

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

VOL. 113 NO. 39 PMR #40007604

Thursday, October 2, 2025

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Aviator shares inspiration with Canwood students



Pilot and author Agnes Niyondezi gives a presentation to Canwood Public School students and community members at the Canwood Library.

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Aviator and author Agnes Niyondezi says her memoir, *Dreams Take Flight*, is for “those who need to be reminded that where you start does not determine how far you can go.”

As someone who was born in Tanzania to Burundian parents, and lived her early years in refugee camps across eastern and southern Africa before immigrating to Saskatoon at age 15, this belief was something she had to cling to as she pursued her dream of becoming a pilot.

“My memoir speaks about life in refugee camps, how I was able to accom-

plish the dream of becoming a pilot, and how, growing up in these refugee camps, it seemed so impossible,” Niyondezi said.

“As we had the opportunity to come to Canada, I had a variety of opportunities to explore because the education system is so much broader.”

While coming to Canada opened up new doors for Niyondezi, she admits she was singularly focused on the idea of becoming a pilot, and had been ever since she saw a plane fly over her home when she was just seven years old.

From the moment she saw the “silver sparkling thing in the sky,” she wanted to know everything about airplanes. But access to books, and specifically

information about aviation, was limited in the small library in the refugee camp she was living in.

Even with these obstacles in her path, Niyondezi remained committed to her dream, and only became more passionate about it when she and her family flew to Canada from Africa. And, as luck would have it, Saskatoon’s Walter Murray Collegiate offered introduction to aviation courses in Grades 11 and 12, opening the door for her to pursue her dream in earnest.

“During the summer of Grade 10, they took me up in a small plane called a [Piper PA-18 Super Cub]. It’s a two-seater; you have the window right beside you, with the passenger in the

front and pilot in the back,” she said.

“As we were flying over the city, it was such a beautiful experience that made me fall in love with it even more.”

After graduating high school, Niyondezi obtained her private pilot’s license from Saskatoon’s Mitchinson Flight Centre. And nothing, she says, will beat the thrill of taking her first solo flight.

“It was exhilarating. It was a lot of emotions bundled up in one,” she said. “Being able to accomplish that dream as a refugee girl was a big moment for me, and also for the community that was supporting me and following me in my journey.”

Continued on page 2



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Aviator shares inspiration with Canwood students

Continued from 1
Hoping to use her journey as a tale to inspire the younger generation to join the aviation field, while also preserving her family's stories and memories, Niyondezi began writing her memoir, *Dreams Take Flight*, in December 2020.
While reading had always been one of Niyondezi's passions — instilled in her from a young age by her father — she says she had never really considered writing a book, and particularly an English

book, because English is her fifth language.
The writing process was an extensive one, requiring many interviews with family members and the retelling of many stories. Then, those stories had to be translated to English with great care, as Niyondezi "didn't want to leave any details behind."
Helping her reach the finish line, was her U.S.-based publisher, Full Circle Press.
"There was a lot of learning to do," Niyondezi said. "But the

whole process, in general, was an amazing experience."
Today, Niyondezi is pursuing her commercial pilot's license at Sky Wings Aviation Academy in Red Deer, and hopes to fly charters, and maybe even become an airline pilot. She also wants to become more involved in the aviation industry and community, so she can build awareness of it and continue to inspire younger people to pursue and never give up on their dreams.
This was the over-

arching message she shared on Wednesday, Sept. 24, when she travelled from Red Deer to the Canwood Public Library to share her story with students from Canwood Public School.
"Even if it's a little dream that they're chasing, go for it. It doesn't matter how small or big, you've got it," she said. "You can get to it, and there's always a community behind you, supporting you, helping you, and waiting to guide you throughout the whole experience."



Pilot and author Agnes Niyondezi gave a presentation at the Canwood Library on Wednesday, Sept. 24.

Area schools host Terry Fox Runs

By JORDAN TWISS
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Accompanied by a Town of Shellbrook CSO escort, students from Shellbrook Elementary School and W.P. Sandin High School united with enthusiasm to honour a Canadian hero, when they took part in the 45th annual Terry Fox Walk/Run on Friday, Sept. 26.
Though the two Shellbrook schools didn't hold any dedicated fundraisers for the cause this year, they still observed the annual occasion to honour Fox's legacy and his battle against cancer, and Rhonda Berezowski, W.P. Sandin's inclusive education coach, says students were shown videos and participated in discussions in their home rooms.
Berezowski noted that the high school also raised \$15,000 for cancer research at its Relay for Life this past May.

Terry Fox Walks/Runs are held by schools across the country, and in this area, each year, with many of them being fundraisers for the Terry Fox Foundation. For instance, students at Blaine Lake Composite School raised more than \$2,200 this year, while Canwood Public School raised \$2,546.35.
Though Spiritwood's Rivier Elementary School was unable to confirm its exact fundraising total on Monday, it did confirm that it had exceeded its goal of \$1,500. To celebrate this accomplishment, principal Adrian Poirier has agreed to kiss a chicken.
Terry Fox began his Cross-Canada Marathon of

Hope in April of 1980, starting from St. John's, Nfld. His initial goal was to raise \$1 million, but the support he received from Canadians caused him to set a more optimistic goal of \$24 million (at the time, \$1 from every Canadian).
Fox was forced to quit his run outside of Thunder Bay, Ont., and he succumbed to lung cancer nine months later. But by the following April, he had nearly reached his \$24 million goal.
Apart from raising funds and awareness, Fox also inspired others, like Canadian Rick Hansen, to take up his mantle, allowing his legacy to live on.
Since it was founded in 1988, the Terry Fox Foundation has raised more than \$900 million for cancer research, thanks in no small part to the annual Terry Fox runs held by schools across Canada.



At Blaine Lake Composite School, staff members agreed to take a pie to the face to incentivize fundraising efforts.



From left to right, Meadow Williams, Rayah Wiebe, Airianna Muller, Airionna McQuillan, Samaya Mumm, Amaya Archibald, Bella Ledding, Ally Topping, and Keena Holcomb lead Shellbrook's Terry Fox Walk/Run.

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NOTICE OF CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF SPIRITWOOD NO. 496

Public notice is hereby given that nomination of candidates for the office of:

Councillor – RM of Spiritwood No. 496 – Division No. 1

will be received by the undersigned from 9:00 am until 4:30 pm from September 24th, 2025 to October 14th, 2025 and from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm on October 15th, 2025 at the RM of Spiritwood No. 496 municipal office.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the municipal office located at 218 Main Street in Spiritwood, Saskatchewan.

Dated this 24th day of September, 2025.

Colette Bussiere
Returning Officer

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Highlights of a Shellbrook Town Council meeting

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

(The following council highlights are not the approved minutes of council for Sept. 22.)

Shellbrook’s Town Council held its regular meeting in person and via teleconference on Monday, Sept. 22.

In attendance were Mayor Amund Otterson, Councillors Pam Boettcher, Cheryl Ledding, Brent Miller, Kathleen Nording, Arlette Segberg, and Tim Settee, and the town’s CAO, Sigourney O’Halligan.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Otterson, and council began with its customary Treaty 6 land acknowledgement in recognition of Truth and Reconciliation. Then, it approved the meeting’s agenda, adopted the minutes of its Sept. 8 regular meeting and Sept. 15 special meeting, declared the week of Oct. 13 to 19 Purple Thursday X7, and moved on to the reports of administration and committees.

As part of her report, CAO O’Halligan advised council of an upcoming meeting with the residents of 1st Avenue East to update them on the restoration of the road. Councillor Miller

asked if all of council should attend the meeting, and suggested it could be run as a town hall with the residents of the neighbourhood.

CAO O’Halligan also reported that Matthewson & Co. and Associated Engineering have been given the information they need to work on the town’s application for the CHIF grant, a federal-provincial-municipal grant that could allow the town to move forward on its water plant upgrade project.

Under public works, Councillor Miller said the Public Works committee will soon be meeting to discuss snow removal, so the town can be proactive when the snow arrives. He asked council to come forward with any ideas to improve snow clearing.

In Recreation Committee news, CAO O’Halligan updated council on plans for the formation of a committee to maintain and beautify the cemetery. She said administration is in the process of drafting the committee’s terms of reference.

Elsewhere, it was brought to council’s attention that the slide at Kin Park is no longer up to code (due to improper installation or frost heaving) and will have to be fixed or re-

moved.

