Spiritwood Herald

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Smiling faces take the stage at Rivier Christmas Concert

The students from Rivier School put on a much-enjoyed Christmas Concert this year.

The Catholic Church was packed to the rafters with spectators awaiting the ever popular Rivier Christmas Concert on Dec. 19. Father Peter gave a blessing before the Kindergarten to Grade 6 classes of the Catholic elementary school took the stage for a variety of singing, dancing, and joke telling before entertaining the crowd with play reminding everyone of the meaning of Christmas.

The students had been sorted into one of 6 groups to kick the show off. The first group sang two songs, "Hello Little Baby" and "Breath of Heaven". The second group recited an original poem about the students of Rivier preparing for Christmas break. The third group put the crowd in stitches by telling a variety of "Dad jokes" and puns. The fourth group recited a Christmas Acronym before treating the crowd to "A C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S Song". The fifth and sixth groups performed some dances to "Here Comes Santa Claus" and "Jingle Bell Rock".

The concert started off with the children from the elementary school learning that the mayor of the town had cancelled their Christmas Play ,which was to take place in the town square, because he felt it would cause a traffic jam during a busy time.

The students quickly came up with a plan to go carolling around town and ask for people to call the mayor requesting he change his mind. After being turned down by a couple of houses, they came upon the house of the mayor's daughter, who along with many others managed to convince the mayor that the show must go on!

Raffle tickets were sold prior to the start of the show, and prizes were won by Esther Hujber and Janine Kopanko.

More photos on page 2

Smiling faces take the stage at Rivier Christmas Concert

Kindergartners dancing along to a festive tune.

Some students got up to tell some sappy jokes.

Students dressed up as characters to help tell the nativity story.

Groups got up to perform song and recite poems prior to the play.

Dancing by the youngsters was well enjoyed.

The students did a great job singing the songs they have been practicing at school.

Some groups had a range of ages performing pieces they had practiced.

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The Town of Spiritwood is accepting applications for the position of Events & Recreation Coordinator. The community boasts a vibrant recreation base including a Skating Arena, Curling and Bowling facility, Ball Diamonds and Parks.

We are seeking an ambitious and community minded individual to fill the position. The ideal candidate is a motivated leader who has the ability to work under minimal supervision and be able to work closely with volunteers in a leadership, recruitment and retention capacity. This person will be responsible for event planning, marketing, grant applications, recreation programming, lottery licenses, staff, assisting volunteer groups, directing recreation meetings. Financial management skills and QuickBooks is an asset. Contact the Town Office for more information.

This position closes January 24, 2020 @ 4:00 p.m. or until a suitable candidate is found.

Please send resume, references and range of salary expectations to:
Town of Spiritwood
Box 460, Spiritwood, Sk. S0J 2M0
Email: tos@sasktel.net
Phone: (306)883-2161 Fax: (306)883-3212

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Annual Banquet & Awards Night
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Spiritwood Civic Center
Cocktails - 5 p.m.; Supper - 6 p.m. (*Catering by Marion*); Dance - 9 p.m. *(Music by: Misdeal)* Adults **$25**; 10 & Under **$12.50**; Preschool **Free**
For tickets call:
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Timberwolves tackle back to back games

It was a busy weekend for the Spiritwood Timberwolves Senior Hockey Team after the Christmas holidays, but all the turkey didn't seem to affect their play. The team hosted a re-scheduled game against the Radisson Wheat Kings on Friday, Dec. 27 followed by a scheduled game against the Maymont Settlers on Saturday, Dec. 28. A silent auction was run throughout the weekend at both games as well as a shoot out Calcutta which wrapped up after the Saturday night game.

Tyler Cross lining up a shot from the point on Maymont's net.

Spiritwood came out ahead on Friday night, scoring 8-6 against the Wheat Kings in a close, fast-paced, and well played game. Goals were scored by Scott Haggerty (2), Carson McNabb (1), Colton Poulin (1), Anthony Radke (3), and Dallan Saam (1), with assists by Jeff Caffet (2), Tyler Cross (3), Zevan Cross (1), Scott Haggerty (2), Carson McNabb (1), Tyson Poulin (1), Anthony Radke (3), and Patrick Robinson (1).

The Saturday night game was equally exciting and close the whole way through. The Settlers put 2 past goaltender Riley Mackrell in the first with Spiritwood managing to get one in to end the period 2-1. The second period started out quick but unfruitful until Spiritwood put one past Brandon Chrun with 8:50 left to tie up the game. Maymont ended the period by putting one in the roof of the net on a wrist shot over Mackrell's stick to get ahead 3-2.

Early on in the 3rd Spiritwood got a scrappy goal in past Chrun to tie up the game 3-3. With 3:54 remaining in the game Maymont managed to sneak a wrist shot in over Mackrell's glove to pull ahead.

