



Canwood car show revs up in 4th year



A large crowd gathered by Canwood’s grain elevators for the fourth annual Canwood Car Show.

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Car lovers of all ages were in for a treat on Sunday, Aug. 3, when the Canwood Car Show brought an eclectic mix of about 70 classic cars, trucks, and motorcycles to the community for the day.

Now in its fourth year, the car show has come a long way from its first outing, when founder Sven Johnson pulled it together on a week’s notice. And while its continued growth means more work for him and his wife, Sarah, his hope is to keep making it better for the community.

Born and raised in Canwood, and now living on the farm he grew up

on, Sven says he’s watched the village change over the years and gradually lose its businesses, as well as its sense of community. With the car show, he’s hoping to change that as much as possible.

“If you have a strong sense of community, that’s what fuels businesses and the economy of an area. If people want to be there, they’ll spend their time and money there,” he said.

“I don’t have time to run 10 businesses, but maybe I can pull off a big event every year and make people feel like they belong there and know the people there.”

In an effort to grow the Canwood Car Show into a day-long community gathering, this year’s rendition

included several new attractions, including live music performed by Saskatoon’s The Great Fuss, a sunglasses making activity hosted by Jordan Arnason (Threads by J), a drive-in theatre-style screening of Cars on the grain elevator after sundown, and print-on-demand merch.

“A lot of these things were things that we wanted to do for a long time,” Sven said. “Even before the car show was a thing, we always talked about how awesome it would be to do a drive-in movie right on the elevators. It was fun to see it finally happen.”

With more attractions comes a heavier workload and higher costs. Fortunately, Sven says, people and businesses were more than happy to

throw their support behind the event by volunteering or sponsoring.

“It says a lot about the kind of businesses and people who are in our community,” he said.

While the day went off mostly without a hitch, there is still a learning curve with a young and growing event. This year, the plan was to add lawn mower racers as a fun attraction. Unfortunately, due to liability and insurance issues associated with hosting the races on town-owned land, those races became a shorter (but still fun) lawn mower rally.

Sven says he hopes he can find a way to make the races happen in the future.

Continued on page 8



SPIRITWOOD
PHARMACY GROCERY

*Down on the corner...
First & Main*

RCMP news highlights

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

An inmate who escaped custody while performing community service in the Blaine Lake area has been arrested.

On Wednesday, May 21, Garret Gardiner, 33, was doing community service as an inmate with the Saskatoon Provincial Correctional Centre in the area of Martin's Lake Regional Park (about 30 kms north of Blaine Lake) when he fled on foot into the bush.

The Saskatchewan RCMP issued an immediate call to the public for assistance in locating Gardiner. Finally, after more than two months of being unlawfully at large, Gardiner was arrested in Saskatoon on July 28.

He made his first court appearance the following day.

Man charged in 2022 collision

A man involved in a fatal two-vehicle collision west of Emma Lake more than three years ago has been arrested and charged.

On April 4, 2022, the



Garret Gardiner has been arrested after more than two months on the run.

Prince Albert RCMP Detachment responded to a two-vehicle collision involving a car and truck at the intersection of Highway #263 and Okema Beach Road. The driver and sole occupant of the car was declared deceased at the scene, and was later identified as a 64-year-old Keith Herzog.

The truck involved in the collision was abandoned at the scene. Investigators believed the vehicle's occupant(s) had fled on foot, and investigation determined that the truck was previously reported as stolen out of Leask the day before the accident.

Prince Albert RCMP continued to investigate with the assistance of a Saskatchewan RCMP collision reconstructionist, Police Dog Services, and Prince Albert General Investigation Section (GIS). And as a result of further investigation, on July 23, 2025, Prince Albert GIS arrested an adult male in relation to the fatal collision.

29-year-old Raven Bird from Sturgeon Lake First Nation is charged with: one count each of operation of a motor vehicle causing death, failure to stop after accident resulting in death, and possession of property obtained by crime (over \$5,000).

Bird made his first appearance in Prince Albert Provincial Court on July 30.

Man arrested in Glaslyn theft

A man who stole items from a store in Glaslyn has been arrested after

being pursued by police all the way to Prince Albert.

On July 23, at approximately 2:10 p.m., the Turtleford/Glaslyn RCMP Detachment received a report of a theft from a business in Glaslyn. Initial investigation determined an individual or individuals stole fuel from the business and left in a black car. Officers responded and made patrols in the area looking for the suspect vehicle.

Fifteen minutes later, the Spiritwood RCMP Detachment located the suspect vehicle on Highway #3 near Shell Lake. Officers activated their emergency equipment and initiated a traffic stop. The suspect vehicle did not stop, fleeing from police at a high rate of speed.

Later that day, around 5:20 p.m., the Prince Albert RCMP Detachment located the suspect vehicle on Highway #355 near Sturgeon Lake First Nation. A traffic stop was initiated but the suspect vehicle continued to flee from police.

Shortly after, officers observed the suspect vehicle entering the City of Prince Albert on Highway #3. For safety reasons, a tire deflation device was set up and the suspect vehicle ran it over, causing all four tires to deflate. The suspect vehicle continued to drive at a reduced speed before coming to a stop. Three individuals exited the vehicle and attempted to flee on foot. Two males and a female were arrested at the scene.

Further investigation

determined the suspect vehicle had previously been reported as stolen out of Saskatoon.

As a result, 33-year-old Dylan Couillonneur from Beauval, Sask., is charged with one count each of: flight from a peace officer, dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, resisting/obstructing a peace officer, possession of property obtained by crime (over \$5,000), and operation of a vehicle while prohibited.

Couillonneur made his first appearance in Prince Albert Provincial Court on July 25.

The second male and the female were later released without charge.

Assault suspect arrested

A man wanted in connection with an assault that occurred in Big River in April has been arrested.

On April 11, Officers with the Big River RCMP Detachment received a report of a serious assault, and were advised the victim was being transported to

hospital, at approximately 2 p.m. and immediately attended the residence. Initial investigation determined that two adult male suspects had entered the residence and assaulted a male occupant with a weapon. The victim's physical injuries were described as non-life-threatening.

Officers located and seized various weapons at the residence, but did not locate the two male suspects.

As a result of investigation, 45-year-old Otis Watier of Lashburn, Sask., was charged with one count each of breaking and entering and committing an indictable offense, aggravated assault, and uttering threats.

Police arrested Watier in Lloydminster on Thursday, April 17, but continued to search for the second suspect, identified as 51-year-old Cole Hegland of Big River.

On July 16, Big River RCMP, with the assistance of the Saskatch-



Cole Hegland has been arrested in connection with an April assault in Big River.

ewan RCMP's Prince Albert Warrant Enforcement Suppression Team (WEST), arrested Hegland at a rural property in the RM of Big River.

Officers also located and seized a firearm inside the residence.

As a result of continued investigation, Hegland is additionally charged with one count each of unsafe storage of a firearm and possession of a firearm when knowing possession is unauthorized.

Hegland made his first appearance in Prince Albert Provincial Court on Aug. 6.

PIHC re-siding project to begin in August

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Shellbrook's Parkland Integrated Health Centre will be sporting a new look come the fall.

Per a competition posting on sasktenders.ca, The Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) put out a tender to replace the siding on the facility. Competition for the tender closed on May 22, and the tender was awarded shortly thereafter, bearing a price tag of \$930,000.

A spokesperson for the SHA says the work, which includes all siding except for some trim, is expected to

begin in August and be completed by November.

Though Parkland Integrated Health Centre has only been open for 12 years, and siding has a typical lifespan of 20+ years, the SHA says routine monitoring indicated it was in need of replacement. The new siding will be a more durable metal lap siding material.

"The siding has degraded due to normal wear and tear," the SHA said in a statement. "The concrete material has had a shorter than expected lifespan and it has been deemed essential to replace the product with a more durable metal material."

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Spiritwood Seniors activity highlights

By ROSANNE SMITH
Spiritwood Seniors

The summer activities of the Spiritwood Seniors just roll along. Each week, Bingo is played every Thursday afternoon, while Cribbage is played every Friday afternoon. We have Kaiser every third Sunday of each month.

Along with the local seniors, folks from Leoville & Shell Lake come to enjoy an afternoon of cards. Most days, 4-6 tables play cribbage and good crowds come to play Kaiser Sunday evenings, with up to eight

tables playing, followed with coffee or juice and a piece of cake or cookie. The afternoons and evenings are enjoyed by all, and everyone is welcome to join.

Cribbage winners for the months of June and July were:

June 6: 1st Linda Hill, 2nd Cheryl Smith, 3rd Rosanne Smith, 1st 24 hand Irene Marion, 50/50 Odelia Henri.

