

Touch of Autumn ends Honeywood's season



Lee Denton led scenic wagon tours of the Honeywood Heritage Nursery grounds throughout the day.

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Despite the traces of red colouring the trees, autumn was a far-off thought at Parkside's Honeywood Heritage Nursery when it welcomed guests and vendors for its annual A Touch of Autumn event on Sunday, Sept. 20.

Though no official gate count had been taken as of Monday morning, the near-summerlike conditions kept a steady crowd filtering in throughout the day to peruse and purchase plants and artisans' wares, listen to the music of the Mont Nebo Jammers, tour the grounds, and enjoy a delicious lunch of roast beef on a bun with apple or rhubarb crisp for dessert.

As usual, the 13 guest artisans, both new and returning, brought a mix of

everything to appeal to just about anyone. The list of vendors included: Tirzah Reilkoff (Poppy and Pansy), Brenda Lockhart (quilting and crochet), Diane Roberts (quilting and crochet), Ken Tickner (photography), Jasmine Allen (Little Bird Bakery), Pam Primeau (purses), Jim Peak (knives), Gina Chamberlain (Ragged Ass Rustics), Laura Budd (pottery), Christine Simoens (knitting), Diane Larsen (baking and crafts), Saelah Allman (Bru and roots Herbal Plant Support), and Donna Muller (Plein Air Painters).

For Janie Denton, Honeywood's manager, events like A Touch of Autumn are always a highlight of the season.

"For me, it's when people come and they notice the changes," she said. "They see how much work has gone into Honeywood and know that we're

doing it to improve. Everybody's always so thrilled to be in a place that's so peaceful and tranquil, and enjoying every part of it."

Constant improvement has been Denton's focus since she took over at Honeywood, but Mother Nature has had her own ideas these past couple seasons. Where last spring and summer were warm and dry, this year started wet and stayed wet.

By her own counting, Denton says she only worked a handful of days with dry feet.

Through this, and other challenges with wildlife (deer were the biggest issue this year), Denton and her dedicated crew managed to complete planting for 400 feet of the lily field, and clear up a lot of dead foliage.

With Honeywood's season now over, and the staff working to clear flower-

beds, relocate lilies and peonies, fertilize, and get everything ready for winter, Denton says there's still another 400 feet to plant.

"My hope and dream is to have that field full, sooner rather than later, and get to the point where we're selling more of Bert's Bulbs again," she said.

"We're also hoping to get the greenhouse recovered next year. But that's a major job that we need full staff for."

Indeed, there's always more work to be done and more hands needed to do it. But in Denton's mind, the work is worth it and Honeywood is a treasure worth preserving.

"We can't lose Honeywood. Bert's legacy is so important. The work he did, the contributions he made for prairie hardy fruits and plants... it's something that must go on."

More photos on page 8



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Blaine Lake paramedics recognized for service

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

Too often, being a paramedic means meeting people on their worst days.

But on Wednesday, Sept. 16, a group of nearly 150 paramedics from across Saskatchewan were given reasons to celebrate and smile, as they gathered at Prince Albert's E.A. Rawlinson Centre for the Paramedic Services Chiefs of Saskatchewan (PSCS) Star of Life Awards Ceremony.

The PSCS Star of Life Award recognizes outstanding achievement, dedication, and leadership in EMS. The award may be presented for acts of bravery or heroism, actions above and beyond the call of duty, excellence in leadership, program development, or the consistent demonstration of excellence in EMS.

Recognizing many of these traits in his own crew, Blaine Lake Ambulance owner Jackson Skoworodko nominated members of the team, including Malik Sundara, Meaghan Shaw, Gilbert Maraboto, Aaron Neudorf, and Eric Josephson, for the Star of Life Team award.

Skoworodko's nomination was tied to the team's handling of two-separate mass casualty events within a 24-hour period.

"On that day, it ini-

tially came in as a call for a one-year-old with smoke inhalation. The crew arrived on scene and found that there were 12 patients in total," Skoworodko explained, noting that Blaine Lake Ambulance typically averages three patients per day.

While Blaine Lake Ambulance's two crews were responding to the incident, with assistance from the ALS Rover, the Rover eventually got shifted to a four-vehicle accident just south of Blaine Lake.

"In total, the crews ended up transporting or assessing 23 patients in a 24-hour period. Crews managed to transport, triage, assess all of the patients, and there was no patient harm or mortality," Skoworodko said.

"It's quite impressive, in my mind, to be able to manage all that as four- or five-person team."

In addition to the Star of Life Team award, Blaine Lake Ambulance was also recognized with a 2025 Wildfire Team award for the assistance its paramedics provided during the 2025 wildfire season.

For this award, paramedics Keith Woytiuk, Raymond Wilson, Malik Sundara, and Kate Stachyruk were honoured for their service to wildfire evacuees from La Ronge.

During this incident,

Skoworodko says Blaine Lake Ambulance sent two ambulances to support the evacuation efforts, but was still able to provide emergency coverage in the area like any other day.

"I don't think there's enough recognition for people in our profession. It was really nice to see such a large number of our team get awarded this year," Skoworodko said.

"It shows dedication — to the profession, and to people in our area and outside of our area. The fact that they're willing to go above and beyond to make a difference in people's lives,

it shows their courage and strength."

Also recognized as part of the 2025 wildfire team were Spiritwood Ambulance Care paramedics Janet Palendat and Reilly Regier.



Blaine Lake Ambulance paramedics accept the Star of Life Team award. From left to right: PSCS president Jennifer Larre, Meaghan Shaw, Malik Sundara, and Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors, and Rural and Remote Health Lori Carr.



Blaine Lake Ambulance paramedics accept the 2025 Wildfire Team award. From left to right: PSCS president Jennifer Larre, Malik Sundara, Raymond Wilson, Keith Woytiuk, and Lori Carr.

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As part of the Saskatchewan Social Prescribing Initiative, Shellbrook & Area has received 1+ year of funding to develop social prescribing in our community. The Community Connector position is **part-time** (20 hours per week, flexible hours, \$25/hr.), Shellbrook & Area residents preferred.

Visit skseniorsmechanism.ca for information on Social Prescribing.

For more info or a full job description, contact **Lorraine** by phone at 306-747-3518 or by email LorraineThibeault52@gmail.com. If phoning, leave a message with your name and phone number, and indicate your interest in the Community Connector position — she will return your call.

Apply in confidence by October 13, 2026

By email to: LorraineThibeault52@gmail.com or by post to: Lorraine Thibeault, Box 352, Shellbrook, SK S0J 2E0. Please include an introductory letter and a resume. References will be required before hiring.

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Thank you for your interest.
Please contact us with any questions.

Community comes together for Brooklyn Anderson

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

As summer turns to fall, Shellbrook’s Richardson Pioneer Recreation becomes the local hub for all things hockey. But when the U18 AA Parkland Elks took to the ice for their first exhibition match of the 2026-2027 season on Friday, Sept. 18, it was about far more than just the game.

Following the death of 16-year-old Brooklyn Anderson in an accident with an impaired driver on Saturday, Sept. 12, the team called on the community to don their Elks or Oilers jerseys and come together to honour her and support her family through their loss.

In a pre-game memorial to Brooklyn, the U18 Elks’ players — many of whom shared

the ice with Brooklyn over the years — skated onto the ice and placed roses on top of a net at centre ice. The players then took a knee as a slideshow played with photos of Brooklyn, her family, and her friends. When the lights came back up, announcer Kris Moe spoke about the lasting impact Brooklyn had on everyone around her.

“Brooklyn was one of those people who supported everyone. If someone she cared about had a game, she was there. If someone needed encouragement, she gave it. If someone needed a laugh, somehow Brooklyn made that happen with just one look.”

“That’s what makes losing someone like Brooklyn so incredibly difficult. When someone has that kind of presence, you don’t just miss them being there.



Parkland Elks player Gabe Wadham presents the roses to Brooklyn’s mom, Brandee.

You miss the energy they brought with them. You miss the laugh. You miss the smile. You miss the little moments that seemed so ordinary at the time, but now mean everything.” Moe called on the community to continue

showing up for Brooklyn’s family, and vowed that she will never be forgotten. “Brooklyn: You were loved. You’re missed. You’re remembered. This one’s for you. Forever 16. Forever an Elk.” The memorial con-

cluded with a few words from Brooklyn’s mom, Brandee Anderson. “I really hope Brooklyn’s watching and sees all the support. Thanks everybody.” In addition to the pre-game memorial, the night included a puck

toss, with all proceeds going to the Anderson family, and a 50/50 with a guaranteed pot of \$3,500 provided by a group of local businesses.