Spiritwood put in a commendable effort to tie things back up, pulling the goalie with 1:20 remaining but it wouldn't be enough.

The game ended 4-3 for Maymont.

Spiritwood goals were scored by Jeff Caffet, Anthony Radke, and Patrick Robinson with assists by Devin Beebe, Jeff Caffet, and Tyler Cross.

Northern Wolves host Kinistino for Women's Hockey

The Spiritwood Atom Girls Team received a $500 donation from the Northern Wolves Female Hockey Team to get a similar set of jerseys to the senior ladies. Many young girls in the area have been inspired or encouraged by the team's commitment and love for the game.

A women's hockey team from Kinistino arrived in Spiritwood on Jan. 4 for a face off against the Northern Wolves Female Hockey team. They came with only 6 players but were ready for some good hockey a little bit of fun.

The first period saw the Northern Wolves net three goals scored by Kaeli Cross, assisted by Karissa Weber, Kaylee Sawatsky assisted by Sarah Anderson and Raina Cole, and Terra Turgeon assisted by Kendra Leer. Kinistino managed to sneak one by Spiritwood netminder Delaney Lehouillier to leave the period at 3-1.

Following the first period, Spiritwood decided to lend a little help to a tuckered out Kinistino team in good sportsmanship and gave up Brittany Hillman, Courtney Caffet, and Terra Turgeon to even out the odds. Turgeon managed to get one past Lehouillier in the second period to put another point on the board for Kinistino. Cross had her second of the game during this period assisted by Teigan Knot to leave the period 4-2. No goals were scored in the final period leaving the game 4-2 Spiritwood.

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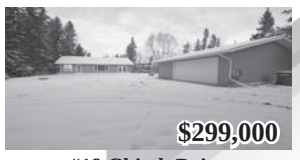
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New decade demands new suicide prevention strategy

Jordan Twiss
~
Columnist

We're a little over a week into a new year and decade, and so far — knock on wood — everything seems to be going relatively smoothly (though, U.S. President Donald Trump seems to be trying his best to usher in the beginning of World War Three).

Perhaps it's just the post-holiday lull or the lingering food comas, but we've yet to catch a glimpse any portentous omens that the 2020s will bring about a continuation of the worst parts of the 2010s.

By that same token, however, there have also been no signs to suggest that there is nothing but good things on the horizon for this year, or for the next 10 years.

Maybe, then, it's a case of no news being good news.

At the very least, we can hope for this to be true.

At the very most, we can put in the work in our communities, and in the province, to ensure that none of our collective worst fears for what this decade will hold come to pass.

In Saskatchewan, this means that we need to get serious about mental health and suicide prevention, and also tackle the addictions crisis that is destroying lives across our province.

We've talked a great deal about both of these issues for years now, and thrown piles money at both of them in the misguided belief that this would be enough.

Funding helps, of course, for nothing in this world can be accomplished without money.

But more can always be done, and a new decade demands that we begin considering new approaches to helping Saskatchewan's most vulnerable.

In its 2019-2020 budget, the Saskatchewan government funnelled $402 million towards dealing with mental health and addictions in the province — an uptick of $30 million over the prior year's budget.

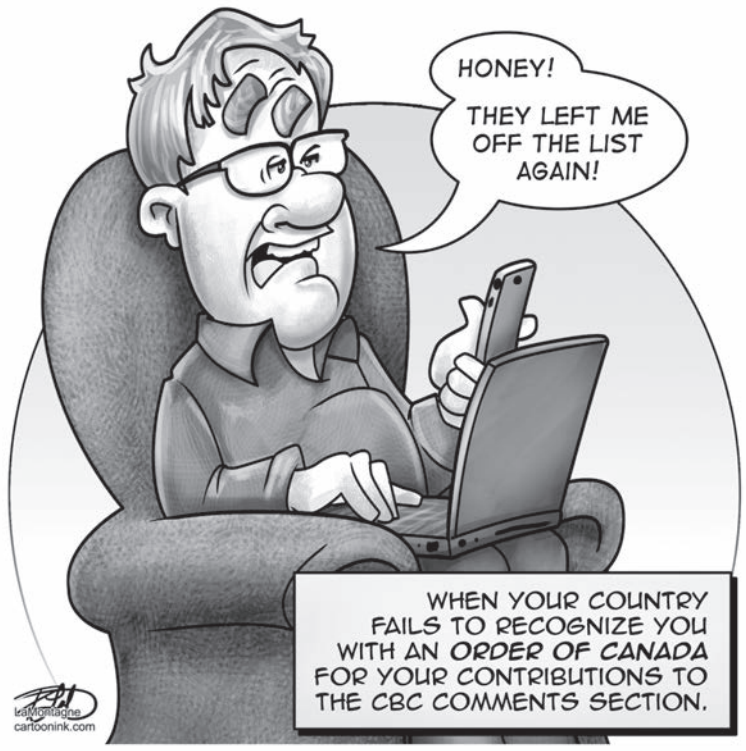
It was a record-setting commitment for the government, and a laudable move considering the belt-tightening that was done elsewhere within the budget. But data released by the Saskatchewan Coroners Service just prior to the new year shows it was also a necessary investment.