June 13: 1st Rosanne Smith, 2d Olive Christopherson, 3rd Joyce Willick, 50/50 Rosanne Smith.

June 20: 1st Andy Zarry, 2nd Joyce Willick, 3rd Dave Cornielson, 50/50

Cheryl Smith.

June 27: 1st Barb Lutz, 2nd Eleanor Pallo, 3rd Cheryl Smith, 50/50 Eleanor Pallo.

July 4: 1st Pat Lutz, 2nd Gerald Lafond, 3rd Rosanne Smith, 50/50 Bernice Tiringer.

July 11: 1st Armand Smith, 2nd Barb Lutz, 3rd John Del Frari, 1st 24 hand Barb Lutz, 50/50 Judy Brule.

July 18: 1st Pat Lutz, 2nd Eleanor Pallo, 3rd John Del Frari, 1st 24 hand Bernice Tiringer, 50/50 Helen Mack.

July 25: 1st Barb Lutz, 2nd Eleanor Pallo, 3rd Cheryl Smith, 50/50 Bernice Tiringer.

Kaiser is played once a month and the June and July winners were as follows:

June: Men 1st Linda Hill, 2nd Anne Marie Laventure, Ladies 1st Liz Valette, 2nd Denise Henderson, 50/50 Anne Marie Laventure.

July: Men 1st Linda Hill, 2nd John Del Frari, Ladies 1st Rosanne Smith, 2nd Barb Lutz, 50/50 Rosanne Smith.

On July 24, after Bingo, the club had a birthday and anniversary cake for members in attendance who had a birthday or anniversary in the month of June and July.



Anniversary celebrants, from left to right: Isabel Horn, Roseanne Smith, Armand Smith, and Helen Mack. Missing: Joe Horn and Murray Mack.



June and July birthdays. Seated, left to right: Fern Millar, Betty Hall, Vi Anderson, and Betty Duhaime. Back: Gilles Ouellette.

Premier Moe impersonated in scam

By FCAA
Submitted

The Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority of Saskatchewan (FCAA) is warning Saskatchewan people of impersonation scams on social media claiming that Premier Scott Moe is endorsing online investment platforms.

The FCAA informs Saskatchewan investors that Premier Scott Moe does not endorse or advertise any investment platforms.

“Do not make investment decisions based on public figure endorsements,” FCAA Securities Division Executive Director Dean Murrison said. “Scammers can create fraudulent news and social media articles that imitate the real media source. Before you consider investing with an entity, always check the registration status at aretheyregistered.ca and do not deal with any unregistered entities.”

The FCAA cautions investors and consumers not to send money to companies that are not registered in Saskatchewan, as they may not be legitimate businesses.

If you have experienced entities claiming public figure endorsements for their investment platforms or anyone claiming to be acting on their behalf, contact the FCAA’s Securities Division at

306-787-5936.

In Saskatchewan, individuals or companies need to be registered with the FCAA to trade or sell securities or derivatives. The registration provisions of The Securities Act, 1988, and accompanying regulations are intended to ensure that only honest and knowledgeable people are registered to sell securities and derivatives and that their businesses are financially stable.

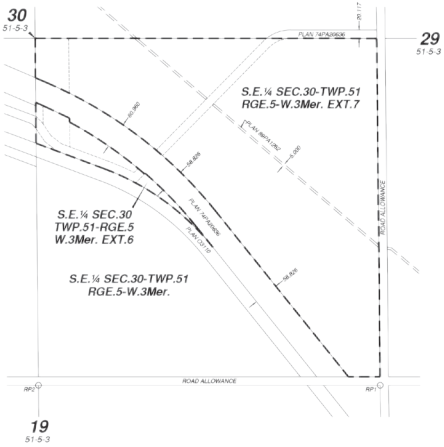
Tips to protect yourself:

- Always verify that the person or company is registered in Saskatchewan to sell or advise about securities or derivatives. To check registration, visit The Canadian Securities Administrators’ National Registration Search at aretheyregistered.ca.
- Know exactly what you are investing in. Make sure you understand how the investment, product, or service works.

- Get a second opinion and seek professional advice about the investment.
- Do not allow unknown or unverified individuals to remotely access your computer.
- Never make an investment decision based on a notable figure endorsement. Scammers often create fake social media posts or news articles claiming an investment is endorsed by a notable figure.

R.M. OF CANWOOD NO. 494 PUBLIC NOTICE

In the matter of Section 13 of *The Municipalities Act*, being a statute of the Province of Saskatchewan and pursuant to the Public Notice Bylaw No. 2005-10 of the R.M. of Canwood No. 494, notice is hereby given that the Council will consider at their Council Meeting on August 19, 2025, the matter of permanently closing the road allowances for the purpose of consolidation, described as all those portions of the original road allowance within the SE 30-51-05 W3, as shown in the bold dashed lines on the Descriptive Plan Type 2 on the map below.



Any person opposing this closure will be given an opportunity to be heard at a public meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Canwood No. 494 on August 19, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers, 641 Main Street, Canwood, Sask.

Dated in the Village of Canwood, in the Province of Saskatchewan, this 31st day of July, 2025.

Lorna Benson, Administrator

The Shellbrook Housing Authority is seeking MAINTENANCE AND GROUNDSKEEPING CONTRACTORS

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Maintenance Contract duties include ensuring that the exterior and interior of all buildings are kept in a state of good repair; ensuring timely attention to maintenance issues (correcting all building components); performing minor plumbing and carpentry repairs; conducting routine inspections (boilers, fire extinguishers and crawl spaces); and ensuring capital assets are maintained and operated in an efficient, effective manner.

Grounds-keeping Contract duties include snow and ice removal from all public entrances, parking lots and sidewalks within 24 hours of snowfall; maintaining lawns, shrubs, and garden areas during the growing season. The general appearance of all grounds, parking and outdoor storage and trash/recycling collection areas are to be well-kept and free of trash. This work is limited to Heritage and Homestead Place, apartment buildings and any unoccupied rental units. These contracts are ideal for someone interested in a part-time opportunity.

Prospective Contractors are invited to quote, supply resume and references. These contracts will remain open until they are filled.

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By-election debate shows need for electoral reform

In general, elections are pretty simple affairs – where voters are concerned, at least.

While there's always a small group of undecided voters, who either can't make up their minds or are waiting to see each party's platform, most know which party they'll be voting for before the shiny promises are rolled out.

For these folks, elections are as simple as standing in a line and marking an X in a circle. After this, they can sit back and relax, knowing they've done their civic duty by participating in Canada's democracy.

But here in Canada, the last federal election in the spring came with a twist, thanks to the efforts of the Longest Ballot Committee, an activist group working to raise awareness about the flaws of Canada's first-past-the-post electoral system.

In addition to calling for electoral reform, the group contends that there is a conflict of interest when politicians are in charge of election rules, and advocates for election laws to be decided by a permanent, independent, and non-partisan body.

Though the Longest Ballot Committee only rose to prominence in the spring, after flooding the ballot in the Carleton riding with more than 90 candidates, the organization has been active since 2019 federal election.

While its initial efforts in then-Conservative Leader Andrew Scheer's riding of Regina Qu'Appelle saw limited success, its momentum grew in subsequent by-elections, including the 2022 Mississauga–Lakeshore by-election, the 2023 Winnipeg South Centre by-election, and the 2024 Toronto–St. Paul's by-election.

Its greatest feat to date, however, comes in the upcoming Battle River-Crowfoot by-election, where current Conservative Party Leader Pierre Poilievre is hoping to find his way back into parliament as one of more than 200 candidates.



JORDAN
TWISS

~
News Editor

Seeing this record-breaking field of candidates, Elections Canada has stepped in and will now require voters to write the name of their preferred candidate, rather than having to find it on a mile-long ballot and mark an X beside it.

Understandably, having his prospective riding targeted by the Longest Ballot Committee in two consecutive elections hasn't sat well with Mr. Poilievre, who has called it a "scam" and a "blatant abuse of our democratic system."

"This is not democracy in action," Mr. Poilievre wrote in a letter to Government House Leader Steven MacKinnon, calling on the government to take immediate steps to quash the Longest Ballot Committee's efforts.

"It's a deliberate attempt to manipulate the rules, confuse voters, and undermine confidence in our elections."

Mr. Poilievre's letter included a list of electoral reform demands, including a requirement for prospective candidates to receive signatures from 0.5 per cent of a riding's population before they can be nominated (rather than only needing 100 signatures), a prohibition on signing an endorsement for more than one candidate, and prohibiting official agents from representing more than one candidate.

