

École Debden Public School fêtes grads



École Debden Public School's class of 2024. Back row, from left to right: Layne Ferster, Kayden Amundson, Leland Peterson, and Chase Wutzke. Front row: Mareika Thomas, Dajahnae Stieb, Rose Fry, Kara Thiessen, Ayla Peterson, and Rhyan Amundson.

By **CORINE AMUNDSON**
School Secretary

With the announcement of the STF job sanctions being lifted at 4 p.m. on June 14th, a wave of relief and happiness was felt from the students, staff, and parents. This news meant that École Debden Public School was able to proceed with its original plans for the evening graduation ceremony.

The graduates chose the theme "In the Blink of an Eye," and this certainly captured the feeling of how quickly the time has passed for the students and staff.

The ceremony began with MCs, Kaiden Couture and Kyan Bilodeau, who welcomed guests. Then, Mr. Tetreault, the school's vice principal, introduced the 10 graduates. Next, greetings were given by Superintendent, Mr. Michaud, and Mrs. Schwehr gave her principal's message, followed by the valedictorian address by Rhyan Amundson.

Mrs. Schwehr and Mr. Tetreault handed out scrolls to all the graduates, as well as acknowledged the students who received honours, high honours, and other awards.

Rhyan Amundson received the Biology, Calculus, English, Mathematics, Physical Education, Physics, and Most Proficient awards. She graduated with high honours distinction.

Kayden Amundson received the Greatest Improvement, Practical and Applied Industrial Arts, and Sportsmanship awards. He graduated with honours distinction.

Ayla Peterson received the Français, History, and Mathematics awards. She also received the Shaye Amundson Cheering You On Scholarship and the Diamond North Credit Union Member Scholarship, and graduated with high honours distinction.

Kara Thiessen received the Attendance, Chemistry, English, Practical and Applied Arts, Home Economics, and Outstanding School Involvement

awards. She received the Prince Albert & Area Teachers' Association Scholarship, the Diamond North Credit Union Member Scholarship, and bursaries from the RM of Canwood and the Opening Doors to Tomorrow Career & Job Fair, and graduated with high honours distinction.

Dajahnae Stieb received the Congeniality award, as voted on by her peers, and she graduated with high honours distinction.

Rose Fry and Mareika Thomas both graduated with honours distinction.

Finally, the Governor General award for the 2022-2023 school year was presented by Board Trustee, Mr. Bill Gerow, to Kayce Vaadeland.

The second half of the graduation ceremony was the Grand March of the grads and their escorts in formal attire. The graduates then thanked the staff and parents, followed by the traditional heartfelt rose ceremony.

Next, Leland Peterson and Rhyan Amundson entertained with the

"Most Likely To" and "Predictions" for the graduates.

The ceremony ended with a personal slideshow showcasing the graduates throughout the years. Thanks to the Grade 11 parents, a delicious lunch was served after the ceremony, while family, friends, and graduates mingled in the gym to wrap up a beautiful evening.

Although it was a tough year for the class of 2024 with the passing of their beloved teacher, Mr. Prosser, not to mention the teacher sanctions, these students were resilient and demonstrated hard work and determination to finish off the school year. We wish them all the best.

Congratulations Class of 2024. École Debden Public School's Class of 2024 is: Kayden Amundson, Rhyan Amundson, Layne Ferster, Rose Fry, Ayla Peterson, Leland Peterson, Dajahnae Stieb, Kara Thiessen, Mareika Thomas, and Chase Wutzke.

More photos on page 2

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École Debden Public School fêtes grads



Kara Thiessen (left) and Ayla Peterson (right) accept \$1,000 Diamond North Credit Union Member Scholarships from Joel Bilodeau.



Rhyan Amundson snaps a quick selfie of herself and her fellow graduates prior to delivering her valedictorian address.



Rhyan Amundson presents the Shaye Amundson Cheering You On memorial scholarship to Ayla Peterson.

Kinettes take over Shellbrook Community Hall

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

As of July 1, the Shellbrook Community Hall will officially be under new ownership.

The building, originally built and operated by the Shellbrook Elks before being handed over to the Town of Shellbrook, has been taken over by the Shellbrook Kinettes, returning it to its roots as a facility operated by a community group.

Kinette Tasha Cyr says the town approached the club to see if it would have any interest in taking the facility on earlier

this year, while the two parties were meeting to finalize a partnership to set up six dog waste stations around the community.

Unsurprisingly, the club was up to the task.

“We have this great group of ladies that are amazing and ready to take on new adventures and challenges,” Cyr said.

“When we were first approached with this idea, I was a little leery of how we would do it. We discussed at a meeting and there was nothing but positive thoughts and ideas.”

Going forward, Cyr says the Kinettes and

the Town of Shellbrook are working closely together to help the group’s members learn the ropes of managing and maintaining the facility. All pre-existing bookings of the facility will be

honoured, and renters have been advised of the change in ownership to ensure things run smoothly.

As for what the future of the facility holds, Cyr says the Kinettes have al-

ready been brainstorming all sorts of plans.

“This group has so many wonderful ideas,” she said. “We hope we can have this place busy and used to its full potential. Be it birthday

parties, Mommy & Me activities, local community group meetings and events, and all big events. We want to keep it as a part of our community and maybe get a few regular activities going.”



Come July 1, the Shellbrook Community Hall will be operated by the Shellbrook Kinettes.

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Saskatchewan Rivers

Spiritwood 11U ball team wins league title

By BEVRA FEE
Spiritwood Herald Reporter

In its inaugural season, the Spiritwood 11U baseball team got off to a great start. The team completed the season with a record of 14-1-1, which included league games and tournaments.

Spiritwood 11U baseball joined the Turtle River Minor Ball League, which

was comprised of 21 teams. This year, Turtleford hosted the A finals, which consisted of the top six teams from the league.

Spiritwood went 4-0 in the tournament to take home first place, beating Maidstone 14-13 in a dramatic championship game that needed to go to two extra innings in order to decide the winner.



Spiritwood's 11U baseball team won the league championship. Back row, left to right: Chris Robinson (head coach), William Buswell, Cameron Gaboury, Huxley Kotun, Dominic Madsen, Drew Haggarty, JR Bussiere (assistant coach), and Dustin Smolinski (assistant coach). Front row: Ashton Marion, Marshal Wingerter, and Aidan Smolinski. Missing: River Andrews, Scott Haggarty (assistant coach), Adam Kotun (assistant coach), Brittany Kotun (manager), and Elliot Kajner (organizer).

Debden Library hosts Storywalk

By ALINE HANNON
Branch Librarian

The Debden Public Library brought the TD Summer Reading Club's Storywalk to the Debden School on Tuesday, June 18.

Close to 60 elementary school students enjoyed the experience of walking in nature (luckily, it didn't rain) and read the Storywalk story *The Darkest Dark*, written by Chris Hadfield and

illustrated by The Fan Brothers.

Librarian Aline Hannon introduced the story and how the Storywalk works, while encouraging the students to enjoy their upcoming summer vacation and remember that reading is so important.

The Debden Library holds the TD Summer Reading Club each summer, the students were told about all the fun activities available and the end of summer prizes.



Elementary school students take part in the TD Summer Reading Club's Storywalk, hosted by the Debden Public Library.

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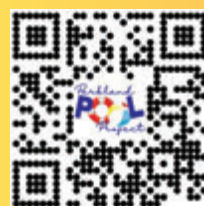
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Moe abandons leadership to court conspiracists

For much of its history, Canada has effectively been a country in which elections boil down to a choice between two parties that have a credible chance of forming government (usually Conservative or Liberal parties).

While the past few years have offered a rare example of Jagmeet Singh's federal NDP carving out enough power to influence Justin Trudeau's Liberal government through their supply and confidence agreement, such cases are the exception rather than the rule.

Indeed, though Elections Canada lists 17 registered federal political parties, only five of those parties will win a seat in any given election. And of those five, the Bloc Québécois has no real sway outside of Québec and the Green Party gets just enough support to stick around from one election to the next.

The electoral picture isn't much different at the provincial level, where the Saskatchewan Party and the Sask. NDP are the two juggernauts duking it out for control of the legislature. But recent years have seen a groundswell of change bubbling just beneath the surface.

When she resigned from the Sask. Party caucus in 2021 over claims she misrepresented her COVID-19 vaccine status, it was easy to dismiss Saskatchewan Rivers MLA Nadine Wilson as little more than a disgruntled pandemic denier. And the same held true when she officially formed the Saskatchewan United Party in 2022.

At the time of its founding, few would have expected Ms. Wilson's fledgling party to have a credible chance of winning even one seat in an election (much like former Conservative Maxime Bernier's People's Party of Canada has failed to breakthrough at the federal level).