Rob Wilson won the puck toss, while Kris Moe won the 50/50 draw and donated the winnings back to the Brooklyn Anderson Fund.

The Elks’ preseason game was the capstone of a week that saw the community rally support around Brooklyn’s family.

A GoFundMe for the family had raised more than \$72,000 as of Monday afternoon, and dozens of community members had signed on to prepare and deliver meals to the family.

Additionally, Evergreen Oasis Counselling & Consulting provided free drop-in counselling last week, as well as a talking circle this week.



Brooklyn Anderson.



Parkland Elks player Cashian Sandry places a rose in Brooklyn’s honour.

4TH ANNUAL TRUTH & RECONCILIATION WALK
Shellbrook, Sask. – Wed., September 30

10:00 AM – Opening Remarks by Knowledge Keepers at WP Sandin High School Gym, followed directly by the Walk.

11:45 AM to 1:30 PM – Community BBQ at Evergreen Oasis Counselling & Consulting (208 2nd Ave W., Shellbrook)

BBQ by donation – All proceeds will go to the Legacy of Hope Foundation.

Everyone is welcome – We invite the community to come together, listen, learn, reflect, and walk in solidarity.

NOTICE TO CLIENTS OF BOB ERNST



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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(s) of:

Councillor – RM of Spiritwood No. 496 – Division No. 1
Councillor – RM of Spiritwood No. 496 – Division No. 2
Councillor – RM of Spiritwood No. 496 – Division No. 4
Councillor – RM of Spiritwood No. 496 – Division No. 6

will be received by the undersigned from 9:00 am until 4:30 pm from September 22nd, 2026 to October 6th, 2026 and from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm on October 7th, 2026 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 15th day of September, 2026.

Colette Bussiere
Returning Officer

FORM H

[Section 66 of *The Local Government Election Act, 2015*]

NOTICE of CALL for NOMINATIONS
RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF BIG RIVER NO. 555

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the offices of:

Councillor: Rural Municipality of Big River No. 555 Division No. 2
Councillor: Rural Municipality of Big River No. 555 Division No. 4

will be received by the undersigned on the 7th day of October, 2026 from 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. local time and during regular business hours on September 22nd to October 6th, 2026 at the RM Office located at 606 First Street North, Big River, SK.

Nomination Forms must be accompanied by a completed version of the RM’s Public Disclosure Statement, as required pursuant to *The Municipalities Act* and *The Local Government Election Act, 2015* and a Current Criminal Record Check required pursuant to the RM of Big River No. 555 Bylaw 1/20.

Nomination forms along with the RM of Big River No. 555 Public Disclosure Form may be obtained from the RM Office.

Dated this 22nd day of September, 2026.

Dana Kennedy
Returning Officer

Carney makes moves, Canadians await payoff

When Canada-U.S. trade talks fell apart in late August, setting off a new round of tariff tit-for-tat between Prime Minister Mark Carney and President Donald Trump, Mr. Carney explained to Canadians the reasons why.

According to him, Canada's negotiating team offered to drop remaining retaliatory tariffs on strategic sectors, such as steel, aluminum, and autos, if the U.S. substantially lowered their own tariffs to make it economic for Canadian companies to export to the U.S.

He noted, however, that Canada refused to budge on last-second demands pertaining to Canada's sovereignty and ability to form other trade deals, and also refused to sign on to a deal that would undermine key Canadian industries, the French language, and Canadian culture.

Not unsurprisingly, Mr. Trump's negotiating team emerged from those trade talks singing a very different tune.

United States Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick, for instance, suggested Canada's negotiators had implied that they were forbidden from making a deal to allow Mr. Carney's government to score victories in a trio of by-elections.

This, of course, is the same Howard Lutnick who lied about visiting Jeffrey Epstein's island with his wife and children.

But, understandably, when two sides of an argument are sharing two conflicting stories, people are going to have some questions.

Hoping to find answers to those questions, Opposition leader Pierre Poilievre demanded the full release of the scuttled trade deal.

Though there's no recorded instance of any country releasing the details of a failed agreement – especially when negotiations are still ongoing – this certainly would have quashed any doubts.

But, in truth, there was no need for



JORDAN
TWISS
~
News Editor

Mr. Carney and his team do this, when this year has already provided ample evidence that Mr. Trump wants to control who Canada deals with.

At the beginning of the year, when Mr. Carney forged a trade pact with China that re-opened the vital market for Canadian canola exports, Mr. Trump threatened to impose 100 per cent tariffs on Canada.

And just last week, when Mr. Carney visited the par-

liament of the European Union (EU) and European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen extended an offer for Canada to become an "associate member" of the EU, Mr. Trump suggested it could be interpreted as a "hostile act" and threatened serious tariffs or a total trade embargo.

If that's not irrefutable evidence of a president attempting to coerce other countries into behaving how he wants them to, no amount of proof will convince those who, for reasons unknown, prefer to believe the pathologically lying president and his loyal sycophants.

Other critics of Mr. Carney's pursuit of a deeper relationship with the EU suggest the move is at odds with his resistance to Canada becoming the 51st state.

However, the two situations couldn't be more different.

One is Canada being coerced and threatened to make it surrender its sovereignty, while the other is Canada using its sovereignty to forge its own path.

While the details of what a deeper partnership between Canada and the EU will look like remain to be seen, it's clear that Mr. Carney's plan is to continue going about Canada's business while ignoring all the sound and fury coming from Mr. Trump.

It's also clear that Canada is beginning to enjoy some of the benefits of Mr. Carney's trade efforts.

Last week, Statistics Canada reported that Canadian exports to China jumped by 30 per cent in the

COMMON SENSE



first half of 2026. At the same time, imports of Chinese goods dropped by almost 6 per cent, narrowing Canada's trade deficit with the country.

Similarly, data from earlier this year found that exports to the U.S. fell by 16 per cent in 2025 year-over-year, while exports to other countries rose by 17 per cent. Due to this shift, the U.S. accounted for 72 per cent of all Canadian exports in 2025, down from 76 per cent the year prior.

And this trend should continue. By positioning Canada as a reliable global middle power, Mr. Carney has now drawn interest from two German companies and one Australian company for Canadian LNG, and from India for crude oil, opening new doors for some of Canada's most important exports.

While Canada already boasts free trade agreements with 51 countries, covering 61 per cent of the world's GDP and 1.5 billion global customers, new agreements have been finalized in the past 18 months, and more are in the works with the Philippines, Thailand, and Turkey.

The federal government is also working on "investment promotion and protection agreements" with Argentina, Pakistan, Qatar, Tanzania, Saudi Arabia, Uruguay, and Zambia.

Domestically, last week saw Mr. Carney play host to the Canada In-

vestment Summit, where he announced a new "productivity mega deduction," which will allow many businesses to immediately deduct the costs of new investments in capital assets.

The government says the new tax incentive, which will be available to oil and gas pipelines, software, R&D, rail tracks, bridges, and roads, will lower Canada's marginal effective tax rate to 6.4 per cent from 13 per cent, boosting Canada's competitiveness.

This is in addition to recent moves to streamline the review process for certain projects, including pipelines and transmission lines that cross international or provincial borders, as well as offshore renewable energy projects, by exempting them from environmental reviews under the much-loathed Impact Assessment Act.

Similar to Mr. Carney's ongoing talks with the EU, much of this is new and the devil will be in the details – especially when it comes to Mr. Carney's suggestion that Canada's largest airports be opened up to private investment (but not fully privatized).

But if the end goal is to strengthen Canada domestically and lessen its dependence on the U.S. – regardless of who's occupying the White House – these are the moves that Mr. Carney needs to be making to ensure a future payoff for Canadians.

Shellbrook Chronicle

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Spiritwood Herald

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Phone 306-747-2442 or Fax 306-747-3000

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

Jordan Twiss & Meghan Penney, Co-Publishers

Jordan Twiss, Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter
jordan@sbchron.com/chnews@sbchron.com

Bevra Fee, Spiritwood Herald Reporter
(306) 883-7058 or bevrafee@yahoo.ca

Meghan Penney, Advertising Sales & Composition/Pagination chads@sbchron.com

Bookkeeping/Reception
306-747-2442 or accounting@sbchron.com

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BugQuest underway at Hartley Clark

By **BEVRA FEE**
Spiritwood Herald
Reporter

An interesting project has been adopted by the Kindergarten and Grade 3 classes at Hartley Clark Elementary School (HCES). BugQuest is a new project that started in 2026 with a goal of sampling the biodiversity of various regions across Canada. Led by teachers Shannon Caffet and Sherylyn Beuker, the structured program comes complete with a kit of supplies and instructions about how to collect the bug samples. Set up in the flora and fauna of Spiritwood's walking trail along the dyke, the project consists of a mesh trap with a collection bottle affixed at the top. The bottle is traded out on a weekly basis, with the contents being sent to the project's headquarters at the University of Guelph's Centre for Biodiversity Genomics. Many aspects of bug diversity are being tracked through the students' participation in the program, including biological diversity, genetic diversity, species diversity, and community ecosystem diversity. The Centre handles the insects, extracts and sequences the DNA from every specimen using barcoding technology, and relays information back to each collection group. But why bugs? Well, according to the BugQuest program's rationale, "We measure lots of things in nature - like temperature, wind speed, and precipitation. But biodiversity is trickier because there isn't one simple number that tells us how healthy an ecosystem is. That's where insects come in! Bugs make great biodiversity indicators be-



The bug trap is inspected by one of the HCE students.



