Hall, 322 1st Ave. Interment took place at Junor Cemetery following the luncheon. All were invited back to the farm for fellowship and food. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Eternal Memories Funeral Home, North Battleford, SK.

Memorial donations may be made to: Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church (cheques payable to: Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Glaslyn) Box 356, Glaslyn, SK S0M 0Y0; OR Canada-Ukraine Foundation – Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal, 620 Spadina Ave., Suite 200, Toronto, ON M5S 2H4 Canada (phone: 416-966-9700) website: cufoundation.ca

Dad, may you rest in a place of peace and a place of light, where there is neither sickness nor sorrow nor sighing, where all the saints repose.

Memory Eternal!
Vichnaya Pamyat!
Вічна Пам'ять!

GOOD NEWS

YOU ARE VALUABLE

By DAVE BODVARSON

Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly

Growing up, I must say I enjoyed watching Front Page Challenge. It was hosted by Fred Davis. On the panel quite often were Pierre Berton, Betty Kennedy, and Gordon Sinclair. They would attempt to identify a hidden guest by asking a series of questions.

Quite frequently, Gordon Sinclair would ask the guest how much he or she was worth. It seemed to be one his standard questions. He wanted to know how much money people made. The truth is your value is not based on your wealth. In other words, it is a lie that we need to guard against. Wealth doesn't define us. It is not who we are.

I like that preacher who held up a \$20 bill. He then asked who wanted it. No surprise, hands went up. He decided to take his \$20 bill and crumple it up?

The preacher asked a second time, "Who still wants it?"

Still, the hands went up.

The preacher decided to take his \$20 bill and drop it on the ground,

and then he started to grind it into the floor with his shoe.

He picked it up and that \$20 bill was crumpled and dirty.

The preacher asked a third time, "Now who still wants it?"

Still, the hands went into the air.

Then the preacher made his point. He said, "Many times in our lives, we are dropped, crumpled and ground into the dirt by the decisions we make and the circumstances that come our way. We feel as though we are worthless. But no matter what has happened or what will happen, you will never lose value in God's eyes."

The worth of our lives doesn't come by what we do but who we are. If we are believers, we are King's Kids.

If you are not a Christian, you too are valuable to God. Consider these words from the hymn "Rescue the Perishing, "Down in the human heart, crushed by the tempter, Feelings lie buried that grace can restore; Touched by a loving heart, wakened by kindness, Chords that were broken will vibrate once more."

May the Holy Spirit touch your heart today.

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PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

Notice is hereby given under *The Tax Enforcement Act* that unless the arrears and costs appearing opposite the land and title number(s) described in the following list are fully paid before the 31st day of January, 2024, 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 *The Tax Enforcement Act* is included in the amount shown against each parcel.

SE 25-49-2-W3 Title	117533910	\$678.01
152777672	NW 8-52-3-W3 Title	
NW 31-49-1-W3 Title	153789665	\$638.35
126812752	NE 21-52-1-W3 Title	
NE 10-50-2-W3 Title	152272188	\$627.05
151646340	NE 18-50-2-W3 Title	
NE 29-49-3-W3 Title	140815807	\$589.00
150195764	SW 4-51-3-W3 Title	
SE 23-49-2-W3 Title	145948641	\$560.05
130481894	SE 30-50-2-W3 Title	
NW 10-49-1-W3 Title	116485263	\$519.30
132455044	SW 30-50-2-W3 Title	
SE 25-49-2-W3 Title	116485285	\$516.16
154573038	SE 15-50-1-W3 Title	
SE 8-51-2-W3 Title	147883427	\$464.36
147932837	NE 30-50-2-W3 Title	
NE 20-51-1-W3 Title	116485241	\$473.61
149726144	Lot 11 Blk/Par 6 PL	
SW 18-49-2-W3 Title	76PA00132 Ext 0 Title	
114493631	154745444	\$413.47
NW 9-50-2-W3 Title	Lot 2 Blk/Par 5 PL	
140815841	76PA00132 Ext 0 Title	
Lot 10 Blk/Par 14	134111247	\$413.47
PL 101960175 Title	NW 8-53-2-W3 Title	
150497590	134374798	\$388.00
SW 4-51-2-W3 Title	NW 25-52-2-W3 Title	
150666903	115996988	\$342.07
SW 9-50-2-W3 Title	Dated this 26 th day of October, 2023	
140815852	Duane Storey	
SE 27-49-2-W3 Title	Administrator	
128108617		
SW 4-50-2-W3 Title		
116483261		
NW 4-50-2-W3 Title		
116483227		
PCL Q Plan 101561138 Title		
139791055		
NW 22-51-2-W3 Title		
135128729		
SE 23-49-2-W3 Title		
129748719		
Lot 9 Blk/Par 14		
PL 101960175 Title		
140641231		
SE 27-49-3-W3 Title		
117402375		
SW 10-49-3-W3 Title		
156687306		
Lot 9 Blk/Par 12 PL		
AV541 Ext 0 Title		
132063229		
SE 30-49-1-W3 Title		
156880198		
NW 23-51-3-W3 Title		
150442095		
SE 25-49-2-W3 Title		
141361433		
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Protecting trees and shrubs from damage