In the Emergency Services report, council reviewed the August CSO report, and was informed that the camera system within the secondary cruiser has failed. CAO O’Halligan said she is investigating potential options to replace it, as it could create issues with future court proceedings and the documentation of evidence. Councillor Miller asked if body cams would be beneficial for the CSOs.

Councillors Boettcher and Ledding noted that there are still safety concerns with traffic in the bus drop-off zone at Shellbrook Elementary School, and suggested the CSOs should be monitoring the area.

In the Mayor and Council forum, Councillor Ledding brought forward similar traffic safety concerns from a Studio 747 parent, and asked if the town should add signage around the studio warning about children crossing.

Moving into unfinished business, council began by carrying a motion to pay a \$445 Minor Ball invoice to cover the costs of two chest freezers and three locks for the stalls in the women’s bathroom.

Council also carried a motion to

proceed with a \$3 million loan to fund the town’s risk mitigation project for water and sewer infrastructure, with the understanding that it will only be used if it’s needed. Council agreed it needs to determine whether the loan could be used for the water treatment plant project instead, if the opportunity arises.

Up first in new business, council gave third reading to and adopted Bylaw 2015-013, the Admin Bylaw, which establishes the duties and powers of the designated officers for the Town of Shellbrook. It also approved a slate of policies, including the amended Employee Reimbursement Policy, the Community Engagement Fund Policy, the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre Policy, and Hours of Work policy #4000.

Continuing with the housekeeping items, council granted a reversal of user fees for the Shellbrook Silverfins, as the club wasn’t notified of the rate change, and approved a request from the Mistawasis First Nation to use the campground during its Unity Walk on Sept. 29 and 30.

With no further business on its agenda, council adjourned for the evening.

SaskEnergy launches heating affordability program

By **SASKENERGY**
Submitted

SaskEnergy has launched a new furnace replacement program to help homeowners facing financial barriers lower their heating bills.

Through the Heating Affordability Program (HAP), eligible income-qualified households will receive a new high-efficiency furnace, free of charge, to replace their low-efficiency furnace.

“At SaskEnergy, we are committed to helping our customers’ energy dollars go further,” said Mark Guillet, SaskEnergy President and Chief Executive Officer. “HAP is a program that helps customers save mon-

ey and improve energy efficiency while they keep their homes warm during the colder months.”

For the upcoming heating season, the goal is to replace furnaces for up to 50 income-qualified customers. Older, low-efficiency equipment results in higher heating bills as more fuel is required to provide the same amount of heat as a high-efficiency model. With a new high-efficiency furnace, participating customers can expect to save up to \$650 annually on natural gas

and electricity costs.

To access HAP, customers must be participants in SaskPower’s Energy Assistance Program and will need to meet income and existing heating equipment criteria. Eligible homeowners will be contacted directly with an invitation to participate in HAP.

The furnace replacements will be offered through participating SaskEnergy Network

Members. The installation will include a 96% annual fuel utilization efficiency (AFUE) single stage natural gas furnace, required modifications to the home’s venting, three furnace filters and, if required, a programmable thermostat.

HAP replaces SaskEnergy’s Tune-Up Assistance Program, which supported income-qualified customers with furnace

maintenance. SaskEnergy and participating Network Members will continue to support customers with furnace maintenance through the SaskEnergy Network Home Heating

Tune-Up, which offers optional on-bill financing.

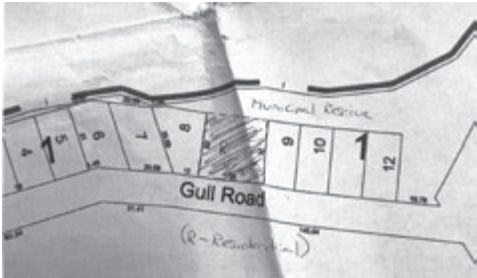
For more information about SaskEnergy’s energy efficiency and rebate programs, visit saskenergy.com.

RESORT VILLAGE OF BIG SHELL NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Public Notice is hereby given that the Council of Resort Village of Big Shell intends to adopt bylaws under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* to amend Bylaw 3-85 known as the Zoning Bylaw.

Intent: The proposed bylaw will rezone the affected area currently zoned as R1 – Reserve to R – Residential for the development of area for residential lots.

Affected Area: The affected area of land is legally described as R1 SW 49-08-W3rd Meridian, lying between Lot 8 Block 1 Plan #89B15672 and Lot 9 Block 1 Plan #101891774 of Big Shell, Saskatchewan, which is shown in the shaded area of the map which appears as part of this notice.



Reason: The reason of the proposed amendment is to allow for the development of possibly selling two (2) titled lots.

Public Inspection: Any person may inspect the bylaw(s) by contacting Tara Bueckert at (306) 427-2272 or by email at villagebigshell@gmail.com Monday to Friday. Copies are available at cost.

Public Hearing: A public meeting will be held on October 17th, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hall, 229 Loon Drive, Resort Village of Big Shell, Saskatchewan to discuss the proposal. Any person(s) who wish to comment to the proposed bylaw amendments may file a written comment, stating clearly their reason for their opposition/support, with the administrator of the Resort Village of Big Shell at the address below. All written notices must be received by the administrator by 3:30 p.m. on Friday October 17th, 2025.

Resort Village of Big Shell
Box 130
Shell Lake, SK S0J 2G0
Issued at Shell Lake, Sask., this 2nd day of October, 2025
Tara Bueckert, Administrator

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Richmond's nightmare could have been avoided

"Nobody cared about the small town in southwest Saskatchewan."

That's how Richmond, Sask., Mayor Brad Miller assessed the waking nightmare his community has been living through since the Kingdom of Canada cult, led by conspiracy theorist and "Queen of Canada" Romana Didulo, moved in to the old Richmond School two years ago.

He's not wrong.

With a population of just 118 people, the Village of Richmond bills itself as a "quiet, humble farming community." In other words, it was a perfect place for a cult to set up shop and be forgotten.

For the two years after they moved in, the cult bounced between the Richmond School and a tract of unused farmland 11 kms east of the village in the Rural Municipality of Fox Valley. And since they'd been invited by the property owners, little could be done to oust them.

After the cult moved into Richmond on Sept. 15, 2023, it's alleged that they routinely followed residents around the community, taking video of them. Ms. Didulo's followers also sent out many "cease-and-desist" letters, threatening individuals in the community with "public execution" if they didn't adhere to the Queen's "decrees."

Even as the RCMP was "monitoring the situation" to "maintain the peace and the well-being of the community of Richmond," it admitted there was little it could do.

"They certainly have a right to live and reside in that community, and there's nothing the RCMP can do to prohibit that," Chief Supt. Tyler Bates said in 2024, nine months after the cult moved in.

With the RCMP's hands tied until incontrovertible proof of criminality came forward, Mr. Miller said the village consulted with lawyers about the situation, but quickly had to abandon that avenue because it became too costly.

Making matters worse, said Mr.



JORDAN
TWISS

~
News Editor

Miller, was the lack of support from the provincial and federal governments.

Before too long, the Village of Richmond and its residents were all but forgotten, left to live through their nightmare – which included the cultists pumping sewage out of the building and into a nearby park – while the news cycle moved on to fresher scandals.

Thankfully, that all changed on Sept. 3, when the RCMP received a report

of an individual carrying a firearm in the Richmond School and obtained a search warrant to enter the site, arresting Ms. Didulo, property owner Ricky Manz, and 14 others in the process.

With the way cleared, the Saskatchewan Health Authority stepped forward a couple days later, declaring the school unfit for human habitation and ordering the remaining cultists to leave the premises.

Ms. Didulo has since been released on bail, under the condition that she remain at a residence in Regina, and her preliminary hearing has been set for March 2, 2026.

However, the residents of Richmond will have to live with Mr. Manz, the architect of their nightmare, for at least a little while longer.

Though he faces charges of assault, resisting arrest, uttering threats, intimidating victims, and much, much more, Mr. Manz has also been granted bail and must live at his residence in the village and refrain from contacting Ms. Didulo, RCMP officers, and village officials. As of writing, his next scheduled court appearance was set for Oct. 1.

So, criminal justice system willing, Richmond's nightmare will one day come to an end.

However, it's hard not to wonder how it was allowed to occur in the first place.