Teacher Shannon Caffet checks the collection jar at the BugQuest trap.

cause they react quickly to changes in the environment, they live almost everywhere, there are tons of different kinds, and they're easy for scientists to collect and study. By keeping track of insects, we can learn a lot about how the whole ecosystem is doing." Registered BugQuest groups have the opportunity to apply for multiple-year participation, and while the students of HCES are just beginning their endeavour, Mrs. Caffet is impressed with the results. "It will be interesting to receive the list of bugs that were collected in our area and look at the information on those bugs," she said. The BugQuest trap is projected to be set up for the next six to eight weeks, weather dependent.

NOTICE OF CALL FOR NOMINATIONS RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF CANWOOD NO. 494

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the offices of:

- Councillor for Division No. 1 (two-year term)
- Councillor for Division No. 2
- Councillor for Division No. 4
- Councillor for Division No. 6

will be received by the undersigned at the municipal office during regular business hours until Wednesday, October 7, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. local time.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the municipal office located at 641 Main Street in Canwood or from the website at rmofcanwood.ca.

Dated this 17th day of September, 2026.

Lorna Benson
RETURNING OFFICER

TOWN OF BIG RIVER NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE MUNICIPAL HERITAGE PROPERTY

The Heritage Property Act, S.S. 1979-80, c.H-2.2, s. 11(2)(b)

Notice is hereby given that not less than thirty (30) days from the date of service of this notice, the Council of the Town of Big River intends to pass a bylaw to designate as Municipal Heritage Property the following real property:

The Former Thomas Young Residence

Legally described as:
Surface Parcel No. 131119624
Reference Land Description: Lot 11, Block 3, Plan No. AA4863

Located at:
110 3rd Avenue North
Big River, Saskatchewan

Reasons for the Proposed Designation and Heritage Significance:

1. The former residence of Thomas Young is closely connected to the introduction of telephone service in Big River. When phone service arrived in 1935, Mr. Young built a small addition (since removed) on the front of his home to house the telephone exchange and office. For over 30 years, the phone office was a vital communication hub for the community and an important source of employment for local women who operated the switchboard.
 2. The property is associated with the expansion of services and infrastructure that were important for Big River's historical growth and development.
 3. Constructed in 1910, the building retains historic features that reflect early twentieth-century construction and contribute to its historic character.
 4. The building contributes to the historic character of Third Avenue North and serves as a recognizable landmark within the Town of Big River.
- Any person wishing to object to the proposed designation must serve Council with a written objection stating the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts not less than three (3) days prior to Council's consideration of the proposed bylaw.
- The bylaw will be considered by Town Council at its meeting on November 16, 2026. Written objections or submissions from people wishing to make other representations to Town Council with respect to the proposed bylaw must be delivered to the Town Office no later than October 30th, 2026.
- Dated the 24th of September, 2026.
- Noreen Olsen
Administrator, Town of Big River



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS REDEVELOP COMMERCIAL LAND

The Town of Shellbrook invites experienced developers/builders interested in redeveloping the previous United Church property situated at the corner of Railway Avenue and Main Street North. Lot 2 & 3, Block 28, Plan No 60PA01329.

The Town has substantial incentive packages for the right projects.

The land is available for sale with the requirement that the re-development must be substantially completed by December 31, 2027 or mutually agreeable time frame. The selected developer would be completely responsible for all costs and aspects of redeveloping the property.

For further information or to obtain a copy of the Proposal package please contact cao@townofshellbrook.ca by 5:00 PM, Friday, October 16, 2026.

Keith Alessi CHARITABLE EVENT

TOMATOES TRIED TO KILL ME BUT BANJOS SAVED MY LIFE

SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

SHELLBROOK THEATRE – 7:30PM

TICKETS: www.shellbrookartscouncil.ca
Adult: **\$40** | Senior (60+): **\$35** | Student (6-25): **\$15**
Children (5 & Under): **FREE**

All Artist Proceeds go to Further Renovations of the Shellbrook Theatre and connecting our community through Arts and Culture.



Wheatland Lodge raises \$13,300 for new van

By JORDAN TWISS
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

A journey begins with the first step. And for the Wheatland Lodge Foundation, the journey to acquire a new wheelchair accessible van for the residents of Leask’s Wheatland Lodge kicked off on Friday, Sept. 11, with a fundraiser barbecue.

Calling the day a success, Wheatland Lodge Foundation member Carol Murray says about 120 people partook of the grilled up offerings, helping bring in \$1,250.

The strong attendance, coupled with a donation of \$12,095.54 from the Frostbite Theatre Company, made a significant dent in the foundation’s fundraising goal of \$150,000, which will allow for the purchase a new, fully-equipped van.

The Frostbite Theatre Company was a local theatre troupe that staged productions in the community for a number of years. As its executive made the decision to close out its bank account and disperse its remaining funds, members chose to support the foundation’s mission.

“Many of the past and present residents of Wheatland Lodge were patrons of Frostbite The-

atre through the years, and we feel that this is an appropriate way of giving back to them,” executive member Tina Dagenais wrote in a letter.

“What a tragedy it would be if they were not able to attend events and interact with the world outside the walls of the lodge.”

Wheatland Lodge has 29 permanent residential rooms and 1 respite room, and is home to residents from across the region.

Murray says the home’s current mobility van is a 2005 model, making it difficult to obtain parts to keep it on the road.

The van is regularly used by staff and volunteers to take residents on excursions to benefit their physical and mental health. In the past year alone, residents have attended the Pow Wow on Mistawasis Nêhiyawak, lunches in Shellbrook, and trips to a haunted house, Honeywood Nursery, and Leask’s Priceless Market.

“In addition, the van is available for family to take their loved ones to medical appointments when they need to have wheelchair access,” Murray said.

While the van is the Wheatland Lodge Foundation’s priority at the moment, Murray says the organization remains ready to help improve residents lives in any way that is needed.



Frostbite Theatre Company executive Tina Dagenais (left) presents a cheque to Joan Sanftleben to support the Wheatland Lodge Foundation’s mission to buy a new wheelchair accessible van.

RCMP makes 12 arrests on Ahtahkakoop FN

By JORDAN TWISS
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Twelve people were arrested in connection with a drug trafficking investigation conducted by the Saskatchewan RCMP’s Prince Albert Crime Reduction Unit (CRT) on the Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation on Thursday, Sept. 17.

According to the RCMP, the Prince Albert CRT requested the assistance of Saskatchewan RCMP’s Emergency Response Team (ERT) and Critical Incident Program (CIP) to execute three Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) search warrants at three residences on the Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation as part of a drug trafficking investigation.

During the search of the three residences, police officers arrested 12 individuals and located and seized one shotgun, two carbines, two replica pistols, one sawed-off rifle, 28 grams of cocaine, and a sum of cash.

Police say 11 of the 12 arrested individuals have been released without charges.

As a result of police investigation, 57-year-old Sheldon Ahenakew from Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation has been charged with: two counts of possession of a firearm when knowing its possession is unauthorized and failure to surrender a firearm while prohibited, and one count each of possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking, possession of property obtained by



Items seized during a drug trafficking investigation on the Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation.

crime over \$5,000, Ahenakew made his first court appearance in Prince Albert on Friday, Sept. 18.

Police say the investigation is ongoing and

further charges may be laid.

Gun theft in RM of Shellbrook

The Shellbrook RCMP is investigating the theft of 10 firearms from a residence in the R.M. of Shellbrook on the evening of Tuesday, Sept. 15.

On Wednesday, Sept. 16, the detachment received a report of a break and enter at the residential property.

Investigation determined an unknown individual, or individuals, entered a garage on the property and broke into a gun safe. The individual(s) later left in a dark-coloured, four-door pick-up truck.

Ten firearms, power

tools, and ammunition were reported as stolen to police.

Shellbrook RCMP continue to investigate.