Though numbers are considered preliminary until all investigation are completed, the Coroners Service's 2018 figures on suicide show that (at least) 228 people ended their own lives in 2018.

This, despite all the work we've done on mental health awareness, is a record high for the province, and an increase of 44 suicides over 2017. It also puts Saskatchewan well above the national per capita suicide rate of 10.3 suicides per 100,000 people (Saskatchewan's per capita suicide rate is nearly double, at 19.3 suicides per 100,000 people).

But actual suicides only tell half the story when it comes to people's struggles with mental health. Providing a more complete picture of the numbers, Statistics Canada reports that there are, on average, 20 attempted suicides for every successful attempt.

So why's this happening, when we've done so much work to eliminate the stigma surrounding mental illness?



Jack Hicks, an adjunct professor at the U of S's College of Medicine who has been researching suicide prevention since 2003, says the problem stems from conflating increased mental health awareness with an actual strategy to prevent suicides.

"We saw it perfectly with the Saskatchewan government, that when somebody talks about suicide prevention, they say, 'Oh, but last year we spent X million dollars on mental health,'" he said.

For its part, the Saskatchewan NDP tried to convince the Sask. Party government to develop a province-wide suicide prevention strategy in November, with the introduction of a private members bill. Instead of supporting the bill, the government said it would take a wait and see approach and made no solid commitment to developing a strategy.

Conceding that a cohesive province-wide suicide prevention strategy wouldn't eliminate suicide altogether, Hicks says that it could at least bring numbers more in line with the national average.

He also suggests that a good strategy would include deeper research to allow funding to be better targeted at the areas and communities that need it most, improved suicide intervention training, and the implementation of a follow-up program for those who have been checked into hospital due to suicidal thoughts or following suicide attempts.

Another suggestion, offered by Donna Bowyers, provincial director of education and training for the Canadian Mental Health Association, would be to provide mandatory training for emergency room staff.

"You wouldn't put somebody in an emergency room to look after somebody having a heart attack if they don't have training to know what to do with it," she said. "Yet we do that with suicide."

Both Hill and Bowyers offer ideas that the Sask. Party government would do well to heed in forming a provincial suicide strategy.

This is a new decade, after all. And it's time to leave old thinking and ineffective policies in the past.

New Year delivers bracket creep to Sask. for the third year in a row

By Todd MacKay
CTF Prairie Director

Bracket creep is sneaking into Saskatchewan again this year as the province's tax brackets are no longer adjusted for inflation which bumps many taxpayers into higher tax brackets even though they aren't actually making more money.

"This bracket creep humbug is getting silly in Saskatchewan," said Todd MacKay, Prairie Director for the Canadian Taxpayers Federation. "The government claimed it would 'temporarily' stop indexing tax brackets to inflation, but this is the third year in a row the province is hitting taxpayers with bracket creep.

"Taking care of your neighbour's dog for the weekend is temporary; putting an ice-fishing shack on the lake is temporary; but, using bracket creep to sneakily jack up income taxes by millions of dollars for three years in a row is not temporary."

Only a few weeks ago, the Saskatchewan government issued a release touting its "commitment" to protecting taxpayers from bracket creep.

"Indexation helps keep taxes in Saskatchewan low by protecting Saskatchewan people from 'bracket creep'," stated then finance minister Kevin Doherty in a release issued Dec. 29, 2016. The release went on to estimate indexation would save taxpayers $9 million. "Our government is committed to keeping Saskatchewan's tax system fair and competitive, and yearly indexation is part of an array of measures aimed at accomplishing just that."

But that "commitment" ended with the 2017-18 budget that "temporarily" suspended indexation.

According to the CTF's New Year's Tax Changes report released today, bracket creep will add about $44 to the average family's tax bill this year.

The Saskatchewan government could easily afford to restore indexation to protect taxpayers from bracket creep by phasing out the labour-sponsored venture capital tax credit. It's a tax loophole that benefits only a few select investment funds. It's projected to dole out $12 million in credits this year.

Report from the Legislature

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Looking back on 2019, there have been a lot of highlights at the provincial level, including our government's tabling of a balanced budget.

Despite harmful federal policies and economic headwinds, we were able to strike the right balance with careful spending and priority investments. This fulfilled our three-year fiscal plan and set Saskatchewan on a path to balanced budgets in the years ahead.

Major infrastructure projects such as Saskatchewan Hospital North Battleford, Jim Pattison Children's Hospital and the Regina Bypass were opened this year.

Our government stood side by side with farmers and ranchers, energy workers and all those negatively impacted by a costly and ineffective carbon tax.

