

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

VOL. 112 NO. 8 PMR #40007604

Thursday, February 22, 2024

www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

Sask. teachers bring job action to Shellbrook



STF President Samantha Becotte stands in front of picketing educators in Shellbrook on Friday, Feb. 16.

Photo courtesy of Michael Oleksyn, LJI Reporter, Prince Albert Daily Herald

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Shellbrook received a temporary population boost on Friday, Feb. 16, as members of the Prince Albert and Area Teachers' Association brought their latest job action right to Premier Scott Moe's doorstep.

Estimates are that nearly 800 teachers, including those from the Saskatchewan Rivers School Division, the Prince Albert Catholic School Division, the Association locale des enseignantes et enseignants fransaskois (Conseil des écoles fransaskoises) and the Saskatchewan DLC North Campus in Prince Albert, made the trip out to Shellbrook.

Joined there by Samantha Becotte, president of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation (STF), the educators gathered en masse in Veteran's Memorial Park, right beside Premier Moe's constituency office, and paraded up

and down Main Street to supportive honks from the community.

A similar job action, targeting Education Minister Jeremy Cockrill's office, was undertaken in North Battleford, while teachers across the province showed solidarity by withdrawing noon-hour supervision services during lunch periods.

The latest round of picketing came about after another breakdown in negotiations between the Teachers' Bargaining Committee and the Ministry of Education's Government-Trustee Bargaining Committee on Monday.

The week prior to Friday's demonstration, Cockrill said the government's bargaining team had been given a new mandate, which included an improved salary offering of 3 per cent per year to match the annual salary increases received by MLAs. Cockrill said, however, that class size and complexity, teachers' biggest issue over the course of the bargaining process,

would not be on the table.

The parties met once on Monday, Feb. 12, but quickly found themselves at an impasse and broke off talks again the following evening.

"Although government now openly acknowledges that there are complexity concerns in schools, it refuses to make long-term commitments where it can be held accountable," Becotte said in a statement afterward.

"Several other provinces – Ontario, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, and B.C. – have language around class size and complexity in their collective agreements with teachers. This government has already included patient complexity and an innovation fund as part of its new agreement with the province's doctors. Government has shown it can and will address these matters in contracts when it chooses."

For its part, the government spent last week, which happened to be

Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week in Saskatchewan, making a number of announcements tied to education. These included a \$32 million investment in 45 relocatable classrooms, and a new formula to address enrolment growth throughout the school year.

The new formula measures actual growth from Oct. 1 to Jan. 31, and projects growth through the spring months. The government says estimating total growth at the end of January aligns with the start of semester two and allows school divisions to plan and staff more effectively for the rest of the school year.

In addition to these announcements, and the improved salary bump put on the negotiating table, there was also an offer made outside the bargaining process of an annual \$53.1 million boost to funding to address class size and complexity.

Continued on page 2

Find us on **facebook.**

GET A JUMP ON EASTER

SHOP LOCAL - We have everything you need!
CHOCOLATE • CARDS • GIFTWARE

Woodland Pharmacy

Main Street, Shellbrook

Ph: 306-747-2545

Sask. teachers bring job action to Shellbrook

Continued from 1

While referred to as a “contractual agreement” by Cockrill, the text of the offer calls it a memorandum of understanding, and gives both sides the power to break off the agreement so long as the other party is given 12 months notice. The offer was rejected by the teachers’ bargaining committee, with Becotte saying educators want to see a commitment the government can be held accountable to.

On Friday, as the job actions in Shellbrook and North Battleford were set to commence, educators rejected an offer from the government to return to the bargaining table, citing a lack of a new mandate. Meanwhile, plans are being put in place for educators to escalate job actions following the Feb-

ruary break.

“(They are) attempting with their games to invite us back to the table, but they have no new mandate, no authority to negotiate at the table, and no commitment to address class size and complexity within the agreement,” Becotte said.

The Ministry of Education, meanwhile, says its negotiators remain at the table, ready to bargain.

“The government has moved on a number of items the STF asked for, including the salary mandate, and they have refused to move off their initial proposals, including a 23.4 per cent salary increase,” it said in a statement.

“Teachers and students should be in the classroom, and the teachers’ union should be at the bargaining table.”



Educators gathered en masse in Shellbrook’s Veteran’s Memorial Park on Friday, Feb. 16, for their latest round of job actions.

Photo courtesy of Prince Albert and Area Teachers’ Association

Local teams shine at district curling

By **BEVRA FEE**

Spiritwood Herald Reporter

Battle West District curling playoffs were hosted by Spiritwood High School at the Spiritwood Curling Rink on Tuesday, Feb. 13. With eight teams representing the categories of Senior Boys, Senior Girls and Senior Mixed, the day began at 10 a.m. and continued into the evening to determine the rankings and who would move on to Regionals.

The Senior Boys match-up saw Spiritwood High School’s rink, skipped by Rory Booth and including Wyatt Youst, Cooper Woytiuk, and Van Slater, go up against the crew from North Battleford Comprehensive High School. The game went back and forth for the first few ends, but the Booth rink broke it open in the sixth end and never looked back.

The Spiritwood team earned the gold medal, while NBCHS took home silver, earning both teams the right to advance to Regional Playoffs in St. Walburg.

Spiritwood’s Senior Girls team, skipped by Danica Laventure and featuring Alea Beaulac, Avarie Conacher, and Jessie Allchurch, was pitted against a very worthy opponent in the NBCHS girls team,

with a very close match right to the end.

The strong team from North Battleford Comprehensive High School won by a single point, and once again both teams earned the right to advance to the Regionals in St. Walburg.

Battle West representative, Greg Knot, pointed out, “Even though there are only two teams in the Senior Girls and Senior Boys categories at this first District level, they play each other for not only the medals but for where to be seeded at the Regional competition.”

On the Senior Mixed schedule, there were teams representing Maymont, Luseland and Unity. Their matches resulted in Unity securing the gold medal and Luseland garnering the silver.

Regionals for the Senior Mixed teams were to be played in Lashburn.

Meanwhile, in the Shellbrook area, Districts competition saw Senior Mixed teams from WP Sandin High School and École Debden Public School squaring off in the finals.

In a game that came down to the last rock, the WP Sandin rink, featuring Jake Boettcher, Payten Keyowski, Lane Keyowski, and Marcail Philp, edged

out the Debden foursome by a score of 9-7.

Both teams will advance to compete at Regionals in Melfort on March 2.



WP Sandin’s senior mixed curling team won Districts over Debden. From left to right: coach Pam Boettcher, Jake Boettcher, Payten Keyowski, Lane Keyowski, and Marcail Philp.



Spiritwood High School’s Senior Girls curling team won silver at Districts in Spiritwood. Picture, left to right: Alea Beaulac, Avarie Conacher, Jessie Allchurch, and Danica Laventure.



Spiritwood High School’s Senior Boys curling team won gold at Districts in Spiritwood. Pictured, left to right: Coach Kendra Sanders, Rory Booth, Wyatt Youst, Cooper Woytiuk, Van Slater, Coach Shannon Caffet, and Coach Brandy Swistun.

VILLAGE OF DEBDEN ASSESSMENT ROLL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll of the Village of Debden for the Year 2024 has been prepared and is now open for inspection in the office of the Assessor from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, February 19, 2024 to March 21, 2024 the following days: Tuesday to Thursday inclusive.

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

Any person who wishes to appeal his/her assessment is required to file his/her notice of appeal with: The Assessor, Village of Debden, P.O. Box 400, Debden Saskatchewan S0J 0S0, by 3:00 p.m. on March 21, 2024.

Dated at Debden, Saskatchewan this 19th day of February, 2024.

Tamara Couture
Assessor

RABBIT LAKE HOUSING AUTHORITY TENDER CALL – CARETAKING & MAINTENANCE SERVICES

The Rabbit Lake Housing Authority is seeking tender bids for janitorial, grounds and maintenance services for a portfolio consisting of 10 senior housing units and 1 family house.

The preference is for a single contractor to submit a tender for all three required services. However, the Rabbit Lake Housing Authority reserves the right to consider separate tender submissions for janitorial, grounds or maintenance services or any combination of the three.

Interested parties can direct inquires regarding the details of the required services and tender submission requirement to:

Marlene Martens, Chairperson
Rabbit Lake Housing Authority
PO Box 128
Rabbit Lake, SK S0M 2L0
Telephone: (306) 841-7847

The deadline for tender submissions is 5 p.m., February 28, 2024. Please include references with phone numbers.

PICK OF THE WEEK

(0547UA)
2017 EXPLORER SPORT 4WD

3.5L-V6/ Kylss Entry/ Rmt Strt/ SYNC/ Htd Strng Whl/ Rvrs Snsng/ Rvrs Cmr/ NAV/ Trlr Tw Pkg/ Mn Rf/ Ingot Silver
135kms*



\$34,995*



Toll Free 1-800-667-3353
#2 Highway West, Watrous, SK DL907154
www.centennialford.sk.ca

*Kms and price in thousands. Taxes not included in price.