Anyone with information about this investigation, or who witnessed suspicious activity in the RM of Shellbrook on Sept. 15, is asked to contact Shellbrook 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.saskcrimestoppers.com.

Truck theft near Canwood

The Shellbrook-Ahtahkakoop RCMP Detachment is asking for the public’s assistance in locating a truck stolen from a field just west of Canwood on the morning of Saturday, Sept. 19.

Police say the stolen vehicle is a red 2016 Ford F-150, with Saskatchewan licence plate 452 LLK.

Anyone who sees the vehicle is urged to contact the Shellbrook or Ahtahkakoop RCMP Detachments at 306-747-2606 or 306-468-2969.

Information can also be submitted anonymously by contacting Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or www.saskcrimestoppers.com.

Appendix C
FORM H
[Section 66 of the Act]

Notice of Call for Nominations

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF SHELLBROOK NO. 493

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the office(s) of:

COUNCILLOR – DIVISION 2
COUNCILLOR – DIVISION 4
COUNCILLOR – DIVISION 6

will be received by the undersigned at the RM office Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 4:00pm until Wednesday, October 7, 2026.

Nomination forms may be obtained at the Municipal Office, 71 Main Street, Shellbrook, or by emailing admin.493@sasktel.net.

Dated this 10th day of September, 2026.

Alicia tenBos
Returning Officer

VILLAGE OF LEOVILLE
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
OFFICE ASSISTANT

Want to work with a wonderful team?! The Village of Leoville is seeking to fill the position of **Office Assistant** due to an upcoming retirement. This is a part-time, permanent position of 3 days per week. The primary duties are handling customer inquiries in-person and on the phone, processing utility billings, filing, and processing payments. For a complete job description, please contact the Village of Leoville.

The ideal candidate shall have a good attitude and enjoy working with the public. They must be friendly, organized and detail orientated. Salary is negotiable depending on qualifications and experience.

Please send your resume with three (3) references via email to: leoville@sasktel.net or via mail to:

Village of Leoville
P.O. Box 280 – 22 Main Street
Leoville, SK S0J 1N0

Solving world hunger is a question of will

It's a sunny day. Not warm exactly, but it's fall in Saskatchewan, so a sunny day is just fine on its own.

It is a time when farmers want to be out in the field bringing in the crop, and so it is perhaps the time we most think about how we live in what was at one time known as the breadbasket to the world.

Farmers of the Canadian prairies have long been good at producing hard red spring wheat, which is appreciated

by bakers as its flour makes fine bread.

What farmers grow today is more diversified, with a shift from wheat to canola as the main crop and a host of niche crops in the mix as well. But in the end, most acres are devoted to growing crops to feed people.

Farmers here, and frankly around the world, generally do their very best to grow as much food as possible. They ask only that, when it comes time to sell their produce, they

do so at a price that covers their costs and leaves them a profit for the future.

Collectively, even as the world population continues to grow, there is food for all –



CALVIN DANIELS

that is the positive side of things.

So why, then, are there still people going hungry?

It's a question where the answer really comes down to people – in the broadest sense of a world collective – not making the effort to ensure everyone is sufficiently fed.

It is simply not seen as a priority, and that is the reality not just in third world countries, but in communities right here in Canada and other countries

where hunger simply should not be a concern.

It is difficult to understand how, in the year 2026, we live in a world where a baseball player in Toronto can sign a \$500 million dollar contract, then pass by the homeless and hungry on the way to the stadium.

Or, how the United States gets embroiled in a war in Iran on the whim of their president, firing off missiles that cost millions of dollars each, often kill-

ing civilians while people in the U.S. struggle to stay fed and housed.

At some point you would hope humankind would find a way to balance wealth enough to have everyone fed and housed. It is certainly not a shortage of food or finances. Only a lack of will to make it happen.

Imagine a world where farmers hit the field in the fall knowing they were truly feeding everyone – an idyllic vision that needs to be a reality.

Crop Report: Sept. 8 to 14

By **MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**
Submitted

Widespread rainfall across the province over the past week stalled harvest operations. Harvest is currently 32 per cent complete, an increase of five per cent from last week. This remains well behind both the five-year average of 71 per cent and the 10-year average of 63 per cent.

The rural municipality (RM) of Sarnia recorded the highest rainfall at 97 millimetres (mm), followed by the RM of Sasman with 85 mm and the RM of Aberdeen with 80 mm.

Topsoil moisture increased in cropland, hayland and pastures this past week.

Winter cereals, pulses and early-seeded cereal crops continue to account for most harvest progress, with winter cereal harvest nearly complete.

Crop yield and quality vary across the province due to differences in rainfall throughout the growing season. Excessive rainfall received in many areas affected grain quality.

Excessive moisture, strong winds and waterfowl activity were the primary causes of crop damage this week. Frost damage in later-seeded crops and hail were

also reported in some areas.

With wet field conditions continuing to slow harvest, producers are hoping for warm, dry weather to allow harvest to resume. Producers are reminded to make safety a top priority. The public is also encouraged to be patient and exercise extra caution when approaching or passing farm machinery on public roads.

The Farm Stress Line is available to provide confidential support to producers and their families at 1-800-667-4442.

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

Op-ed: Canada needs more than cheap food policy

By **JAMES HANNAY**
NFU Policy Analyst

Achieving food security requires change in the whole system – an investment into greenhouses and vertical farms addresses only one small piece of that system.

The National Food Security Strategy has committed \$750 million to expand controlled environment agriculture (CEA), which includes indoor food production systems like greenhouses, vertical farming, and hydroponics operations.

It is not clear how the investment in CEA will reduce food costs or address other issues in Canada's greenhouse sector. The National Farmers Union (NFU) believes that the CEA funding in the National Food Security Strategy (NFSS) must address the environmental, local market, and labour impacts of CEA operations in Canada.

The NFSS should explicitly designate a portion of the CEA funding to increase energy efficiency and mitigate the environmental impacts of greenhouse gas (GHG) production associated with CEA. Natural gas furnaces are used to heat greenhouses, which is a major source of GHG emissions.

The CEA funding stream should address the energy required to meet the expansion goals for the sector.

Southern Ontario's CEA energy use has doubled from 1.4 terawatt hours to 3.9 terawatt hours between 2019 and 2024 - enough to power over 300,000 homes. The NFSS must ensure that the expansion of the CEA sector does not strain rural energy grids, and that new energy needs can be met by renewables.

Greenhouse operations supported through the NFSS must also follow strict rules in terms of nutrient runoff. The Essex Region Conservation Authority, which has the highest concentration of greenhouse operations in Canada, reports that streams connected to greenhouses maintain higher concentrations of phosphorus.

Supplying Canadians with more produce grown from CEA will require more than investing in CEAs themselves. Canada produced nearly \$2.75 billion of CEA grown vegetables and exported 70% of it in 2024, according to Statistics Canada, a significant percentage, considering that Canada holds a negative trade balance for fresh fruits and field vegetables.

If Canada continues to export at the rate of 70%, total production of the entire sector would have to double to meet the NFSS's goal of \$1.55 billion of CEA produce sold to the Canadian market by 2032. Government policy must create incentives to divert more CEA produce to Canadian

consumers.

"Controlled environment agriculture is the only direct investment that the National Food Security Strategy has made in agriculture," says NFU President Jenn Pfenning. "If we are to become more self-sufficient and strengthen our national food security, we must also invest in field production to serve up the full variety of foods required to offer a stable diet for communities across the country."

Only \$100 million of the \$750 million total CEA funding stream will be directed at building capacity to supply fresh produce to Northern and remote communities. Given the severity of the food affordability of the crisis in Canada's North, \$100 million is insufficient. More funding, both for CEA operations and for distribution of nutritious food, will be needed to supply food to Northern, particularly Indigenous, communities.

The NFSS names labour as a substantial cost for the food supply chain and aims to reduce labour costs for CEA by 10-20% over the funding term. CEA operations rely heavily on migrant labour. Labour abuses and

digital surveillance of Temporary foreign workers (TFW) in Canadian greenhouses are regularly exposed by organizations like United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW). To be successful, the NFSS must protect TFWs from workplace surveillance, extend employee insurance, and ensure pathways to citizenship for farm workers employed in Canada.

CEA operations rely on expensive and risky technologies. Since the cost of technology implementation is so high, large-scale corporate operations are more able to absorb these costs, and a major barrier to entry exists for small and medium sized operations. The NFSS must ensure that the largest-scale operations are not receiving the bulk of the funding provided through this program.

Investing in the CEA sector must do more than incentivize construction, reduce barriers to technology adoption, and increase efficiency. If CEA is to contribute meaningfully to food sovereignty in Canada, questions about labour justice, environmental impact, domestic food economies, and technological risk must be answered.