Ms. Didulo rose to prominence as the world was gripped by the COVID-19 pandemic, but began referring to herself as the "Queen of Can-



ada" as early as 2017, when she was "appointed" to the role by American and self-professed "King of America" David J. Carlson.

Gaining traction with QAnon, a far-right American conspiracy theory group and political movement, Ms. Didulo began amassing followers and set out across Canada in 2022, eventually joining the Freedom Convoy in Ottawa.

In addition to demanding that all vaccines be destroyed, Ms. Didulo was briefly detained by police in 2021, and subjected to a psychiatric evaluation, after she called on her followers to "shoot to kill" health care providers who vaccinated minors against COVID-19.

How Ms. Didulo, who claims to be an "extraterrestrial with access to secret, New Age healing technology that can regrow limbs," was deemed to be of sound mind is anyone's guess.

But, either way, she was allowed to go free.

In August of 2022, she and 30 of her followers entered the police headquarters in Peterborough, Ont., to perform citizen's arrests on officers for alleged "COVID-19 crimes."

Once again, Ms. Didulo was allowed to go free.

There are also a myriad of unsubstantiated claims about her abusive and threatening behaviour toward fol-

lowers who disappointed her or abandoned her cause, to say nothing of the countless victims she's scammed out of money. But, understandably, few victims seem willing to risk incurring her wrath by coming forward and pressing charges.

Due process is a vital cornerstone of the criminal justice system. In the rare instances where police or the courts "get it wrong," it exists as a check and balance on their power to ensure an innocent person isn't unjustly punished.

But there are cases, such as this one, where it becomes clear that the scales of justice need to be rebalanced in favour of victims.

Ms. Didulo's campaign of terror and lunacy should have stopped four years ago. And, while prison likely wasn't called for at the time, she should have at least been directed to the mental health resources she desperately needs – even if it required involuntary institutionalization.

Instead, she was allowed to hold a small town in southwest Saskatchewan hostage for nearly two years, and continued spreading her conspiracies while the world looked on and shrugged its shoulders.

It didn't end in tragedy this time, but it very well could have.

After all, as Mr. Miller asks, "When has a cult ever turned good?"

Shellbrook Chronicle

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Spiritwood Herald

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Publications Mail Registration #07621

Published Every Thursday Morning

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Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.;

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

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

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Aardvarks fall short under Friday Night Lights

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

W.P. Sandin High School's football team stepped into the spotlight, when it hosted the Hague Panthers for its annual Friday Night Lights game on Friday, Sept. 26.

Both teams came into the game with identical 1-1 records, making the game an important battle for second place in the conference and a spot in Provincials. From the opening kickoff, both offences played like everything was on the line, making the game a thrilling shootout from start to finish.

The Panthers got the scoring started with the opening kickoff, as the kick returner reached the outside edge and outran a diving tackle attempt by an Aardvarks defender to put Hague up 8-0.

When the ball came back to the Aardvarks,

Davin Schmitz set the home team up for success with a strong kick-off return. Then, Quarterback Aiden Tait led the team down the field before scoring on a QB keeper to tie the game at 8-8.

The Panthers were happy to trade touchdown for touchdown, reclaiming the lead on a QB keeper of their own, and the Aardvarks offence kept firing back, tying the game back up on a pass from Tait to Taiden Wrench.

But it was the Panthers who would have the last word in the first quarter, scoring on a pitch and run to take a 24-16 lead.

As the action moved to the second quarter, the Aardvarks offence nearly stalled out, but was saved by a pass interference penalty against the Panthers. This allowed Tait to dive into the endzone for a touchdown, tying the game at 24-24.

Finally, on the en-

suing Panthers drive, the Aardvarks defence came up with a key stop thanks to an interception by Dalen Thiel. But the Panthers defence also showed up, shutting down the Aardvarks on third down, and the offence found its footing again, reclaiming a 32-24 lead on a long run to the endzone.

The remainder of the second quarter was controlled by both teams' defences, leaving the Aardvarks trailing by a single touchdown as the buzzer sounded to end the first half.

Receiving the opening kickoff in the second half, the Aardvarks offence wasted no time tying the game up at 32-32 on a long run by Davin Schmitz.

But missed defensive tackles would cost the Aardvarks on the Panthers' next possession, turning what should have been a stop in the backfield into a touch-



Aardvarks Quarterback Aiden Tait tries to fake out Hague defenders en route to a run for a first down.

down run and allowing Hague to go back up 40-32.

Offensive missteps would keep the Aardvarks off the board for the remainder of the third quarter, and the Panthers would capitalize, scoring two more times to jump out to a 54-32 lead as the action moved into the fourth quarter.

There, the Aardvarks

were able to regroup on both sides of the ball, as Schmitz closed the gap to 54-38 on a short rush into the endzone, and the defence was able to pounce on a Panthers fumble to take the ball right back.

The Aardvarks offence capitalized on the opportunity, scoring on a touchdown run by Tait to bring the score to 54-46.

With time winding down in the game, and the Aardvarks only a touchdown away from tying the score, the kickoff team recovered a bouncy line drive kickoff to give the ball back to the offence. After a promising start to the drive, the Aardvarks were stopped just short of the endzone and their comeback hopes were dashed.



Davin Schmitz powers through a Hague defender before rushing for a big gain.

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USER AGREEMENTS: WHY DO WE NEED THEM?

What exactly is a user agreement?
Think of it like a handshake in writing. It's a short document that spells out the ground rules for using a town facility, park, or service.

Why does the town need them?
Because without them, things can get messy. A user agreement makes sure that:

- Everyone knows the rules ahead of time.
- Town buildings, fields, and equipment are cared for.
- The cost of accidents or damage doesn't get pushed onto taxpayers.
- All groups are treated the same way—no favourites.

What's in it for citizens?
Plenty:

- You know exactly what's expected—no surprises later.
- It's fair—everyone gets the same deal.
- Spaces and services stay available because they're used responsibly.

What's in it for the town?
Agreements help the town:

- Manage risk and avoid lawsuits.
- Keep facilities safe and usable.
- Spend tax dollars wisely.
- Build trust by being transparent and consistent.

What if we didn't bother with agreements?
We'd probably see more confusion, arguments, damaged facilities, and surprise costs. And in the end, those costs would land on the community's shoulders.

Are these agreements meant to make things harder?
Not at all. The goal isn't to create red tape—it's to make sure everyone can use public spaces in a safe, fair, and affordable way.

User agreements are about working together. They protect you, protect the town, and make sure our shared spaces stay open for everyone.

RCMP updates wanted offenders list

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

The Saskatchewan RCMP has updated its list of notable wanted offenders, in hopes the public can assist it in tracking them down.

The updated list, released on Thursday, Sept. 25, was accompanied by the news that Allison Anne Bear, who was on last month's list and was known to frequent Big River First Nation, Pelican Lake First Nation, and Shellbrook, was arrested on Sept. 9.

However, three of the 10 offenders on the new list are still known to travel in this area.

Police note that this list is not a complete list of all persons wanted by the Saskatchewan RCMP. Offenders appearing on this list are determined by a data-driven scoring system using the Crime Severity Index, a Statistics Canada measurement that looks at both the

number and the relative severity of crimes. Factors such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, religion, sexuality or disability are not considered in the scoring process.

Up first is 57-year-old Eldon James Cone, who faces a list of charges, including sexual interference (three counts), sexual exploitation of young person (three counts), and failure to attend court or surrender.

Cone is described as 6'0" and 161 lbs., with brown hair and brown eyes. He is known to have a scar on his right hand and police believe



Eldon James Cone.

he could be in Saskatoon, Mistawasis First Nation, or Shellbrook.

Also still on the list is 37-year-old Brennan Harold Sakebow, who's wanted for: assault (two counts), mischief under \$5000, public mischief, failure to comply with undertaking (two counts), aggravated assault, breaking and entering, possession of prohibited weapon, pointing a firearm (two counts), careless use of

firearm, disguise with intent, discharging firearm with intent, forcible



Brennan Harold Sakebow.

confinement, and possession of prohibited firearm.

Sakebow is described as 5'10" and 194 lbs., with black hair and brown eyes. Police believe he may be in Saskatoon, Meadow Lake, or Pelican Lake First Nation.