TOWN OF SHELLBROOK

The Town of Shellbrook is now accepting applications for the following **summer positions**:

- Pool Manager
- Lifeguards/Instructors
- Playground Program Leaders
- Student Labourer
- Campground Attendant

Please submit resumes for summer positions by **March 15th**.

Submit resumes to the Town Office at 71 Main Street, or by
mail: Box 40, Shellbrook, SK S0J 2E0
email: townoffice@townofshellbrook.ca
fax: (306) 747-3111

For more information contact Lydia McQuillan at 306-747-4900 or townoffice@townofshellbrook.ca

Shellbrook charts path forward on water

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

Having decided to step away from a proposed partnership with the Prince Albert Rural Water Utility (PARWU) on an intermunicipal water pipeline, Shellbrook's Town Council has voted to send the Public Works Committee back to the drawing board to come up with new ideas to improve the town's water quality and storage capacity.

The decision to move in a new direction came in a motion passed at council's meeting on Monday, Feb. 5. Per the wording of the motion, the Public Works Committee has until April 22 to review options to address water supply, storage, and treatment and make a recommendation to Council. Meanwhile, the Finance Committee will review and develop a plan to address financial implications (i.e. water rates) and funding for the project by no later than Feb. 29.

Once this is all put together, council will decide, no later than June 10, on proceeding with public engagement on plans for the project at a town hall meeting.

"The basic concept is that we don't see the pipeline as an option," said Mayor Amund Otterson. "So, we're asking Public Works to look at the various requests for proposals we're expecting to get. Once the public works committee has chosen a design, then a motion would be made to put out tenders, engage a contractor, that kind of thing."

Council's decision to proceed this way comes two months after it hosted a town hall meeting on the water issue. There, over the course of nearly three hours, council heard ratepayers' concerns not only about the project, but also about significant increases to water and

sewer rates being considered by council at the time — including a monthly \$50 capital project fee to help cover the costs of either the PARWU pipeline or the upgrade of the town's water treatment plant.

The feedback from ratepayers was enough to make council reconsider both the PARWU project and the proposed rate increases. Now, while no formal motion has been made by council, Mayor Otterson says council is effectively moving towards upgrading the town's water treatment plant.

He notes that council's decision boils down to two key considerations: autonomy over the town's own water system and supply, and control of the price for water — elements that would have been left up to PARWU and the City of Prince Albert, had council opted to pursue the pipeline project.

Asked why the town couldn't just revive the nearly \$8 million multi-phase plan it had been ready to put into motion in 2019, before tabling it to explore the pipeline option, Mayor Otterson said the town wants to consider all options available to it.

"The first step was to add the third green sand filter and continue with greensand filtration. But then there's still that ammonia issue, and that's where the reverse osmosis would come in," he explained, noting there are other pre-treatment options

available.

"The Town of Big River has the same water supply [as Shellbrook], and it's gone with a biological filtration system and abandoned the greensand filters. So, we're looking at the economics of that, so we have the full thing in front of

the Public Works Committee."

Mayor Otterson also notes that the town's multi-phase plan had only been designed up to the first phase, meaning only the plans to activate the third greensand filter had been finalized. He adds that the town would have been "going it alone" in 2019, financing the entire project without the aid of provincial or federal grant money.

Though the longstanding partnership between

the federal government and the provinces on the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program is being retired, council is hopeful a new program will take its place, allowing the whole project to receive grant funding.

For his part, Mayor Otterson says he doesn't want to spend any more money on water until this funding is available.

"It's a major project," he said. "I don't see us turning a wheel until there's infrastructure funding."

Dauvin wins dessert of the month



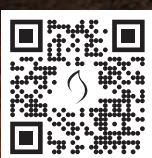
The Spiritwood Public Library presented the first Dessert of the Month for 2024 to Jeannine Dauvin (left). Dana Doucette, Library Board chairperson, was the dessert creator and presenter, offering up a luscious cherry cheesecake just in time for Valentine's Day.

By **HEATHER GATZKE**, Librarian

Reduce Your Energy Use, Increase Your Savings

Get rebates up to \$1,000 when you upgrade your furnace, water heater, boiler or heat recovery ventilator.

Save money and lower your emissions with the Residential Equipment Replacement Rebate.



Scan the QR code or visit us online at saskenergy.com/RERR



It's Easy
to place
a classified!

Phone
306-747-2442

Fax:
306-747-3000

Email:
chads@sbchron.com

Start your Career with Lake Country Co-op

Lake Country Co-op does business differently. As a co-operative, we believe in working together to provide an exceptional experience to customers and members to enhance the success and vibrancy of our communities, delivering profits back, and investing in sustainable growth.

Our Shellbrook location is hiring!

Shellbrook Home Centre
Call Keith Mason 306-747-2101

Full Time Contractor Sales Desk Clerk

Our Lake Country Co-op team members receive competitive salaries, a comprehensive benefits package, and an employer-contributed pension plan.

If this opportunity speaks to you, apply today in person at one of our sites or visit our careers page at www.lakecountryco-op.crs to apply online.

We thank all candidates for their interest; only those selected to continue in the recruitment process will be contacted



RM OF SHELLBROOK NO. 493 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Location: Shellbrook, Saskatchewan
Term: Full Time / Part-time
Hours: Negotiable
Wage: Dependant on experience and qualifications.
Start Date: Negotiable

The RM of Shellbrook No. 493 invites applications for an Administrative Assistant. The position reports to the administration and provides support to the CAO, Ass't CAO and Council. The RM offers a comprehensive benefits package including health and dental benefits, vision and an employer matched pension plan.

Duties include but are not limited to:

- Daily activities including customer service, correspondence, filing, data entry, scanning and receipting
- Accounts payable, receivable and bank reconciliations and bank deposits
- Payroll and government remittance
- Reconcile inventory
- Accepting development & building permit
- Annual assessment roll
- Bylaw and agreement registries
- Council meeting packages
- Taking meeting minutes
- Website maintenance
- Other duties as assigned

Experience and qualifications preferred:

- Excellent communication, interpersonal and organizational skills
- Friendly and courteous demeanor
- Keen attention to detail and ability to multitask and prioritize work
- Proficient with computers including Microsoft 365 (Outlook, Word and Excel)
- The ability to work under deadlines
- Experience in municipal operations, budgeting, financial operations, assessment, taxation and general office management would be considered an asset

Applicants **SHALL** provide a cover letter, detailed resume, at least two work related references, anticipated start date, and wage expectations to:

RM of Shellbrook No. 493
Administrative Assistant Position
Box 250, Shellbrook, SK S0J 2E0
or
Email: admin.493@sasktel.net

Applications must be received at the municipal office by 3:00 pm, March 15th, 2024. If you have questions, please contact our office at 306-747-2178.

The RM of Shellbrook No. 493 wishes to thank all applicants for their interest, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. For further information contact the RM office at 306-747-2178. The successful candidate must be bondable and pass a criminal check.

Sask. Party obfuscation leaves taxpayers in dark

Despite the near-literal Mount Everest of evidence to the contrary, I still choose to believe that people, no matter their political leanings, only get into politics with the best of intentions.

If you look into their backgrounds, those who run for office are almost always leaders in their home communities – people who generously lend their time, effort, and money to support local causes.

Most, I'm sure, enter politics to right some wrong or remedy some injustice they see in society. And when they set foot in the Legislature or the House of Commons for the first time, all bright-eyed and eager, they no doubt have grand aspirations about being the change they wish to see in the world.

Before long, however, something inevitably changes, starting, perhaps, with the realization that politics isn't about individual voices.

It's a hive mind environment, in which party lines are rigid and unmoveable, and any dissent is quickly silenced (just look at Liberal MP Ken McDonald, who one day was calling for Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to face a leadership review, and the next day was acting like he'd never said anything of the sort).

Confronted with the reality that real and meaningful change is not so easy to come by in politics, you might expect these generally good, well-intentioned people to become disillusioned with the whole thing and quit.

And yet, the existence of so many "career politicians" suggests there is some lingering allure to politics, something with the power to make even the most dedicated idealists abandon their ideals in favour of "toeing the party line."

And the older a governing party gets, and the longer a politician serves, the deeper the rot tends to run and the harder it becomes to hide.

Indeed, after 17 years in power, it seems that corruption and a lack of accountability are less the product of simple human error and more a part of the Sask. Party government's culture.

There's simply no other way to interpret the past few months for the Sask. Party, which, to understate it, have been deeply troubling.

First, we had Cut-Knife Turtleford MLA Ryan Domotor, who was arrested in November for trying to solicit sexual services just hours after leaving the leg-



JORDAN TWISS
~
News Editor

islature for the day.

Next, we had Moose Jaw-Wakamow MLA Greg Lawrence, who is facing assault charges stemming from an incident last June.