ADVERTISING DEADLINE IS
FRIDAY 4:00 P.M.

Aardvarks top warriors in home opener

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

High school football action returned to Shellbrook on Thursday, Sept. 17, as the W.P. Sandin High School Aardvarks played host to the Wakaw Warriors for their 2026 home opener.

With many returning players this season, coach Devon Thorpe says his team's expectations are high. While the team has set many goals for itself, Thorpe says the priority is making it

to the Provincial playoffs.

In what is a very short football season, the Aardvarks got off to a strong start in their season opener by downing the Hague Panthers 54-16. They hoped to keep this momentum going against the Warriors, who squeaked out a 38-36 win over the Rosthern Longhorns in their first game.

Before the teams could put their undefeated records on the line, W.P. Sandin principal Tyler Kuzma called for a moment of silence in honour of Grade 11 student Brooklyn Anderson,

who died in a car accident with an impaired driver on Saturday, Sept. 12.

Once the moment was observed, the action got underway on the field, and the Aardvarks came out fired up on defence to quickly shut down the Warriors. The Aardvarks' offence maintained the momentum, as Reagan Collins and Taiden Wrench traded off running duties until Wrench pounded the ball into the endzone for a touchdown.

The next Warriors drive was halted in similar fashion. This time, however, it was Collins who sped into the endzone for an Aardvarks' touchdown to put the home team up 16-0 after the first quarter.

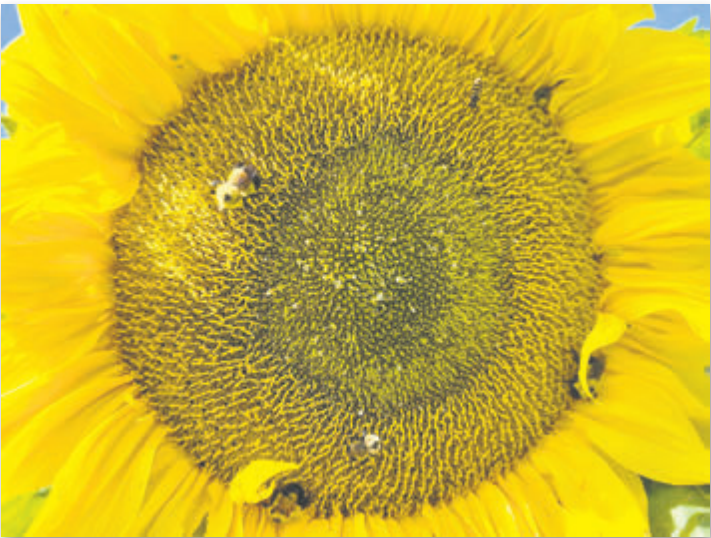


Aardvarks running back Reagan Collins gets the outside edge on a Wakaw defender and runs for a big gain.

Touch of Autumn ends Honeywood's season



Jim Peak's custom knives were a source of interest and conversation throughout the day.



Large sunflowers in the garden offered respite to the bees.



Photographer Ken Tickner drew a crowd with his eye-catching works.

The Aardvarks kept their foot on the gas in the second quarter, and the Warriors simply couldn't stop their running game, allowing Aardvarks quarterback Dalen Thiel to run for a third unanswered Shellbrook touchdown.

The Warriors finally showed signs of life, running for a touchdown of their own. But another rushing touchdown from Thiel quickly erased their gains, and a long run by Wrench extended the Aard-

varks' lead to 38-6.

The Warriors ended up having the last word in the first half, scoring on a long touchdown pass and run on the last play to close the gap to 38-14.

Following a brief intermission, the Aardvarks picked up where they left off in the first half, going up 44-14 on another rushing touchdown from Thiel.

But the Aardvarks stumbled after this.

As the Warriors figured out how to stop the Aardvarks' running game, their offence was given more time with the ball. They made the most of this, scoring three touchdowns

through the third and fourth quarters to close the gap to 44-34.

With time quickly winding down in the fourth quarter, the Aardvarks' offence finally found its rhythm again, only to be shut down on the goal line by the Warriors' defence. But one last big stop by the Aardvarks' defence put an end to the Warriors' comeback aspirations, allowing Shellbrook to hold on for the 44-34 win.

This Friday, Sept. 25, the Aardvarks take their 2-0 record to Rosthern to face off against the Rosthern Longhorns.



Lukas Petten and Canden Olsen combine for a big tackle to shut down the Warriors.



Aardvarks running back Taiden Wrench braces for impact with a Wakaw defender.

Light & Lumber Market creates hope, community

By **JORDAN TWISS**
Shellbrook Chronicle
Reporter

When Brittany Dutka played host to the inaugural Light & Lumber Rustic Market last fall, she didn't know what to expect.

After the second market, held in Shellbrook on Saturday, Sept. 19, the event she created to keep the memory of her daughter, Callie, alive continues to exceed everything she ever could have hoped for.

Callie had Trisomy 22, a rare genetic chromosomal abnormality that affects 1 in 30,000 to 50,000 live births and frequently causes early miscarriages or severe malformations at birth, and died shortly after birth.

To fill the empty space Callie left, Dutka came up with the idea for the Light & Lumber Rustic Market — light symbolizing finding light through loss, and lumber representing picking up the pieces and creating something beautiful from that loss.

For Dutka, the Light & Lumber Rustic Market soon became about more than just Callie. It's about creating a

space and a community for herself and others like her who have lost a pregnancy or a child.

"They say when a family loses a child, it takes a community to help carry them through. On Saturday, we felt that community surround us in every direction," Dutka said.

All told, more than 900 people passed through the gates of the Shellbrook Sports Grounds on Saturday to take in the wares and food being offered by 76 diverse vendors and food trucks.

Dutka says she was left speechless by the overwhelming support and the positive atmosphere throughout the day.

Going into this year's market, Dutka and her dedicated crew of organizers strived to be more thoughtful in how it was put together.

One new idea was Callie's Cove, a space where those who have experienced loss could create a monument to their children (with 3D-printed turtles generously provided by vendor Jenn Tolley).

"Seeing those names displayed made the loss com-



Tiago and Tomas Cruz make custom bracelets.

munity physically visible at the market," Dutka said, calling it her highlight of the day. "It was a very meaningful contribution."

In addition to creating a space for families who have lost a child, the Light & Lumber Rustic Market is also about providing tangible support through fundraising efforts.

Last year, \$3,600 was raised for Empty Arms, a

Saskatoon-based non-profit that supports those experiencing the loss of a child from pregnancy through early childhood.

This year, through donations at the gate and vendor fees, \$4,472 was raised. Dutka says this money will serve as the beginning of the loss room named in Callie's honour at the new Victoria Hospital in Prince Albert.

Though she's still on a

high from this year's market, Dutka says she's already thinking ahead to next year and how to keep growing the community she's built.

"We want to continue growing the market while keeping the community feel that makes it special," she said. "It will continue to honour Callie, create awareness, and support families experiencing pregnancy and infant loss."



Custom game boards and other unique creations garnered attention at Sky's the Limit Lazer's booth.



Guests smell test some of the product at Sacred Sage Roots' booth.



A face painting booth let kids express themselves with colourful designs.



Guests try to solve wooden puzzles, with some gentle ribbing from the vendor.



The alpaca selfie booth, hosted by Underdog Alpacas, allowed guests to get up close and personal with the animals.

Minutes of an RM of Big River meeting

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

The minutes of the regular council meeting of the Rural Municipality of Big River No. 555, held on July 6, 2026, at the Big River Community Centre, located at 606 First Street North, in Big River, Saskatchewan.

The meeting was called to order by Reeve Clint Panter at 9:03 a.m.

Present: Reeve Clint Panter, Councillors Doug Panter — Division 1, Justin Sullivan — Division 2, Terence Olsen — Division 3, and Maurice Denis — Division 4, and CAO Dana Kennedy.

Sullivan: That the July 6 agenda be accepted for reference purposes. Carried

C. Panter: That the minutes of the regular

meeting of Council held June 8, be approved as presented and special meeting of June 17 be approved as presented. Carried

Sullivan: That the Statement of Financial Activities and the Bank Reconciliations for the month of June 2026 be accepted as presented. Carried

D. Panter: That the list of accounts totaling \$363,237.74 as per attached be approved as presented. Carried

D. Panter: That the accounts be approved for payment and added to the next list of accounts presented to Council. Carried

Reeve C. Panter declared a conflict of interest and left the Council Chambers at 9:21 a.m.

Deputy Reeve Sullivan assumed the chair.