We built upon and strengthened interprovincial relations when Premiers from coast-to-coast-to-coast met in Saskatoon for the Council of the Federation.

We advocated for Saskatchewan exports in Asian markets during a very successful 11-day trade mission to Japan and South Korea.

We made new commitments to develop Small Modular Reactors that rely heavily on Saskatchewan-mined uranium.

Together through partnerships with First Nations we worked toward building a more compassionate, respectful and understanding Saskatchewan.

Our government has also outlined steps Saskatchewan is taking to advance our economic future, and to assert provincial autonomy in areas such as taxation, immigration, trade and climate change policy.

The New Year is representative of renewal and optimism – maybe even more so now as we begin a new decade.

We need to ensure a strong economy that will support strong communities and families. That's the essence of Saskatchewan's Growth Plan for The Next Decade.

Growth supports quality of life and allows us to help and to protect the most vulnerable among us. Growth enables us to provide opportunity for young people so that they stay in Saskatchewan to build their careers and raise their families.

Saskatchewan's new Growth Plan is an ambitious plan to do just that by expanding our economy and creating jobs and opportunity in communities and across our province.

Our plan for the next decade has two overarching goals: to grow the province's population to 1.4 million people and create 100,000 more jobs.

The sectors that have driven our economy for the last decade – energy and mining, agriculture, manufacturing and forestry – will continue to drive our economy. These traditional industries will benefit as new, emerging industries like the tech sector, ag biotech and value-added processing, are all poised for significant growth.

Together we can build a growing, prosperous, confident and optimistic Saskatchewan for our children and their children.

As your representative, we will continue working as part of our provincial government to strengthen our economy, communities and families.

Best wishes for good health, happiness and prosperity in the New Year!

Your Two Cents

A David versus Goliath battle

Dear editor,

First of all, I would like to thank the Chronicle for allowing me this space to rant a little. Also, thank you Jordan for the excellent article you printed in the Dec. 12/19 paper concerning our corral and fence vandalism.

On behalf of my family, I would also like to express our sincere gratitude to all who are supporting us in this David and Goliath story. Much appreciated. If you are familiar with the Bible at all, you will recall who the winner is at the end (Bible ref.: 1 Sam. Ch. 17). Well, I am David and Goliath could be anyone that is against us, such as the snowmobile gangsters, the R.M., and a very few of the public.

The comments on Facebook have been about 99 per cent on our side. Any phone conversation has been 100 per cent in our favour, because those against us don't have the guts to speak on the phone but hide on Facebook instead with maybe a false name and false information. Please get all your facts straight.

This has been a very stressful time for my entire family, and how do you put a dollar value on a person's health?

There are some days that I feel like giving up this fight, but then we might get an encouraging phone call, read a nice comment on Facebook, meet someone in person, or receive a personal donation on Gofundme.

That tells us how they feel. This all gives us the strength to go on. Thanks once again!

As I stated to the R.M. Council on Dec. 20/19, we do not want all our neighbours with the same brush. We have some great neighbours and friends that have helped us in the past and continue to do so. It may have been swathing, combining, spraying, silage, disking, fencing, lending us a CAT, letting us bale straw on their land, or helping set up temporary panels after this incident.

As the saying goes, a few bad apples can spoil the whole barrel (community).

So it appears that any irrational idea you may have can happen if you get your R.M. councillor behind you.

If anyone is interested in seeing this mess, just feel free to drive up here and have a look for yourself. There are no gates to stop you right now.

This is only chapter one of this story. To be continued.

Also, the Lakeland Snowmobile Club from Christopher Lake is NOT associated with these guys at all.

If you have any information related to this act of vandalism, please call the Prince Albert RCMP

Thanks again for your support.

David Viklund,

Shellbrook, Sask.

Spiritwood Herald

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Member of

Lions hold Christmas potluck, welcome Aussie Youth Exchange

The Spiritwood Lions held their Christmas Potluck and Games Night at the Legion Hall on Jan. 2. There was a large selection of food to choose from and a wide variety of games to play after. A cheque was presented to Tanis and Callie Franson for Spiritwood Minor Ball, who were the winners of the 2019 Lions Lottery Grant.

The Lions Club had been hosting a youth exchange for the two weeks prior and used this as a way to meet and greet him. The 16 year-old, Will Honeyman, had come from a sheep and grain farm in Victoria, Australia and was treated to many Canadian winter activities and touring during his short time here. Skating, tobogganing, snowboarding, snowmobiling, curling, pond hockey, and a bush plane flight for a little bison tour were just a few of the activities packed into the schedule.

There was a good showing by the Lions and their friends at the Christmas potluck and games night.

Lion Bryan Ferguson (right) introducing exchange student Will Honeyman (left) from Australia.

Callie (left) and Tanis Franson (centre) accepting the Lions Lottery Grant on behalf of Spiritwood Minor Ball from Lottery Grant Chairperson Lion Shelley Allard (right).