And yet, even with Ms. Wilson serving as the only de facto Sask United Party MLA (she hasn't been tested in a provincial election under her new banner), the party has become an undeniable thorn in the side of Premier Scott Moe's Sask. Party government, leaving it scrambling to shore up the support of a voter base it may have once taken for granted.

Though Mr. Moe's government would deny it until it was blue in the face, the Sask United Party's fingerprints are all



JORDAN TWISS
~
News Editor

over the parental inclusion and consent policy it rammed through the legislature last fall by preemptively invoking the notwithstanding clause.

Indeed, former government House Speaker Randy Weekes criticized the Sask Party's "dramatic lurch to the right" under Mr. Moe, and derided the parental inclusion and consent policy as an "unwarranted and unnecessary waste of time," and an effort to "counter the influence of the Sask United Party."

The Sask United Party is also likely part of the reason why Mr. Moe found himself in a town hall-style meeting in Speers, Sask., in April, fielding questions on a plethora of conspiracy theory-laden topics.

While Speers falls within the boundaries of the Rosthern-Shellbrook constituency, Mr. Moe has faced much criticism for the responses he gave to some of the questions he was asked, and spent much of last week backpedaling and clarifying his answers.

Attempting to further clear the air and lend legitimacy to Mr. Moe's attendance at the meeting, a government spokesperson said Mr. Moe attended at an invitation from Speers Mayor Ken Rebeyka.

However, Mr. Rebeyka adamantly refuted this claim, stating the event was not organized or hosted by either the Village of Speers or the Rural Municipality of Douglas, and the government spokesperson was forced to admit they made an "error" in its statement (or, in other words, they lied).

Facing questions from reporters, Mr. Moe also tried to brush off criticisms by legitimizing his appearance at the meeting.

"It's a constituent town hall I was invited to by a local leader," he said. "Listen, if I can't continue to serve and go out to listen to my constituents, what are you asking me to do?"

Mr. Moe is right, of course. As Premier and the MLA for Rosthern-Shellbrook, it's his duty to meet with constituents and listen to their concerns.

But the thing is, that's not what people are questioning or criticizing. Though, given his busy schedule, Mr. Moe can't be everywhere, and one could question why he felt he needed to be at an event hosted by a private, yet unnamed, group, and why the event wasn't vetted



better by his team.

Had Mr. Moe's team done due diligence, perhaps he wouldn't have been in a position where he felt the need to agree to look into chemtrails – a conspiracy theory which posits that governments are dumping chemicals from planes for some nefarious purpose.

At the meeting, Mr. Moe did suggest there wasn't the "co-ordinated approach" some people believe there to be. But last week, in an effort to course correct, he said he doesn't believe in chemtrails at all, and that the question he answered contained a number of elements and was confusing.

In Mr. Moe's defence, many of the questions he faced during the lengthy meeting were rambling, unfocused, and unclear, including a question implying that the Saskatchewan Health Authority implemented a Chinese bioweapon delivery system designed to mimic a random outbreak during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Moe was presented with documents to support the allegations made in the question. And contrary to his claims that he said he disagreed with the allegations, his only response at the time was a commitment to read the documents.

Mr. Moe also fielded questions about international relations, in particular the World Health Organization's (WHO) "Pandemic Treaty," and the United Nations' Agenda 2030, both of which are the subject of conspiracy theories about diabolical plots to implement a tyranni-

cal global government.

Though he stopped short of disavowing the Pandemic Treaty as he was asked to, Mr. Moe said the best way for Canada and Saskatchewan to get out of "problematic" and "economically harmful" international accords is a change in federal government.

"I should look at it a little closer. But I can imagine what's in it," he said in response to a question about the Pandemic Treaty.

"Whether it's the United Nations, or WHO, or the WEF, they put forward these thoughts and treaties, and you're right, they are unelected bodies and they don't always have the people in this room's best interest at the forefront."

As Premier, Mr. Moe will routinely find himself talking with people he disagrees with, and it's his job to navigate these conversations and questions with tact and respect. But, in the face of patently preposterous ideas, Mr. Moe also has a duty to demonstrate leadership and challenge them.

Instead, over and over again during the two-hour town hall in Speers, Mr. Moe abandoned all pretense of leadership and chose to fan the conspiracy theorists' flames, giving them an undeserved air of legitimacy.

Whether Mr. Moe misled the people at the Speers town hall, or has lied to the public in its aftermath, it was poor judgment all around, and it ensures the Sask United Party will continue to be a thorn in his government's side for the foreseeable future.

Shellbrook Chronicle

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Navigating the capital gains increase for the cottage or cabin

Welcome to the summer — and the return of cottage and cabin season! While many of us are eager for some rest and relaxation, cottage and cabin owners may face new concerns due to increases to the capital gains inclusion rate. Looking ahead to when the property is eventually transferred or sold, owners are likely to encounter a higher tax liability. According to some realtors, the spring brought “chaos” as many cottage owners rushed to sell ahead of the June 25 deadline for capital gains tax changes.

Indeed, one of the most common issues that vacation property owners face is covering a potentially large tax liability triggered upon the sale or transfer of the property, especially if they wish to keep the property in the family. With real estate prices soaring, a cottage or cabin that has a cost base of \$500,000 could easily be valued at \$1.5 million or more in many



markets. Before the recent tax changes, only one-half of the potential \$1,000,000 capital gain was taxable.

Starting on June 25, for gains over \$250,000, two-thirds will be taxable. Using a marginal tax rate of 53.5 percent as an example (this will change based on the individual’s taxable income and province of residence), the changes to the capital gains inclusion rate would result in an additional \$66,875 tax liability, with a total tax bill of \$334,375

or $(\$250,000 \times 1/2 + \$750,000 \times 2/3) \times 53.5\%$ assuming no other realized gains. This is certainly not insignificant by any means.

Are there ways to plan ahead for the potential tax liability? Here are four things to consider:

Invest in life insurance — Insurance has traditionally served as a solution to cover such tax liabilities at death and may be a consideration should you wish to leave the property for the next generation. This involves purchasing a policy with the death benefit equal to the expected tax bill. The proceeds will typically be paid tax free and may avoid probate fees (in provinces where applicable), allowing beneficiaries to cover the tax liability and keep the property in the family. You might even arrange it so that the annual premium cost is paid by the eventual beneficiaries.

Consider use of the Principal Residence Exemption (PRE) — If the



property qualifies for the PRE, you may consider designating it as a principal residence. Since only one property you own can be designated in any given year, you will need to decide which to designate; this needs to be determined at the time you dispose of any property you own. While the decision is rarely straightforward and often requires considering multiple factors, such as predictions about the future value of the remaining residence(s), generally, you should consider designating the property with the largest average capital gain per year to reduce the overall tax liability.

Transfer ownership

over time, where possible — If you are passing along the family vacation home within the family, you may wish to consider transferring ownership over time to children or other family members. At the time of transfer, a capital gain at fair market value would be triggered on only the portion of the property you transfer and taxes would be due. For instance, if you were to transfer half of the ownership in the previous example over two different years, you could potentially take advantage of the lower inclusion rate for \$250,000 of capital gains each year.

Using the 1/2 inclusion rate, instead of the 2/3 inclusion rate, could po-

tentially save \$22,292 in taxes. However, consider that each year you delay starting the transfers, you are deferring tax. Be aware that there are costs, complexities and potential consequences to the transfer of property and co-ownership. As such, legal and tax advisors should be consulted before engaging in this planning.

Keep track of capital improvements — Make sure to document all capital improvements that add to the cost of the property, such as renovations, additions or upgrades that increase the property’s value. These can increase the property’s cost base and reduce the capital gain and the resulting tax owed when the property is sold or transferred. Be sure to keep good records and save receipts in the event that they are required by the Canada Revenue Agency.

As always, please seek advice from a tax advisor regarding your particular situation.

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Ditch mowing is underway and continues until fall.

Rate increases, infrastructure top Shellbrook budget

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

For Town of Shellbrook CAO Kelly Hoare, municipal budgeting is always an ongoing process, made increasingly difficult by the main challenge all municipalities face: too many needs and not enough money to address them all — especially as the cost of everything seems to be increasing exponentially.

The Town of Shellbrook's recently approved 2024-2025 budget highlights this reality all too well, delivering substantial mill rate and water and sewer rate increases to address funding shortfalls ahead of a planned water treatment plant project.

As previously report-

ed, the initial mill rate bylaw being considered by council would have increased the mill rate to 5.64 from 4.42 and upped the base property tax to \$1,300 from \$1,250. At the time, Hoare estimated this would raise property taxes by about \$180 for a small home.