Mr. Domotor was swiftly, and rightly, ejected from the Sask. Party caucus, while Mr. Lawrence at least had the decency to resign.

Still, the offences committed by the pair are far from a good look for a governing party that's supposed to be all about family values and law

and order.

Since their criminal charges came to light, Both Mr. Domotor and Mr. Lawrence have signalled they won't be seeking re-election this fall.

And in a major blow to the Sask. Party in an election year, they join a growing list of exiting party veterans, which includes Dustin Duncan, Don McMorris, Gordon Wyant, Donna Harpauer, Don Morgan, Dana Skoropad, Delbert Kirsch, Fred Bradshaw, Greg Ottenbreit, and Ken Francis.

Were these ethical lapses by Mr. Domotor and Mr. Lawrence the only incidences of wrongdoing by Sask. Party MLAs, one might be able to dismiss them as isolated blips, a case of two bad apples not being enough to spoil the bunch.

But they have in some ways been overshadowed by the conflict of interest controversy surrounding MLA Gary Grewal and the Ministry of Social Services' use of the Sunrise Motel, which he owns.

Based in Regina, Grewal's Sunrise Motel was thrust into the spotlight in November over its questionable rate increases when Social Services is footing the bill for clients.

The controversy began when 71-year-old Evelyn Harper was evicted from her cockroach-infested government care home in Regina with just three days' notice and had to temporarily move into Grewal's Sunrise Motel.

On her first night at the motel, Ms. Harper paid \$132. The next four nights, the price increased to \$168.55. And soon after Social Services stepped in, the price per night suddenly soared to \$200 – due, Social Services Minister Gene Makowsky said, to a change in the month.

Mr. Grewal, meanwhile, has said he simply owns the business and isn't involved in the day-to-day operations,



which are instead left to his live-in managers.

If not for the Official Opposition, the issue might have been dropped there (and, in fact, the Sask. Party tried to have it dropped by blocking a motion to have the provincial auditor investigate).

But, through months of probing and pressuring Mr. Makowsky for more information on Social Services' policies for covering the costs of clients' hotel stays, we now know there's much more to the story.

During question period on Nov. 21, Mr. Makowsky said Social Services spent \$2.2 million on hotels in 2022-2023. However, documents released after nearly three months of hounding by the Sask. NDP show the ministry actually spent \$3 million.

Most curious, though, is the fact that Mr. Grewal's motel only received \$282 in business from the Sask. Party government before he became a Sask. Party MLA in 2020.

In 2022-2023, his Sunrise Motel charged the government to the tune of \$220,000. And it was on track for a similar year in 2023-2024.

To make matters look even worse, Mr. Grewal said in early December that he didn't own any other hotels in Regina. While technically true, a disclosure form filed with the Conflict of Interest Commissioners shows Mr. Grewal is an investor in Thriftlodge Regina, another motel at which Social Services was paying grossly inflated prices (an average of \$185 per night, when the online

booking rate was just \$90).

With stays at the Thriftlodge factored in, businesses tied to Mr. Grewal made \$384,178 from the government in 2023, accounting for about 12.5 per cent of Social Services' hotel expenditures.

Now, none of these facts are a smoking gun to prove Mr. Grewal guilty of abusing his position for financial gain. But, if there's truly nothing to hide here, why have Mr. Makowsky and the Sask. Party government thrown up roadblocks at the Opposition's every attempt to gather more information?

And why have they only shared information one tiny, misleading morsel at a time?

Alarming, more documents bled out of the Sask. Party by the Opposition show this is becoming the norm for the provincial government.

In response to a freedom of information (FOI) request into provincial drainage policy, the Sask. NDP says it was hit with a \$107,280 bill.

During the 2018-2019 fiscal year, the total cost for all FOI requests was just \$130,200. However, last fiscal year, these costs skyrocketed to \$2,359,322, despite there being 200 fewer requests.

A government working in the best interest of taxpayers shouldn't be making public documents inaccessible. It should be transparent, accountable, and honest.

It's time for members of this long-in-the-tooth Sask. Party government to reflect upon why they ran for office in the first place, and get back to serving the people of Saskatchewan.

Shellbrook Chronicle

Serving the Communities of Shellbrook, Canwood, Debden, Big River, Parkside, Leask, Marcelin, Blaine Lake, Holbein, Mont Nebo, Mayview

Spiritwood Herald

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

Publications Mail Registration #07621

Published Every Thursday Morning

P.O. Box 10, Shellbrook, Sask. S0J 2E0
Phone 306-747-2442 or Fax 306-747-3000

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

Jordan Twiss & Meghan Penney, Co-Publishers

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, Advertising Sales & Composition/Pagination 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.;

Advertising Deadline: Fridays at 4:00 p.m.

Websites: www.shellbrookchronicle.com
www.spiritwoodherald.com

The contents of the Shellbrook Chronicle and Spiritwood Herald are protected by Copyright. Reproduction of any material must be done so with expressed permission of the publisher.

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.

Funded by the Government of Canada
Financé par le gouvernement du Canada



Member of



Report from the Legislature

Feb. 11 to 17 was Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week in Saskatchewan. This year's theme was "Shaping the Future Together," and our government reaffirms its commitment to listening to and collaborating with our educators to improve today's classrooms. To highlight this commitment, our government has made several new investments to improve classrooms across our province.

Nine local teacher-led solutions through the new Teacher Innovation and Support Fund have been selected for funding effective immediately. Announced last month, this program provides \$2.5 million in funding, allowing teachers to work with their school administration to apply for up to \$75,000 to put toward projects that assist in providing better student and teacher experiences within today's classrooms.

Projects range from innovative ideas supporting literacy, mental health and wellness, STEM, and teacher practice. The next round of successful applications will be awarded in the coming weeks, and

the pilot will run until the end of the 2024-25 school year.

Eight Saskatchewan schools have been selected to implement the Specialized Support Classroom Pilot through a \$3.6 million investment. This pilot aims to help staff in schools manage and de-escalate behavioural incidents by helping students practice self-regulation skills while addressing the impacts of classroom disruptions.

An investment of \$32 million for 45 new relocatable classrooms will help increase classroom space throughout the province. Funding is allocated to Regina, Saskatoon, Humboldt, Lloydminster, Lumsden,

Pilot Butte, Warman and Weyburn.

A new formula has been developed to support school enrolment growth. With recent immigration, a new trend has emerged where students continue to arrive in our schools throughout the year. The new formula determines eligibility for post-September enrolment growth funding, taking into account actual growth from October through January and projected growth for the rest of the school year.

Our government thanks the incredibly hard-working teachers and educational staff within this province. We look forward to continuing to work with teachers, schools, and school divisions to improve the experience in Saskatchewan classrooms for all students.

Saskatchewan's labour market is off to a strong start in 2024, with 12,900 new jobs added from January 2023 to January 2024. The provincial labour force also reached a record high for January of 623,300. Building a labour force to support the economy is a top priority to our gov-

ernment and the province is consistently making strategic investments to promote economic growth.

A strong and growing labour force helps Saskatchewan's key industries continue to grow, and our province's agriculture sector just received exciting news on its growth. Our province has posted a fourth consecutive year of record agri-food exports, with shipments totaling \$20.2 billion for 2023. With this record, our province has also surpassed its Growth Plan target of \$20 billion in agri-food exports by 2030.

As Saskatchewan's agriculture industry continues to grow, private sector companies continue to invest and expand in our province. The Louis Dreyfus Company recently announced a new pea protein isolate production plant at the site of its existing industrial complex in Yorkton. This announcement once



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

again shows how Saskatchewan continues to be a great place to invest and do business.

Our strong and growing economy allows our government to invest in the health care system. Saskatchewan physicians and our government recently ratified a new four-year contract, which includes an overall average general rate increase of 2.5 per cent per year and a competitive market rate adjustment applied to the first year of the agreement. The contract

also includes increased funding to support long term retention, parental leave and continuing medical education.

Work also continues under the province's Health Human Resources Action Plan. Since September 2021, 262 physicians have been recruited to the province. The Rural and Remote Recruitment Incentive of up to \$50,000 has resulted in 253 hard-to-recruit positions being filled. A total of 964 nursing graduates have been hired, and 178 registered nurses recruited from the Philippines have arrived in Saskatchewan. Our government continues to make these investments to build our health care system, ensuring you receive the care you need and deserve.

As our government continues to move forward with plans to build and protect our great province, we look forward to hearing from you.

Lofstrom wins Canwood TOPS Valentine's basket



Canwood T.O.P.S. Chapter SK5299 is pleased to announce the winner of its Valentine's Day Basket. The Lucky winner was Marilyn Lofstrom from Canwood (right), who received her prize from Canwood T.O.P.S. leader Linda Lundy. Submitted by THERESA BURGMAIER, CANWOOD T.O.P.S.

Choosing positive actions when you drive can make a real difference, so:

- Give driving your full attention
- Leave yourself and others lots of room and time
- Adjust for road conditions and traffic

Be alert – at intersections and everywhere else on the road.