R.M. OF MEDSTEAD NO. 497

SEASONAL MAINTENANCE/EQUIPMENT OPERATOR POSITION

The R.M. of Medstead No. 497 invites applications for an experienced full time Seasonal Maintenance/Equipment Operator. The Seasonal Maintenance/Equipment Operator will be responsible for mowing this municipality's ditches, rock picking, mulching in conjunction with the grader operators, installing and repairing signs and other jobs as directed by the Reeve. Opportunity may be present in the future to move into a grader operator position. Pay rates depending on experience.

The R.M. of Medstead No. 497 is located in central Saskatchewan located approximately forty five minutes north of North Battleford.

Applicants must possess a valid Class 5 driver's license and have skill and experience in maintenance and operation of equipment including tractor, mower, rock picker and mulcher. Submit written resumes stating experience, expected wage, two references and a current driver's abstract by 4:00 p.m. on March 12th, 2020. All resumes shall be marked "Seasonal Maintenance/Equipment Operator Position" and dropped off at the RM Office, mailed to the address below or emailed to rm497@sasktel.net.

R.M. of Medstead No. 497
Box 12
Medstead, SK S0M 1W0

Council thanks all applicants for their interest in this position but only persons selected for interviews will be contacted.

The R.M. of Medstead No. 497 reserves the right to reject and refuse any or all expressions of interest.

R.M. OF MEDSTEAD NO. 497

SEASONAL GRADER/EQUIPMENT OPERATOR POSITION

The R.M. of Medstead No. 497 invites applications for an experienced full time Seasonal Grader/Equipment Operator. The Seasonal Grader/Equipment Operator will be responsible for public works operations, organizing their own schedule and work duties, have good communication skills and be able to prepare and maintain reports as directed by the Council. Wages will be between $25.00 - $28.00 per hour depending on experience.

The R.M. of Medstead No. 497 is located in central Saskatchewan located approximately forty five minutes north of North Battleford.

Applicants must possess a valid Class 5 driver's license and have skill and experience in maintenance and operation of heavy equipment including grader, dozer, buggy, tractor, mower, rock picker and mulcher.

Submit written resumes stating experience, expected wage, two references and a current driver's abstract by 4:00 p.m. on March 12th, 2020. All resumes shall be marked "Seasonal Grader/Equipment Operator Position" and mailed, dropped off at the address below or emailed to rm497@sasktel.net.

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Science holds answers to key ag questions

It is interesting how concerns over methane emissions coming from livestock has spurred research.

It's not unexpected in the sense that science tends to look for solutions to whatever problems come along in our world, but that science might be able to help in terms of what passes through livestock to emerge as greenhouse gases which are impacting our atmosphere.

"An international team of researchers led by scientists at the University of Ortago in New Zealand has identified the main rumen microbes and enzymes that control the supply of hydrogen, the main energy source for methane-producing microbes called methanogens," reported a recent article at www.producer.com

As is often the case in a world so highly connected as ours is how the research was a collaborative affair with scientists at the universities of Monash in Australia, Illinois in the United States and Hokkaido in Japan involved.

CALVIN DANIELS
~

It is worth a bit of a tangent here to note that the ability of scientists around the world to stay connected more easily, and to in that way share ideas and talents, is something that bodes well for quicker and more successful resolutions of research moving forward.

In the case of the investigation into the biology of the rumen as it pertains to creating methane gases, it is a rather interesting approach to the perceived problem. Perhaps that isn't a huge leap if you think of doctors tweaking our own system to deal with reflux issue, but we do tend to think the biological processes are something rather determined by the physiology of the animal, but it appears the inner workings of the rumen may be able to be tweaked.

The science of course is at its very early stages, but it does offer some interesting possibilities and it at the very least shows there is an effort being made to work on livestock methane emissions.

If one considers we may also see those emissions lowered by tweaking the diets of the animals – what goes in will effect what comes out – then there does seem to be a good chance to positively impact the overall levels livestock release.

It is a proactive use of science to create solutions for a changing world, a world where people will ask more questions about where their food comes from and what impact on the environment its production has.

Those are good questions, of course. Although we must remember, too, that the more expectation we put on production, the higher costs may be, and there are already many worldwide who struggle to buy the food they need.

Sask. Health Authority volunteer opportunities

The Volunteer Service Department is in need of caring, compassionate and committed volunteers to fill the following service positions:

Parent-Tot Program – Spiritwood and District Health Complex (306) 883-4432

Mothers and/or fathers along with their young children may visit residents on a one-to-one basis or in small groups. Parents are responsible for their children at all times.

Shifts: Flexible, once or twice per week.

Entertainment – Evergreen Health Centre, Leoville (306) 984-2136

Volunteer performers (Musicians, magicians, actors, etc.) share their talents with residents in long-term care. Other volunteers assist by inviting residents to a specific area for entertainment, parties, sing-a-longs, etc. Assist with snacks, lunches, etc.