Following much discussion at its last regular meeting, however, council opted for Hoare's second proposal of setting the mill rate at 5.39.

Meanwhile, the new water and wastewater rates bylaw sets the combined water and wastewater consumption rate at \$2 per cubic metre (up from 57 cents), adds a monthly \$50 capital fee, replaces the existing infrastructure fee with a \$10 sewer infrastructure

fee, and increases the consumption rate by 15 per cent each year.

Rates are slightly higher for non-taxable properties (churches, schools, the hospital, the R.M. of Shellbrook, etc.), with the joint consumption rate set at \$2.52 per cubic metre, and the monthly infrastructure charge at \$100.

While this moves the needle in the right direction in terms of water and sewer paying for themselves, Hoare says she'd like to see the town shift to a model where the costs of the utility are covered by the utility, allowing for the tax base to be lower.

"In my opinion, the utility should bear the cost of the utility, even if we have \$4 or \$5 per cubic metre water," she

said. "Hopefully, over the next few years, we can slowly see the water and wastewater utility capturing all of its costs, and then our mill rate can reflect that as well."

While the funding of municipal water and wastewater infrastructure is a key theme of the 2024-2025 budget, the town faces challenges across the board when it comes to infrastructure. And once again, they all come back to the question of money.

Hoare says, for instance, that there's currently about \$200,000 worth of projects lined up for the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre, including the HVAC system, fire alarms, and accessibility improvements. But with sign revenue serving as the sole source of fundraising for the facility, bringing in only \$35,000 per year, these projects had to be pushed to 2025.

Meanwhile, highlighting the dramatic cost increases the town is facing, the budget sets aside a couple hundred thousand for the town to build a five-bay garage for its trucks — a move it's taking to counteract the theft of parts. Hoare notes council had first considered this project prior to the COVID-19 pandemic but opted to

delay it. At that time, the quote for the project was in the neighbourhood of \$60,000.

Other infrastructure plans contained in the budget include a previously announced sewer project on 1st Avenue that includes the removal of a lift station and the lowering of water and sewer lines, and assisting with fencing around Diamond 1 at the Shellbrook Sports Grounds.

Other than this, the budget mostly sets aside funds for future capital projects, including \$10,000 for future pool upgrades, \$5,000 for a future pool liner replacement, and the annual earmarking of \$100,000 for future paving projects.

Hoare says the top paving priorities right now are Mesa Way, Brook Crescent, and Sanjun Drive, which already have curb and gutter done, meaning half the prep is already complete. Then, assuming the 1st Avenue sewer project is completed, Hoare says the town will have to look at curb, gutter, paving, and sidewalks to replace anything that gets pulled out.

"After that, we'll start working street by street once we get our wastewater plant paid for," Hoare said, noting that the final

loan payment comes out in 2026. "That's about \$300,000 per year coming out of our paving budget, out of our streets and roads, that the utility is not covering the cost of."

One thing that's notably absent from the 2024-2025 municipal budget is anything to suggest council has made a long-awaited decision on the town's water treatment plant project. Earlier this year, council made plans to have something to present to ratepayers at some point in June.

This will no longer be happening.

"It's such a major decision, we want to make the right one. They're really doing their due diligence," she said.

"We want this to be something, in the end, that everybody's happy and proud of. We'll have good water, and not have to change our taps every few years."

Hoare is recommending that the project be put out to tender one more time with different wording. In the meantime, the town is contracting BrewNature to undertake a trial project on the town's water to see if biofiltration would be a viable treatment option. The trial project carries a price tag of about \$34,800.

PUBLIC NOTICE

RM of Shellbrook No. 493 Public Notice – Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw Amendments

Public Notice is hereby given that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Shellbrook No. 493 (RM) intends to adopt two bylaws under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*, Bylaw No. 2024-05 to amend Bylaw No. 2018-09, known as the Official Community Plan (OCP), and Bylaw No. 2024-06 to amend Bylaw No. 08-1981, known as The Zoning Bylaw (ZB).

INTENT: The proposed amendment to the OCP would: add the Métis Local 66 for Crutwell to the list of First Nation and Métis communities within the RM; create policy to direct the use of dedicated lands funds towards provision of schools within the region; add transitional policies for land use designation implementation through zoning; correctly identify Organized Hamlets in the RM on the Future Land Use (FLU) Map; change the maximum country residential parcel density from 32 to 16 parcels per quarter section; and, redesignate land use areas for a number of properties in the RM.

The proposed amendment to the ZB would: within the AR – Agricultural Residential (AR) District, clarify the minimum site size of a farm land holding, including exceptions for fragmentation, and the allowable area of land which could be subdivided for residential purposes (8.08 ha); with respect to site area and frontage requirements, legitimize parcels existing as of Jan. 1, 2024, in the AR and CR – Country Residential (CR) Districts; add flexibility to the maximum site sizes of legal subdivisions; change the minimum site area for residential parcels in the CR District from 0.8 ha to 4.05 ha but with mechanisms for flexibility to accommodate farmstead severances or where the average parcel size on a quarter would remain 4.05 ha or greater; increase the maximum floor area of detached accessory and ancillary buildings from 150 m² to 464.5 m²; clarify the calculation of number of animal units that can be kept on a CR-zoned site up to a max. of 20 units; introduce new definitions for "ancillary use" and "home based business"; replace the definition of "site" such that contiguous parcels under common ownership can be considered a single site; and replace the RM's Zoning District Map which would rezone a large number of properties in the RM to reflect current land use and for conformity with the RM's planning bylaws.

AFFECTED LAND: Several of the proposed OCP and ZB amendment items would apply to the entire RM.

The following properties would be redesignated on the OCP FLU Map as follows: From various **Country Residential and Industrial Development Areas to Agricultural Development Area** - All of Parcel C, Plan 78PA01580, lying within W ½ 21-49-03-W3M; All of NW ¼ 21-49-03-W3M Ext 87; and, All of Parcel D, Plan 90PA11567 Ext 0, lying within SW ¼ 21-49-03-W3M. From various **Agricultural, Future Industrial, and Forestry Development Areas to Country Residential Development Area** - All of Parcels B and C, Plan 77PA27821, lying within SW ¼ 17-49-03-W3M; All of Parcel D, Plan 83PA00140, lying within NW ¼ 16-49-03-W3M; Parcel A, Plan 67PA03616; Parcel B, Plan 70PA12498; and, Parcel C, Plan 78PA10032, all lying within NE ¼ 16-49-03-W3M; All of SE ¼ 16-49-02-W3M; Parcel A, Plan 76PA04912, Parcel B, Plan 83PA21984, and Parcel C, Plan 101440842, all lying within SW ¼ 17-49-02-W3M; Parcels B and C, Plan 102361115, all lying within SW ¼ 23-49-02-W3M; Parcel B, Plan 101440673; Parcel C, Plan 101440651; N ½ 15-49-02-W3M, Plan O2488 Ext 1, all lying within N ½ 15-49-02-W3M; and, LSDs 12 and 13, both lying within NW ¼ 21-49-02-W3M.

Numerous properties would be rezoned by adoption and approval of a new Zoning District Map. Landowners affected by a proposed rezoning of their land(s) will be notified directly by mail. Please see public inspection options below.

REASON: OCP amendments: proper identification of Métis Locals in the RM; update dedicated lands policy for conformance with updated governing legislation; decrease the allowable residential parcel density in Country Residential land use areas for alignment with the corresponding proposed zoning bylaw amendment; create policy guidance for zoning implementation and transition of land use(s); properly identify Organized Hamlets on the FLU Map; and, redesignate certain lands to reflect current and desired land use types.

ZB amendments: to legitimize with respect to minimum site area, agricultural holdings which had been previously subdivided; clarify the amount of land on a quarter section that can be subdivided in the AR District without rezoning to another District; provided density exceptions in the AR District where quarter sections are fragmented by man-made or natural features where contiguous use of land is impractical; provide a mechanism to legitimize existing non-conforming parcels in the AR and CR Districts with respect to site size and frontage requirements where they may be currently non-compliant and/or restricted for future (re)development; to provide flexibility on non-standard legal subdivision site size. In the CR District: increase the minimum residential parcel size and decrease the maximum parcel density to limit further subdivision and densification of residential land use; increase the accessory/ancillary building size better suited to a large-parcel country residential context; and, simplify the calculation of allowable animal units allowed on site. To add definitions of terms employed in the ZB and add the ability to consider multiple parcels under common ownership as a single site. The need to harmonize land use policy area designation implemented through zoning for proper application of the ZB; and, to better render existing parcels conforming with site and density regulations based on current and intended future land use(s) through updated zoning assignment.