SGI
Take care out there

sgi.sk.ca/stickwithsafety

Knights of Columbus host Free Throw Competition

By BEVRA FEE
Spiritwood Herald Reporter

The Spiritwood Knights of Columbus hosted the 2024 youth Free Throw Competition on Feb. 12 at the Spiritwood High School gymnasium.

Established in 1972 as an event to offer an athletic outlet to young girls and boys in the age range of 9 to 14, the Knights of Columbus chapter stages a local competition where youth then advance to the provincial level.

“This is our 15th year hosting the Free Throw Competition for the local youth” commented Michael Swityk, a Knights of Columbus member.

Around 35 youth participated by registering prior to the event, and competed in two levels on the evening of Feb. 12. Throwing 25 balls each in the levels of District and State, the fields were narrowed down to finalists in each age category for boys and for girls.

Volunteers from the Knights of Columbus Spiritwood Council #5353 assisted the youth by organizing the age categories, keeping tallies of successful throws, and returning balls to the students at the throwing lines.

Swityk presented the medals to the champions at the end of the evening, wrapping up a very fun two hours of basketball skills.



Volunteers with winners advancing to Provincials, from left to right: Brad Iverson (K of C), Leon Pouliot (K of C), Kasie Hoffman, Niveditha Kurup, Jell Rosal, Lacey Bouvier, Svea Hart, Broden La-voie Charles, Kaidyn Blixrud, Lucas Buswell, Hudson Schmidt, Gage Beuker, Parker Schmidt, Michael Swityk (K of C), and Adrian Poirier (Principal, Rivier School).

Shellbrook Legion names Feb. meat draw fundraiser winners



Volunteers and basketball throwers busy in competition.



Coral Lafond won steaks. Photos courtesy of Henri Dagenais, Shellbrook Legion



Keith Ethier won back ribs.



Lana Adams won pork chops.



SPIRITWOOD DENTAL CLINIC

NOW OPEN!

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS AND EMERGENCIES



306-883-3366

107 Main Street,
Spiritwood, SK S0J 2M0
MON - FRI: 9AM TO 5PM
spiritwooddentalclinic.ca



SCAN ME

ATTENTION: COMMUNITY EVENT ORGANIZERS

HAVE A COMMUNITY EVENT COMING UP?
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR
COMMUNITY CALENDAR DEAL:
\$60 + GST GETS YOU A 2x2 (bus. card size) AD FOR **ONE WEEK PLUS AN EVENT LISTING** IN OUR COMMUNITY CALENDAR FOR AN **ADDITIONAL 2 WEEKS**

THAT'S **3 WEEKS WORTH OF ADVERTISING, DIVIDED UP HOWEVER YOU WISH!**

OUR PAPER IS DELIVERED TO **18 COMMUNITIES WEEKLY**

PHONE: **306.747.2442**
EMAIL: **CHADS@SBCHRON.COM**



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

2024 Starting Strong - 12,900 Jobs Added Year-Over-Year

Statistics Canada shows Saskatchewan's labour market is off to a strong start, with a growing labour force and unemployment rate of just 4.7%. Our government is consistently making strategic investments to promote economic growth and is actively supporting employers to help them train, recruit and retain the talent needed to fill job vacancies and build a skilled workforce.



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

Sask. needs wetland management framework

When you have been writing in the agriculture field for well over three decades you are rather aware that the issue of wetlands, and whether farmers should be able to drain them, is a long-standing issue that is often rather divisive as well.

So, one has to applaud Erika Ritchie, the NDP critic for Environment, SaskWater, and the Water Security Agency, who is at least willing to wade into the issue in a signifi-

cant way.

When it comes to the management of wetlands in Saskatchewan, Ritchie suggests something is missing. She notes Saskatchewan is the only province without a wetland conservation policy, adding that the Provincial Auditor has flagged the need to develop policies around wetland retention and water quality.

That there is no overarching policy in the province suggests a couple things to this writer.



CALVIN DANIELS

To begin with, as Ritchie herself noted in a recent interview with Yorkton This Week, "it's such a complex issue."

It's the complexity of

the issue that no doubt has factored into no policy/act being brought forward before. It's a hornet's nest, where someone will be looking to sting whoever creates legislation because not everyone can possibly be happy.

If you are a farmer with wetlands, you feel you should be able to drain the water and grow crop, and it's hard to alter that vision. You would like to think on your own land you could make such decisions.

Of course, that is dream world stuff. We live in a world where rules abound regarding our own property. Things from not being allowed backyard chickens to produce food, how high fences around our homes

can be, and how many non-licensed cars we might have, are typical rules in a city like Yorkton.

So, legislation to mandate what farmers can do with wetlands is not beyond expectation.

Of course, if the province feels a wetland should not be drained, the most straight forward solution is to acquire those acres, make it crown land, and manage it. But there seems little suggestion that is seriously being considered.

Ritchie, however, is looking to rectify the lack of a provincial policy by introducing a Private Member's Bill 615 (The Comprehensive Wetland Conservation Policy Act).

As part of Ritchie's effort, she is undertaking a

series of eight Wetlands Conservation Consultations. The first in the series was in Regina, and the second was held in Yorkton last Wednesday, with about a dozen in attendance.

In the process of building on any framework though, there needs to be discussion with stakeholders, who have an interest in what is ultimately created. And in that, it's important "to engage in a dialogue," said Ritchie, adding that what the meetings she is undertaking are about.

That is at least a good start to create something palatable to at least most involved in the issue, farmers, environmentalists, recreation users and others.

Glaslyn takes second round playoff lead

By JORDAN TWISS
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

The Glaslyn North Stars have saved their best hockey for the Saskatchewan Prairie Hockey League's postseason, it seems, as they currently sit poised to upset the top-seeded Neilburg Monarchs in round two of the playoffs and book their trip to the finals.

Playing three games over five days last week, the Stars began the gauntlet by closing out their round one series against the Battleford Beaver Blues with a 7-4 win in game three.

As has consistently been the case since he joined the team, Regan Yew led the offensive charge for the Stars with a two goal and one assist evening. William Desjarlais was just behind him with one goal and two assists, Darren Delainey had a goal and one assist, and Ty Anderson, Darian Clarke, and Jaxon Penner all chipped in with single goals.

In the assists column, single helpers came from a diverse cast of players, including Lynden Carey, Wade Davies, Calvin Koczka, Kodi Sawka, Linkin Schwenk, and Robin Yew.

Moving on to a best-of-five second round series against the Monarchs over the weekend, the Stars found themselves facing an opponent that had their number throughout the regular season, beating them in both meetings by scores of 6-3 and 8-3, respectively.

That all changed during game one in Neilburg on Saturday night, as the Stars showed up to win and overpowered the Monarchs by a tally of 8-4.

William Desjarlais had a big night on offence, scoring a hat trick and one assist, while Calvin Koczka notched a hat trick of his own. Regan Yew scored the remaining to Stars goals, and also tallied one assist, while Jaxon Penner and

Robin Yew had three helpers apiece, Ty Anderson earned two assists, and Lynden Carey, Tyler Cross, Wade Davies, and Darren Delainey all had one.

Moving the action to Glaslyn for game two on Sunday night, the Stars once again outshone the Monarchs, this time winning by a score of 8-5.

Regan Yew put up the biggest numbers for the Stars in the win, scoring two goals and three assists, while Ty Anderson has two goals and one assist on the night. Elsewhere, Robin Yew netted two goals for himself, and Darren Delainey and Calvin Koczka both have one goal and one assist.

On the assists side, William Desjarlais earned three, with Lynden Carey and Jaxon Penner tallying two each, and Colton Poulin earning one.

Game three of the series was set to be played in Neilburg on Wednesday (Feb. 21). If needed, game four will be played in Glaslyn on Saturday, Feb. 24. Puck drop for that game is slated for 8:30 p.m.

ADVERTISING DEADLINE IS
FRIDAY 4 P.M.

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

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 1pm - 6pm; Thursday 1pm - 6pm; Friday 1pm - 6pm; Saturday 10am - 3pm. Contact us for more info 306-497-3130, www.wapitilibrary.ca.

BIG RIVER: Wapiti Library - Tuesday 11:30am - 4:30pm; 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 11am - 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.

SPIRITWOOD: Spiritwood Spirited Players present Dis-Order in the Court by Pat Cook @ Spiritwood Civic Centre! Performance only: Thurs., Feb. 29 - Doors Open 6:30pm; Performance 7pm. \$10 @ door (kids under 10 free). Dinner Theatre: Fri. & Sat., Mar. 1 & 2 - Doors Open 6pm; Supper 7pm; Performance to follow. \$50 - Purchase in Advance. For dinner theatre tickets: Visit Martodam Family Retail (118 Main St., Spiritwood) or Contact Cari @ 306-883-7882.