Last but not least, police are looking to locate 32-year-old Julian Jim, who's wanted for pointing a firearm, possession of weapon for

a dangerous purpose, theft over \$5,000, and theft under \$5,000.

Though a picture of him wasn't available, Jim is described as 6'1" and 240 lbs., with black hair and brown eyes. He has tattoos of a clown face, a skeleton, and two names on his right forearm, and the letters WS on his left hand.

Police believe Jim may be in Marcelin, Blaine Lake, or Beardy's & Okemasis Cree Nation.

Four arrested, one wanted in Sturgeon Lake robbery

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Four people have been arrested, and police are searching for another suspect, in connection with a robbery on the Sturgeon Lake First Nation.

On Tuesday, Sept. 23, at approximately 3:40 p.m., the Prince Albert RCMP Detachment responded to a report about a robbery in the community. Police investigation determined a woman was approached by a group of individuals outside a residence on Sturgeon Lake First Nation. A male pointed a firearm at the female and demanded the

keys to her truck. The group of individuals left in the stolen vehicle.

Police conducted patrols in the surrounding area, located a female on a grid road on the Wahpeton First Nation at around 5:30 p.m., and arrested her at the scene.



Toby Daniels.

Shortly after, officers located and arrested two males and a female at a residence on Wahpeton First Nation. Investigation determined the suspects abandoned the stolen vehicle behind a residential property and broke into the residence.

As a result of further investigation, 20-year-old Zena Daniels from Sturgeon Lake First Nation is charged with two counts of failing to comply with release order condition. She was also arrested on an outstanding warrant from Prince Albert RCMP.

Additionally, 23-year-old Alyssa Bear and 25-year-old Jayden Sutherland, both from Sturgeon Lake First Nation, are each charged with one count of break and enter.

And finally, 32-year-old Paul Ermine from Sturgeon Lake First Nation is charged with: one count each of break and enter, using an imitation firearm in an offence, and robbery with a weapon.

Daniels, Bear, Sutherland, and Ermine all made their first appearances in Prince Albert Provincial Court on Thursday, Sept. 25.

In the meantime, police are still searching for 27-year-old Toby Daniels from Sturgeon Lake First Nation, who is charged with one count each of using an imitation firearm in an offence, and robbery with a weapon

A warrant has been issued for Daniels' arrest. Prince Albert RCMP continue to investigate and work to located Daniels, and ask members of the public to report sightings and information on his whereabouts.

Daniels is described as 5'7" and 130 lbs, with brown hair and brown eyes.

If you see Toby Daniels, do not approach him. Report all sightings and information on his whereabouts to Prince Albert RCMP by calling 310-RCMP (7267). Information can also be submitted anonymously by contacting Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or www.sask-crimestoppers.com.

FARM LAND FOR SALE BY ONGOING TENDER

The following property will be offered for sale by tender under the direction of Kirkham Law Office:

NW 36-46-12 W3 EXT 1 & 2, Sfc. Pcl. # 130481669/ 130395371/ 130416375 (Approx. 162 acres less a proposed subdivision of approximately 32 acres)
RM of Meeting Lake #466, Sask.
Assessed Value: \$146, 615.00
Cultivated acres: 113

SW 36-46-12 W3 EXT 1, 25 & 27, Sfc. Pcl. # 130416364/ 150496106/ 150496128 (Approx. 145 acres)
RM of Meeting Lake #466, Sask.
Assessed Value: \$138,765.00
Cultivated acres: 127

TERMS:

- All bids must be submitted in writing and delivered to Kirkham Law Office at the address below by **noon on Friday, October 17th, 2025**.
- Bidding will be conducted by ongoing tender. Once all qualifying bids are received all bidders will be informed of the highest bid on each quarter they have bid on. Bidders will then be provided the opportunity to declare their bid final or to increase their bid by at least 2% above the last highest bid. Once all bidders have declared their final bid the bidders shall be informed of the vendor's decision.
- All bids must be in writing and accompanied by a certified payment or solicitor's trust cheque in the amount of 10% of the bid made payable to "Kirkham Law Office". If the bid is unsuccessful the certified payment will be returned to the bidder without interest.
- Within 15 days of the opening of bids, the successful bidder shall provide either:
 - the balance of the purchase price; or
 - payment of a sum equal to the difference between the balance of the purchase price and any mortgage financing, together with an unconditional and unequivocal letter of commitment from a recognized financial institution to the mortgagee to finance within 15 days of the confirmation of sale, the successful bidder's purchase of the land for the price stated in the bid
 - Possession date of farmland will coincide will full payment of land. Purchaser will be responsible for all **2026** property taxes from date of possession forward.
- If the successful bidder does not complete the purchase on the terms and within the time specified, the deposit will be forfeited.
- The highest or any bid may not necessarily be accepted.
- Property sold "As Is"

KIRKHAM LAW OFFICE
1652 – 100 Street
NORTH BATTLEFORD, SK S9A 0W6
Att: Randy Kirkham
Phone: (306) 446-2900; Fax: (306) 446-2242
km.law@sasktel.net

FARM LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

The following property will be offered for sale by tender under the direction of Randy Kirkham, Barrister and Solicitor:

		2025 Assessment
NW 02-51-12 W3	157 acres	\$307,900.00

RM OF SPIRITWOOD NO. 496

- All bids must be submitted in writing and delivered to Kirkham Law Office at the address below by Noon on Friday, October 24th, 2025.
- This is the home quarter and includes the following:
1980 bungalow approximately 1100 sq ft with deck
Detached 24x48 garage
Storage shed 12x20
1-Good well
Fuel shed 8x12
24x24 barn built in the 90s
Corrals with steel gates
4-Steel Bins on cement floors approximately 1500 bushels each
100 acres seeded to hay all fenced with some cross fencing
Mature wind break around the yard
Property located half mile off the highway and 6 miles out of Spiritwood, SK
- Each bid shall be accompanied by a certified cheque or solicitor's trust cheque in the amount of 10% of the bid made payable to "Kirkham Law Office". If the bid is unacceptable the certified cheque or the solicitor's trust cheque shall be returned to the bidder.
- Within 15 days of the opening of bids, the successful bidder shall provide either:
 - the balance of the purchase price; or
 - payment of a sum equal to the difference between the balance of the purchase price and any mortgage financing, together with an unconditional and unequivocal letter of commitment from a recognized financial institution to the mortgagee to finance within 15 days of the confirmation of sale, the successful bidder's purchase of the land for the price stated in the bid
 - Possession date of farmland November 14, 2025. Purchaser responsible for all 2026 property taxes.
- If the successful bidder does not complete the purchase on the terms and within the time specified, the deposit will be forfeited.
- The sale of the lands shall be subject to the existing SaskPower easements.
- The highest or any bid may not necessarily be accepted.

KIRKHAM LAW OFFICE
1652 – 100 Street
NORTH BATTLEFORD, SK S9A 0W6
Att: Randy Kirkham
Phone: (306) 446-2900; Fax: (306) 446-2242
km.law@sasktel.net

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Food Farm programs have room for growth

This last week, students from throughout the area again gained some direct education on where their food comes from — something increasingly critical as direct ties to food production agriculture are being lost.

The young students learned more about the source of their food by attending the 'Food Farm Program' known locally as a 'Pizza Farm' experience. Yorkton actually pioneered the idea of bringing students out in the field to learn about farming and food production, when a 'Pizza Farm' concept was launched a number of years ago, and the program

founders should be duly proud as the idea has spread in varying forms to locales across the province.

The concept is simple enough: industry partners cooperate to set up a series of stations where students get to learn about farming and food, most with a hands-on learning element.

Students attend the event in spring to learn about the planting season, then return in the fall to learn about harvesting.

It might not seem like a big thing for those in the ag sector, but for urban youth, many who may never have set foot on a farm, seeing what



CALVIN DANIELS

an oat plant looks like, and associating that plant with the oatmeal they eat for breakfast is a big deal.

Or, there's the importance of coming to recognize all the fields of yellow flowers they see on a weekend trip to the lake in summer as what eventually becomes the oil their French fries are cooked in.

Such things are small steps in the journey to better understanding that food does not just miraculously appear on store shelves, but actually comes from the efforts of hardworking farmers dedicated to producing food.

So, ultimately, the Food Farm program helps students learn about where their food comes from through actively participating in growing the ingredients for familiar foods like pizza, burgers, and fries, as well as how machinery operates, a bit about soil health, and even a chance to pet a sheep.