On the surface, none of these recommendations seems outrageous, aside from the fact that they could make it more difficult for serious independent candidates to run in elections – a move that isn't exactly democratic.

At the same time, while the tactics of the Longest Ballot Committee may be questionable (in particular, its seeming bias for targeting Conservative Party leaders), it is right about one thing: elected officials shouldn't be the ones making the rules about how they get elected.

What's more, if Mr. Poilievre wants



to talk about gaming the system, he may want to look in the mirror first.

Mr. Poilievre lost in the 2025 federal election. Period. But rather than graciously accept the defeat as the end of his 20-year political career, he's continued to live in the residence of the official opposition leader and parachuted into a riding he doesn't live in and has zero connection to aside from the fact that he's originally from Alberta.

Regardless of whether Damien Kurek, the original MP for Battle River-Crowfoot, stepped aside willingly or was pushed out to give Mr. Poilievre an "easy win," it is a manipulation of our democracy.

There's also something condescending, patronizing, and disingenuous about Mr. Poilievre's "concern" that the Longest Ballot Committee's efforts will confuse voters.

Does he truly believe voters aren't intelligent or discerning enough to locate his name on a ballot and mark an X beside it?

What's most disappointing of all, though, is that Mr. Poilievre's outrage has become a distraction, pulling the focus away from the discussion about the need for electoral reform.

A decade ago, when Prime Minister Justin Trudeau was swept to power, there was an all too brief hope that

the 2015 election might be the last under the first-past-the-post system.

But, not too long after becoming Prime Minister, Mr. Trudeau conveniently decided that the current system, which allows a government to seize 100 per cent of the power without even needing anywhere near 50 per cent of the vote, suited him just fine.

Who can blame him? Since World War 2, Canada has only had four majority governments elected by a majority of voters (the last being Brian Mulroney's Conservative government in 1984).

Whether its in federal or provincial elections, the first-past-the-post system is outdated and undemocratic. Period. Its winner-take-all principle routinely negates the votes of more than half of Canadians, and only deepens political divisions.

By contrast, a system like proportional representation, which is used by 80 per cent of Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development countries, would deliver results that accurately reflect the democratic will of Canadians, and force political parties to work together on behalf of all Canadians.

If Mr. Poilievre is truly concerned about the integrity of Canada's democracy, what he should really be talking about is electoral reform.

Shellbrook Chronicle

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12-40 & Beyond Tour opens door into art

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

For most folks, the closest they'll get to interacting with art is by passively observing it at an art gallery or museum.

Knowing the experience is vastly different when people can connect with both the artist and the artwork, the organizers of the 12-40 and Beyond Tour have spent more than two decades opening doors into not just their homes, but their creativity.

This year's tour, held on July 26 and 27, continued this effort, as about a dozen local and area artisans showcased their photography, stained glass, wood carvings, and much more in Leask, Marcelin, Blaine Lake, and Hafford.

"Being able to see where an artist lives, you get a different glimpse into their creative process and the artist. If you go into a gallery and look at their works, you can appreciate their art, but you don't really see the spark behind it," said Hafford-based photographer Christine Watson (Pagangel Productions).

"Engagement with art is important. Especially in today's society, that creative expression needs to be fostered in children."

Though she's been taking photographs since she first held a camera as a child, Watson joined the tour in 2010. The opportunity arose after she went on the tour with her sister in 2009, and was

encouraged to join by Doreen Kalmakoff, one of the tour's founding members, as well as Nydia Pobran, another Hafford area artist who participated in the tour prior to moving to B.C.

While she still considers herself primarily a photographer, Watson admits she gets bored of just printing and framing her photos. That's why she likes to experiment by using her own homemade paper, creating custom frames that are as much a part of the art as the photo, or pressing printed photos onto prepared pieces of wood.

She also refrains from using digital editing tools and embraces randomness as much as possible, calling it an homage to old dark rooms, where photos couldn't really be edited beyond playing with the light and exposure.

Situated at the southern end of the 12-40 tour, Watson says her studio is usually pretty quiet — especially when she's the only

artist showcasing in Hafford. Still, she says she was happy to have people come in once again this year.

"The people who did come to my site were very engaged and interested," she said. "That's always important to me. I appreciate it when people come, actually ask questions, and talk about their perspectives. That conversation about art is important to me."

Also showcasing this year was Leask-based stained glass artist Deb Anderson, who joined a handful of other artisans at the Butler Building in Leask.

While she's been creating stained glass pieces, including sun catchers, lamps, and windows, for more than four decades, Anderson only got involved with the tour seven years ago. For her, it was a means to get to know people and gain exposure for her work, after moving to Leask from the Lloydminster area and becoming the community's full-time postmaster.



Located east of Marcelin, Ken Nelson was showcasing his wood work.
Photos courtesy of 12-40 and Beyond Tour

"I didn't really know anybody. So it just seemed like the art tour would be something really good I could do with all the stained glass I brought with me," Anderson said.

"It's a really good way for artists to get the word out."

Beyond Watson's photography and An-

derson's stained glass, this year's 12-40 and Beyond Tour had something for everyone to appreciate.

In Leask, along with Anderson, was Phil Hamel with his wood work, Kathleen Montgomery and Bill McDonald with their denim creations, Glen Bloom with his metal gravestone plaques, guest artist and author Norma Galambos, Ev McDonald with her Photography, and Carmen and Diane Larsen with their crafts.

A short drive south and west to the Muskeg Lake Cree Nation brought tourists to the Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, where Carol and Harry Lafond (Aldina Pictographs) were

displaying their artwork and photography.

By driving further south to Marcelin, then heading east along rural roads, tourists could next reach the workshop of Ken Nelson, who's been woodturning for more than 40 years.

A trip to Blaine Lake, meanwhile, led tourists to the Blaine Lake Public Library, where the donated artwork of founding member Doreen Kalmakoff was on display, with proceeds from any sales going to the library.

Last, but certainly not least, following the red grain elevators west to Hafford would bring tourists to Watson's studio to take in her photography.



Located in Hafford, Christine Watson was displaying her unique photography.



Deb Anderson was one of several artists located in Leask, and was showcasing her stained glass pieces.



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RCMP shares more 2024 crime stats

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

From traffic collisions to violent crimes, the Saskatchewan RCMP Operational Communications Centre (OCC) plays a vital role during emergencies across the province as the first voice people hear when they call for help.

Now, data revealed by the Saskatchewan RCMP is shining a spotlight on the work these dispatchers do, and how their workload is continuing to grow.

According to the RCMP, the OCC answers approximately 3.5 calls every five minutes, whether it be through the 310-RCMP non-emergency line or 911 calls. That number is gradually increasing, as the OCC received 366,737 calls for service in 2024 — four per cent more than in 2023.

More than 4,400 of the calls received last year were classified as Priority 1 — life-threatening or urgent emergency situations requiring immediate police intervention.

“These numbers — and the trend we’re seeing — paint a picture of the demands placed on emergency communi-

cation services and of officers who respond 24/7 across the province,” said Jocelyn James, manager of the Saskatchewan RCMP OCC.

The OCC has already answered 169,598 calls for service in the first five months of 2025 (the most recent statistics available at time of publication). Of these, more than 1,720 were Priority 1 calls.

In the midst of this increase in calls being handled by the OCC, the RCMP is reporting that 2024 saw an increase in the number of fatalities on rural roads.

Last year, Saskatchewan RCMP officers responded to 77 fatal collisions that resulted in 88 deaths.

More people were seriously injured from collisions, too. There were 271 collisions involving serious injuries in 2024, up 43 per cent from the previous year. These collisions resulted in 321 people seriously injured, up 48 per cent from the previous year.

“First off, we want to send our condolences to all the families affected by these tragedies,” said Supt. Grant St. Germaine, officer in charge of Saskatchewan RCMP Traffic Services. “It’s

important when we talk about statistics to remember that there are numerous lives that are changed forever behind each of these collisions. We all need to do our part to try to prevent every collision we can.”

There were four primary factors in fatal and serious injury collisions in 2024: impaired driving; distracted driving; dangerous driving behaviour (primarily speeding); and failure to use a seatbelt in Saskatchewan RCMP jurisdiction.

Saskatchewan RCMP statistics show that male drivers are more likely to be at fault in both serious and fatal collisions.

Whatever their gender, the age group at highest risk of being involved in a fatal and/or serious collision in Saskatchewan RCMP jurisdiction is those aged 16 to 25.

So far in 2025, the number of fatalities continue to rise on Saskatchewan roads.