"On Call" Volunteers – Hafford Special Care Home (306) 549-2108

Extra volunteers are often needed for the long term care residents on an "on-call" basis, to assist with outings, parties, social gatherings, shopping trips, taking residents to appointments, etc.

Shifts: As needed

If you are interested in this or any other Volunteer service position, or if you have a particular skill or talent you would like to share with the patients, residents or clients, please call your local health care facility to apply. You can also reach the Volunteer Services Department at (306) 765-6010, by email at volunteers@paphr.sk.ca or find us on the web at www.paphr.ca. We look forward to matching your talents and interests with the right position for you.

Junior Citizen of the Year
Scholarship

For over the past four decades The Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association, in partnership with SaskPower and with the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, have recognized the youth of Saskatchewan through the Junior Citizen of the Year Award.

These prestigious awards are given to youth who:

- Have a positive lifestyle
- Have had the ability to overcome life's challenges
- Have a strong sense of caring and responsibility
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- Inspire others
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This year four deserving youth will receive $3000 bursaries to use towards their post-secondary education.

Visit www.swna.com for further information and nomination forms

Nominations close March 31, 2020

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Looking back on 2019, ahead to 2020

By Gary Vidal
MP, Desnethé-Missinippi-Churchill River

The year 2019 included much change for our family. It began in December 2018 with the Conservative Party nomination and earning the right to represent the party in the 2019 federal election.

In the early part of the year, we expanded the team that helped us secure the nomination and started getting out and meeting many people in the riding.

My business partner and I were able to sell our accounting practice at the end of July. This was a very significant decision as it affected our staff and clients whom we appreciated greatly for so many years.

On a personal level, our son Mac married Hannah in June and together they moved to New Zealand in September. Another highlight was becoming grand-parents for the first time with the birth of Nathaniel to our daughter Nicole and her husband Washington in October. There is nothing that compares with that experience.

The election campaign and election itself was obviously very significant. I continue to be somewhat overwhelmed, very humbled and extremely grateful to be chosen as the Member of Parliament for Desnethé-Missinippi-Churchill River on October 21st. The campaign was a fabulous opportunity to get to know many people. I will cherish that experience forever.

Lori and I continue to be grateful to many people who worked tirelessly on our behalf to provide the opportunity to serve in this capacity. Also, I will be eternally grateful for the support that Lori has been to me in this whole journey.

I am also very fortunate to have built a great team of people, both here and in Ottawa, who are committed to working hard to represent the interests and take forward the concerns of all the people of northern Saskatchewan.

Being appointed the Shadow Cabinet Minister for Indigenous Services in November was a tremendous honour. It is a welcome opportunity to be part of an incredible team of people working on behalf of all Canadians in addition to those in northern Saskatchewan.

In 2020, we are going to work hard to earn the trust and confidence that has been placed in us. I have surrounded myself with competent, credible and very capable people who are committed to working hard to serve. We know we have much to learn and are prepared for that challenge.

I am personally excited to continue building relationships with Indigenous communities across Canada as the Shadow Cabinet Minister and working to understand the challenges faced by these communities.

The selection of the new leader of our party on June 27, 2020 is also going to be very significant part of our journey in the first half of 2020 and I am looking forward to participating in that process.

It is an incredible honour to serve as a Member of Parliament. I will never take that privilege for granted.

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Robinson wins Calcutta

The Senior Timberwolves held their first Shoot Out Calcutta following their Dec. 28 game. Bids were placed on players from the team with 50% of the money going into the winning pot and 50% going towards the team. Cavalier Agro started off the bidding with a $40 bid on each player and people racked up bids in increments of $5.

It was one-round elimination and only 5 members from the team were able to get pucks past netminders Riley Mackrell and JR Bussiere to make it into the second round. Jeff Caffet, Tyson Poulin, Dalton Bill, Scott Haggerty, and Colton Poulin each got to take a second shot with Haggerty, C. Poulin, and Caffet advancing into the third round. Caffet came out on top and headed into the payout round.

Bids were able to be placed on both goalies for a 50% chance of winning money. The goalie with the most saves in the first round moved on for the remainder of the shoot out. Mackrell came out on top and was in the final payout show down with Caffet. Mackrell made the save on the last round, leaving Cal Robinson with 70% of the pot ($714) and Jeanie Olson who bought Jeff Caffet with 30% of the pot ($306).

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New insurance rules come into force

The Government of Saskatchewan proclaimed The Insurance Act on January 1, 2020.

The new Act modernizes legislation, allowing Saskatchewan's marketplace to deal with new and emerging issues in the rapidly changing insurance industry.

"These changes better reflect what is going on in the industry," Justice Minister and Attorney General Don Morgan said. "We had extensive consultations with industry associations, insurers and agents and have developed legislation that is flexible and modern, and enhances consumer protection."