It's a day of education away from the class-

room that students are likely to remember well.

But should the food farm experience be broadened?

While we are aware youth have lost a connection to the farm, that also applies to many adults in the modern prairies. People, in general, aren't spending any time on a farm. Most don't even grow a garden these days.

Now, we know the 'Crops of the Parkland' initiative by Tourism Yorkton is a popular stop, with travellers wanting to better understand what crops they see out the window of the car as they drive across the Prairies.

And we know Saskatchewan Open Farm Days — in its second year — was again a popular event, initially launched by Farm & Food Care Saskatchewan in partnership with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture and Tourism Saskatchewan as a way to foster a deeper connection between Saskatchewan's residents.

So would hosting one additional day at the food farm, and inviting the public at-large to take part, be the natural next step? It seems like an idea that might just be another educational opportunity — this time for the consumer.

Crop Report: Sept. 16 to 22

By MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
Submitted

Overall harvest progress has remained steady, however, the rain and high humidity stalled progress in the eastern portion of the province and caused a delayed start in the west. As a result of the rain and high humidity, areas with cereal crops still in the field are seeing poor quality and sprouting. High temperatures over the weekend and into this coming week will help farmers progress or finish up.

The provincial harvest progress total is 68 per cent, sitting behind our five-year average of 83 per cent and 10-year average of 72 per cent. The southwest continues to lead in harvest progress at 80 per cent complete. The southeast region currently sits at 70 per cent complete. The east-central and west-central areas sit at 59 per cent complete and 65 per cent complete, respectively. The northeast sits at 61 per cent complete while the northwest sits at 69 per cent complete.

Harvest is complete for winter wheat and fall rye with field peas sitting at 99 per cent combined and lentils at 96 per cent. Spring wheat is 73 per cent combined, durum 78 per cent, oats 70 per cent and barley 86 per cent. Many farmers moved to combining canola this week and 42 per cent of that crop is now combined. Other oilseeds, flax, soybeans and mustard - sit at 18 per cent, 23 per cent and 62 per cent, respectively.

Minimal rain was seen this week across the province. The most rain fell east of Yorkton recording 44 mm in the Rhein area and 18 mm in the Calder area. The only other significant rainfall events were in the Carnduff and Blaine Lake areas which both received 20 mm.

Topsoil moisture conditions declined across the province this week with many areas not receiving any rain. Cropland topsoil moisture sits at two per cent surplus, 59 per cent adequate, 32 per cent short and seven per cent very short. Hayland topsoil conditions are three per cent surplus, 51 per cent adequate, 29 per cent short and 17 per cent very short. Pasture topsoil conditions are two per cent surplus, 40 per cent adequate, 36 per cent short and 22 per cent very short.

Since August, pasture conditions have decreased

slightly. Provincially, one per cent of pastures are in excellent condition, 31 per cent in good condition, 39 per cent in fair condition, 20 per cent in poor condition and nine per cent in very poor condition.

This week most of the crop damage reported was caused by wind and dry conditions. There were also some reports of low-lying areas being lost to water accumulation. Waterfowl damage was more present this week as geese, cranes and other waterfowl move across the province.

Harvest is a very busy and stressful time. We would like to remind producers that the Farm Stress Line is available to provide support toll free at 1-800-667-4442.

With an increased number of machinery fires being seen, we would like to remind producers to have fire mitigation resources ready, blow off their combines regularly and take precautions when working around powerlines. The public is also reminded to exercise caution when encountering machinery and equipment travelling on roadways.

Northwestern Sask.

Humid mornings and some rain caused slow progress in this region. Farmers are struggling with second growth due to late rain; this is causing poor dry down conditions. There are many reports of livestock producers having to haul water in this region.

With the dry conditions and poor crop growth, harvest is further along in this region and is now 69 per cent complete. Harvest is complete in this region for field peas and canaryseed. Lentils are close at 96 per cent complete. Cereals are currently being harvested, with fall rye at 90 per cent combined, spring wheat at 87 per cent, oats at 73 per cent and barley at 88 per cent. Canola harvest is 45 per cent complete and flax is 30 per cent complete.

Rain fell in the Blaine Lake area this week totaling 20 millimetres (mm). Every other area reported up to 1 mm of rain for the week. Topsoil moisture conditions continue to be low in this area and have dropped. Currently, topsoil moisture is 34 per cent adequate, 43 per cent short and 23 per cent very short. Hayland topsoil moisture is 17 per cent adequate, 38 per cent short and 45 per cent very short. Pasture topsoil moisture is 17 per cent

adequate, 39 per cent short and 44 per cent very short.

Pasture conditions have experienced a significant decline in this region due to low rainfall all year. Conditions are now sitting at 12 per cent good, 29 per cent fair, 31 per cent poor and 28 per cent very poor.

Crop damage this past week is mainly due to light frost, dry conditions and heat. There is also a slight increase in waterfowl and wildlife damage in the region.

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

Knaus wins Summer Reading Club draw



On Monday, Aug. 29, Addisyn Knaus won the Wapiti Summer Reading Challenge for the TD Summer Reading Club at the Shellbrook Public Library Branch. Lindsay Baker from Wapiti Regional Office in Prince Albert randomly picked the winner from each Wapiti library. For the summer, participants receive one entry form for every 5 books read during the Reading Challenge. By EDDIE HOEHN, Branch Librarian

Shellbrook seniors enjoy Celtic Fest

By **LORRAINE THIBEAULT**
Shellbrook Senior's Association

On Saturday, Sept. 20, 11 members of the Shellbrook Seniors Association travelled by car to Saskatoon to take in the Saskatoon Celtic Festival which took place at John Lake Park on Broadway Avenue. From noon to 5 p.m., the park was host to three marching bands, three dancing associations, a display of old Highland fighting gear, and a heavy events athletics competition in the tradition of the old Scottish games. Performing in the

bands category were the 96th Highland Pipes and Drums (the major organizer of the event), the City of Regina Pipe Band, and the Saskatoon Police Pipes and Drums. Kilts, bagpipes and drums were the main features of these bands. The highlight of the afternoon was the Massed Bands demonstration where all three bands joined together to march and play tunes in the middle of the park. This demonstration concluded with the Highland dancers joining the band and dancing to the tunes. Performing in the traditional Irish and Highland dances were

members of the Saskatoon Highland Dancing Association, the Blakey & River City Schools of Irish Dance, and the Glenlily Highland Dancers. The youngest dancer was 3 years old. In their various plaids, the members entertained us with their fancy steps and jumps. The Heavy Events Athletics featured traditional Scottish competitions, including the Weight for Distance Throw, the Weight for Height (or Weight Over Bar) throw, and the Caber Toss. At the Barony of Myrgan Wood Display, spectators could view drinking and war

horns made of metal or oxen horns, a chain mail shirt made from 33,000 rings, various fighting gear, and a sword demonstration. Throughout the afternoon, entertainers (singers & musicians) entertained the spectators. A clown made balloon animals for the kids, and face painters painted the kids faces. Hamburgers, hot dogs, cotton candy and popcorn were available for sale. Close to 5 p.m., the Shellbrook contingent headed home after a wonderful afternoon at the Celtic Festival. We would definitely attend again.



Ray Peterson attempts to handle the sword.



The Barony of Myrgan Wood display included demonstrations of sordsmanship.



The massed band performance was a highlight of the day.

Shellbrook Pickleball club takes new name

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Since shortly after the game of pickleball was introduced to Shellbrook, local participants in the sport have enjoyed it as members of the Prairie Pickleball Club. That all changed on Sept. 16, when the club unexpectedly received a letter from the St. James Law Office in Winnipeg, stating the club had made unauthorized use of the trademarked name "Prairie Pickleball." Included with the letter was a cease and desist order, which had been sought by the Prairie Pickleball Shop, a Winni-

peg-based business that sells equipment and supplies and had just recently received its trademark certificate of registration for the name "Prairie Pickleball." As part of the order, the club had to immediately stop using the name, and was given five days to change its name, remove any references to the old club name on any search engines or websites, delete email addresses with the old club's name, and erase any social media posts or advertisements by or for the old club. The club chose to comply with this order, rather than fight it. Going forward, it will be known as Shellbrook Boreas Pickleball.