To date, there have been 51 fatal collisions and 54 deaths. That’s 13 more lives lost than there were last year at the same time. Nearly 40 per cent of these deaths were related to someone not wearing their seatbelt.

“It’s unfortunate that I have to keep repeating the basic driving safety

tips. But we continue to see risky driving behaviour contributing to serious collisions,” Supt. St. Germaine says. “Remember, always obey posted speed limits, never drive impaired by alcohol or drugs, put the phone down and always remember to wear your seatbelt — it may keep you alive.”

On one positive note, RCMP statistics show that fewer of these calls are related to break-ins.

According to police, break and enters in Saskatchewan remained relatively stable between 2023 and 2024, with a 2 per cent increase noted year over year. Officers indicate break-ins to non-dwelling places, such as sheds, outbuildings and abandoned houses, are the driving force of this increase.

In contrast, residential break-ins continue to decrease in Saskatchewan, dropping 15 per cent over the last decade. Although the number of residential break-ins is decreasing, break-ins to residences remain the most common type of break and enter in Saskatchewan.

“If there is one place that people want to feel safe, it is within their own homes. Property crime, such as break and enters, can take away that feeling of safety. Although break-

ins may not cause physical harm, they are violating and intrusive,” said S/Sgt. Jill McLaren, the officer who leads Saskatchewan RCMP’s Community Safety and Wellbeing Unit.

“While break and enters can affect anyone, it’s promising to see that its impacting 15% less residences than it did a decade ago — that’s over 300 fewer households dealing with this issue. Though we can’t speculate on the cause of this decrease, staying alert and reporting suspicious activity can make a difference. Every tip helps officers better understand crime patterns and respond more effectively. The eyes and ears of the public are key to us seeing these rates drop even further.”

Break and enters are a crime driven by opportunity — when a place looks unoccupied and unsecured, it becomes an easy target for thieves. The Saskatchewan RCMP advises the public to take the following precautions to help continue this downward trend of residential break-ins:

- Have eyes on your property: Consider installing a monitored security or alarm system. Install motion-sensor security lights and timer lights that turn on at sundown to illuminate

your property and discourage trespassers. Trim trees and other brush in your yard to make for easy property monitoring.

- Out of sight is best: Limit the number of valuable items in your home that someone could see from a window or entryway. Do not leave spare keys in an obvious spot. Keep valuable items in a safe that is hidden.
- Make sure its locked: Lock and secure your doors and windows — even if you are home and in your backyard.
- Ensure it looks occupied: An empty house is a thieves’ playground. Make your home appear inhabited — even if it’s not. If you’re going away, ask someone you trust to stay at your place or keep an eye on your property. Avoid posting details on social media that imply you are not home.

If you witness suspicious activity, or if you are a victim of property crime, report information to Saskatchewan RCMP by calling 310-RCMP or by using the Saskatchewan RCMP’s Online Crime Reporting tool. The public can also report information anonymously by contacting Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or www.saskcrimestoppers.com.

Highway 55 Waste Management Corporation

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Highway 55 Waste Management Corporation is currently inviting applications for a permanent **Office Administrator** to provide support to the Operations Manager and Secretary/Treasurer in the management and operation of the regional landfill.

General Duties:

- Attending to inquiries in person, on the telephone and by written communication;
- Processing accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, payroll deduction submissions, receipting, updating public works and carrying out tasks as assigned by the Operations Manager and/or Secretary/Treasurer;
- Maintaining the website as well as advertising;
- Assisting with annual budget and audit preparations;
- Keeping records of daily work performed in the manner prescribed by the Secretary/Treasurer;
- Maintaining accurate inventory and equipment-costing records;
- Preparing reports and summaries for presentation to the Board.

Qualifications:

- Completion of Grade 12;
- Certificate in a business-related program from a recognized college or equivalent training and experience;
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office programs;
- Knowledge in basic accounting principles and practices;
- Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written;
- Ability to deal effectively with the public and to work independently.

Highway 55 offers a competitive salary and benefit plan in accordance with qualifications and experience. Qualified individuals are invited to submit a resume and cover letter detailing how their qualifications match those listed above by **2:00 PM, Wednesday, August 20th, 2025** to:

Highway 55 Waste Management Corporation
Box 10, Canwood, SK S0J 0K0
Phone: 306-468-2014
Email: admin@rmofcanwood.ca

Highway 55 Waste Management Corporation thanks all applicants; however, only candidates interviewed will be contacted.

Sask. gov’t fulfills food bank commitment

By **MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SERVICES**
Submitted

As announced in the 2025-26 Provincial Budget, the Government of Saskatchewan is providing \$1 million to Food Banks of Saskatchewan in August 2025 to distribute to agencies across the province.

“This funding fulfills our government’s commitment to provide \$2 million over two years to help Saskatchewan families and food banks with rising food costs,” Social Services Minister Terry Jenson said. “By partnering with Food Banks of Saskatchewan once again this year, we are providing additional support to communities across our province.”

The \$2 million commitment was first announced in July 2024, with the first \$1 million installment provided to Food Banks of Saskatchewan in August 2024. The Ministry of Social Services will work with Food Banks of

Saskatchewan to distribute the second \$1 million installment in August 2025 to agencies based on the population and average food bank usage of the communities they serve.

“Saskatchewan Food Banks are experiencing an unprecedented year of demand, making it increasingly difficult to stock adequate food supplies,” Food Banks of Saskatchewan Executive Director Michael Kincade said. “The relentless rise in inflation is taking a toll on hunger and food insecurity, affecting not just low-income families but also those with higher incomes. As the need grows while donations dwindle, this support arrives at a vital moment for us to nourish our friends, neighbors, and loved ones.”

This investment is part of the affordability initiatives introduced in Saskatchewan’s 2025-26 Provincial Budget to benefit Saskatchewan people and families, including:

- Increasing monthly income

assistance benefits by two per cent for Saskatchewan Income Support (SIS) and Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability (SAID) clients;

- Increasing the Personal Care Home Benefit by up to \$1,000 per month, helping make the cost of living in a licensed personal care home more affordable for Saskatchewan seniors;
- Increasing the Saskatchewan Low-Income Tax Credit by five per cent annually for the next four years;
- Doubling the Active Families Benefit to make it more affordable for families to access children’s sports, arts, cultural and recreational activities; and
- Enhancing basic tax credits including the basic exemption, spousal, equivalent-to-spouse, seniors supplement and dependent child tax credits.

For more information about Food Banks of Saskatchewan, visit: www.foodbankssk.ca or contact your local food bank.

Research remains at the heart of agriculture

When you have been covering agricultural stories for as long as this writer, you have seen many research plots through the years.

The agriculture sector is one which does invest in how to raise better crops, with funding from companies invested in the sector – herbicide and fertilizer manufacturers, and thankfully still public dollars from the provincial and federal governments.

As a result, there have been hundreds of research plots spotted across the Prairies through the years all hoping to show ways to improve crops in the region.

It's certainly not a quick process, and at times it is even difficult to track what is being accomplished because the



CALVIN DANIELS

research carried out is so diverse.

It starts, of course, simply with how diverse Prairie cropping choices are.

While the vast majority of acres are dedicated to canola and wheat, the crops producers grow include barley, oats, flax, mustard, quinoa, various types of lentils, field peas, beans and chickpeas, and the list goes on.

Although many crops are minor in nature, they can be profitable, and

that profitability only increases with better varieties or agronomic technology, and both of those come from research efforts.

Of course, the most obvious effort of research is to achieve better yields. More bushels from an acre means greater profit potential. Even modest gains through new varieties can be significant if they are achieved with the same input costs.

After that, research delves into the nitty gritty of producing a crop.

How does one provide plants across 160 acres with the optimum fertilizer they require when it is known that need can vary based on soil testing?

How does one provide those nutrients best?

What does one do to effectively deal with weeds,

or insects, or fungus?

And the deeper one goes into finding solutions, the more costs that a producer might incur.

Optimum fertilizers and plant protections may boost yields but the producer is left to puzzle out whether the boost in yields (and profits) outweighs the cost increases.

Associated with that, producers have to know

what risk they are willing to take on too.

At the end of the day every crop is ultimately at the whim of Mother Nature. Late spring or early fall frosts can ruin the best of crops. So too can too much, or too little rain, or severe heat at just the wrong time. These are things the farmer has no control over and research will have little

impact on.

It becomes something of a jigsaw puzzle for producers. Each must look at what research provides and determine what pieces fit the picture of their farm best, and it will not be the same for all.