Olsen: That the invoices from Len's Trucking Ltd. totaling \$79,022.68 be approved as presented. Carried

Reeve C. Panter returned to the Council Chambers at 9:24 a.m. and resumed the chair.

Denis: That the Rural Municipality of Big River hire Bill Hartnett for the seasonal position starting at \$23 per hour. Carried

Denis: That Council approve the approach request on lot 9 block 6 plan 102054147 and the approach is to be built according to municipal standards according to Policy 400-29A, Approach Development/Culvert Installation. Carried

Sullivan: That Council approve the approach request on par B plan 102472714 NE 14 56 08 W3 and the approach is to be built according to municipal standards according to Policy 400-29A, Approach Development/Culvert Installation. Carried

D. Panter: That Council accept the recommendation of the Parkland Emergency Measures Organization Steering Committee and approve the hiring of Infinity Core as Regional Coordinator for the Parkland Emergency Measures Organization, with the municipality's annual contribution to be paid in accordance with the approved PEMO cost-sharing formula, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. Council acknowledges that the Rural Municipality's estimated annual contribution under the formula is approximately \$5,108.76. Carried

C. Panter: That Bylaw No. 26-06-01, being a bylaw to Establish and Regulate Civic Addressing within the Rural Municipality of Big River No. 555 be read a first time. Carried (*Editor's note: the bylaw was unanimously given three readings and adopted.*)

C. Panter: That Council meet with representatives of Mistik on Wednesday, July 8, to discuss the proposed Road Maintenance Agreement. Carried

Olsen: That Council approves the Municipal Reserve Lease Agreement between the Rural Municipality of Big River No. 555 and Island View Shores Development Ltd. for Municipal Reserve MR2, Plan 102061886, and further authorizes the Reeve and Chief Administrative Officer to execute the agreement on behalf of the Municipality. Carried

Sullivan: That Council approves the request from the Organized Hamlet of Phillips Grove to exceed the 2026 Budget to purchase one Lamberts Ferris 25 Gross HP Briggs zero-turn mower from Lamberts, at a purchase price of \$8,315, plus applicable taxes, freight, and any applicable delivery charges, with the purchase to be funded from the Organized Hamlet of Phillips Grove operating account. Carried

Denis: That the Rural Municipality of Big River has entered into an agreement with the Town of Shellbrook to provide Community Safety Officer (CSO) services in accordance with The Municipalities Act, section 42(1) (a). Section 373 of The Municipalities Act provides that a council may appoint any bylaw enforcement officers it considers necessary.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Rural Municipality of Big River appoints the Community Safety Officer (CSO), as provided through the agreement with the Town of Shellbrook, as a Designated Officer for the purpose of bylaw enforcement within the Rural Municipality of Big River; and

THAT the Administrator of the Rural Municipality of Big River is also appointed as a Designated Officer for bylaw enforcement in accordance with The Municipalities Act. Carried

C. Panter: That Council decline the Pickernel Point Community Association's budget proposal as presented. Further, that Administration arranges a meeting between Council and representatives of the Pickernel Point Community Association to discuss the proposal further and review the subdivision's infrastructure priorities. Carried

Sullivan: That Council direct Administration to continue operating the Electronic Waste Depot as an annual collection event and not proceed with establishing a year-round electronics depot at this time. Carried

Foreman C. Wilson met with Council from 11:24 a.m. to 12:09 p.m. to discuss operations for the previous month.

C. Panter: That Council acknowledges the drainage infrastructure at Black Duck Lake is the responsibility of the private landowners who assumed responsibility from Ducks Unlimited; therefore, the RM will not contribute toward the estimated \$30,000 cost to repair the siphon/pump system but may assist in coordinating the removal of beaver dams where they threaten municipal infrastructure. Carried

Olsen: That Council approves payment of the Pest Control Officer invoice as presented. Carried

Olsen: That the maintenance and committee reports be acknowledged and filed. Carried

Denis: That the correspondence be received and filed. Carried

Sullivan: That this meeting be adjourned.

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 11 am - 4 pm

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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 - 5:30pm; 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.

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

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SHELLBROOK: Keith Alessi – Charitable Event – Tomatoes Tried To Kill Me But Banjos Saved My Life – September 30, 2026, Shellbrook Theatre, 7:30pm. Tickets: www.shellbrookartscouncil.ca Adult: \$40 | Senior (60+): \$35 | Student (6-25): \$15 | Children (5 & Under): Free. **All artist proceeds go to further renovations of the Shellbrook Theatre and connecting our community through arts and culture.*
SHELLBROOK: Shellbrook Boreas Pickleball – Come out and try the fun & social sport of Recreational Pickleball in Shellbrook! New Players: Free Play and 30 min. Introductory Lesson for the month of October! For more information or to register, phone/text: Rhonda Martin at (306)468-7770.
SHELLBROOK: Skate Shellbrook Registration Open For: Parent & Tot - Starts Oct 18; CanSkate - Starts Oct 14; PowerSkate - Starts Oct 18; and StarSkate! Program info & registration: shellbrooksc.uplifterinc.com or email skateshellbrook@gmail.com
SHELLBROOK: Learn to Play Pickleball – 3 Sessions in October at Shellbrook Elementary School – \$50 (includes required \$30 membership to Pickleball Canada)! All equipment is provided. Registration required by September 28th. For more information or to register, phone/text: Betty Skarpinsky at (306)747-7377. *Sponsored by Shellbrook Boreas Pickleball*
SHELLBROOK: In support of victims of domestic violence, Shellbrook Royal Purple is once again filling care bags with essential items for the Women's Shelter in PA. Watch for donation baskets at various locations around town! For a full list of preferred items and donation box locations, visit out Facebook page: Shellbrook Royal Purple #388. Baskets will be picked up October 7th! Monetary donations are welcome – Contact Elaine 306-961-7144.
SHELLBROOK: 4th Annual Truth & Reconciliation Walk – Shellbrook, Sask. – Wed., September 30. 10am – Opening Remarks by Knowledge Keepers @ WP Sandin Gym, followed directly by the Walk. 11:45am to 1:30pm – Community BBQ @ Evergreen Oasis Counselling & Consulting (208 2nd Ave W, Shellbrook). BBQ by donation – All proceeds to Legacy of Hope Foundation. Everyone welcome! We invite the community to come together, listen, learn, reflect, and walk in solidarity.

TRIPLE YOUR ADVERTISING

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

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

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Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

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Can Internationals stay close at President's Cup?

Lambs led to slaughter. David vs. Goliath. The lions against the Christians. Shooting fish in a barrel. Bringing a knife to a gunfight.

Pick your metaphor and it will apply to this week's President's Cup golf competition, held every two years and often begging the question: Why?

Since its inception in 1994, the United States' 12-man team has had its way with the Internationals, a team of 12 golfers from outside the U.S. or Europe.

That means eligible players could come from Canada, Australia, Japan, New Zealand, South Africa, South America, etc. Overall, the U.S. has been formidable, winning 13 events, tying one and losing one.

This year's clash at Medinah Country Club in Chicago is expected to almost certainly extend the Americans' winning streak.

The only hope for the Internationals would be if Donald Trump elbowed his way onto the

U.S. team and had to play without cheating.

How powerful are the Americans? The U.S. team will send out players ranked 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 and 9 in the Official World Golf Ranking.

That No. 1, of course, is Scottie Scheffler, who recently won two of the three PGA Tour playoff events, including the Tour Championship.

The Internationals' highest-ranked player is No. 13 Si Woo Kim of South Korea, a fine player but hardly someone to be feared by the Americans.

Ryan Fox, the Champion Golfer of the Year, the honorary title given to the golfer who wins the British Open, is from New Zealand and is the second-highest-ranked International, at No 25.

Internationals' captain Geoff Ogilvy, an Aussie who won the 2006 U.S. Open, has his work cut out for him as he leads his lambs into battle.

Two Canadians — Corey Connors (No. 54 in the world) and Nick Taylor (No. 80) — were



BRUCE
PENTON

~

chosen for the International team and it's assumed they will be sent into battle with classy team uniforms, a number of sleeves of new golf balls and a jar of salve to dab on the inflicted bruises. The team slogan could be 'No Hope, But No Surrender, Until Sunday.'

The Americans, not surprisingly, are a little cocky on the eve of the President's Cup.

A headline on a story on the U.S.-based Yahoo!Sports wrote in black ink what would normally be only whispered, in the spirit of good sportsmanship: 'The President's Cup lacks juice because American team is just

too good'.

The President's Cup was hatched to give golfers outside of Europe a chance to take part in a Ryder-Cup-like competition against the best from the U.S.