PUBLIC INSPECTION: Any person may inspect the bylaws at the RM office during regular office hours, excluding statutory holidays. Draft copies of the proposed bylaws are available from the RM office; hard copy at cost, digital copy free upon request or at the web address below. Copies of the proposed amendments (including associated maps), and a detailed land listing and illustrative map of properties affected by rezoning on the proposed new Zoning District map, will be posted on the RM's website at the following web address: <https://www.rmofshellbrook.com/notice>. The RM office is located at RM Office at 71 Main Street, Shellbrook, SK, S0J 2E0 (PO Box 250).

PUBLIC HEARING: Council will hold a public hearing on **August 13, 2024, at 7:00p.m.**, at the Shellbrook Seniors Center to hear any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaws. Please contact the office prior to the hearing for protocols related to making in-person representation; prior registration is required if you wish to address Council. Council will also consider written comments received by the undersigned by **August 8, 2024 @ 4:00p.m.** For additional information, please contact (306) 747-2158 or admin.493@sasktel.net.

Issued at the Town of Shellbrook this 20th day of June, 2024.

Duane Storey – Administrator - RM of Shellbrook No. 493

Canwood Library hosts kids' crafting



On Friday, June 14, Lindsay Baker from Wapiti Regional Library came to the Canwood Public Library to do a fun Perler bead craft with the Grade 3/4 class from Canwood School. The students had a wonderful time picking fun designs to melt together! Some designs were animals, shapes, names, and even #1 dad designs for Father's Day. The library was thrilled to host this exciting event for the students. By **JESSICA NORDQUIST, Branch Librarian**

What happens when you don't advertise?

Very little.

Video conferencing enhances farm diagnostics

Ever come upon a tidbit of information that apparently is new, but you would have expected to have been the norm for quite some time?

During a recent visit to www.producer.com, there was an article under the headline ‘Telepathology’ unites vets and specialists.

The idea of ‘telepathology’ is basically using video to connect on-site practitioners with experts.

“Using video conferencing technology, researchers with the University of

Calgary Faculty of Veterinary Medicine found that connecting specialized pathologists with in-the-field large animal veterinarians in real time delivered a definitive diagnosis for dead cattle 98 per cent of the time,” explains the article.

The concept seems so obvious I would have thought it was being used for years.

We’ve had remote education through radio in places such as Australia for decades, and while we think of video calls as a huge thing, it’s really just a



CALVIN DANIELS

step on the same pathway to connectivity.

I know, as a humble journalist, the use of things such as WhatsApp and Zoom is something I am still get-

ting used to. And honestly, seeing someone on Zoom doesn’t exactly enhance interviews anymore than a humble phone call.

But when it comes to something where visuals are important, video conferencing is a great thing.

In this case an expert can get an actual look at the carcass of the animal being autopsied. That has to be huge in providing those involved with more accurate appraisals of what may have happened to the animal.

It’s really not so differ-

ent from human doctors connecting via computer. In some cases, a call might be sufficient. But getting a real-time visual has to be a bonus in many cases.

Now certainly, the quality of picture in most video conference calls I have been involved in was bad, so the software being used by veterinarians in this case would have to be far better.

But such tech is never just about use today.

Tech is developing, improving, and being refined quickly. So, what we have

today will soon be out-of-date to something better.

The better the visuals are, the better diagnostics will be.

Ultimately, it’s just another example of how science and technology are rapidly evolving as tools for varied sectors – agriculture most definitely one of them.

It is both exhilarating and yes, a bit scary, to think what will emerge but it is a path we must continue to travel to ensure a better future for farming and humanity.

Agricultural water management funding now available

The Water Security Agency (WSA) is renewing the Agricultural Water Management Fund to support agricultural producers and local governments to develop water management projects. Since 2022, it helped 21 projects across the province to support the continued growth of a sustainable and resilient agricultural sector in Saskatchewan.

“We are pleased to offer a program that will help Saskatchewan producers manage water responsibly and sustainably,” Minister Responsible for the Wa-

ter Security Agency David Marit said in a statement. “Saskatchewan producers are the best stewards of the land and we believe supporting our agricultural sector with programs like this leads to a growing and vibrant agricultural sector.”

Applicants can receive up to \$95,000 per project blend, on a cost-sharing approach. It can be used for qualified persons support, technical and engineering costs, and mitigation and rehabilitation works for agricultural water manage-

ment projects.

This program is part of WSA’s ongoing commitment to supporting the agricultural community in developing and maintaining responsible agricultural water management projects in Saskatchewan.

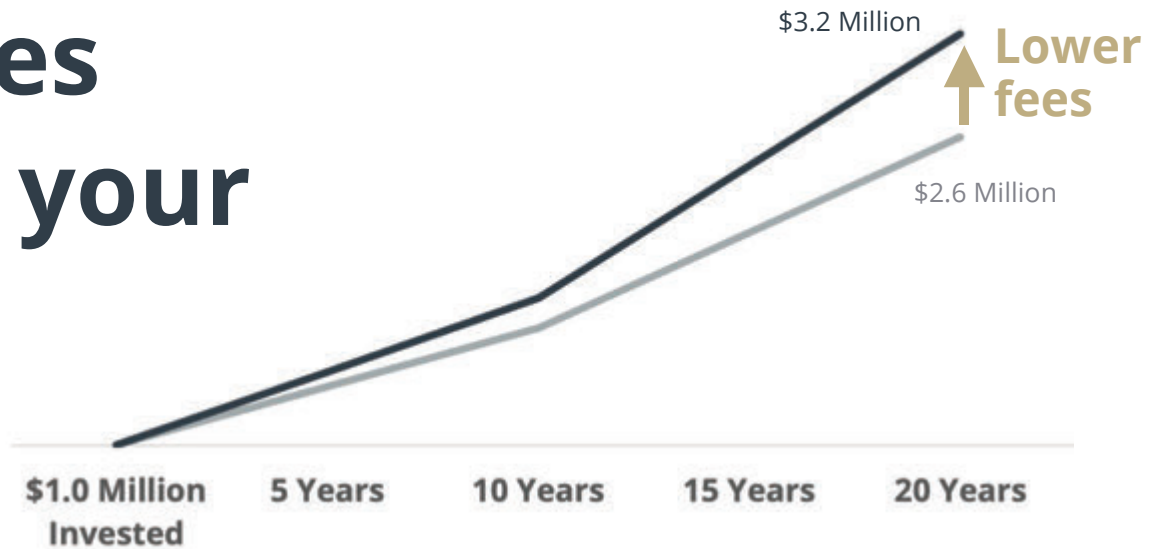
Eligible recipients include:

- Individuals or corporations registered in Saskatchewan who own, lease, or rent property for agricultural production purposes;
- First Nations in Saskatchewan;

- Saskatchewan rural municipalities;
- Conservation and Development Area Authorities;
- Watershed Association Boards;
- Watershed Stewardship Groups;
- Saskatchewan Association of Watersheds;
- Irrigation Districts; and
- Consultants recognized by WSA as Qualified Persons.

For more information about the Agricultural Water Management Fund, please visit: wsask.ca.

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Academic achievement takes spotlight at WP Sandin

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

The staff, students, and proud parents of WP Sandin High School gathered in the school's gymnasium on Thursday, June 20, to celebrate the winners of this year's academic awards and scholarships.

The recognition of the academic achievements of the Grades 6 through 12 students was MCed by Rhonda Berezowski, and the program included more than 80 awards and scholarships. Keeping the focus on more than just academics, the awards presentations included the return of the heart and grit awards, which were first introduced for students from Grade 6 through Grade 12 in 2020.

The Heart awards are presented to students who demonstrate kindness, respect, and empathy for their peers and teachers. Meanwhile, the Grit awards are given to students who show perseverance and determination, and approach school with a positive attitude. On the academic side, there were the standard awards for each subject from Grade 9 upwards, as well as proficiency awards for the student in Grades 6 through 12 with the highest academic average.

The Grade 6 heart, grit, and proficiency awards started off the evening. Marie-Annette Aghedo received the Heart Award, while Zoey Hawkins earned the Grit Award, and Gwyn Phan was presented with the Proficiency Award.

The Grade 7 presentation saw Kayla Klaassen receive the Heart Award, Jailin Bird earn the Grit Award, and Sofia Podzdyakova and Adyson Wallin share the Proficiency Award.

Next, the Grade 8 Heart Award went to Nash Helm, the

Grit Award went to Jaylynn Bird, and the Proficiency Award was shared by Abby Piprell and Kylie Eashappie.

At the Grade 9 level, the Heart Award went to Dylan Lamotte, the Grit Award was won by Kendall Skauge, and Emmy Ledding earned the Proficiency award.

Among Grade 10s, the Heart Award went to Emersyn Nahorniak, the Grit Award to Sara Verbonac, and the Proficiency Award to Marvail Philp.