Still research remains the foundation from which farmers can construct the best plan for their operations.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SPIRITWOOD: Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 10am - 5pm; Wednesday 10am - 5pm; Thursday 1pm to 5pm; Friday 10am - 5pm
LEOVILLE: Wapiti Regional Library - Wednesday 10am - 4pm; Thursday 10am - 4pm
SHELL LAKE: Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 11am - 4pm; Wednesday 12 pm - 5 pm

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 (as of July 2): Tuesday 9:30am - 4pm; Wednesday 9:30am - 4pm; Phone: 306-468-2501
DEBDEN: Wapiti Library hours: Tuesday 10am - 4pm; Wednesday 12pm - 6pm. Librarian: Aline Hannon
LEASK: Wapiti Library & Legacy Gallery Hours - Tuesday 9am - 2pm; Wednesday 2pm - 8pm; Friday 9am - 12pm
MARCELIN: Wapiti Library - Saturday 10am - 2pm; Thursday 2pm - 8pm. 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.

BIG RIVER: Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting – Every Wednesday, 7:30 pm @ Train Station in Big River (Railway Avenue)

SHELL LAKE AREA: 2025 Thickwood Hills Studio Trail – Saturday & Sunday, August 9 & 10, 10am - 5pm. Celebrating our *25th Anniversary* with founder and Saskatchewan Order of Merit recipient Rigmor Clarke! www.thickwoodhillsstudiotrail.com | facebook.com/thickwoodhillsstudiotrail
CANWOOD: Walter Willoughby Horticultural Society 62nd Annual Show – Thursday, August 14, 2025, Canwood Community Hall. Doors open 2pm; Awards at 4pm. Bring exhibits Wed. 5-8pm or Thurs. 7:30-9am. Everyone welcome! Show books available - Call 306-747-3301. Admission \$3; Coffee/Desert \$6; 50/50
CANWOOD: The Canadian Grand Masters “Sendoff” Fiddle Show and Dry Dance – Monday, August 18, 2025, 7p.m. – 11p.m., Canwood Elks Community Centre. Come enjoy an evening of lively music featuring Saskatchewan fiddlers & participants heading to the 2025 Canadian Grand Masters Fiddling Competition. Admission: Adults: \$20.00; Children (6–15): \$5.00; Preschoolers: Free. Tickets available at the door. Coffee & squares, Canteen, Raffle tickets ,CDs, music books & fiddle wares available for purchase. Made possible with the help from Canwood Public Library Board.
SPIRITWOOD: Spiritwood Horticulture Society Annual Show – Friday, August 15, 2025 @ Spiritwood Civic Centre. Doors open to the public @ 2pm; Awards Presentations @ 5:30pm. Canteen on site. *Entries will be accepted on Thurs., Aug. 14 from 2pm - 7:30pm* For more information call Megan Wasden @ 306-883-7202.

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Crop Report: July 22 to 28

By **MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**
Submitted

Sporadic showers brought much needed moisture and, in some cases, hail to certain areas of the province, while cooler weather brought relief to crops still in flower. Producers are hoping for more moisture to help with head and pod filling, but for many advanced crops, additional moisture will have little impact on yield at this stage. In some areas, a second cut of hay is unlikely due to the lack of moisture and crops are being cut for feed where shortages are anticipated.

Rain fell in a few areas of the province this past week, but many regions received only trace amounts or no rain at all. The Richmond area reported the most rain this week with 62 millimetres (mm), followed by the Meadow Lake and Alida areas with 47 and 46 mm respectively. Forty-one mm of rain fell in the Carnduff area and 38 mm was recorded in the Ox-bow area.

Variable rainfall across the province was not enough to maintain topsoil moisture in many areas this week. Cropland topsoil moisture is rated as 65 per cent adequate, 28 per cent short and seven per cent very short. Hayland topsoil moisture is rated as 55 per cent adequate, 36 per cent short and nine per cent very short. Lastly, pasture topsoil moisture is rated as 55 per cent adequate, 32 per cent short and 13 per cent very short. Livestock producers would like to see rain soon to ensure their pastures can support their livestock through the

end of the growing season.

Most crops are rated as being in fair to good condition with a small number being rated as excellent and a few as poor. Most crops are showing a slight improvement in condition since the last report. The lowest-rated crops are occurring in the southwest, northwest and parts of the northeast, where conditions are driest.

The first-cut haying operations are starting to wind down with 11 per cent standing, 21 per cent cut and 68 per cent baled or put up as silage. Hay quality of the first cut is rated as eight per cent excellent, 56 per cent good, 30 per cent fair and six per cent poor. A second cut of hay is not likely in many areas unless a substantial amount of rain is received soon to allow for adequate regrowth. In some areas, haying has been slowed due to sporadic showers.

The heat, dry conditions, gophers, grasshoppers, flea beetles and aphids were the most reported sources of crop damage this week. In drier areas, the flowering period of crops may be significantly shortened, and producers are concerned about how much this may impact yield. Producers will take action where needed to control pests, such as grasshoppers and aphids, up until harvest.

As producers prepare for harvest, they are reminded to take safety precautions and preventative fire measures when they can. The Farm Stress Line is available to provide support to producers toll free at 1-800-667-4442.

A complete, printable version of the Crop Report is available online.

Canwood car show revs up in 4th year

Continued from 1

In addition to ensuring people have plenty of things to do throughout the day, the Canwood Car Show also makes sure they're well fed. This year, the Sunny Days Snack Shack was back on dessert refreshment duty at the car show. Meanwhile, a taco in a bag lunch and a pulled pork on a bun supper were being served up to raise funds for Little Red Hens, a local charitable organization that launched in 2023 and delivers monthly bundles of diapers, wipes, and diaper cream to mothers in Debden, Ahtahkakoop, Canwood, Shellbrook, Holbein, and Parkside.

While the final fundraising total

wasn't known as of Monday, an estimated 250 meals were served up throughout the day. Looking ahead to next year, Sven

says his biggest question is how the Canwood Car Show can be done better while still being just as fun. One area he's highlighted for improve-

ment is kid's activities, and, luckily, someone has already stepped up and volunteered to take them over for next year.



Lawn mower races didn't go ahead as planned, but some still brought theirs anyway.



Deb Rigetti's classic pink VW Beetle drew a lot of attention.



Attendees inspect a car in need of some repairs.



There was a vehicle for every kind of automotive enthusiast to appreciate at the Canwood Car Show.



Cal Reid's Mystery Machine brought Scooby Doo and the gang to the car show.



Saskatoon's The Great Fuss provided musical entertainment in the afternoon.



Organizer Sven Johnson shows off his classic motorcycle.



Canwood Car Show attendees take a look at Guy Cyr's 1969 Dodge Polara 500.



About 70 cars were lined up, with Canwood's grain elevators as their backdrop.

Op-Ed: Farmers not behind price increases

By **JAMES HANNAY**
NFU Policy Analyst

Canadians are upset about higher grocery bills, but most farmer incomes have not kept up with inflation. So what is driving prices up at the grocery stores?

Many organizations and consumers point to corporate greed as the cause. While Canadians have had to spend more for less across a variety of commodities since 2020, inflation in the retail grocery sector continues to be higher than in other sectors.

Retail grocery companies’ revenues increased despite a decrease in the volume of food purchased by Canadians. Canadian retail grocers continue to see higher profit margins compared with pre-pandemic levels. Grocers are able to take advantage of inflationary periods to increase profits because of the market power they have: five grocery chains control 75% of the market. Shoppers have few choices, making it easier for retailers to raise prices without losing customers.

In response to a Parliamentary study on rising grocery prices, the grocery chains’ lobby group, the Retail Council of Canada, claimed that: “The combined roles of cost spikes for feed, fuel, and fertilizer, compounded by supply chain disruptions, labour shortages and climate events have been the real drivers of food price inflation and higher costs.”

If that is true, prices paid to farmers should have increased more than the general rate of inflation. Data compiled by the National Farmers Union shows that they have not.

Over the past 30 years the retail price of bread has increased 50%, while Canadian farmers have not seen an equivalent increase in the price of the wheat that they sell at the elevator. The value of farm products have decreased relative to other consumer items. It takes more bushels of wheat to buy a pair of work boots or a house than it did fifty years ago. For example, a top-line, base model of a pickup truck was equivalent to about 2,000 bushels of wheat in 1976. Today, that truck would cost the farmer 7,000 bushels.