The new Saskatchewan insurance legislation:

- incorporates new licensing and supervision requirements;
- introduces separate licensing categories for managing general agents and third party administrators;
- expands the restricted insurance agents licensing regime to permit the sale of insurance together with the sale of certain products or services (e.g. car rental companies or insurance for portable electronic goods);
- outlines market conduct standards, introduces new fair practice provisions, and identifies unfair practices in order to protect consumers;
- describes new complaint handling provisions, including a requirement to let consumers know about where they can take complaints and disputes such as to an ombudservice or the Superintendent; and
- moves toward further harmonization with other Canadian jurisdictions, primarily Alberta.

For more information about The Insurance Act visit https://fcaa.gov.sk.ca/regulated-businesses- persons/businesses/insurance-companies/regulations-for-licensed-insurers.

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Sask. NDP sounds alarm over eHealth data breach

The Saskatchewan NDP is raising concern after eHealth Saskatchewan announced on Monday that an unknown number of servers and files have been compromised by ransomware, as first reported by the CBC.

"People should be able to trust that their health records are secure -- that's eHealth's most important responsibility," said NDP Health Critic Vicki Mowat. "Unfortunately, the Sask. Party government has consistently undermined eHealth's ability to deliver the results Saskatchewan people expect. It's time for the Minister of Health to step up and show that he can and will address the ongoing issues at eHealth."

The NDP has previously raised concerns about the Sask. Party's handling of the Crown agency, specifically a vendor-sponsored travel scandal, the use of sole-source contracts, and staff concerns about the current CEO, who was dismissed from his role as CEO of Ontario Community Health Systems amidst declining performance measures and low staff morale.

"When it comes to ensuring quality healthcare that's there when people need it, this government continues to let Saskatchewan people down," Mowat said. "People need to hear that they're taking this data breach seriously, and that their failures have not compromised the security or integrity of Saskatchewan people's health records."

(Editor's note: According to eHealth CEO Jim Hornell, no confidential patient data has been stolen so far. The incident has been reported to the RCMP.)

Security tips for online gamers

Online gaming is wildly popular, and growing more so by the minute. According to Limelight Networks' "The State of Online Gaming 2019" report, which surveyed the online habits and opinions of 4,500 consumers in countries such as the United States, France and Japan, among others, people who play video games spend an average of seven hours and seven minutes playing. Gamers between the ages of 26 and 35 play even more, averaging eight hours and 12 minutes of play each week, a more than 25 percent increase from 2018.

The market and consumer data provider Statista notes that there were 1.82 billion gamers in 2014, a figure the firm estimates will rise to more than 2.7 billion by 2021. Billions of gamers across the globe means there are billions of opportunities for online criminals to exploit gaps in security. As a result, it's imperative that online gamers take measures to protect themselves when engaging in online gaming.

· Routinely update security software. Get Safe Online, a United Kingdom-based organization that offers free online security advice, emphasizes the importance of updating antivirus and antispyware software. Online gamers should be accustomed to receiving notifications that updates to their security software are available, and should always install these updates as soon as possible. Play online games only after the updates have been downloaded and installed.

Parents of online gamers may need to download and install these updates for their children, who may not recognize the threat posed by outdated security software. Online criminals use viruses and spyware to access gamers' personal information, and many can recognize vulnerabilities in software programs very quickly. That only highlights how important it is that security software is updated as soon as updates are made available.

· Resist the temptation to play pirated games. Playing pirated copies of games is not just illegal, but also risky. Pirated games that must be downloaded may contain viruses or spyware. When purchasing games, purchase them only from authorized sellers. Online gamers, even if they download pirated games that do not contain viruses or spyware, may be banned from playing games if manufacturers discover they have used counterfeit programs in the past, yet another reason to resist the temptation to play pirated games.

· Choose a safe username. Usernames that contain personal information, such as a date of birth, can make gamers vulnerable to identity theft and other online crimes. When choosing a username, make sure it contains no sensitive personal information, and never include such information in online gaming profiles.

· Dispose of devices properly. Before discarding, reselling or giving away a device as a gift, make sure it is scrubbed clean of any personal information. Scan the device for photos and videos, and sign out of all online accounts, including social media profiles.

Online gaming is popular, and that popularity can be exploited by online criminals when gamers fail to prioritize security.

Community Calendar

SPIRITWOOD: Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, Wednesday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm & Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
LEOVILLE: Wapiti Regional Library - Wednesday 10 am - 4 pm; Thurs. 10 am - 3 pm (Storytime from 10:30 am to 11:30 am)
SHELL LAKE: Wapiti Regional Library - Tues. 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm; Wed. 1 pm - 4 pm.
SPIRITWOOD: Witchekan Wildlife Federation Inc. Annual Banquet & Awards Night. Saturday, January 25, 2020, Spiritwood Civic Center. Cocktails - 5 pm; Supper - 6 pm (Catering by Marion); Dance - 9 pm (Music by Misdeal). Adults $25; 10 & Under $12.50; Preschool Free. For tickets call: Lyla 306-883-9284; Pearl & Eric 306-883-2835; Jim 306-984-4514. Photo Contest - Categories include: Scenery, Hunting, Fishing & Wildlife. Pictures must be printed on 8x10 Kodak paper & can be submitted the day of banquet.