EK Classic donates to Ski Timber Ridge

By **MAISIE KRIENKE**
Submitted

The 25th year of the EK Golf Classic was an enjoyable event where fun was had by all participants and guests. Plus, it was a very successful event at raising funds to donate to the community. On behalf of her family and friends, Maisie Krienke was proud to present another \$12,000 donation to Ski Timber Ridge, to go towards the purchase of new snow-making equipment. Everyone is excited, looking forward to skiing before Christmas this year.



Maisie Krienke presents a \$12,000 cheque to Ski Timber Ridge president Mandy Hildebrandt (left).

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Sask. Gov’t prepared for Canada Post strike

By **SASK. GOV’T**
Submitted

Earlier this year, the Government of Saskatchewan implemented contingency plans in response to the postal labour disruptions and is prepared following the announcement of a national strike from the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) on Sept. 25, 2025.

Ministries, Crowns and agencies put these plans in place to limit its impact on services.

The government continues to encourage all clients, suppliers and businesses to switch to direct deposit, as those payments will not be impacted by postal services.

Social Services payments
The Ministry of Social Services has a plan in place to distribute benefits in person at our service centres across the province. Most clients receive payment by direct deposit and they will not be affected by a postal disruption. We encourage clients to consider choosing direct deposit to receive benefit payments, where possible.

Saskatchewan Income Support (SIS) and Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability (SAID) monthly benefit cheques that are normally distributed by mail will be available for in-person pick-up starting the

week of Monday, September 29.
Drug Plan and Extended Benefits

Residents requiring letters to submit to their private insurance providers for Special Support, Seniors’ Drug Plan, or Exception Drug Status may submit the request through the online Saskatchewan Formulary. Letters will be mailed once the Canada Post service disruption is resolved.

Health cards and vital statistics certificates
Incoming and outgoing mail delays may affect applications for health cards and certificates for births, deaths or marriages. Visit eHealth-sask.ca for options to minimize delays, including ordering online.

Crop Insurance/AgriStability information and payments
The Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) will work with customers to determine alternate options for accessing information typically delivered through Canada Post, such as faxing, emailing or delivering to a customer service office for pick-up. Producers are encouraged to sign-up for direct deposit for receiving program payments. The direct payment form is available on SCIC’s website.

Payments to Government of Saskatchewan suppliers
The Ministry of Finance will make

supplier cheques available for pick-up in Regina for suppliers unable to register for direct deposit. Suppliers should call 306-787-7450 to make arrangements.

Taxes, refunds and grant payments
During the postal disruption, businesses are expected to ensure they file and pay taxes to the Ministry of Finance on time. Mail delays do not change tax deadlines or the assessment of penalties and interest. For more information, please review the Information Notice - IN 2025-03, Filing and Paying Provincial Taxes During a Postal Disruption.

Tax clients are encouraged to sign up for the secure and convenient Saskatchewan eTax Services (SETS) online portal to file and pay taxes electronically and avoid any delays in meeting tax obligations.

Tax refunds and grant payments sent by direct deposit will not be delayed. You can sign up for direct deposit by emailing a completed direct deposit form to pstrefunds@gov.sk.ca or call 1-800-667-6102 to delay the refund or grant payment, or request a courier delivery at your own cost.

Crown utility accounts, bills and more
SGI, SaskTel, SaskPower and SaskEnergy invite customers to sign

up for online billing and notifications to ensure they receive information about their utility bills, driver’s licence and vehicle registration renewals and other important communications. This helps avoid delays in receiving bills and account updates. Longer than usual wait times for customer service representatives are anticipated in the event of postal service disruptions, so customers are encouraged to visit the respective Crown websites or to call for more information regarding customer service options. Information is also available online regarding options for paying outstanding bills in the event mail-in payments are not possible.

Public Guardian and Trustee
The Public Guardian and Trustee’s office is preparing backup options for clients and client service providers who get payment cheques by mail. Many clients and service providers already use direct deposit and will not be affected. Clients and service providers are encouraged to switch to direct deposit as soon as possible. They can do so by contacting their trust officer or the Public Guardian and Trustee’s office at 1-877-787-5424 or by email at pgt@gov.sk.ca. Clients and suppliers and businesses can visit www.saskatchewan.ca/postal-strike for more detailed information.

Autumn in the garden

By **PATRICIA HANBIDGE**
Orchid Horticulture

There is fall in the air on the prairies. Even though the daytime temperatures are often still warm - at night our temperatures are dipping low enough to stop growth in hot crops like tomatoes and to colour up leaves. It is at this time that we are reminded of the change in the seasons. It is the end of summer and the beginning of the season of no growth.

If you are in a region where the temperatures

are dipping down into the single digits it is likely time to harvest what you can. I made a vow to not cover the garden in fall but I do cover a few things if I think that we are going to get a prolonged period of good growing temperatures. However, some years, we get that first frost that is enough to end gardening for the season. So how does frost occur? There are actually two types of frost: radiation or inversion frost – either of which can ultimately damage or kill growing plants.

A radiation frost happens as a result of temperatures that decrease right down to the ground. This is the type of frost that will often occur first in the fall with a clear sky that allows any heat trapped to rise to the heavens. A cloudy sky will help to keep the warm air closer to the ground which most often will stop the temperatures from dropping to that freezing point. This same effect is generated by gardeners by covering our gardens on those nights that hint at frost. This process will stop the radiation of heat to transfer away from the area surrounding our plants. Cold air is heavier than warm air which causes lower areas in your garden to typically freeze before areas that might be a bit higher elevation. On cool nights the frosty air will in fact travel down a slope and then pool at the lowest point – and of course causing frost damage. For temperate climates this is why the ideal location for orchards is on a slight slope...thus gaining valuable time for ripening and picking of fruit prior to damage

by frost. The other type of frost is called inversion frost and it is quite often the type of frost that causes damage to orchards. It is the norm for the warmest air to be closest to the soil surface while the air will continue to be cooler the further away from the ground you travel. An inversion frost is when cooler air is trapped below a layer of warmer air above. When this type of frost occurs, growers will use a number of tactics to “save the crop.” Wind machines are often used late at night or early in the morning to help mix those layers of air to prevent that cooler air from settling down by the crop. Some very valuable crops may even deploy helicopters to achieve a similar air movement. Smudge pots, heater and irrigation systems will also be used to offset that damaging frost. If sprinklers are being used to offset frost it brings science back into the process. Prior to the temperatures dropping to the freezing point, sprinklers can be turned on. These sprinklers will remain on for the entire

night until the temperature will rise. Throughout the night some of the water will freeze while some will not. This process will ensure that the temperature will hold at 0°C as it is scientific fact that if water and ice are present together the temperature will remain at 0 as long as both water and ice are present. However, if you are protecting shrubs or trees with this method, there is great risk of a build-up of ice that can do a lot of structural damage. Learning a bit more about how frost works will help you as garden-

ers to choose your fall activities. Knowledge helps gardeners make good decisions like deciding whether or not to cover the tomatoes or just pick the crop when autumn truly arrives. Perhaps understanding frost will help you to foretell the future – or even just the weather. *Hanbidge is the Lead Horticulturist with Orchid Horticulture. Find us at www.orchidhort.com; by email at growyourfuture@gmail.com on facebook @orchidhort and on instagram at #orchidhort.*





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SCAN ME

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 July 15, 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.

Absent: #6 Cody Lockhart.

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

9:30 a.m. Armand & Bonne Bouchard

10:30 a.m. Amund Otterson & Arlette Segberg, Town of Shellbrook Council Members

10:45 a.m. Norman Cyr and Normand Poirier

Jensen: That the minutes of the June 17, 2025, Regular Council Meeting be approved as presented. Carried

Muller: That the minutes of the June 25, 2025, Budget Meeting be approved as presented. Carried

Jensen: That the Statement of Financial Activities for the month of June

2025 for the R.M. General Account be approved as presented. Carried

Boisvert: That we make a \$1,000 donation to the Canwood Summer Youth Program. Carried

Jensen: That we purchase the e-Notice extension to the MuniSoft Receipting Program for a cost of \$299 plus applicable taxes. Carried

Public Works Supervisor Dwight Diehl attended the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Muller: That we approve the payments as listed on the attached account listing for a total of \$198,829.06, Council Direct Deposits for July and Payroll Direct Deposits for 2025 Pay Period 13 & 14. Carried

Jensen: That we acknowledge the Occupational Health Committee Meeting Minutes of June 24, 2025. Carried

Councillor Olson arrived at 10:20 a.m.