This decline in relative value is apparent among other commodities. The retail price of ground beef has doubled since 1994 while the price farmers receive for cull cows used to make hamburgers has increased by just 40%. While the farmers’ price for steers is increasing, the increase in the retail price of steak continues to outpace growth in farm prices. The farm price of hogs compared to bacon and pork chops shows a similar pattern. For all these commodities, the consumer is paying more while the farmer is receiving less. More importantly, beef and pork markets are highly volatile—prices for farmers have crashed several times in the last two decades.

However, supply management, which governs the production of dairy, eggs, chicken, and turkey provides more stability and better outcomes for both farmers and consumers.

Retail prices for milk have increased more slowly than other grocery prices. Compared to other products like bread and ground beef,

milk prices rose by only 27% over the last thirty years. When you buy milk at the grocery store, 30% of what you pay supports Canadian farmers – the farmers’ share of the consumer’s dairy dollar has remained stable. This is true for eggs and chicken as well, where farmers’ also receive roughly a third of the retail price. For supply managed products, consumer prices have risen slower than for other foods, while the farmer’s share has remained consistent, even though retailers set their own prices after. Farmers have no control over prices after the product has left their farms.

Supply management shows it is possible to provide a fair share to farmers and a fair price for consumers. Under supply management, a formula using data from a survey of actual farmers’ production is used to determine a price that covers production costs, ensuring farmers can stay in business producing the food Canadian consumers need.

Production discipline ensures farmers produce enough – and not too much – of their product according to their share of the national quota. Import controls make sure that excess product does not flood the market, depress prices, and lead to waste. Each province has its own share of the national quota managed by its own marketing boards. This means that processing facilities for dairy, egg, chicken, and turkey prod-

ucts are distributed across Canada, guaranteeing that consumers have local products no matter where they live. The high quality and predictability of supply keeps processing and distribution costs down too.

In non-supply managed sectors prices are not determined by their cost of production. Traders buy from farmers at the lowest price possible. Because individual farmers do not have bargaining power they are exposed to big companies’ market power. These companies keep commodity prices down in order to keep their profits up. Grain, beef and pork farmers are at the mercy of the margin-maximizing “buy low – sell high” strategies of commodity traders. Increasing market power allows ever-larger traders to take a bigger bite out of food processors’ bottom line, who in turn pass on this cost increase to wholesalers, and then to retailers.

Supply management keeps food dollars in Canada and protects against tariffs or currency exchange rate shocks. It supports fair incomes for farmers, provides for processing efficiency, and ensures consumers have reliable access to high-quality Canadian food at fair prices.

Farm prices are not driving grocery costs, corporate greed is. Farmers deserve a fair share of food prices. The success of supply management provides clear evidence that this is possible.

Spiritwood library dessert winners



The Spiritwood Public Library’s Dessert of the Month winner for June was Shannon Haggarty. Her dessert was made by Jayde Tymchak. Pictured: Kendall Gaboury (left) was the winner of the July Dessert of the Month. His prize was a decadent Oreo cookie cake made by Ferryn Slater.
By HEATHER GATZKE, Branch Librarian

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**Shellbrook Chronicle
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Minutes of an RM of Canwood meeting

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

A regular meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Canwood No. 494 was held in the Municipal Council Chambers, at 641 Main Street, Canwood, Sask., on June 17, 2025, commencing at 9 a.m.

Present were Reeve Levi Schutte, Chief Administrative Officer Lorna Benson, and the following Councillors for their respective divisions: #1 Kenneth Stene, #2 Gerald Muller, #3, Rick Jensen, #4 Mario Boisvert, #5 Kevin Olson, and #6 Cody Lockhart.

Delegations:

9:15 a.m.: Dwight Diehl, Public Works Supervisor, Municipal Operations Update.

9:30 a.m.: Mike Morris, SARM Legal Counsel

10:45 a.m.: Public Notice,

Road Closure

Schutte: That the minutes of the May 21, 2025, Regular Council Meeting be approved as presented. Carried

Jensen: That the Statement of Financial Activities for the month of May 2025 for the R.M. General Account be approved as presented. Carried

Muller: That we approve the payments as listed on the attached account listing for a total of \$504,775.26, Council Direct Deposits for June and Payroll Direct Deposits for 2025 Pay Period 10, 11 & 12. Carried

Lockhart: That we recall Lorne Benson on June 16, 2025. Carried

Public Works Supervisor Dwight Diehl attended the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

Boisvert: That we extend the Beaver Control Program (BCP) until July 31, 2025. Carried

Lockhart: That we instruct the Chief Administrative Officer to complete and submit an Infrastructure Investment Plan (IIP) to Canada Community-Building Fund for the replacement of the Larsen Bridge with culverts. Carried

Olson: That in the matter of the Penguin Classic Ball Tournament to be held at the Canwood Regional Park on the NE 32-50-04 W3 located within the boundaries of the R.M. of Canwood, we hereby approve and acknowledge the sale and service of beverage alcohol at this outdoor event but do not accept liability which may arise from the event. Carried

Lockhart: That in the matter of Resolution No. 23 of April 15, 2025, we acknowledge that the event of Golden Links Rebekah Lodge #6 of Prince Albert was rescheduled because of weather. Carried

Jensen: That in the matter of the Cameo Community Club Outdoor Reunion to be held at the Cameo Community Club Hall on the SE 28-49-04 W3 located within the boundaries of the R.M. of Canwood, we hereby approve and acknowledge the sale and service of beverage alcohol at this outdoor event but do not accept liability which may arise from the event. Carried

Lockhart: That we purchase a fire skid from Flaman Sales and Rentals at a cost of \$10,500 plus applicable taxes for the Debden Fire Department. Carried

Lockhart: That we approve the Development and Building Permit Applications of Ray Willick to construct a cabin, with approval pursuant to Section 9.1.1(1)(b) of the Municipal Bylaw 2003-7. Carried

Schutte: That we now adjourn at 2:15 p.m.

the Development and Building Permit Applications of Luke Howat to construct an attached garage, with approval pursuant to Section 5.1.1(c) of the Municipal Zoning Bylaw 2003-7. Carried

Muller: That we approve the Discretionary Use Application of Dennis and Vicki Baun, Canwood, Sask., for a second dwelling, pursuant to Section 5.2.1(2)(b) of the Municipal Zoning Bylaw 2003-7 on the condition that the land be subdivided to separate the existing dwellings. Carried

Muller: That we now file the correspondence. Carried

Lockhart: That we purchase an affiliate membership with Farm and Food Care Saskatchewan at a cost of \$1,000 plus applicable taxes. Carried

Schutte: That we now adjourn at 2:15 p.m.

Op-ed: Used cars shouldn't be government cash cow

By GAGE HAUBRICH
CTF Prairie Director

Saskatchewanians drive a lot. And the government of Saskatchewan makes sure to involve itself in every vehicle transaction possible to soak up as much taxes as it can.

Whether it's the minivan to take your kids to school or one of the many farm trucks that dot the yard, Saskatchewanians are no strangers to having multiple vehicles.

And every time you go to sell or purchase one of these vehicles that's worth more than \$5,000, the government expects you to hand them a cheque for the six per cent PST on it, no matter how many times it's been bought and sold before.

On a vehicle worth just over \$5,000, buyers will have to fork over about \$300 to the government.

But it wasn't always this way.

In 2007, the Saskatchewan Party under then leader Brad Wall campaigned on removing PST from used vehicle sales. Wall said it strikes people as "dumb" to pay PST on the same used car multiple times.

The government made good on its promise in November 2007.

"As of today, people buying used light vehicles will not have to pay the PST where tax has previously been paid in full," said then finance minister Rod Gantefoer.

In 2018, the government decided to do something dumb. It reintroduced PST on used vehicles that were worth

more than \$5,000. In the same budget, the government also tacked on the PST to restaurant meals, snack foods and children's clothing.

Maybe in 2018 the \$5,000 threshold stopped the PST from hitting low-income car buyers who just needed a new set of wheels. But with inflation, it's tough to find a drivable car for less than \$5,000. The average used car sold today costs about \$38,210 and comes with a \$2,300 sales tax bill.

It's important to note that the sale price is not the only thing the government considers when sending you your PST bill. If the government's red book value shows that the car is worth more than you paid for it, they send you a PST bill for that amount, but of course, if you paid more than the red book value, the government expects a PST cheque for the higher amount.

The government is punishing car buyers for finding a good deal. A teenager was shopping for his first truck in 2024 and found a smoking deal on a used Silverado for \$12,300. He expected a \$738 tax bill. Instead, the government valued his truck at \$24,500 and sent him a \$1,470 bill.

The government does let you reduce the PST you pay by subtracting the value of any vehicle you trade-in, but only if tax has been paid on it before. If you don't have a trade-in, you are out of luck.