For Grade 11 students, the Heart Award was presented to Ezra Peake, the Grit Award went to Emily Bruce, and the Proficiency Award to Taylor Henderson.

Finally, the Grade 12 Heart Award went to Payten Keyowski, the Grit Award was presented to Allison Lamotte, and Abi Kyliuk won the Proficiency Award, also called the Marie Nesdoly Memorial Trophy.

Aside from these awards, WP Sandin's students were also the recipients of scholarships, bursaries, and other honours.

Up first, Payten Keyowski and Abi Kyliuk were both recipients of Bourgeault and Associates Scholarships, and Keyowski also received the Lake Country Co-op Scholarship. Meanwhile, Josée Schatkoske was presented with the Royal Purple Scholarship, and Kassie Ferster was recognized as the Governor General Award winner for the 2023 school year.

Next, Keyowski received the Vance Tait Memorial Scholarship, Ashton Tanchuk, Jake Boettcher, and Storm Rudolph earned Shellbrook Legion Scholarships, and Rudolph also received a George Laberge Memorial Scholarship.

Continuing, Ethan Klaassen received a Prince Albert and Area Teachers' Association Scholarship, a Rotary Club of Prince Albert (Model UN) Scholarship, and an Opening Doors to Tomorrow scholarship, receiving the latter alongside fellow graduates Aenna Gatdula, Payten Keyowski, and Jake Boettcher.

In other presentations, Taylor Henderson and Maddison Nelson received Alice Buckingham Memorial Scholarships, with Henderson also earning the Heart of the Community Award, Josée Schatkoske was presented with the Billy Simington Memorial Scholarship and the Grant Sommerfeld Memorial Award for Sportsmanship, and Payten Keyowski earned the Darrel Martin Memorial Award.

Marking the end of the scholarship presentations Payten Keyowski was also announced as the winner of a Saskatchewan Rivers Students for Change Scholarship, the Elwood Harvey Scholarship, the Prince Albert and Community District Scholarship, the Access Communications Scholarship, and the 4-H Entrepreneurial Scholarship.

Meanwhile, Abi Kyliuk was recognized for winning a \$120,000 Schulich Leader Scholarship, and also received a Sask Rivers Students for Change Scholarship and the Build a

Better World Scholarship.

Wrapping up the major award presentations, Ayli Schatkoske was named Junior Student of the Year, while Payten Keyowski earned Senior Student of the Year honours.

As for individual subject awards, those were presented as follows:

ELA 9: Emmy Ledding
Math 9: Hunter Smith
Science 9: Hunter Smith & Kendall Skauge
Social Science 9: Emmy Ledding
Health 9: Emmy Ledding
Art 9: Emmy Ledding
PAA 9: Reagan Collins, Emmy Ledding & Presley Low
Phys. Ed 9: Dalen Thiel & Ayli Schatkoske
ELA A 10: Marvail Philp
ELA B 10: Marvail Philp
Math Workplace 10: Adison Kyliuk
Math Foundations 10: Adison Kyliuk, Hayley Van Hereweghe, Matt Muller & Sara Verbonac
Science 10: Marvail Philp & Sara Verbonac
History 10: Marvail Philp
PAA 10: Dustin Lamontagne & Hayley Van Hereweghe
Wellness 10: Marvail Philp
ELA 20: Maddison Nelson
Math Workplace 20: Cole Smith
Pre-Calculus 20: Taylor Henderson & Maddison Nelson
Math Foundations 20: Taylor Henderson
Physical Science 20: Marvail Philp
Health Science 20: Marvail Philp
History 20: Taylor Henderson & Maddison Nelson
Psychology 20: Maddison Nelson
PAA 20: Sawyer Mamchur
Active Living 20: Taylor Henderson
ELA A 30: Abby Ledding
ELA B 30: Abi Kyliuk
Math Workplace 30: Deziree Stieb
Math Foundations 30: Abi Kyliuk
Pre-Calculus 30: Abi Kyliuk
Biology 30: Josée Schatkoske
History 30: Abi Kyliuk
Certificates: Emily Bruce
Visual Art: Reese Galloway, Sofia Dunay & Adison Kyliuk
Outdoor Education: Devin Cadrain
Phys. Ed: Talon Sandry & Cole Smith
Construction & Carpentry: Casen Keyowski
Commercial Cooking: Taylor Henderson
Financial Literacy: Kallie Ferster
PAA: Peyton Ahenakew
Wildlife & Habitat Studies: Casen Keyowski
Physics: Abi Kyliuk



Brody and Boston Moe present the Heart of the Community Award (on behalf of Broston Enterprises) to Taylor Henderson.



Ayli Schatkoske (right) accepts the Junior Student of the Year Award from Miss Pillar.



Payten Keyowski accepts the Senior Student of the Year Award from principal Tyler Kuzma.



Abi Kyliuk accepts the Grade 12 Proficiency Award from principal Tyler Kuzma.



Kassie Ferster accepts the 2023 Governor General Award from principal Tyler Kuzma.



Kelsey Segberg presents the Darrel Martin Memorial Award to Payten Keyowski.



Bill Simington presents the Billy Simington Memorial Scholarship to Josée Schatkoske. This year marked his 39th trip from Edmonton to hand out the award.

WP Sandin honours athletic achievement

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

Capping off a 2023-2024 school year in which its student athletes won championship banners and medals in multiple sports and at many levels of competition, WP Sandin High School celebrated the extracurricular feats of its students at an athletics awards ceremony held in the jam-packed school gym on Wednesday, June 19.

The ceremony, MCed by Rhonda Berezowski, saw more than 40 awards and recognitions handed out to students across different sporting categories, including golf, volleyball, cross-country, basketball, curling, badminton, track and field, and football. There were also awards for clubs, such as the Aardvark

Awards, and the top girls and boys athlete awards at both the junior and senior levels.

Beginning with golf, the senior girls MVP was handed to Josée Schatkoske and the senior boys MVP honour went to Matt Muller.

In volleyball, Gwyn Phan was presented with the Grade 6 girls MVP award, Adyson Wallin was the Grade 7 girls MVP, Merék Tait won the award for Grade 7/8 boys, Brooklyn Anderson earned the Grade 8 girls MVP award, and Kendall Skaug and Kyleigh Schmalz shared the honour for Grade 9/10 girls.

As for senior girls volleyball, Maddison Nelson received the dedication award, Josée Schatkoske won the leadership award, and Allison Lamotte was named team MVP. These recognitions came after the se-

nior girls team made it all the way to provincials and earned a provincial sportsmanship banner.

Once all the awards were handed out, the Grade 6 girls team and the senior girls team were called up to the stage for recognition of their accomplishments throughout the season.

Moving into cross-country, there were four individual honours to be handed out, including the junior girls MVP award to Julia Shindle, the junior boys MVP to Canden Olsen, the senior girls MVP to Marcaïl Philp, and the senior boys MVP to Cashian Sandry.

Bouncing over to basketball, Belle Armstrong was named the Grade 6/7 girls MVP, while Keanu Dustyhorn won the Grade 6/7 boys MVP award, June Robin was named the Grade 7/8 MVP, and Canden Olsen won the Grade 8 boys MVP award.

At the senior level, Ezra Peake was named senior boys MVP, Samantha Kennedy won the senior girls Rising Star Award, Leah Naumann won the leadership award, and Josée Schatkoske was named MVP.

Speeding along to track and field, another four awards were handed out. June Robin was named junior girls MVP, Zander Archibald earned junior boys MVP honours, Marcaïl Philp received the senior girls MVP award, and Ezra Peake was the senior boys MVP.

For curling, there were five individual honours presented, including the junior girls MVP to Vayda Krees, the junior boys MVP to Nash Helm and Curtis Mathias, the senior girls MVP to Payten Keyowski, and the senior boys MVP to Jake Boettcher.

Up next, junior badminton MVP awards were handed out to June Robin on the girls' side, and to Canden Olsen on the boys' side. Josée Schatkoske received the senior girls MVP award, while Ezra Peake earned the MVP award for the boys.

Taking a short break from the athletic accolades, the junior Aardvark award (Student Leadership Council) was presented to Marie-Annette Aghedo, and the senior Aardvark award went to Payten Keyowski. Meanwhile, Abby Piprell and June Robin were presented with the junior drama award.

Rushing into football, Brandon Dingwall and Kamden Shewchuk shared most versatile player honours, Tucker McDonald was named lineman of the year, the rookie of the year award went to Dalen Thiel and Taiden Wrench, the heart and soul award was presented to Brett Stene, and Jesse Nyberg was named team MVP.