Boisvert: That we charge Highway 55 Waste Management Corporation \$500 per month for rent of the office space located within the R.M. Office Building. Carried

Boisvert: That we purchase a 2025 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD Work Truck from Shellbrook Chev Olds, Shellbrook, Sask., at a cost of \$82,198 plus applicable taxes. Carried

Councillor Muller left the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

Olson: That Bylaw 2025-04 attached hereto and forming a part of these Minutes, being a Bylaw of the Rural Municipality of Canwood No. 494 to provide for the closing of a municipal road, now be read the first time. Carried (*Editor's note: council unanimously gave the bylaw three readings and adopted it at the meeting.*)

Councillor Muller returned to the Council meeting at 2:15 p.m.

Councillor Boisvert left the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Public Works Supervisor Dwight Diehl left the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

Jensen: That we void

Cheque Number 012983 issued to SGI in the amount of \$13,809.30 and dated June 17, 2025, as the vendor's name was not complete. Carried

Schutte: That the regular meeting of Council be suspended at 2:45 p.m. for an in-camera session to discuss correspondence from a property owner. Further to this, we instruct the Chief Administrative Officer to leave the meeting. Carried

Schutte: That the regular meeting of Council reconvene at 2:55 p.m. Carried

Olson: That as the property formerly owned by Doreen Buchanan was sold under the provisions of The Tax Enforcement Act, we cancel the current taxes to the date of sale. Carried

Jensen: That as the property formerly owned by Brian Costain was sold under the provisions of The Tax Enforcement Act, we cancel the current taxes to the date of sale. Carried

Jensen: That as the following properties, formerly owned by Dale Thompson, were not sold by tender under the provisions of The Tax Enforcement Act, we cancel the balance of the taxes owing to Dec. 31, 2025. Carried

Stene: That as the title

of the following property, formerly owned by Robin Muric, was transferred to the municipality under the provisions of The Tax Enforcement Act on April 11, 2025, we cancel the balance of the taxes owing to Dec. 31, 2025. Carried

Jensen: That we approve the Development and Building Permit Applications of Robert and Melissa Bewer to construct a detached garage, with approval pursuant to Section 9.1.2 of the Municipal Bylaw 2003-7. Carried

Olson: That we approve the Permit Extension Application of Damien and Carissa Stieb to complete items on the Final Inspection Report by June 30, 2026. Carried

Muller: That we approve the Permit Extension Application of Clifford Millar to complete exterior items by June 30, 2026. Carried

Muller: That we approve the Discretionary Use Application of Logan Collins, Debden, Sask., for a second dwelling, pursuant to Section 5.2.1(2)(b) of the Municipal Zoning Bylaw 2003-7. Carried

Schutte: That we now file the correspondence. Carried

Muller: That we now adjourn at 3:25 p.m.

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 Hours: Tuesday 9:30am - 4pm; Wednesday 10:30am - 5pm; 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: Annual Fall Supper – Sunday, October 5 @ Shell Lake Community Hall. Doors open 4:30pm; Supper 5 - 7pm. Adults \$20; 12 & Under \$8; Pre-school Free. Sponsored by: Our Lady of Smiles Catholic Church & Partners in Worship Church.
SHELLBROOK: Skate Shellbrook Registration Open For: Parent & Tot - Starts Oct 19; CanSkate - Starts Oct 15; and StarSkate! Program info & registration: shellbrooksc.uplifterinc.com or email skateshellbrook@gmail.com
SHELLBROOK: Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly Presents Jim Hughes – Thursday, October 16, Shellbrook Theatre (101 1st Ave W). 6PM: Evolution vs Biblical Creation followed by a Q&A Session. All are welcome! For more information please call: 306-747-2573. Resources will be available for purchase.
SHELLBROOK: Shellbrook Boreas Pickleball (Formerly Prairie Pickleball Club) – Come out and try the fun & social sport of Recreational Pickleball in Shellbrook! New Players: Free Play and Beginner Lesson for the month of October! For more information or to register, phone/text: Betty Skarpinsky at (306)747-7377 or Dianne Roberts at (306)619-9295.

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Sask NDP launches healthcare campaign

By SASK NDP
Submitted

After 18 years of Sask. Party mismanagement, Saskatchewan's healthcare system is in crisis — and the Opposition is turning to the people of this province to help deliver big bold change.

Launching today, Saskatchewan NDP Shadow Health Minister Meara Conway and Shadow Minister for Rural and Remote Health Jared Clarke will be conducting a province-wide consultation on the future of healthcare in Saskatchewan.

"We used to lead the country in healthcare. Now, under the Sask. Party, we rank dead last," said Conway. "Healthcare workers are leaving in droves. The system is broken, but we believe Saskatchewan people can help us fix it."

The Sask. Party took control of healthcare away from local leaders in 2017 by amalgamating all health regions into the Saskatchewan Health Authority. Since then, the system itself has gotten in the way of care.

"It's bloated, uncoordinated, and too often run by people in Regina behind closed

doors who are more interested in hiding problems than solving them," said Conway.

"Healthcare decisions should be made by the people on the frontlines and in the communities who live this every single day," Clarke added.

The consultations will gather input from patients, frontline workers, municipal leaders, and families across Saskatchewan. Clarke said the goal is to shift decision-making and resources back into the hands of local communities.

"Saskatchewan has a legacy of pursuing bold ideas in healthcare when others would not. We have done this before and we can do it again," said Clarke.

"We owe it to future generations to rebuild healthcare from the ground up," added Conway. "That means listening to people, putting communities first, and making Saskatchewan's system nation-leading again, now and into the future."

The Saskatchewan NDP encourages anyone who wants to have a say in the future of healthcare to make their voices heard by visiting [YourCareYourSay.ca](#).

Jays have what it takes to win, but will they?

The Toronto Blue Jays finished off their 162-game regular season on Sunday, Sept. 28, and ‘Yes!’ is the answer to the biggest question posed by Jays’ fans.

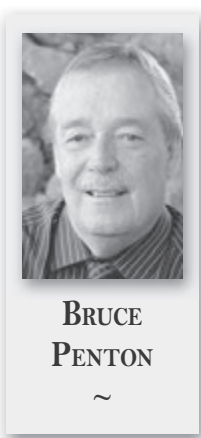
Yes, they can win the World Series. They may not, because the playoff grind is a tough one, but they have certainly shown over 162 games that they’re talented, have strong starting pitching, great hitting, resilience galore and quite the knack of posting comeback victories.

A comeback win in June or July is nice, but a dramatic comeback win in October, with a playoff series on the line, is even better.

The Jays got a good-news-bad-news report on Bo Bichette in mid-September. The Jays’ infielder, who led the majors in base hits until getting hurt and was generally regarded as the team’s MVP or co-MVP (with George Springer), suffered a knee injury in early September. The bad news from the medical folks was that Bichette would miss the rest

of the regular season, and the team struggled down the stretch without him. The good news, however, is that he was expected back for the playoffs, which means the infield will be stabilized for post-season play. Bichette would return to his regular position at shortstop, with Andrés Giménez moving back to second base. Ernie Clement, who had been at second during the Bichette absence, would return to his normal spot at third.

Meanwhile, chasing the World Series title will not be easy. American League rivals Detroit, Cleveland, New York, Seattle, Boston and Houston were in a dogfight down the playoff stretch. In the National League, the Milwaukee Brewers have been the majors’ best team all year and winning four of seven from the Brew Crew won’t be easy. Then there are the Dodgers, the pre-season Series’ favourites, and Philadelphia Phillies, who ran away with the N.L. East and battled Milwaukee



BRUCE
PENTON

for the senior circuit’s best overall record. The Cubs and Padres will also contend.

The playoffs should be great theatre. Canadian fans will be huddled around their television sets from coast to coast as Jays’ manager John Schneider calls on Kevin Gausman, Shane Bieber, and Chris Bassitt for strong starting jobs. Seattle will be counting on more home runs from the amazing Cal Raleigh, while the Yankees will ride the arm of Max Fried and the bat of Aaron Judge to try to bring the Series’ title back to the Big Apple. Detroit’s Tarik Skubal is the likely A.L. Cy Young winner while Freddie

Peralta is the Brewers’ pitching ace and veteran Christian Yelich is still a threat at the plate. Philadelphia will depend on the power of Kyle Schwarber, who trailed only Raleigh in the home-run department. The Dodgers, with Ohtani, Betts and Freeman, can never be counted out.