When the government brought the tax in, it expected to earn about \$95 million a year from it. Last year's public accounts show that the government spent almost \$1 billion more than it budgeted. Taxing people looking for a used car is not putting a dent in the government's habit of blowing its own budget.

Instead of trying to take as many tax dollars as possible by taxing the same vehicle multiple times, the government should just stick to its own budget and allow taxpayers to keep more money in their wallets.

Saskatchewan is a huge province and people often drive hours every day, to work, to visit family, or to a kid's baseball tournament. A reliable car is a necessity.

The federal government doesn't even charge GST on vehicles bought through private sales. Alberta doesn't charge PST on any vehicle, because it doesn't have a sales tax.

The government needs to scrap the PST on used vehicles. It's a transparent tax grab from Regina. It was a dumb idea in 2007 and it's an even dumber idea today as car prices climb higher and buyers are stuck with bigger tax bills.

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Shellbrook Chronicle
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Scheffler showing Tiger-like dominance

Scottie Scheffler doesn't wear red shirts on Sundays and is still 11 major championships in arrears, but Scheffler comparisons to Tiger Woods' domination of the world of professional golf are getting louder, more frequent and quite legitimate.

Scheffler, a 29-year-old Texan, has been No. 1 on the Official World Golf Rankings for more than 100 weeks and it's becoming more apparent every day that he'll likely stay there for another couple of hundred weeks.

The quiet, modest family man won his fourth major championship in July at Royal Portrush in Northern Ireland, beating a stacked field with a 17-under-par 267. He won by four shots and those left in his wake were quick to let the world know they were completely outclassed. "I don't think we thought the golfing world would see someone as dominant as Tiger come through so soon, and here's Scottie sort of taking that

throne of dominance," said Xander Schauffele, who's No. 2 in the world ranking but needs a telescope to see the throne on which Scheffler sits. Said Harris English, who finished second at Portrush: "There's no stat that he's bad in. It's like, how do you beat this guy?" Rory McIlroy, generally regarded as Scheffler's chief rival, said, "You could argue that there's only maybe two or three players in the history of the game that have been on a run, the one that Scottie's been on here for the last 24 to 36 months."

It's tough to win major championships — Scheffler has four in 21 starts, plus an Olympic gold medal — but he is so steady, his game so devoid of round-killing mistakes, that he is a pre-tournament favourite every time he tees it up. He has made 59 cuts in a row and were he to miss a cut somewhere along the way, that would be the tournament's lead story. His game shows no weaknesses. His rather un-



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PENTON

orthodox footwork and booming swing delivers a gentle left-to-right shot from the tee and his iron shots are incredibly close to the proper distance. His putting, once the weakest part of his game, has improved dramatically.

Scheffler got a later start on the PGA Tour than did Woods, who won his first tournament, the Las Vegas Invitational, at age 20. Scheffler didn't turn pro until he was 22, in 2020, the year he won Rookie-of-the-Year honours. His first pro win came in 2022, in his 71st start at the Phoenix Open. Since then, he's been Woods-like in his victory runs

— 17 in his next 76. At that torrid pace (22.3 per cent), he would win four to five tournaments a year. With at least 10 to 15 years left in his playing career, Scheffler may threaten Woods' all-time victory total of 82.

As good as Woods? Better than Woods? The low-key Scheffler, who says faith and family are his two top priorities — not golf — says any comparisons to Tiger are "silly."

"I think Tiger stands alone in the game of golf."

What's truly silly is discounting the possibility of Scheffler becoming the all-time No. 1.

• Columnist Norman Chad, on the NHL regular season expanding from 82 to 84 games: "We need two more Columbus Blue Jackets games every year like Elon Musk needs two more children every September."

• Vancouver comedy guy Torben Rolfson: "Water on Mars has been 100 per cent con-

firmed, with year-round ice. Get ready for Bettman to start sniffing round."

• Rolfson again: "Pirates' Jacob Misirowski was named to the all-star team after only five major league games. That's only five more than I've played."

• Norman Chad again: "After a rough (poker) stretch in Vegas, I set out to punish myself with a 275-mile walk in 107-degree heat. I made it three miles before calling it quits—and rewarded myself with a \$1.50 hot dog."

• Mike Bianchi of the Orlando Sentinel: "WNBA players sent a message to the league for bigger salaries and better benefits by wearing T-shirts before the all-star game that said, 'Pay Us What You Owe Us.' Actually, what the T-shirts should have said was, 'Pay Caitlin Clark What You Owe Her.'"

• Bianchi again: "President Trump is threatening to block the construction of a new football stadium in the nation's capital unless the NFL's Washington

Commanders change their nickname back to Redskins. Because nothing says 'I care about the people' more than holding a city hostage over a racially insensitive nickname."

• RJ Currie of sports-deke.com: "According to the website Medical Daily, U.S. scientists consider marijuana beer potentially life-threatening. Snowboarders consider it a time-saver."

• Headline at fark.com: "Kraken sign Kaapo Kakko to three-year kontrakt."

• Another fark.com headline after the Mets acquired lefthanded pitcher Gregory Soto from Baltimore: "Mets decide two Sotos are better than Juan."

• Steve Simmons of the Toronto Sun: "Kevin Gausman didn't major in geography at LSU but give him credit for his honesty: Tweeted Gausman recently: 'Not gonna lie. I had no idea how close Detroit was to Canada. I was shocked we had so many Blue Jays fans there.'"

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Sask. safety bill comes into effect

By MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
Submitted

On Aug. 1, 2025, The Safe Public Spaces (Street Weapons) Act came into force.

This new legislation promotes safety in public urban spaces by regulating the possession, transportation and storage of items that may be used as street weapons, such as knives, hypodermic needles, machetes and bear spray, as well as dangerous drugs such as methamphetamine and fentanyl. These rules will apply in municipalities and First Nations that choose to opt in to the new Act.

"The government is committed to increased public safety measures to ensure all Saskatchewan citizens feel safe and protected in their communities," Justice Minister and Attorney General Tim McLeod, K.C. said. "The coming-into-force of this Act will empower law enforcement and give them an important tool to appropriately address individuals that use street weapons to intimidate or harm people in public spaces."

The Act prohibits persons from possessing items that could be

used as street weapons in public spaces, defacing or altering those items, or possessing such an item that has been defaced or altered. Persons in breach of these rules can be charged with a provincial offence and subject to a fine of not more than \$5,000, imprisonment for up to one year, or both a fine and imprisonment. The Act further provides police enhanced powers to seize these items from people in public spaces where there is a threat to public safety, regardless of whether a charge is laid.

The province is committed to protecting communities against fentanyl and methamphetamine. This Act provides additional tools to remove fentanyl and methamphetamine from our communities and protect the health and safety of all citizens.

Public spaces may include public buildings, parks, playgrounds, any land or building entered without consent of the owner, common areas of condominiums or apartments, unoccupied land or buildings, or vehicles travelling through public spaces.

The government recognizes that many items used as street

weapons have legitimate, legal purposes. The legislation contains appropriate exemptions to ensure these items can continue to be used for their lawful purposes, such as food preparation and protection from wildlife threats, or using hypodermic needles for medical use.

Individual municipalities and First Nations can choose whether they want to opt into the Act. By opting into the Act, municipalities and First Nations give police officers the ability to address street weapons through uniform provincial rules and offences.

If a municipality or First Nation does not opt into the Act, the rules do not apply to that municipality or First Nation.

More information about the opt-in process can be found in the attached background document.

In 2024-25 and 2025-26, the Government of Saskatchewan invested \$2 billion in public safety. This includes an increase of \$28.4 million, totaling \$699.4 million over two years, to support policing and community safety in the province and over \$518 million over two years to enhance access to justice services.

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Attracting pollinators to your garden

By **BERNADETTE VANGOOL**
Sask. Perennial Society

There is lots of doom and gloom in the world today and one way to escape for us gardeners is to go into our yards and enjoy nature at its best. By gardening, we can make a difference in this world. Pollinators have been declining at alarming rates in recent years, and by providing habitat for these important creatures, we can turn things around.

Roughly ninety percent of flowering plants and up to one third of the world's food crops depend on pollinators for reproduction and yield, respectively. With much of our native prairie converted into agriculture, the natural habitats of these important pollinators are declining. The inappropriate or overuse of pesticides by both gardeners and farmers alike have also contributed to a decline in the diversity of pollinators.