The host site for the event is rotated between a U.S. city and an 'International' location. Australia's Royal Melbourne has been the host course three times; Royal Montreal has twice played host.

But they could play on an iceberg north of Churchill and the Americans would probably still come out of top, unless golf shoes were mandated to be replaced by skates.

So sit back and enjoy the President's Cup. But be prepared to hide your eyes.

• From the late college basketball coach Jim Valvano, snipped from Jack Finarelli's sportscurmudgeon.com site: "I asked a ref if he could give me a technical foul for thinking bad things about him. He said, 'of course not.' I said, 'well, I think

you stink.' And he gave me a technical. You can't trust 'em."

• Headline at theonline.com: "Crowd Boos After Little Boy Steals Foul Ball From Adorable 42-Year-Old Man"

• Conor Orr of SI.com, after the Rams brought legend Aaron Donald out of retirement to join another legend, Myles Garrett, on the team's defensive line: "Teams will have to decide whether it's better to run into the teeth of one of the five best rushing defences in the NFL or send their quarterback to pass 25-plus times in a game, every down increasing his likelihood of falling into the human equivalent of the wood chipper from Fargo."

• Super 70s Sports: "When Boog Powell signed with the Dodgers, he'd eat nachos all game and then pinch-hit in the helmet they came in."

• From the late comedian Phyllis Diller: "The reason women don't play football is because 11 of them would never wear the same

outfit in public."

• Headline at theonline.com: "Kiss Cam Operator Not Going To Stop Until All 32,000 Fans Have Kissed"

• fark.com headline: "It's Day 2 of the NFL regular season and Tua is already injured. At least it's not his brain this time."

• Mike Bianchi of the Orlando Sentinel: "Breaking news: Gators press box runs out of food an hour-and-a-half before kickoff. Media members threaten to get a preliminary injunction with county judge."

• Super 70s Sports again: "Remember when Cal Ripken inspired the hell out of a nation just by showing up for work every day?"

• Cathal Kelly of the Globe and Mail, on 'Uncle Dennis,' the agent for basketball star Kawhi Leonard: "It's not his fault that the Clippers are even worse at money laundering than they are at basketball."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

NDP calls for data centre moratorium

By SASK NDP
Submitted

The Saskatchewan NDP has renewed its call for a complete moratorium on the construction of all hyperscale AI data centres in Saskatchewan.

Leader Carla Beck said the moratorium should remain in place until a proper assessment process is implemented, and robust public consultation occurs. Her team recently held an open house in Saskatoon to hear directly from the public about data centre development in Saskatchewan, including the potential Corman Park project.

At the consultation, residents raised questions about electricity demand, water consumption, land use, environmental impacts, jobs impacts within Crown corporations and the long-term costs and benefits of these massive projects to Saskatchewan communities. Thousands of people have signed petitions and written to Beck's team from across the province to raise concerns about the projects.

"They asked us about their power bills. They asked about water. They asked about the environmental impact, about who would be able to access their data and whether Saskatchewan communities will actu-

ally see a benefit," Beck said. "Not a single question raised by these folks and thousands of others have been answered by Scott Moe and the Sask. Party.

"This is a government that has been in power far too long and no longer believes it's accountable to the very people that elected it.

The RM of Corman Park previously said it had not received an application for consideration concerning the potential project.

"Our team has been doing what this government should have done from the beginning — consulting with Saskatchewan people," said Brittney Senger, Shadow Minister

for Tech, Innovation & AI.

"The people we heard from weren't opposed to pursuing investment or new technology, but they had vitally important questions. They were asking who pays, who benefits, how much power these facilities will use, what happens to our water and why they were being denied a say in the future of these communities.

"To everyone who came out in Saskatoon and everyone across this province who has shared their concerns with us: we heard you, and we're standing right there with you in the fight for our communities, our collective future.

"It's time for change."

What happens when you don't advertise?

Very little.

How to exterminate fruit flies

By **PATRICIA HANBIDGE**
Orchid Horticulture

It is the time of year where we have a number of unwanted guests around the house. There is a host of tiny little fruit flies happily flitting about the fruit bowl. Fruit flies are evident in the home at any time of year, but they are most commonly encountered a bit later in the growing season. Although they are mostly annoying they are responsible for causing a high percentage of insect contamination of fruit and fruit products by depositing bacteria and other disease causing organisms. Fruit flies feed in the same fashion as house flies so their sponging mouth parts work by depositing saliva onto the food and then sucking up the solution.

The adults are easy to spot being a hefty 2.5 mm (1/8 in.) long with large red eyes and a tan to black body. Fruit flies lay eggs on fermenting fruits and vegetables and any other accommodating moist organic surface as long as there is some fermentation of some kind of organic material in process. The eggs will hatch within days and larvae will become breeding adults within a week. This is significant as each female may lay as many as 500 eggs in her short lifetime. This leads to a population explosion if all factors are favourable.

I have fond (or not so fond) memories of genetics labs that favour the study of fruit flies – specifically due to their prolific regeneration! However, for homeowners, this enormous breeding potential simply means that a little bit of fruit rot can quickly generate a house full of flies.

The infestations will generally originate when infested fruits or vegetables are brought into the home and left at room temperature, but adult flies may also gain entry through poorly screened doors and windows. At this time of year, we have such abundance of produce that many sites in the home are attractive to these little critters. Fruit flies will also breed in drains, recycle bins, garbage containers or even dirty mops or other cleaning apparatus that remain moist for a period of time.

The most important step in eradicating fruit flies is to locate where they are breeding. Any fruit or vegetables that are ripe should be refrigerated, eaten or discarded. If you suspect that a drain is the prime breeding site, then tape a plastic bag over the drain for a night and look in the morning for adult fruit flies. If you find some then simply flush the drain with hot water to help keep it as

Photo credit: Michael Schmidt/Flickr

clean as possible. It is also a good idea to use a fine mesh screen to prevent them from getting in and out of the drain area.

A simple trap can be set up on your kitchen counter by using a used (and washed) yogurt container covered with saran wrap. Simply place a banana peel in the container (or other fruit part), cover with saran wrap secured with an elastic band. Poke a number of small holes in the saran wrap big enough to accommodate the passage of a fruit fly. If you have a fruit fly problem, within a short period of time you will find the container will be filled with flies able to enter but unable to find their way out. To take care of the captive flies, simply place the container in the freezer for a short period of time.

The lifespan of a fruit fly is relatively short, so once the breeding site is eliminated, adults soon disappear....and once the winter arrives, there is less chance of a repeat infestation.

Remember that as we get closer to Thanksgiving Day, I invite you to share an image or a few words on what you are thankful for in your life. Let's keep it related to the garden, but your perspective of the sky, or the earth in your garden count as being worthy of a snapshot or a comment. I am already hearing from some of you and as we get closer to Thanksgiving, I will share with you some of what has been shared with me.

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.

Spiritwood Library news highlights



The tally is in for Spiritwood Public Library’s Under the Sea-themed Summer Reading Program. The library had 22 kids register from ages 2 to 11, with 8 Summer programs at the library and 114 kids participating. The kids read a total of 90 books that were age appropriate. Presley Poulin was the grand prize winner and took home activity books and a beaded jewelry making set. Jasper Barkman won the Wapiti Regional Summer Reading Prize.



The lucky winner of the Dessert of the Month for September at the Spiritwood Public Library was Stacey Gaboury. She was thrilled to win decadent cookies made by the daughter of board member Steve Buban, for her guys out in the field.
By HEATHER GATZKE, Branch Librarian

GOOD NEWS

WHAT DID YOU DO THAT YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE?

By **DAVID BODVARSON**
Submitted

In 2014 some time ago now Marlene and I went on a journey. We had lived in a one-bedroom apartment in Shellbrook for about 8 years.

I think I said we likely only be there for six months. Well time moved on. Years went by. The beauty of staying there was we were able to save up a down payment.

Once we had enough for a down payment, we bought 2 acres just outside of Shellbrook. Then the fun began. With the Good Lord's help, we developed an acreage from scratch.

After the basement was built, we had our house moved in from Spiritwood. It was an RTM, built by Home Hardware. Marlene wanted Hardie board for siding. I said OK, but we will need to do it ourselves with some volunteers.

One sunny afternoon, I was on the north side of the house attempting to place some siding. I had borrowed some scaffolding from a friend — the kind that leans against the building.

The scaffolding was about 12 feet from the ground. I should have nailed the plank to the scaffolding. I can't believe what happened. I kicked the plank accidentally and lost my bal-

ance. I went flying through the air.

All I said flying off the plank was oh no! Things happen!

As I hit the ground, my shoulder took most of the blow! I wiggled my way up. I decided not to say anything to my friend siding on the south side of the house, but I did ask him to help me to adjust the scaffolding. This time, I used a longer and more secure plank.