SHELLBROOK: Fundraiser for Norm Farthing who's currently battling cancer. DRAW for Mac Tool Macsimizer 88" 17 Drawer & Power Drawer Work Station w/ M88 27 Line Work Surface. Tickets \$100 - Available at Triple S Transport (56 Main St., Shellbrook). Draw Date: March 2, 2024

CANWOOD: Canwood Regional Park Supper & Auction, Canwood Elks Community Hall - Saturday, March 9, 2024. Refreshments 5pm, Supper 6pm ~ Auction to follow. Adults \$20 / 6-12 yrs \$10 / 5 & Under Free. For information call Bob 306-468-7942 or Grant 306-893-8085. Proceeds to Canwood Regional Park for equipment & building upgrades and spray park.

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%

Available to Non-Profit & Community Organizations Only

Call Now For Further Details

"Don't miss out on letting your Community and others know of your event!"

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

Box 10, Shellbrook, SK S0J 2E0

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

Leafs' Matthews eyeing 70-goal season

At the helm of Canada's team, the Toronto Maple Leafs, is Captain America, Auston Matthews.

Matthews, who grew up in Phoenix, Arizona, is setting the National Hockey League on fire with his goal-scoring prowess and is threatening to become the first NHLer in more than 30 years to hit the 70-goal mark.

Shortly after the all-star break, the Leafs' superstar had potted 42 goals in 49 games. At that pace, he'd hit 70 goals. And there's no reason to suspect he'll be slowing down any time soon. His prolific offence is needed, too, because his Maple Leafs are in a dog-fight for a playoff position — possibly third spot in the Atlantic Division, or at least one of the two wild-card positions available in the Eastern Conference.

After starting the season with back-to-back three-goal games, Matthews, named the Most Valuable Player at this year's all-star game, has since scored hat tricks in two other games,

and recorded four two-goal games. His career goal total is approaching 350 and has him on a potential trajectory to threaten Wayne Gretzky's all-time career record of 892 goals. Ten seasons of 50 goals would put him close to the Great One. He's only 26 and should have at least 10 good years left, but as the hockey world has seen with the slow offensive decline of Alex Ovechkin in his mid- to late-30s, there are no guarantees.

The last 70-goal scorers in the NHL were Teemu Selanne and Alexander Mogilny, who tied for the league lead in 1992-93 with 76 goals. No one has hit 70 since. Seventy goals in one season has been eclipsed 12 other times, by six other players. Gretzky did it four times (his 92 goals in 1981-82 remains the gold standard). Brett Hull hit 70 or more three times, and Mario Lemieux did it twice. The others were Phil Esposito, Jari Kurri and Bernie Nicholls.

While the Leafs have a



BRUCE
PENTON

strong core — Matthews, Mitch Marner, John Tavares and William Nylander are elite — the team's lack of depth and spotty goaltending are the reasons why Toronto is not among the top five or six contenders for the Stanley Cup. Still, Matthews is doing what he can to lift his team to greater heights.

General manager Brad Treliving says Matthews sets a great example for the rest of the team. "His commitment is to be the best," Treliving said. "There's people who have God-given ability, which he has. What nobody sees

is the work that he puts in."

As the NHL winds its way toward the end of the regular season, Leaf fans will be keeping a close eye on the standings, hopeful that their team qualifies for postseason play. But they'll also be vitally interested in watching as Matthews chases the elusive 70-goal mark.

• Mike Bianchi of the Orlando Sentinel: "It's kind of funny to hear Doc Rivers preaching patience after taking over as head coach of the Milwaukee Bucks. Um, Doc, you took over a team that fired Adrian Griffin after he went 30-13 just 43 games into his first season as a head coach. If you want patience, then try fishing; not coaching one of the NBA's best teams."

• Bianchi again: "Did you hear about the marathon runner who ended up in jail? He was resisting a rest."

• A groaner from RJ Currie of sportsdeke.com: "The top three Scotties Tournament of Hearts

curling songs: 3. Sweep Caroline; 2. Rocks-Anne; 1. Brush, Brush, Sweet Charlotte."

• Headline at fark.com: "The Commanders hire Dan Quinn. Can now expect a late-season collapse instead of an early-season collapse."

• Bob Molinaro of pilotonline.com (Hampton, Va.): "Dan Quinn is a 'wow' hire for the Washington Commanders. As in wow, that's the best they could do?"

• Steve Simmons of the Toronto Sun: "The Yankees have added Juan Soto. The Orioles have added Cy Young award winner Corbin Burnes and new ownership. The Blue Jays have added 39-year-old Justin Turner, maybe to DH, maybe to play a little third base. One of these things is not like the others."

• Will Knights of Fried Egg Golf, on the spectacular putting display of Wyndham Clark during his round of 60 at Pebble Beach: "At times it felt like

he was putting into a hole the size of Phil Mickelson's ego."

• Comedy guy Torben Rolfsen of Vancouver: "Leafs can't overcome NHL All-Star championship parade hangover, lose to Isles 3-2."

• Headline at the Canadian parody website The Beaverton: "Republicans claim Taylor Swift part of vast liberal conspiracy to make Americans watch football."

• Headline at the onion.com: "The Onion Celebrates Andy Reid: One Of The Greatest Minds In The History Of Lunch"

• Interesting note from dark.com: "Since the first Super Bowl in 1967, the cost of a 30-second ad has gone up 185x. If these items kept pace with that type of inflation, chicken wings would cost \$43 a pound today (23 cents a pound in 1967) and a six-pack of beer would be \$340."

• Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

U18 Elks bow out of Provincials, U13s advance

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

When the U18 B Shellbrook Elks last took the ice in their journey through Provincials, they scored a stunning comeback win in round one against the Unity Lazars.

Taking on the Biggar National Outlaws in round two, the team was hoping for a better start to the best-of-three series. And in the early going of the first period of game one, played in Shellbrook on Monday, Feb. 12, it looked like they were well on their way to doing just that.

Monday night's game began with some messy back-and-forth action, which saw the teams trade off more hits than shots on goal. Finally, though, the Elks broke the stalemate when Devin Cadrain buried a rebound from the Outlaws' doorstep on assists from Talon Sandry and Hansyn Bahn-iuk.

Given a chance to extend their lead on a power play, the Elks faced stiff opposition from the Outlaws' penalty kill. And gradually, the pendulum began to swing in Biggar's favour, until some late pressure allowed Jeremy Tebb to slip a puck through the fivehole of Elks goalie Leeroy Forbes.

The Elks would go on to end the first period by taking a

penalty, which they managed to kill off at the start of the second frame. But over time, the Outlaws used their size, speed, and superior execution to wear the Elks down, taking a 2-1 lead on an unassisted wraparound goal from Davin Dehr.

The flood gates opened after this and Biggar tacked on three more goals in the second period to take a commanding 5-1 lead, starting with a high blocker-side shot from Luke Myszczyzyn on a 5-on-3 power play for the Outlaws. Cole Bannerman and Vlad McTavish assisted on the goal.

Carter Wakelin was next to strike for the Outlaws, scoring on an offensive rush with an assist from Dehr, and Bannerman closed out the period

by walking out from behind the Elks goal and tucking the puck just inside the post. Myszczyzyn earned the lone assist on the play.

In a quiet third period, the Elks continued to scramble in an effort to cobble together some scoring chances but kept coming up just short.

The Outlaws had the only offensive highlight over the course of 20 minutes, as Wakelin made the Elks pay for taking another penalty by scoring his second goal of the game. Logan Johnson assisted on the goal, which gave the Outlaws a 6-1 win.

Following Monday evening's loss, the Elks travelled to Biggar on Friday evening, once again needing a win in game two of the series, and in

the third and deciding mini-game, to keep their Provincials dream alive.

Though the team put up superior offensive numbers on Friday night, it wasn't enough to keep up with the Outlaws, who secured an 8-5 victory to punch their ticket to round three. There, they'll face the winner of a series between Aberdeen and Kindersley.

U13 Elks advance

The U13 C Shellbrook Elks made the three-hour trip to Kelvington on Thursday, Feb. 15, to meet the Wheat Kings for game two of their second round Provincials series.

The Elks won game one, played in Shellbrook on Feb. 8, by a score of 11-7, and were hoping to cruise to another win to move on to round three. In a slightly lower scoring affair, they got just that, topping the Wheat Kings by a score of 7-4.

The Elks took their time to get going in the opening period of the game, drawing first blood a little after the five-minute mark on a goal from Camdyn Ashby, assisted by Dawson Danberg.

It would be another six minutes before they'd go up 2-0 on a goal from Dominic Reban, assisted by Devlin Capner and Ashby, and they'd take that lead into the second period.

In no rush to score again in the second frame, Reban and

Ashby suddenly rattled off two goals in quick succession to put the Elks up 4-0. Wyatt Smith earned the only assist on both goals.