When we think about pollinators, many of us automatically think about bees, as perhaps they are the most studied. In general, bees are the workhorses for pollinating many agricultural crops in Canada. Honeybees, in particular, were imported to Canada about 400 years ago and continue to be managed for honey production and pollination purposes. Eurasian Leafcutter bees are also managed for pollination of specific crops like alfalfa. But also important are the 800 or so species of native bees from across the country that are vital for pollination, with studies showing that native bees are often superior pollinators of many crops and are often better in transferring pollen than honeybees. Many of these native bees are solitary and have relatively short foraging ranges and need good, nearby sources of water. They often nest in the ground or in hollow twigs of woody or herbaceous plants



and visit a wide range of flowers in the search of quality nectar.

The next pollinator everyone appreciates are the butterflies and moths. Each species of butterfly has their preferred sources of flowers for nectar, and often a different host flower to deposit their eggs on, so their caterpillar offspring can feed. The most talked about butterfly is the Monarch, which prefers milkweed (*Asclepias*) as a host plant and often visits Joe Pye weed (*Eutrochium purpureum*) as a nectar source. Providing both plants in one's garden is more likely to attract Monarchs to your yard. In my yard I have also seen them roosting in the spruce tree, but am not sure if this is typical. They like an open range and prefer flowers with a large landing pad. They will eat rotten fruit and leech minerals out of damp garden soil. Other flowering plants that attract a wide range of butterfly species include bee

balm (*Monarda*), blazing star (*Liatris*), yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), zinnias, and sunflowers. Butterflies feed during the day, while moths feed at night and are attracted to strongly scented pale or white flowers, and especially the Evening primroses (*Oenothera*) which open their flowers overnight.

Beetles are important pollinators, but gardeners usually are not as enthused with them as they would rather watch out for butterflies or hummingbirds (also pollinators). Nevertheless, there are about 9000 species of beetles in Canada and they are important pollinators. Another insect that is not as appreciated is the lowly ant who will often spread the seeds of Canadian ginger (*Asarum canadense*) to different parts of my yard. Then there are the wasps and finally the flies which are active pollinators for a range of annual and perennial flowers. One genus pollinated mainly by flies is (*Solidago*) or goldenrods.

As gardeners you are already providing additional habitat for pollinators by planting flowering plants that offer nectar and pollen to hungry pollinators. Some additional practices can increase their habitat in your garden. If you mulch to conserve water and suppress weeds, leave some uncovered soil in your garden where ground nesting insects can reside. Provide water sources where insects

and birds can drink without drowning; add small pebbles into bird baths which will allow insects and bees access. You can keep some debris, like logs and tree clippings around in a pile to create some organic shelter. Of course, avoiding the use of pesticides and herbicides will help too.

Pay attention to what is blooming at each time of the year from spring to summer and fall. Offer a minimum of three different blooming plants at all times in your garden. Try to plant several plants of each variety, so that pollinators don't need to relearn how to enter each bloom, as all blossoms differ somewhat. Make sure you have a mix of relatively flat flowers that provide a landing pad for butterflies, to tubular flowers that require longer tongues and provide nectar to different bees and hummingbirds. Try to include some native plants in your landscape to provide food for pollinators that originated and adapted side by side with these plants in your region.

For more information and to download your copy of 'Selecting Plants for Pollinators' in your ecoregion of Canada go to <https://www.pollinator.org/guides> the Canadian Eco Region guides are listed below the American ones featured.

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

OBITUARY ~ Guy Houle



HOULE, GUY
May 7, 1931 – July 23, 2025

We are saddened by the loss of Guy Houle. Guy's memory will remain in the hearts of his loving wife, Yolande; sons: Roland (Sue), Rupert (Jan), Jerry (Karen), Larry (Pam);

daughter, Michelle (Roger) and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. He was predeceased by his son, Norman; daughter, Anita and ten brothers and one sister. Guy was born May 7, 1931, in Bellevue, Saskatchewan. In 1952, he married Yoyo and settled on the family farm. In 1954, he and his brother, Bud were struck with Polio which left him unable to continue to farm. Never one to complain, he packed up his family and moved to Spiritwood to start up a successful electrical business. Initially started as Northwest Electric, he bought out his brother and expanded into

the furniture business, which is now known as Guys Furniture. Guys Furniture continues to be run as a family business and now has four locations across Saskatchewan. Guy's favorite pastime was playing cards and poker with friends. Guy was a seasoned traveler and had many great years down south. The family would like to thank the staff at Stensrud Lodge in Saskatoon where he had a short but comfortable stay. Arrangements in care of Mourning Glory Funeral Service (306) 978-5200. To share memories of Guy or send condolences please visit www.mourning-glory.ca.

In Memoriams

In memoriams may be put in the *Chronicle & Herald* for **\$25.00** (30 words) plus **20¢ per additional word**

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THE CLASSIFIEDS

14 Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

August 7, 2025

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.

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Please Contact Our Office at:
Ph: 306-747-2442 or Fax: 306-747-3000

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news: chnews@sbchron.com
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Deadline for Booking/Material
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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.

FURNITURE FOR SALE

KEN'S Willow & Live-Edge Furniture Sale – August 9 & 10, 10am to 6pm, Main Street, Shell Lake.

It's Easy to place a classified!

Phone
306-747-2442

Fax
306-747-3000

Email:
chads@sbchron.com

GARAGE SALE

HUGE TWO FAMILY YARD SALE – Friday & Saturday, August 8 & 9 in Kilwinning (6 miles north of Leask on Hwy 40, follow the signs). Lots of misc., collectibles & antiques, many music related items; guitar, CDs, records, microphone. Lots of glassware, calendar collections, chainsaw, tools, clothes, and much, much more. Starting 10am to 6pm.

CLASSIFIEDS WORK!
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20 words for only
\$16.00 plus GST
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• Additional words 20¢

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

PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Parkside
10:30 a.m. Worship
Pastor Lorne Valuck
306-747-3572
Shellbrook
Adult Study
9:30 a.m.
Sun., 10:30 a.m. - Worship
Rev. Jordan Clark
306-850-0429
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

UNITED CHURCH

Big River
Sundays
11 a.m. - Worship
at Anglican Church
Rev. Dave Whalley
306-747-2804
ANGELICAL CHURCH
Leask - All Saint's
Sunday Service - 9 a.m.
St. Andrew's - Shellbrook
Sunday Service - 11 a.m.
Joint H.C. Service
June 29 - 11am - St. Andrew's
Archdeacon Andrew Hoskin
Minister's Warden:
306-922-5159
EVANGELICAL FREE
Big River
10:00 a.m. - Worship
Bible Classes resume in the fall
306-469-2258
Youth Nite:
Fridays at 7 p.m.
Mont Nebo
Sun. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
(10:30 a.m. June – August)
306-468-2525

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

Parkside
11 a.m. - Worship
(in-person and online via Facebook Live)
10 a.m. - Sunday School

PRESBYTERIAN

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

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

407-2nd Ave E, Shellbrook
Sat., 9:45 a.m. - Sabbath School
Sat., 11:00 am -Worship
Pastor Myshan Irving
306-747-3398

PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

PARTNERS IN FAITH

Lutheran/United/
Christchurch Anglican,
137-2nd St. W.
Spiritwood
Worship 9:00 a.m.
Rev. Sarah Urano

UNITED /ANGLICAN

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

CATHOLIC SATURDAY

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

COWBOY CHURCH

Spiritwood
Every Wed. Night 7 pm
Spiritwood Legion Hall
Pastor Rick Martin

FIELDS OF HOPE (HOFFNUNGSFELDER)

MENNONITE CHURCH
Glenbush (May thru Sept)
10:00 am Worship
Rabbit Lake Mennonite Church (June thru Sept)
2nd Sunday - 10 am Worship

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 11:00 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

LOCAL MATTERS.



Remember that time when **Amazon** sponsored your church fundraiser?



Remember when **Facebook** bought a case of Girl Guide cookies to support your daughter?



Remember when **Google** provided free pizza to your child's soccer team when they won the championship?

Neither do we!

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Motor scrapers, dozers, excavators, rock trucks, packers; wide range of machines.

Lots of work all season. Camp/R & B provided. Competitive wages. Valid drivers license req'd.

Send resume and work references to: Bryden Construction and Transport Co. Inc. Box 100, Arborfield, SK S0E 0A0; Fax: 306-769-8844 Email: brydenconstruct@xplornet.ca www.brydenconstructionandtransport.ca

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Find QUALIFIED, LOCAL EMPLOYEES, using the strength of community newspapers! Visit www.swna.com or call 306-649-1405 to find out how!

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AGPRO - BUYING: FEED BARLEY & HEATED CANOLA

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AGPRO MARKET REPORT: Farmers, call to sign up for **Free Today!**

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