The ceremony concluded with the presentation of the

athlete of the year awards. Both junior awards were shared, with the junior girls award going to Samantha Kennedy and Ayli Schatkoske, and the junior boys award being presented to

Reagan Collins and Dalen Thiel.

Finally, Josée Schatkoske earned senior girls athlete of the year honours, and Ezra Peake received the senior boys award.



Reagan Collins and Dalen Thiel accept the junior boys athlete of the year award from Devon Thorpe.



Marie-Annette Aghedo receives the junior aardvark award from Dori Banda and Kelly Herndier.



Samantha Kennedy and Ayli Schatkoske accept the junior girls athlete of the year award from Devon Thorpe.



Josée Schatkoske accepts the senior girls athlete of the year award from Devon Thorpe.



Ezra Peake accepts the senior boys athlete of the year award from Devon Thorpe.



Rhonda Berezowski (left) and Kelly Herndier (right) present the House Award to Team Blue representatives Josée Schatkoske, Abi Kyliuk and Talon Sandry. This new award is presented based on participation in school events like spirit week.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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. Summer Hours: Tuesday 9:30am - 4pm; Wednesday 9:30am - 4pm; Phone: 306-468-2501

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.

SHELLBROOK: Fill The Pool Campaign - July 1 to August 23. All donations up to: \$30,000 will be matched by an anonymous donor. To donate: parklandpool-project.ca, 306-747-7331, Box 402 Shellbrook, SK S0J 2E0. Join us at the Party in the Park on August 23, 2024!

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Minutes of an R.M. of Blaine Lake meeting

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

The Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Blaine Lake #434 which was held in the RM's Municipal Office on Tuesday, May 21, 2024.

Present Council Members and Administration attended as follows: Gerry Strelloff — Reeve, Lee Dolezal — Division 2, Courtney Swystun — Division 3, Alan Lavoie — Division 4, Tim Stupnikoff — Division 5, Glenn Lamontagne — Division 6, Administrator Linda Klimm, and Assistant Administrator Alan Tanchak.

The meeting was called to order by Reeve Gerry Strelloff at 7 a.m.

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the April 16, 2024, Regular Meeting minutes as presented. Carried

Councillor Lee Dolezal declared a Conflict of Interest and left Council Chambers at 7:08 a.m.

Councillor Lee Dolezal returned to Council Chambers at 7:10 a.m. and then left Council Chambers at 7:11 a.m. while the vote was conducted.

Swystun: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 rescind resolution #149/24 and that a vote be recorded. (Editor's note: The motion pertained to the installation of a gate on the road allowance on RR#3064 one mile south of TWP#432.) Carried

Councillor Lee Dolezal returned to Council Chambers at 7:12 a.m.

Lamontagne: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the April 29, 2024, Regular Meeting minutes as presented. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434

accept the April 2024 Statement of Financial Activities, Income Statement, Budgetary Control, Chequing Account Statement and Bank Reconciliation as presented. Carried

Lamontagne: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the List of Accounts for Approval, including cheques #6794 to #6839 with the total payable amount being \$87,386.17. Carried

Lamontagne: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the Additional Accounts for payment as presented by the Administration in the amount of \$123.90: Alan Tanchak — \$123.90. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the presented Council indemnity totaling \$3,100.60:

- Gerry May 2024: \$240.00
- Courtney Nov-Dec 2023: \$372.00
- Courtney Jan-May 2024: \$1,291.80
- Tim Apr-May 2024: \$371.40
- Glenn Feb-May 2024: \$825.40. Carried

Mark Curry provided a lead hand report from 7:43 a.m. to 8:28 a.m.

Strelloff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 post a sign at the community well notifying ratepayers of the usage rates of \$100 for agriculture users and \$500 for commercial users. Carried

Councillor Courtney Swystun left the meeting at 8:39 a.m.

Lamontagne: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 direct Administration to contact Mike Morris to see if we can attach damages to road allowance by lessee to adjacent landowner. Carried

Councillor Alan Lavoie left Council Chambers at 8:50

a.m.

Reeve Gerry Strelloff left Council Chambers at 8:55 a.m. and called a recess.

Reeve Gerry Strelloff returned to Council Chambers at 8:57 a.m.

Councillor Alan Lavoie returned to Council Chambers at 8:58 a.m.

Lamontagne: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approve of a pipe to be supplied by the RM with the installation cost for the approach to be paid by the landowner at SW 36-44-07 W3, and that a letter be sent notifying the landowner. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 appoint Karen Dagenais to the Blaine Lake Library Board and that an appointment letter be sent. Carried

Lamontagne: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves an amended road maintenance agreement for the RM of Leask containing a revised haul route along with the following additional general provisions:

- gravel is to be applied by the RM of Leask at 100 yards per mile to the haul route of 2.5 miles;
- dust control is to be applied by the RM of Leask for 600 feet at yard site located at NW 25-45-07 W3;
- a tentative June 1, 2024, start date dependent on weather; and
- our RM office is to be contacted once haul is complete. Carried

Strelloff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the road maintenance agreement containing general provisions for Paramount Paving. Carried

Strelloff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the payment with

respect to April & May 2024 snow clearing for \$300 per month to Wade Fiala. Carried

Strelloff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 hire Wade Fiala for mowing starting May 2024 at a rate of \$125 per month. Carried

Stupnikoff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 directs Administration to contact the RM of Laird No. 404 to develop a fire agreement. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 directs Administration to contact the RM of Great Bend No. 405 to develop a fire agreement. Carried

Strelloff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 supports the grant application to the Targeted Sector Support (TSS) Initiative for regional cooperation with Parkland Emergency Measures Organization (EMO) to proceed with the plan for funding to hire a Regional EMO Coordinator, and for the ongoing maintenance of the Regional EMO position for the first couple of years. Carried

Auditor Elizabeth Torrens, CPA, presented draft financials and spoke to Council from 9:35 a.m. to 10:48 a.m.

Strelloff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approve the draft 2023 financial statements. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the Consulting Services Agreement created under the partnership of BuildTECH Consulting and CCA Construction Code Authority as 102121429 Saskatchewan Ltd., and that the Reeve and the Administrator be authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of the municipality. Carried

Reeve Gerry Strelloff declared a Conflict of Interest

and left Council Chambers at 10:52 a.m.

Reeve Gerry Strelloff returned to Council Chambers at 10:53 a.m.

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 acknowledges receipt of the Certificate of Approval for the subdivision of NE 04-44-07 W3. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 provide authorization to Saskatchewan Power to bore RR#3070 in order to provide power to a resident located at NE 36-44-07 W3, and that the Administrator authorize the work order per File #: 20430131 on behalf of the municipality. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 directs Administration to contact Patrick Hupaelo for office repairs & maintenance. Carried

Stupnikoff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the quote received from Northern Glass & Mirror Ltd. for \$1,594 plus applicable taxes, and that Northern be hired to complete the window repairs. Carried

Lavoie: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 move in camera to discuss Personnel Matters in conjunction with strategic planning, compliant with s. 120(2) of The Municipalities Act, and on the basis that the discussions that take place during the meeting apply to s. 16(1)(b), (d) and (e) of The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the time being 11:11 a.m. Carried

Lamontagne: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 move out of camera, the time being 11:54 a.m.

Strelloff: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 adjourn, the time being 12:13 p.m.

Nicoll wins June dessert



The Spiritwood Library's Dessert of the Month winner for June was Haley Nicoll. The desserts were made by board member Stacey Gaboury. The pistachio ice-cream cake was paired off with caramel latte chocolate cupcakes.

By HEATHER GATZKE, Branch Librarian

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Sure things are rare at NHL draft

The ghost of Nail Yakupov annually hangs over the National Hockey League draft, which is being held at the Sphere in Las Vegas this Friday and Saturday.

Hockey scouts, you see, are not perfect. The general consensus in 2012 was that Yakupov, a Russian forward who played junior with the Sarnia Sting in the Ontario Hockey League, was clearly the best player available. “Fail for Nail” was the refrain by many fans who wanted their favourite teams to play poorly to enhance their chances at getting the first pick.

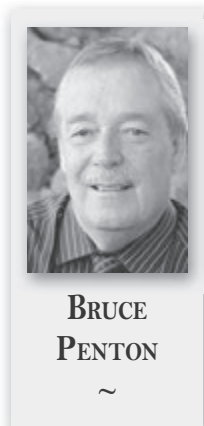
Eventually, Yakupov went to Edmonton Oilers at No. 1, and the Russian subsequently turned into one of the biggest No. 1 duds in NHL draft history. He wound up playing 350 NHL games and scored a total of 62 goals. Meanwhile, Filip Forsberg went 11th to Nashville in that same draft and he’s since scored 287 goals in 698 games. Others in that first round were

Morgan Rielly of Toronto, Jacob Trouba, now of the Rangers, and Vegas’s Tomas Hertl, who so far has 220 goals in his NHL career.