By **ERL SVENDSEN**

White winter rabbits are the cutest – at a distance and in someone else's yard. Mice, on the other hand, are rarely considered cute except perhaps by their mothers. And during winter, both can cause a little to a lot of damage to your yard and garden, especially to the trees and shrubs. Of course, you don't notice the damage until the snow is gone and your woody plants are starting to leaf out.

Stems and bark are good sources of nutrition for animals in the winter, especially when compared to dried grasses and other desiccated herbaceous plants. Rabbits cause damage by eating the bark down to the wood. When they eat completely around a trunk or branch, they effectively girdle it, cutting off the flow of nutrients and water between the root and the living portion above the damaged area. In spring, woody plants may initially flower or leaf out, but eventually the portion above the girdled area dies. Rabbits will also consume small branches and twigs. Mice cause similar damage but are less likely to kill a tree unless their numbers are completely out of control.

Trees with light to moderate damage can recover. However, even if not completely girdled, expect some branches above the visible damage to be less vigorous or even die. Shrubs can take more damage as they can sprout new branches

from the surviving stumps or from below ground (i.e., suckers). Prune out any deadwood. While bridge grafting may save a tree with a girdled trunk, it is a difficult technique with limited success. Severely damaged trees are best removed and replaced.

Prevention

Preventing access to the tasty, nutritious tree bark is the easiest approach. Trees and shrubs can be protected from rabbits by fencing around the tree (5-10 cm / 2-5 inches away from the trunk) using chicken wire or galvanized wire mesh (10-20 mm / 0.5-1" squares). Preventing mouse damage will require a finer wire mesh (5 mm / 0.25"). Dig the fence into the ground about 7.5-10 cm (3-4 inches) to prevent rabbits and mice from crawling under, and it should reach at least 50 cm (2 feet) above the expected snow line. After a heavy snowfall, remove snow as required to maintain enough fence above the snowline to prevent rabbits from reaching over.

Commercial tree protectors are also available from most garden centres (e.g. spiral tree wrap, corrugated tubing, plastic mesh) for protecting smaller diameter, single trunked trees.

Discouragement

Repellents, available from garden centres, work by either making the bark less tasty (e.g. very bitter or spicy hot such as capsaicin), or by fooling bark-munching animals into thinking there's a predator nearby (e.g., wolf or other equally disgusting urine). The repellents can be painted or sprayed onto tree trunks and shrubs. Some products are longer lasting than others – read and follow product labels.

Habitat change

Loose organic mulch (dry leaves, straw, wood/bark chips), while very effective in reducing weeds, protecting roots against extreme temperatures and

conserving soil moisture, can be an excellent overwintering habitat for mice. Before freeze-up, push mulch about 15 cm (6 inches) away from tree trunks and shrubs. In my own garden, I have found mice like to nest in the middle of my Karl Foerster grass clumps. So this year, I cut them back this fall rather than waiting until spring.

Population control

Use rodenticides as a last resort when mice populations are high and they threaten not only your landscape but are also an occasional indoor visitor. Put out bait stations in late fall before freeze up. Place them close to suspected mouse habitat but where other animals, pets and small children won't have access to them. Inspect the bait stations regularly and refill as necessary. Follow label instructions.

Susceptible species

Most often, young trees and thin-barked trees are the most susceptible to se-

vere rodent damage. But when food sources are scarce and populations are high, all trees and shrubs are potentially at risk. The following are species that especially tasty and would benefit from protection.

Trees: fruit (apple, crab-apple, pear); ornamental (hawthorn, linden, mountain ash, poplar, willow).

Shrubs: fruit (raspberry, saskatoon, sour cherry); flowering (barberry, burning bush/winged euonymus, forsythia, lilac, rose, spirea, willow), small evergreens.

On the other hand, the following are rarely reported to be damaged: black walnut, Colorado spruce, cotoneaster, dogwood, Ohio buckeye, potentilla.

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

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



The trunk of this unprotected apple tree was completely stripped by a clearly ravenous rabbit.

Photo credit: Beth Cody

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