But most Canadian eyes will be on the Jays, with Springer, Bichette, Vladimir Guerrero, Jr., and Co. powering the offence and hoping the starters go deep enough to not put too much pressure on the bullpen.

Could they somehow clone the 1992 version of Tom Henke?

• Brad Dickson of Omaha: “My grandmother, Mable Micek, 106 and possibly the oldest person in Nebraska, will be at the Akron game. She’s had season tickets since about 1949 and was once kicked out of a game in the ‘50s for ‘cussin’.”

• Columnist Norman Chad. “I’m not a fan of (Baltimore coach) John Harbaugh. He

complains about everything. He would throw a challenge flag at a school crossing guard.”

• RJ Currie of sports-deke.com: “An ESPN pundit suggested the Westminster Dog Show was biased because in 47 out of 115 events, a terrier won. I’m not saying it was fixed, but it sure looks to have been spayed.”

• fark.com headline after John Daiy recorded a single-hole 19 in a recent Champions Tour event: “John Daly needs to put down the bottle or pick it back up again.”

• Norman Chad again, on X: “Apple TV takes in-game interviews a step further. They are talking to Dodgers RF Teoscar Hernandez as he is in the field in the sixth inning, asking him questions as pitches are en route, and he is answering questions, as pitches are en route. At least he isn’t a heart surgeon.”

• Greg Cote of the Miami Herald: “The still-winless Miami Dolphins showed improvement and big fight

Thursday night in a 31-21 loss at Buffalo. And nobody cares. Only 0-3 matters.”

• Comedy guy Torben Rolfson of Vancouver, on the media hysteria over Micah Parsons of the Packers: “I’m surprised CBS didn’t stop the game for an infield ceremony after his first sack.”

• Jack Finarelli at his sports curmudgeon.com website on the latest injury to quarterback Joe Burrow of Cincinnati: “Why can’t the Bengals find five aspiring piano movers to create a functional OL to protect their QBs?”

• Headline at the-onion.com: “A’s Fans Unable To Sustain The Wave Over Chasm Of 7,000 Empty Seats”

• Headline at theonion.com: “Giants Players Horrified To Learn Uniforms Have Names On Back”

• Another fark.com headline: “Vikings quarterback JJ McCarthy out 2-4 weeks due to paucity of talent.”

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

What happens when you don't advertise?

Very little.

RCMP issues ATV safety reminder

By SASK. RCMP
Submitted

Saskatchewan RCMP reminds public of the importance of safety while operating all-terrain vehicles (ATVs). While ATVs are a popular mode of transportation in many areas of Saskatchewan, they can also be dangerous if used incorrectly. Cst. Michael Murray of Dillon RCMP has seen multiple ATV collisions throughout his career, including fatalities involving young

children. “How do we prevent tragedy like that in the future?” he asks. “If there’s no behavioural change, it’s not if an accident is going to happen in the future, it’s when.” If you are planning to operate an ATV:

- Always wearing a helmet and protective eyewear.
- Always driving at a speed safe for current weather and ground conditions.
- Never carrying a passenger your ATV is not equipped for.

- Never driving impaired by alcohol and drugs.
- Check local bylaws before heading out – some municipalities prohibit driving ATVs on roads, ditches, and medians.
- Remember, to drive on public land, you must be 16 years of age and hold a valid driver’s license. Youth between the ages of 12 and 15 can operate an ATV on public land and may cross roads if they have passed an approved ATV training course, or

if they’re supervised by someone who has held a driver’s license continuously for the last 365 days. The supervising rider can be riding a different ATV or be on the same ATV as the youth.

- Have a ride plan. Let someone know where you are going and when you are expected to be back.

Saskatchewan RCMP thanks residents for their support as we work together to keep our roads and communities safe.

Shell Lake Legion hosts chilli lunch

By CAROLYN LALONDE
Shell Lake Legion

On Thursday, Sept. 18, the Shell Lake Legion welcomed in guests for a chilli luncheon fundraiser, in honour of Veteran’s Week. People started drifting in slowly after 11 a.m., but by 11:30 the hall was packed to the brim. In Canada, Veteran’s Week is celebrated annually during the third week of September, and culminates on the Friday with Military Family Appreciation Day. The Shell Lake Legion has a small group, but its members are very dedicated. And we are lucky to be in a community that supports its mission!



Guests enjoy the Shell Lake Legion’s chilli luncheon fundraiser during Veteran’s Week.

GOOD NEWS

GIVE GOD YOUR BEST, AND IT WILL BE RETURNED

By DAVID BODVARSON
Submitted

I had an opportunity to preach at Canwood Pentecostal Church. I felt led to speak on faith. In pastoring for 40 years, I did a lot of reading. I read this story awhile back and used it in my message today. I read of a Bible College student who applied for a job at a place where they made pews and pulpits out of oak only to be turned down. The company was called Southwestern Wood Products. He had \$75 in his account and a heap of faith. He looked diligently every day for three weeks. He really wanted to work at Southwestern Products. It paid well and was close to the college. But there was rarely a vacancy there. He kept looking for six long weeks, six days a week. The same chorus of nos. He even returned to Southwestern Products, just in case. The answer was still no. Now on the sixth week he read a flyer on the school bulletin board that a car lot needed help to wash all their cars the next day, and would pay 50 cents per hour. This Bible student was first in line. The temperatures were in the low thirties and the wind was blowing out the north, cutting through

his hands and face like a knife. It was a long four hours, but they got the cars washed. He walked back to the College with \$2 in his pocket. He was wet and cold but a little richer. That night, he went to chapel on campus was Charles Greenway. He was a missionary to Africa. He spoke. Then came the offering! The student confessed offerings in the past six weeks weren’t a problem for him because he was dead broke. Now he had \$2 in his pocket. He said he felt he needed the money more than the missionary did. But God has a way of encouraging our faith. God said to the young Bible College student, “Give that \$2!” The instant reply from the student was, “No!” “Give that \$2!” The student said “Absolutely not.” “Give it!” “I need it more than Charles Greenway needs it,” the student said. “Give it!” God said. I like the way the student described the offering. He said “The offering plate was coming toward me. I clutched the \$2 in my pocket like a drowning man would clutch a raft.” “Give it!” God said. The student placed \$2 on the

offering plate. He finally yielded to the Holy Spirit’s prompting. This is what he said. “Little did I know, God was teaching me a lesson about giving I would remember the rest of my life. When what you have in your hands is not enough to meet your need, what you have in your hands is your seed.” The next day, being dead broke, he got up and felt what he described as an unspeakable urge, way down deep in his belly, to go to Southwestern Wood Products. When he got there, he met the General Manager. The manager was shocked to see him. He said to him “I thought I would give you just one more chance to hire me.” The manager laughed. Then said to the student, “You’re hired. One of our employees quit last night. You can have his job!” Last night! Those words echoed in his mind. The student confessed. “When I was dragging those last \$2 out of my pocket like they were a boat anchor? Yes! Last night when I gave my best to God. God gave His best to me.” That student who said those words is Pastor John Hagee, who is now 85 years old and proved God to be faithful. God has a way of encouraging our faith.

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

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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
ANGELICAN 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
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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

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School
Sat., 11:00 am -Worship
Pastor Myshan Irving
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PARTNERS IN FAITH

Lutheran/United/
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Worship 9:00 a.m.
Rev. Sarah Urano

UNITED /ANGELICAN

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

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Shell Lake – 8:00 p.m.
SUNDAY
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Leoville – 11:00 a.m.
Chitek Lake – 1:00 p.m.
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Pastor David Jensen

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Glenbush
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Service & Sunday School
Pastor Michael Kluthe
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The Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

are proud to serve as your trusted
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2 x 2 (Bus. Card Size)	\$69.00
2 x 4	\$138.00
1/8 Page	\$189.75
1/4 Page	\$350.00
1/2 Page	\$650.00
Full Page	\$950.00
Colour is an additional \$90	

*All rates are subject to applicable taxes (5% GST)

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