Gavin Smart made it 5-0 Elks a little later on, assisted by Gabriel Hug and Ashby. And only after this did the Wheat Kings show some signs of life, scoring on a goal from Tyler Choquette, assisted by Treyden Poorman-Nippi, to end the second period down 5-1.

The Elks struck quick in the third and final period, going up 6-1 on a hat trick goal from Reban, assisted by Hunter Loewen, but in the end it was the Wheat Kings who got the better of the scoring opportunities in the third frame.

Kallin Boyko started the scoring for the Wheat Kings on a helper from Ilya Sanderson, but Ashby retaliated for the Elks by scoring his own hat trick goal, unassisted.

The game would end with two goals from the Wheat Kings, scored too little too late, securing the 7-4 win and the series win for the Elks. Hunter Townsend scored the first, with an assist from Parker Mottram, and Sanderson scored the second, on a helper from Everet Herbert.

The Elks will now face the Watrous Hawks in round three of Provincials. Dates for the games haven't been set.



U18 Elks goalie Leeroy Forbes is left reaching for air after being beaten high blocker side by the Outlaws' Luke Myszczyzyn (11).

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

306-747-2442 • chads@sbchron.com

ACCOUNTANT

Weberg Accounting Services

Andrea Weberg
CPTP, DFA-TSS

306-747-2244
Shellbrook

CONSTRUCTION

LAKE COUNTRY CONSTRUCTION
Your Local New Home Builder

- Home & Farm Building Construction
- Framing
- Concrete Work
- Siding & Windows

Serving Spiritwood & surrounding area

Cell – 306-883-7003
Murray Loewen

ELECTRICIAN

3D ELECTRIC
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • FARM • INDUSTRIAL

Glen Jantz
306-984-7634, Leoville
gjantz@gmail.com
Licenced & Bonded

ELECTRICIAN

J&H Electric

Residential, Commercial & Agricultural
Wiring & Trenching
Skid Steer Service

Jake Verbonac
306-747-9073
Serving Shellbrook & Surrounding area

FUNERAL SERVICES

Beau Lac

FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORIUM
"Faces you know, people you trust at a time you need them the most"

306-747-2828 (24 hrs.)
101 Railway Ave. W., Shellbrook, SK

Monument Sales & Pre-arrangements Available

Shellbrook – Spiritwood – Big River – Debden
Prince Albert – Canwood – Leask
www.beaulacfuneralhome.com

FUNERAL SERVICES

North Country GRAVESTONES
SHELL LAKE

AFFORDABLE HIGH QUALITY FAST SERVICE

Call Ken
306-883-1203

HEARING

SPIRITWOOD HEARING CENTRE

Call today for your Hearing Test!

1-306-883-3997

Hearing Aid Sales and Services
101 Main Street, Spiritwood

INSURANCE

TAIT INSURANCE GROUP INC

email: office@taitinsurance.ca
www.taitinsurance.ca

Shellbrook **306-747-2896**
Canwood **306-468-2227**
Leask **306-466-4811**

1-877-898-8248 (TAIT)
General, Health & Hail Insurance
Motor License Issuer

LAWYER

Law Office DELBERT DYNNA

100A - 10th St. East
Prince Albert, SK S6V 0Y7

phone (306) 764-6856
fax (306) 763-9540

Preferred areas of practice:
Wills, Estates, Real Estate

LAWYER

NOVUS LAW GROUP
Wilcox Holash McCullagh

Bill Cannon, in person, by appointment
52 Main Street, Shellbrook
306-922-4700

All lawyers, Monday - Friday,
1200 Central Ave., Prince Albert
306-922-4700

LAWYER

NOVUS LAW GROUP
Wilcox Holash McCullagh

Shelley Cannon, in person, by appointment
124 1st St. E., Spiritwood
Rear Building Entrance
306-922-4700

All lawyers, Monday - Friday,
1200 Central Ave., Prince Albert
306-922-4700

MECHANIC

TM Truck & Trailer

- Truck and Trailer Inspections
- School Bus Inspections
- Diesel Tuning
- Diagnostics Services
- Fully Licensed

SGI ACCREDITED

Call for more information
306-747-7711

PLUMBING

SHELLTOWN PLUMBING & HEATING

Courteous, professional, reliable, plumbing, heating, gas fitting services

Ph: 306-747-4332
Shellbrook, Sask.
LENNOX

REAL ESTATE

RE/MAX
RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL - FARM

Bevra Fee, Realtor®
(306) 883-7058
RE/MAX OF THE BATTLEFORDS
each office independently owned & operated
bevrafee@sasktel.net

1391 100th St
NORTH BATTLEFORD, SK
S9A 0P9
Office: 306-466-8800
SPIRITWOOD'S REALTOR®...SERVING THE REGION!

REAL ESTATE

Cailyn Malmberg REALTOR®

BOYES GROUP REALTY INC.

Specializing in Residential & Rural Real Estate

Call/Text: 306.715.1411
cailynmalmberg@gmail.com

REAL ESTATE

BUYING OR SELLING FARMLAND?

Gerald Muller FARMLAND SPECIALIST
306-570-7743
skfarmland.ca

C&C REALTY
EST. 1993

ADVERTISE HERE

This Space Is Waiting For You

Keep Your Business In The Public Eye And A Quick Reference At Your Customer's Finger Tips.

Call Today:
306-747-2442

REAL ESTATE

RICK REDDEKOPP
306-371-6450
"YOUR LOCAL REALTOR"

ROYAL LEPAGE
SASKATOON REAL ESTATE
saskhousehunters.ca

REAL ESTATE

Heather Sarrazin
LAKE COUNTRY'S LOCAL REALTOR®
Residential | Cottage | Agricultural | Commercial

306.883.7449
Call or text

Located in Shell Lake and proudly supporting & serving our local communities!

RE/MAX
North Country
www.heathersarrazin.com

REAL ESTATE

The Brand you know, the name you Trust
Your Local Realtor™ ... Working Hard ...
To Sell Ag, Residential, Cottage & Commercial Properties For You!

Shawna Schira-Kroeker
Your Local Realtor®
306-441-1625 (cell)
ssk@littleloon.ca

RE/MAX
North Country
Each Office Independently Owned & Operated
www.shawnaschirakroeker.com

ADVERTISE HERE

This Space Is Waiting For You

Keep Your Business In The Public Eye And A Quick Reference At Your Customer's Finger Tips.

Call Today:
306-747-2442

SERVICE CALL

Your Guide to Home Services and Repair Professionals



THE CLASSIFIEDS

Phone
306-747-2442

Fax
306-747-3000

Email
chads@sbchron.com

P.O. Box 10, Shellbrook, SK S0J 2E0
Advertising Deadline - Friday: 4:00 p.m.

Subscriptions
\$80.00 + \$4.00 (GST) = \$84.00/year

Shellbrook Chronicle
Reaching over 10,000 people weekly.
Personal Classifieds:
\$16.00 for 20 words + 20¢ per additional word for the 1st week.
Additional weeks: \$8.00/week + GST.
Classified Display:
\$26.25/column inch. Minimum 2 column inches = \$52.50 + GST.
For All Other Advertising Please Contact Our Office at:
Ph: 306-747-2442 or Fax: 306-747-3000
Email:
news: chnews@sbchron.com
advertising: chads@sbchron.com

SWNA Blanket Classifieds
Reaching over 6 million people weekly.
Cost for 25 words:
Saskatchewan market.....\$209.00
One Zone\$86.00
Two Zone\$123.00
Alberta market\$269.00
Manitoba market\$189.00
BC market.....\$395.00
Ontario market.....\$439.00
Western Ontario\$155.00
Central Ontario\$129.00
Eastern Ontario\$145.00
Northern Ontario\$90.00
Quebec market
English\$160.00
Atlantic market\$200.00
Across Canada\$1,977.00
Also Available: Quebec (French)\$967.00

Career Ads
Reaching Over 600,000 People Weekly
Rates: \$7.79 per agate line
Size: 2 col. x 2"\$424.00
Deadline for Booking/Material
Friday at 4 p.m.
Contact the Shellbrook Chronicle
306-747-2442
or Email:
chads@sbchron.com
All prices plus applicable taxes.
NOTICE
This newspaper accepts advertisements in good faith. We advise that it is in your interest to investigate offers personally. Publications by this paper should not be taken as an endorsement of the product or services offered.

TAX ENFORCEMENT LIST
RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF BIG RIVER NO. 555 PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN
Notice is hereby given under *The Tax Enforcement Act* that unless the arrears of taxes and costs appearing opposite the land described in the following list are fully paid before the 23rd day of April, 2024, the treasurer will proceed to register an interest based on a tax lien in the Land Titles Registry in accordance with Section 10 of *The Tax Enforcement Act*. Note: A sum for cost in the amount of \$12.07 is included in the amount shown against each parcel (Section 4(3) of *The Tax Enforcement Act*).