A single scout is usually not responsible for choosing players for his team. It’s a consensus among scouting staffs, coaches, general managers and the occasional psychologist. In 2010, the L.A. Kings made an astute second-round pick at No. 47, grabbing Tyler Toffoli, who has had a nice NHL career with 260 goals in 812 games for four different teams. In that same draft, the Boston Bruins took somebody named Jared Knight, who went at No. 32 and didn’t play a single game in the NHL.

This year’s consensus No. 1 is Vancouverite Macklin Celebrini of Boston College, expected to go to the San Jose Sharks.

Some No. 1s are obvious: Connor McDavid, Nathan MacKinnon, and Connor Bedard were slam-dunks. But



BRUCE PENTON

the Arizona Coyotes scouting staff may have had some explaining to do in 2014 after they chose Alex Ruttu at No. 51 in the second round when probable Hall of Famer Nikita Kucherov was still on the board and eventually went at No. 58 to Tampa.

In 2014, Dallas took defenceman Julius Honka from Swift Current at No. 14 in the first round. He played 87 NHL games and tallied two goals. Chosen one spot later, at No. 15 in the first round, was Dylan Larkin of Detroit, who is a perennial all-star and probable Hall of Famer with 506 points in 652

games. Boston’s David Pastrnak and Tampa’s Brayden Point were also available when Honka’s name was called.

Besides some obvious misses over the years, there have also been some outstanding steals. Hats off to the Minnesota Wild scouting crew who grabbed superstar Kirill Kaprizov at No. 136 (fifth round) in 2015.

What was Boston thinking in 2015? Trade manoeuvring gave them three consecutive picks in the first round — Nos. 13, 14 and 15. They whiffed at 13, picking Jake Zboril (one career goal), got a winner at No. 14 (Jake DeBrusk) and struck out at 15 (Zach Senshyn, one career goal).

It’s called a draft, but it’s really a crapshoot.

RJ Currie of sports-deke.com: “I told my wife to buy Tom Brady’s self-help book: not because it’ll make me a gifted QB, exceptionally handsome or very rich, but because I live with a supermodel. She said: ‘We’re still not getting

an 80-inch TV.’”

Bob Molinaro of pilotonline.com (Hampton, Va.): “For the next Lakers’ coach, the best part of the job will be working with LeBron James; the worst part will be working for him.”

Molinaro again: “For those competing in the July 4th Nathan’s Hot Dog Eating contest, the banishment of multiple champion Joey Chestnut for endorsing plant-based dogs doesn’t change the nature of the gluttonous competition. It’s still wiener take all.”

Grabbed from Jack Finarelli’s ‘sportscurmudgeon.com’, quoting former NFL coach Hank Stram: “When I have the urge to get back to coaching, I lie down and wait until it passes.”

A groaner from RJ Currie: “A bit of a hiccup at the Oilers practice as it was rumoured they couldn’t open the locker room door. This according to their coach — Kris Knoblocked.”

Headline at fark.com: “Scottish football fans show Germans in

Munich how it’s done, drink place dry in hours before Friday game.”

Hall-of-Fame coach Don Shula: “Sure, luck means a lot in football. Not having a good quarterback is bad luck.”

Comedy writer Torben Rolfsen of Vancouver: “So far the only thing the Toronto Blue Jays are leading the league in is eating the most hot dogs on Tuesday nights.”

Pro golfer Bryson DeChambeau, to fans around the 368-yard 13th tee Saturday at the U.S. Open who were hoping he’d pull out a driver and try to reach the green. “Don’t boo me. I’m sorry,” as he chose an iron.

Pro golfer Tyrell Hatton, on Pinehurst No. 2 being an advantage for him, due to its difficulty: “With it being harder and a lot of guys sort of losing their head, it sort of brings them to my level because I just lose my head every week.”

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Minutes of a Spiritwood Town Council meeting

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

The regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Spiritwood was held in the Council Chambers at the Spiritwood Town Office, 212 Main Street, on May 14, 2024, at 7 p.m.

In attendance were, Deputy Mayor Jim Bedi, Councillor George Pretli, Councillor Bryan Wingerter, Councillor Mark Corfield, Councillor Ragnar Latus, Councillor Shane Colley, and CAO Rhonda Saam. Absent was Mayor Gary von Holwede

A quorum being present, Deputy Mayor Bedi called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Pretli: That the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the minutes of the regular meeting on April 23, 2024, be approved as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the Accounts for Ratification, Payments #1674 to 1697 in the amount of \$47,845.54 be approved

as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the Accounts for Approval, Cheque No. 33127 to 33153 and payments #1698 to 1706 in the amount of \$73,337.55 be approved as presented. Carried

Colley: That the Bank Reconciliation for the month of April 2024 be approved as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That the Financial Statement for the month of April 2024 be approved as presented. Carried

Wingerter: That we approve the quote of \$10,485.17 from Gatzke Mechanical to replace the boiler at the town shop. Carried

Wingerter: That we approve the discretionary use Development Permit #D100-2024 for 236 First Street East to be used for childcare needs and acknowledge that it complies with Zoning Bylaw No. 486/13. Carried

Latus: That we approve the discretionary use Development Permit #D101-2024 for 750 Highway No. 3 to process firewood with the condition on hours of

operation of the outdoor equipment to be between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. to control noise. Carried

Wingerter: That we approve the quote of .55/litre from Triple S Transport to apply calcium chloride to the roads in town, with the amount to be determined by the town foreman. Carried

Latus: That we enter into an agreement with CCA-SK Construction Code Authority to provide building official services to the Town of Spiritwood. Carried

Wingerter: That we approve the quote from ASL Paving for 20 tonnes of High Performance Cold Mix at \$238/tonne, with the total amount including delivery of \$5,481.60 plus taxes. Carried

Wingerter: That we enter into a Grass Cutting Custom Service Agreement with SaskTel to cut the grass for 2024 on Fourth Street East in the Town of Spiritwood, at a rate of \$80/hour. Carried

Colley: That we submit an Infrastructure Investment Plan to the Canada

Community Building Fund for Asphalt Repairs on First Street East and Second Street West. Carried

Latus: That we do not provide a municipally funded donation [to the Spiritwood Horticulture Society for the Spiritwood Horticulture and Homecraft Show]. Carried

Wingerter: That Council approves forwarding the attached listing of outstanding utility accounts past due 90 days, to the Tax Roll if they remain unpaid on June 13, 2024. Carried

Corfield: That we approve the quote from Levitt Safety in the amount of \$2,012.96 and purchase the Multi-Gas Monitor, Calibration unit, and Regulator. Carried

Wingerter: That we hire R.S. Management Services Inc. to assist and oversee the old arena project with demolition of the Northside dressing rooms, West end lobby structure/basement and concrete. Carried

Colley: That this meeting be adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

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OBITUARY

Pete "Evert" Lundeen



PETE "EVERT"
LUNDEEN

May 10, 1929 – June 13, 2024

Pete "Evert" Lundeen passed away unexpect-

edly but peacefully at his residence at Samaritan Place long term care home in Saskatoon on Thursday, June 13, 2024. Evert had just celebrated his 95th birthday on May 10. He was born on the farm in Canwood, SK to Ethel (née Olson) and Pete Lundeen. He was the younger brother of John Egnar. The Boys, "E & E", lived and worked together on the farm their whole life.

Evert played many sports in the local area as a young man. He played softball with the Dry Creek Penguins,

who this year celebrate 75 years as a team. Evert played hockey and golf and was one of the first to get a hole in one at the Canwood Regional Golf Course in 1963. Evert was a friend to many and helped his neighbours and family whenever needed. As kids we loved to go to the farm and follow Uncle Evert around the yard, barn, and fields. He took some Veterinarian Assistant classes and was often called upon to help neighbours with cows and calving. He lived a content and quiet life on the farm but

travelled to Sweden, Nebraska, and Florida. He and his brother enjoyed watching sports on TV or going to see local sports along with the PA Raiders games and the U of S Huskie Football games. Shortly after his brother Egnar passed away in 2016, Evert agreed to move off the farm and into town. After a short illness in 2018, Evert moved to Saskatoon to be closer to his family. He was well looked after at Luthercare/Stonebridge Village Assisted Living for 4 years. He moved to Samaritan Place in

early 2023 after a bout with Covid weakened his body but not his kind heart and gentle manner. He was a jokester but a sweeter man there will never be.