Some time went on, more volunteers showed up, and my wife came along.

Well, she knew something happened. When I told her I took a fall, she insisted that I go to the hospital to get checked out.

The doctor did an exam and an x-ray.

He was blown away that I didn't have any broken bones. I was so grateful to the Good Lord. I thank Him almost everyday.

Once the volunteers heard what happened, they put in an extra effort and finished most of the house the next day.

It took about a year to get my shoulder back to normal. What I learned from this was to be more careful.

Use wisdom. Take a day at a time. Enjoy life to the fullest. Live today as if it is your last day on earth.

Walk in God's grace. Knowing that He not only saved me by His grace but He keeps me by His grace.

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**Shellbrook Chronicle
Spiritwood Herald**

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

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
10:30 a.m. - Worship
Pastor Lyndon Petten
587-973-2223
Leask Gospel Tabernacle
Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Josh
1-780-690-2100

PRESBYTERIAN

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

UNITED CHURCH

Big River
Sundays
11 a.m.. - Worship
at Anglican Church
Rev. Dave Whalley
306-747-2804
ANGLICAN CHURCH
Leask - All Saint's
Sunday Service - 9 am MP
St. Andrew's - Shellbrook
Sunday Service - 11 am MP
June 21, 10:30 a.m. at
St. Luke's Mont Nebo,
H.C. & Deconsecration
w/ Bishop Rick Reed
Potluck lunch to follow
Minister's Warden:
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EVANGELICAL FREE

Big River
10:00 a.m. - Worship
Bible Classes resume
in the fall
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Youth Nite:
Fridays at 7 p.m.
Mont Nebo
Sun. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
(10:30 a.m. June – August)
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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

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

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. Roger Paponette

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Spiritwood
Worship 10:00 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.
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Pastor Rick Martin

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Glenbush
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BETHEL
Medstead
2nd Sunday, 10 am -
Worship
Pastor David Jensen
4th Sunday, 10 am - Worship
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MENNONITE BRETHREN

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

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Worship Services
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Healthcare workers vote for job actions

By JORDAN TWISS
Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter

Saskatchewan healthcare workers represented by CUPE Local 5430 have voted 99 per cent in favour of job actions in what the union is calling the biggest strike vote in Saskatchewan’s history.

Healthcare workers cast their votes between Sept. 8 and 14. Of the 13,492 votes, 13,358 were in favour of the strike mandate.

CUPE Local 5430 represents more than 14,000 members, who work in clerical, technical, nursing, support and plant operations roles in health-care.

The results of the vote were announced last week in North Battleford, where healthcare workers and their supporters were rallying in front of Minister of Health Jeremy Cockrill’s constituency office.

CUPE 5430 says its 14,000 health care workers have been without a contract since March 31, 2023, and have gone over four and a half years without a wage increase. Despite this, the union says its members have continued to show up and provide critical care and services across the province.

“It’s shameful how long the Minister of Health has allowed our members to go without a wage increase or the respect they deserve,” said Bashir Jalloh, President of CUPE 5430, in a statement.

“These incredible strike vote results send that minister and his government a message that our members are done waiting, are united, and ready to fight for a fair contract.”

“This vote is about respect, fair wages, and safe staffing. It is about having a healthcare system where people can build a career, support

a family, and actually stay in their community,” added CUPE’s National President Mark Hancock.

“This government cannot solve a recruitment and retention crisis without respecting and fairly compensating the people on the front-lines. They cannot build a stronger health care system by burning out the people holding it together.”

The strike vote came after the latest offer from the Saskatchewan Association of Health Organizations (SAHO) was rejected as being inadequate.

Had it been accepted, the union says, healthcare workers would have made concessions to increase contract staffing and move employees farther from home with little notice, been left making less than their counterparts in western Canada, and continued to fall behind the pace of cost-of-living increases.

“This strike mandate is a message that CUPE 5430 members are done waiting and are willing to do whatever it takes to get the deal they deserve,” Jalloh said.

Despite the overwhelming vote to strike, the union said job action remains a last resort.

With talks between the union and the government’s negotiating team scheduled for this week, Minister Cockrill said he’s encouraged by the progress made thus far.

“Our government remains optimistic that we will be able to reach an agreement that works for health care workers, patients, employers, and communities,” he said in a statement.

“Strike votes are a part of the collective bargaining process; however, we remain optimistic that productive discussions at the bargaining table will continue.”

Town of Blaine Lake council minutes

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

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council for the Town of Blaine Lake held at the Blaine Lake Town Office located at 301 Main St, Blaine Lake, SK S0J 0J0 on Tuesday, July 21, 2026.

Council present: Mayor Tom Mayer, Councillor Jack Androsoff, Councillor Melissa Johnson, Councillor Barry Glencross, and Councillor Tonya Koal.

Staff present: Acting CAO Louanne Roschuk.

Absent: Councillor Melvy Sanchez and Councillor Karleigh Warkentin.

Mayor Mayer called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.

Delegation: Foreman Report was accepted at 4 p.m.

Mayer: That the following items be added to the agenda: 6(h) 16-43 Cash Injection, 6(i) xtsConstruction Quote — Blaine Lake Haven Lodge, 8(h) Aztec Towing Contract. Carried

Koal: That the agenda be adopted as amended. Carried

Androsoff: That the following Minutes be accepted as circulated: June 16, 2026, Regular Meeting. Carried

Business arising from the minutes:

a) Admin Clerk Shaina Boe gave an update that the website is in the Content Transfer phase and should be up and running soon;

b) Mayer: That Town Council acknowledges that Purchaser Triant Steurt has returned the keys and that town will resume ownership of the CN Station. Carried;

c) Johnson: That the Town agrees to rent dumpsters from 16-43 Waste Management and complete a full cleaning prior to putting it up for sale. Carried;

d) Glencross: That Town Council approved a \$2,500 cash payment to fix the sidewalk in front of his residence that was damaged in a water repair in exchange of a written acceptance of the cash payment to remedy that damage. Carried; and

e) Androsoff: That Town Council agrees to forgive the taxes owing on 102 2nd Ave E. Once title transfer has

been completed, we tender the property for sale. Carried

Koal: That Accounts for Ratification 2026-0054 to 2026-0061 be approved in the amount of \$25,548.32, Cheque Numbers 3717 to 3739 in the amount of \$55,334.62, Staff Payroll in the amount of \$19,581.92, Council Payroll in the amount of \$1,930, Utility payments in the amount of \$6,046.34 and Master Card in the amount of \$1,926.15. Carried

Androsoff: That the June, 2026 Financial Statement, Variance Report, Bank Reconciliation be approved. Carried

Androsoff: That Council agrees to send payment for \$100,000 towards the invoice and remaining balance will be issued after Sands returns to Blaine Lake and we agree that the roads meet our expectation. Carried

Androsoff: That Council reviewed the tenders received and decided at this time to inform the Contractors that we have decided to proceed with any option for 2026. Carried

Glencross: That Council accepts the quote from Feller Electric for the VFD for \$4,775.00 plus taxes. Carried

Johnson: That Council approves the purchase of materials from Forrest Home Lumber & Hardware to build a proper fence between the playground and Blaine Lake Haven Lodge. Carried

Androsoff: That Council accepts the quote from GFL for the sewer line cleaning on the East side and lift station in the amount \$9,997.50. Carried

Glencross: That Council approves a cash injection to 16-43 Waste Management in the amount of \$6,750. Carried

Committee reports: Martens Lake Regional Park — June 8, 2026, Regular Meeting, Library Board issues and reports, Blaine Lake Community Association, 16-43 Waste Management.

Koal: That the June 8, 2026 Martens Lake Regular Meeting minutes be accepted. Carried

Mayer: That Council Decorum be accepted as circulated. Carried

ed. Carried

Johnson: That the June 2026 Strategic Plan update be accepted as presented. Carried

Johnson: That Council agrees to have Robert Murray restore the murals at 117 Main Street and 201 Main Street as well as the mural at the Skating Rink in the amount of \$11,000. Carried

Koal: That Council recommends the removal of Jim Puffalt from signing authority at Affinity Credit Union effective June 30, 2026, as well as the access to CAFT for preauthorized transactions. Carried

Koal: That Council authorizes Shaina Boe to have signing authority in the absence of Acting Chief Administrative Officer. Carried

Mayer: The Council agreed to terminate the contract with Aztec Towing by giving them three months written notice for cancelation. Carried

Androsoff: That all correspondence be accepted as presented. Carried

Glencross: That Council adjourn at 6:05 p.m.



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?



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They need our support, now more than ever.



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