Lot 1 Blk 2 PL 89B10650 \$791.95
Lot 7 Blk 31 PL BR763 \$3,912.26
Lot 9A Blk 01 PL 102070314 \$2,279.95
Lot 4 Blk 5 PL AE598 \$585.70
Blk A PL AE598 \$649.83
Lot 11 Blk 2 PL 82B12420 \$639.02
Lot 12 Blk 2 PL 82B12420 \$901.93
Lot 11 Blk 2 PL 84B11865 \$1,289.37
Lot 9 Blk 101 PL 101926728 \$1,882.71
Lot 11 Blk 102 PL 101926728 \$713.75
Lot 7 Blk 104 PL 101926728 \$675.22
Lot 8 Blk 104 PL 101926728 \$675.22
Lot 22 Blk 1 PL 101929596 \$477.54
Lot 13 Blk 2 PL 102004603 \$699.97
Lot 8 Blk 3 PL 102004603 \$2,564.60
Lot 1 Blk 1 PL 102054147 \$648.42
Lot 9 Blk 2 PL 102054147 \$647.65
Lot 2 Blk 4 PL 102054147 \$2,607.39
Blk C PL 102051728 \$468.21
Lot 1 Blk 1 PL 102061886 \$3,787.57
Lot 2 Blk 4 PL 102239568 \$938.11
Lot 2 Blk 5 PL 102254666 \$978.06
Lot 8 Blk 4 PL 102254666 \$696.72
Lot 16 Blk 4 PL 102297955 \$648.77
Lot 1 Blk 7 PL 102297955 \$648.78
Lot 13 Blk 7 PL 102283769 \$649.55
Lot 8 Blk 6 PL 102329300 \$649.93
Lot 12 Blk 9 PL 102347423 \$615.52
Lot 6 Blk 5 PL 102391635 \$2,839.80
PT NW 10-55-7-W3 \$1,156.66
PT SE 14-55-7-W3 \$189.21
PT SE 14-55-7-W3 \$180.31

LIVESTOCK FOR SALE
HORSESHOE CHAROLAIS Annual Bull Sale - At the Ranch, near Kenaston, SK. Saturday, March 9th, 2:00 PM. Selling 50 yearling bulls and 20 two year olds. Semen tested. Call Layne or Paula Evans (306)252-2246. Layne (306)561-7147
Catalogue, videos, and online bidding will be on DLMS.ca 6-10

IN MEMORY
MAY BE PUT IN THE CHRONICLE & HERALD FOR **\$25.00*** (30 WORDS)
20¢ PER ADDITIONAL WORD
PHOTO - \$10.00
Shellbrook Chronicle Spiritwood Herald
PHONE: **306-747-2442**
FAX: **306-747-3000**
EMAIL: **CHADS@SBCHRON.COM**

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
Ready to turn your Rick Mercer worthy rants into real change? Seeking passionate people to create a Saskatchewan Green Party Saskatchewan Rivers constituency association. Be part of the mischief, the mirth, and monumental change towards principled politics! Connect with Nancy. Carswell@gmail.com (306-747-3769). 03-08

PT SE 16-55-7-W3 \$1,755.70
NE 10-55-8-W3 \$1,650.53
SE 15-55-8-W3 \$224.60
PT NW 35-55-8-W3 \$1,321.90
NE 2-56-6-W3 \$282.62
NW 2-56-6-W3 \$483.22
SE 2-56-6-W3 \$515.34
SW 2-56-6-W3 \$597.57
NE 12-56-6-W3 \$208.55
PT SW 12-56-6-W3 \$184.88
PT SW 20-56-6-W3 \$848.82
PT SW 20-56-6-W3 \$183.88
PT NW 31-56-6-W3 \$161.53
NE 2-56-8-W3 \$1,012.10
PT SE 3-56-8-W3 \$674.97
SW 12-56-8-W3 \$532.76
NW 14-56-8-W3 \$464.06
NE 15-56-8-W3 \$396.55
SE 22-56-8-W3 \$747.54
PT NW 36-56-8-W3 \$2,447.88
PT SW 12-56-10-W3 \$1,167.67
SE 8-56-11-W3 \$3,077.24
PT SE 2-57-8-W3 \$654.13
Dated this 22nd day of February, 2024
Michael Yuzik,
Chief Administrative Officer

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN THE ESTATE OF STANLEY GERALD TRAVNICK, LATE OF SHELLBROOK, SK, DECEASED. All claims against the above estate, duly verified by statutory declaration and with particulars and valuation of security held, if any, must be sent before March 11, 2024 to: DELBERT DYNNA LAW OFFICE 100A - 10th St. East Prince Albert, SK S6V 0Y7 2-08

LIVESTOCK FOR SALE
BIG VALLEY CHAROLAIS - Charolais yearling bulls, moderate framed with ease of calving. Located at Mayfair, SK. Call Ervin (c) 306-549-7485 (h) 306-246-4673 8-14
BLACK AND RED ANGUS Yearling and two-year-old Bulls on moderate growing ration. Adrian Edwards, Valleyhills Angus - Glaslyn, SK. PH: 306-441-0946. 21-26

CLASSIFIEDS WORK!
306-747-2442

PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

LUTHERAN CHURCH
Zion - Canwood
Sunday School,
Worship Sunday, 9 a.m. (in-person only)
St. John's - Shellbrook
Sunday School,
Worship Sunday, 11 a.m. (in-person and online via Facebook live)
Rev. Emmanuel Aristide

ANGELICAN 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

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
Parkside
11 a.m. - Worship

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

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


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

CATHOLIC CHURCH
Debden
Sun. Mass - 9:30 a.m.
Fr. Mariusz Zajac
Big River - Sacred Heart
Sun., 11:30 a.m. - Mass
Whitefish
Sun., 2:30 p.m. - Mass.
Victoire
Sat., 7:30 p.m. - Mass.
Fr. Mariusz Zajac
St. Agatha's - Shellbrook
Mass - Sunday 11 a.m.
St. Henry's - Leask
Mass - Sunday 9 a.m.
Mistawasis
1st & 3rd Sundays 1:30 p.m.
Fr. Tuan Doan

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

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

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



WHEN IT COMES TO SELLING YOUR VEHICLE, NOTHING GOES THE DISTANCE LIKE THE CLASSIFIEDS!

Get your show on the road by calling us today!

FOR SALE
CARS • TRUCKS • MOTORCYCLES
ATVS • FARM VEHICLES
EVEN CAMPERS AND 5TH WHEELS

Shellbrook Chronicle Spiritwood Herald
306-747-2442
Fax: 306-747-3000
chads@sbchron.com

PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

PARTNERS IN FAITH
Lutheran/United/
Christchurch Anglican,
137-2nd St. W.
Spiritwood
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Rev. Sarah Urano

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

UNITE /ANGELICAN
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

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

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

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

BELBUTTE FULL GOSPEL
11 am Worship Service

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

blanket classifieds

The SWNA and its Member Newspapers cooperatively deliver your message to more than half a million readers every week.

AGRICULTURE	FEED AND SEED	HEALTH	LAND FOR SALE	WANTED	LAND FOR SALE
 <p>Integrity Post Frame Buildings SINCE 2008 Built with Concrete Posts Barns, Shops, Riding Arenas, Machine Sheds and More sales@Integritybuilt.com 1-866-974-7678 www.integritybuilt.com</p>	<p>Buying/Selling FEED GRAINS heated / damaged CANOLA/FLAX Top price paid FOB FARM Western Commodities 877-695-6461 Visit our website @ www.westerncommodities.ca</p> <p>WE BUY DAMAGED GRAIN HEATED... LIGHT BUGS... TOUGH MIXED GRAIN SPRING THRASHED WHEAT... OATS PEAS... BARLEY CANOLA... FLAX "ON FARM PICKUP" WESTCAN FEED & GRAIN 1-877-250-5252</p>	<p>HIP/KNEE Replacement? Other medical conditions causing TROUBLE WALKING or DRESSING? The Disability Tax Credit allows for \$2,500 yearly tax credit and \$20,000 Lump sum refund. Apply NOW; quickest refund Nationwide! Expert Help: 1-844-453-5372</p>  <p>FARM STRESS LINE IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING SYMPTOMS OF STRESS, THE FARM STRESS LINE IS AVAILABLE 24/7 AT 1-800-667-4442</p> 	<p>FARMLAND WANTED I am currently PURCHASING single to large blocks of land. NO FEES OR COMMISSIONS Saskatchewan born and raised, I know farming and farmland and can help you every step of the way. Doug Rue, for further information 306-716-2671 saskfarms@shaw.ca www.sellyourfarmland.com</p> <p>PROVINCE-WIDE CLASSIFIEDS. 49 local community newspapers, distributing to over 450 communities, including 14 cities. Reach over 550,000 readers weekly. Call 306-649.1405 or visit www.swna.com</p>	<p>Wanted old advertising: Dealership signs, service station, gas pumps, globes, oil cans, Red Indian, White Rose, Buffalo, Husky, Ford, GM, Dodge, Tire signs, Coke, Pepsi etc. Call 306-221-5908</p> <p>WANTED Coins, Coin Collection, Old Jewelry, Bullion +! Cash paid for silver coins, gold coins, rare coins, old coins & paper \$, Olympic coins, Royal Canadian Mint Coins, Franklin Mint, US Mint etc, unwanted jewelry, old Rolex & Omega watches, nuggets, sterling silver, Bullion, all Gold & Silver! Wanted: USA, Canada, World Coin Sets & Coin Collections. Will buy entire collections & accumulations! Todd 250-864-3521</p>	  <p>Polar Bear Day Tour Friday November 8th departure from Saskatoon. www.classiccanadiantours.com Ph: 1-866-460-1415</p>

Advertisements and statements contained herein are the sole responsibility of the persons or entities that post the advertisement, and the Saskatchewan Weekly Newspaper Association and membership do not make any warranty as to the accuracy, completeness, truthfulness, or reliability of such advertisements. For greater information on advertising conditions, please consult the Association's Blanket Advertising Conditions on our website at www.swna.com.