Evert will be missed by his nieces and nephew and their families; Karin Lofstrom of Ottawa, Sharon Gilbert of Kimberley, BC, Pat Rogal of Saskatoon, Shelley Bouwens and Derek Sailors of Lincoln, Nebraska. Also, by his cousins, friends, and neighbours from around Canwood. He was predeceased by his brother John Egnar

Lundeen, his sisters Gertrud Lofstrom and Elsie Sailors, his brother-in-law Dennis Sailors, his parents, and his stepdad Pete Peterson.

His family would like to thank all the staff who provided care to Evert over the last few years. He was happy and content and could still make us all smile. Rest well Uncle Evert.

A memorial and interment will be held this summer at Dry Creek Cemetery.

Donations in Evert's name can be made to the Charity of your choice.

Shellbrook Pentecostal bids Bodvarsons farewell

By JORDAN TWISS

Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

It was an occasion for both merriment and tears, when the congregation of the Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly gathered to celebrate the retirement of Pastor Dave Bodvarson and his wife, Marlene, with an afternoon of fellowship, coffee, and cake on Sunday, June 23.

Pastor Dave has served the Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly for the past 17 years — nearly half of his career in ministry. Having turned 65 in March, he says he made the tough decision to retire from full-time ministry at the end of June.

"The biggest factor in making the decision, is I have to think of the life of the church. It is a healthy and wise thing to pass on the torch to the next generation," he said.

"In the Bible, Moses was succeeded by Joshua. There comes a time when you did all you could and someone else can bring the church to a new level."

At present, no replacement has been appointed for Bodvarson, who intends to continue doing part-time ministry and driving school buses. His role will be filled by the district superintendent until a replacement can be appointed,

and Pastor John Slemming and his wife, Susie, will continue to lead the church's youth worship and programming.

Pastor Dave began as a student pastor with Saskatoon's Native New Life Church in 1983, becoming its full-time pastor in 1984 and forming friendships that will last a lifetime in what he calls a "wonderful place to begin our ministry."

From there, Pastor Dave and Marlene moved on to serve in Semans, a small village near Regina, getting their first taste of rural ministry (and for Pastor Dave, experience trucking grain and swathing lentils and peas.)

The couple served the congregation in Semans for five and a half years before moving to Rocanville, where they both ministered and raised their three boys. Here, to support his family, he learned to shingle and painted houses (and one barn).

After 12 years of ministry in southern Saskatchewan, Pastor Dave and Marlene say they felt led to Shellbrook. They lived eight years in a one-bedroom apartment, until an opportunity arose for them to put down roots and develop an acreage just to the north of town.

It was here that Pastor Dave began

driving school buses — a different kind of ministry, he says — while Marlene found work at the post office.

Though Pastor Dave was the one delivering sermons on Sundays, he says church is teamwork. He gives full credit for the congregation's strength



After 17 years, Pastor Dave Bodvarson and his wife, Marlene, have announced their retirement from full-time ministry. The church celebrated them on Sunday, June 23.

and growth to the church's committee, and Pastor John and Susie, who have helped turn the Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly into a true "community church."

A few years ago, the church's basement became the home of the Shellbrook and Area Ministerial Food Bank, as well as the meeting place for the local Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS), a weight loss support group that Pastor Dave takes part in. The church also undertook an initiative to roof houses in return for donations to its refugee fund (and even did a few projects without any donations).

The church used this fund to sponsor one family, which has been living in Shellbrook for nearly a year, and Pastor Dave says it's looking forward to welcoming a second family.

Sharing words and tears at Sunday afternoon's retirement celebration, Marlene said she's excited for the congregation and the direction in which God is taking it.

"My heart's desire was to be an assembly that truly loved each other," she said. "We all have different views and interests... but when I look at everybody, and many people have said this here today, we truly love each other. That is going to take you far."

GOOD NEWS

SCIENCE SUPPORTS CHRISTIAN FAITH

By RANDALL MCLEOD
Immanuel Lutheran, Parkside

I am told that one of the reasons that there have not been many faith columns in the paper recently is that they have not been receiving enough columns from the contributors. I would like to apologize to all of you for my lapses in that regard. I shall do my best to be more consistent going forward.

Some people think that the faith life, that is the Christian faith life, is one of "blind faith," where we check our brains at the door. Nothing could be further from the truth. The Apostle Peter counsels us: "always be ready to give a defense to

everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you" and Jesus Himself, when asked by John the Baptist if "He was indeed the Messiah", did not respond with "Just have faith, John."

No! He told John's messengers, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see," and then proceeded to list the Messianic miracles that they witnessed. He produced the evidence. The receipts, if you will.

That being said, I will spend a few (or many) columns delving into some of the reasons and rationales as to why the Christian faith is supported by the sciences. Let's begin at the

beginning. The Bible says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

Now, up until Charles Lyell proposed that the earth was very old, it was commonly accepted that the earth was very young, i.e. About 6,000 years (that is about 4,000 years before Christ). Lyell's paradigm became the accepted one and it fuelled the Darwinian concept of evolution.

It then became popular to believe that the universe was, in fact, eternal. That was Einstein's belief, and he went so far as to alter his equations to fit that belief. Later, he stated that was the biggest mistake of his life.

Such is the power of paradigm to alter "the science." Modern astronomy and physics show us that the universe did indeed have a beginning, so the questions now become, when and how as opposed to if.

We have learned that space, time, energy, and matter are all interdependent, and that the laws of the universe are not creative but rather explanatory. That is, they do not make things happen; they just explain the way things happen. All of those laws had to already be in place in order for the universe to exist and function as it does. In fact, if we were to alter any one of over 50 different critical variables, by even

the tiniest amount, the whole thing would just collapse.

So then, something that exists outside of space, time, energy, and matter, something from another dimension altogether, had to cause these things to come into existence. Something inconceivably powerful, inconceivably intelligent, something conscious and willing to cause it.

Call it what you will, but we call it something that is perfectly described by the God of the Bible. He alone is eternal, self-existent and dwells in a separated dimension altogether, the one we call Heaven.

Stay tuned, there is much, much more to come.

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LAND FOR SALE

LAND FOR SALE
Written offers for purchase of NE 6- & NW-6-45-6 W3 (one mile north of Blaine Lake) will be received until July 2nd, 2024 by Delbert Dynna Law Office, 100-10th Street East, Prince Albert, SK, S6V 0Y7. Possession immediately after 2024 crop is harvested by the renter. Highest or any offer not necessarily accepted. For more information, contact Terry Hunchak, (587)590-9788, or Delbert Dynna Law Office, (306)764-6856. 2-26

YARD SALE

LARGE COMMUNITY YARD SALE – Friday & Saturday, June 28 & 29 at the Kilwinning corner 6 miles north of Leask along Hwy 40. Lots of power and hand tools, chainsaw, numerous household items and furniture plus clothes, antiques and collectibles, hundreds of movies, records, CDs, cassettes, 8-tracks, and musical related items, guitars, amps, PA system and more, many sports related items, fibreglass boat, electric motor, air rifle, golf clubs and 2 boat motors, John Deere riding lawn mower, 16’ heavy duty 3 axle trailer hitch style and 3 axle 24’ fifth wheel trailer (needs work), several push carts, and hundreds of other items too numerous to mention. Hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks will also be available! 3-26

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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

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10:30 a.m. Worship
Pastor Lorne Valuck
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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

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

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
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Minister's Warden:
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Butorac - 2nd Sunday of the
month

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Victoire
Sat., 7:30 p.m. - Mass.
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Sat., 9:45 a.m. - Sabbath
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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 11:00 a.m.
Rev. Sarah Urano

UNITED /ANGLICAN

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

CATHOLIC

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

COWBOY CHURCH

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

FIELDS OF HOPE (HOFFNUNGSFELDER) MENNONITE CHURCH

Glenbush
Worship - 10:00 am
1st Sun. (June, July, Aug.)
Worship - 10:00 am
at Rabbit Lake
Mennonite Church

BETHEL

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

BELBUTTE FULL GOSPEL

11 am Worship Service

MENNONITE BRETHREN

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

Gideons International of Canada

Battlefords Camp
Phone Art Martynes
(306) 389-4633

PARTNERS IN WORSHIP

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

LAKELAND COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

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House is eligible to be licensed as a group home for up to 12 spaces; provider must have ECE Level One or be willing to complete it within three years of being licensed; \$800/mo lease with all utilities paid other than phone/internet; Fire Code Inspection complete; some early childhood furnishings supplied and start up grant money available through Ministry of Early Learning and Childcare; basement bedroom available to provider to stay during poor weather conditions if you are traveling to work; provider must carry \$5 million liability coverage.

You would run this business as your own. Current waiting list and need should fill the spaces in this house immediately.

Contact Kathy Sproule at 306-460-8320 or kathy.sproule@sasktel.net.

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