LOCAL MATTERS.
Support advertisers that power your community voice.




NEWSPAPERS MATTER
NOW MORE THAN EVER

Go to www.swna.com Book your Blanket **ONLINE**



Whether they're thumbing through pages or swiping to the next article, 4 in 5 people in Canada read the news each week — by print, online or digitally.

Learn more at championthetruth.ca

News Media Canada
Médias d'Info Canada

CANADA'S NEWS MEDIA
CHAMPIONS OF THE TRUTH

OBITUARIES

Larry Roy Bather



the boys to calmer times.

Larry went on to make a family of his own in Canwood, 5 children who were all proud to call him dad, 3 grandchildren who called him grandpa and many friends that enjoyed spending time with Larry.

He had a variety of different jobs that had seen him through his working years, always making lifelong friends wherever he went.

Larry passed away in his home on Sunday, February 11, 2024, at the age of 69 years. He leaves behind his children and their families: Terry Bather, Stephen Bather, Matthew (Nicole Rinas) Bather and daughter Sloane Bather, Kaitlyn (Ryan Demers) Bather, Hannah (Patrick Filion) Bather and children Dominick and Masen Filion; his brothers, Marvin (Diane) Bather, Edward Bather, Lloyd

Larry was born in Canwood area to Helen and Wynn Bather on July 15, 1954, 1 of 6 children. Larry was the 5th boy to bless the Bather crew, with baby sister Sandra to follow.

The Bather family lost their mother Helen in 1961, with their dad following in 1970.

There are many stories of how the boys navigated those difficult years without their parents. Much appreciation could be given to a few special ladies who helped guide

Bather, his sister Sandra Grumbo (Dale Balan); as well as countless friends who will miss his visits.

Larry was predeceased by his parents, Helen & Wynn Bather; his brother Clarence Bather; his sister-in-law Shirley Bather and his special aunt and uncle Alice and Carl Pearson.

There will be a Graveside Service held for Larry in July of 2024 to be announced.

Memorial donations may be made in memory of Larry to the Prince Albert SPCA (Box 1832 Prince Albert, SK S6V 6J9).

Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home & Crematorium, Tammy Smart Shellbrook, 306-747-2828.

Diana "Diane" Eva Marie Greenard

Diana "Diane" Eva Marie Greenard (née: Gagne), passed away on Friday, February 9, 2024, at Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon, SK at the age of 76. Diane was born in Spiritwood, Saskatchewan and lived on a farm in Laventure, SK. Diane attended a country school three miles away by horse-drawn carts and cabooses driven by her eight-year-old brother. Later, she went to Spiritwood school fifteen miles away by a home-made bus (a box in the back of a pickup).

At age 16, Diane got a job housekeeping and then she worked as a telephone operator in Spiritwood. When she was 18 years old, she was asked to be bridesmaid for a cousin in Port Alberni, BC. It is then that she decided to move to BC at age 18 and worked at A&W in Port Alberni. Diane got married in 1967 and had two children

shortly afterwards. She moved to various towns in Alberta and BC following construction jobs. Diane moved to Coquitlam in 1987 and a few years after that moved back to Spiritwood where she eventually purchased her mother's house and renovated it.

In November 2017, Diane moved to Saskatoon to be closer to medical care and her two sisters and aunt who provided lots of support. She moved into McClure Place where she found the staff and residents caring and welcoming. She enjoyed the many group activities including exercise sessions, dance lessons and learning new card games. Diane also enjoyed sewing, knitting, cooking, doing puzzles, shopping, reading, games on her iPad, and cooking.

Diane is survived by son Kevin Greenard, grandson Hunter

Greenard-Zahara, granddaughter Hannah Greenard-Zahara, sister Adele Horn (brother-in-law Jim Horn), sister Rita Goertzen, sister in-law Laurelle Gagne and numerous nieces, nephews, family members, and friends. Diane is predeceased by son Keith Greenard, sister Agnes Lafreniere, brother Leon Gagne, brother-in-law Ivan Goertzen, brother-in-law Leo Lafreniere, father Emile Gagne, and mother Noelie Gagne (Schaan).

A small private celebration of life will be held later. No flowers and no donations. Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home and Crematorium, Lori Saam Funeral Director, Spiritwood, SK (306) 883-3500.

Spiritwood Lions award grant to Northern Spirit 4-H

By BEVRA FEE
Spiritwood Herald
Reporter

Twice each year, the Spiritwood & District Lions Club gives out \$800 to non-profit groups in the area that submit applications. The criteria leans toward clubs and charitable organizations that build community, and the funds are derived from the Saskatchewan Lottery Fund.

The most recent recipient of the community grant is the Northern Spirit 4-H Club. With a 4-H motto of "Learn to do by doing," members participate in various projects that range from cooking to small engines, beef, sheep, and light horse. The club has expanded to 33 members in the five projects, and the funds have been designated to buying supplies that are required in the projects.

"We will use the grant money to supply the small engines project members with safety equipment and supplies, while the cooking project members will receive support for buying ingredients for their lessons. The beef members will use funding to buy material for making rope halters for their animals, while the light horse members will be able to attend an upcoming workshop day. The sheep

club will also receive funds to purchase supplies they need for learning how to tend and care for sheep," reports Lisa Rose, Northern Spirit 4-H Club Leader.

The next round of applications for the Lions grant will be solicited in May for selection in June. All applications are retained on file for the year, in order to be considered in the June round along with any newly submitted applications.



Lion Megan Allard (left) presents the cheque to Lisa Rose for the Northern Spirit 4H Club.

GOOD NEWS

A HEAVENLY HUG

By LORNE VALUCK
Parkside Pentecostal Church

Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls (Matthew 11:28-29 NLT).

I will go home to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant."

So, he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him (Luke 15:18-20 NLT).

You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies.

You honor me by anointing my head with oil. My cup overflows with blessings.

Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life (Psalm 23 NLT).

I met Mark a few years ago in the hospital for a visit and prayer. He was fighting for his life, and recovered. I had more good conversations with Mark in the hospital, and later around our community where he lived and worked.

Some time later, just five days before he passed away, I had a visit with Mark at his Grandmother's house. We talked about goals, plans and dreams, enjoying a great time on his deck.

Before I left, I asked Mark if I could pray with him. He had some decisions coming up — some choices and changes he had to make.

I appreciate that He was always open to prayer.

I asked God for direction, wisdom,

and an awareness of His presence and love.

After our time of prayer, Mark's comment was interesting.

"Thanks Lorne," he said. "That felt like a hug."

A couple weeks later, I shared that with his stepmom, and she told me that hugs meant a lot to Mark.

A thought came to me, that like Mark, we have the opportunity to experience the embrace, the "hug" of God the Heavenly Father.

Romans 2:4 tells us, "The goodness of God calls us to repentance". His goodness is meant to help us recognize our need, and His ability and desire to meet that need.

As we read from the scripture earlier, God loves us and offers eternal life, blessings, and care, but we have to repent of our sins, and accept His offer of reconciliation and salvation through Jesus in order to benefit.

You may have given a hug to someone, and the "love" just wasn't reciprocated.

Maybe it was a child who would rather be playing or watching TV than getting a hug from auntie or grandpa. Maybe it was someone you'd been on the "outs" with, and they hadn't quite warmed back up to you yet. So, you may know what it feels like to have your expression of love or care disregarded or not appreciated.

Today, let's recognize the Heavenly Father's loving embrace, His "hug" offered to us, and receive His love, care, and restoration to a wonderful relationship with Him.

"Father God. Thank you for Your patience with me, Your grace toward me, and Your love that keeps on pursuing me."

Hey! It's February, the Month of Love. I pray you experience God's love in a special way today.

**PUT YOUR MONEY
WHERE YOUR HOUSE IS** 

Support the local businesses that support your
local newspaper.

Canada 

ADVERTISE
LOCAL 