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Tiger tales: more to come in 2020

BRUCE PENTON
~

It's a brand new year, with high hopes for another great season on the ball fields, the ice rinks, the golf courses and the tennis courts. So here are a few predictions about which to guffaw:

— This era's most amazing sports story is 44-year-old Tiger Woods and he will continue to stalk the Jack Nicklaus record for most major championships (19). He won his 15th in 2019 and, no matter what the world golf rankings say (Tiger is actually No. 6 today), he appears again to be the game's best player and will win at least one, maybe two, major titles in 2020.

— Major league baseball will continue to undergo changes to speed it up, and to clean it up. Houston Astros will have their knuckles rapped in some fashion for their electronic (and trash-can banging) espionage during the playoffs, and it will take fans a while to get used to the new rule in 2020 saying a relief pitcher has to face at least three hitters, or to complete a half-inning. No more of these one-batter specialists. And it won't happen this year, but movement will continue at a fairly rapid pace to eventually have robotic umpires in place.

— The race to 894 will start gaining media traction in 2020. That's Alex Ovechkin's attempt to supplant Wayne Gretzky as the NHL's No. 1 all-time goal-scorer. At the Christmas break, Ovechkin had 24 goals this year and 682 for his career. Give him another 20 or so this year and he'll be around 700 going into next season. He'll be only 35 next year, and 194 goals shy of Gretzky's total. Five more years at 40 goals per year and the Great One will be the Great Two.

— Canadian tennis will continue to rise, and thrive. More courts will be built in our country. More kids will take up the game. All because of the recent successes by the likes of Bianca Andreescu, Eugenie Bouchard, Milos Raonic, Denis Shapovalov, Felix Auger-Aliassime and Vasek Pospisil. If nothing else, Canada's hopes for medalling in tennis in the Olympics have been greatly enhanced.

— Despite the signing of free agent pitcher Hyun-Jin Ryu to a four-year, $80 million contract, It will be another so-so (rough) year for the Blue Jays; the Leafs won't win the Stanley Cup (again); the Bombers will find it tough to repeat their Grey Cup victory; and Brendan Bottcher of Edmonton will win the Brier and Tracy Fleury the Scotties. Other than that, I'm fresh out of ideas, but the best idea I've had today is to put $100 down on Tiger to win the Grand Slam and then take my winnings and retire comfortably to a South Pacific island.

• Janice Hough of leftcoastsportsbabe.com: "Gerrit Cole will be 39 by the end of his $324 million nine-year contract. But if he doesn't live up to it I'm sure Yankees fans and the New York media will be warm and understanding."

• Blogger Eric Stangel, after the Yankees signed pitcher Gerrit Cole for $324 million over nine seasons: "The Yankees also announced that beer at the stadium will now cost $734."

• Bob Molinaro of pilotonline.com: "I'm waiting for the story that accuses the Patriots of stealing signs for the Astros."

• Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "The best place in America to experience New Year's Eve, according to a WalletHub.com study, is New York City. Except now there's bickering over whether it's a Jets or Giants receiver who gets to drop the ball at midnight."

• Dwight Perry again: "This is the Year of the Pig, according to the Chinese calendar, though one could argue that Russian doping and the can-banging Astros make it seem like the Year of the Cheetah."

• Comedy writer Jim Barach, after a Patriots video crew violated league policy while taping at the Browns-Bengals game: "They say they weren't spying, they were just putting together a blooper reel for the NFL Christmas party."

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg, on the Patriots being accused of spying on the Bengals: "That's like the Rolling Stones spying on Milli Vanilli."

• Justin Rogers of The Detroit News, via Twitter, on the plight of the local NFL squad: "Two presidents have been impeached since the Lions last won the division."

•Warriors coach Steve Kerr, to reporters, when asked if his 8-24 team's win over Houston on Christmas was its best of the season: "Well, yeah, but there haven't been that many to choose from."

• Janice Hough of leftcoastsportsbabe.com, on the 16-day lag between the semifinals and title game of the College Football Playoff: "Players have so much time off they might even have to go to class."

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg, on diva wide receiver Antonio Brown getting a tryout with the Saints: "Brown has as much chance of acting like a Saint as the 1-14 Bengals have of acting like a tiger."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

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Rev. Kun Kim
Rev. Don Skinner

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OBITUARY
~
Mary Bedi

BEDI – Mary

Mary Bedi was born October 20, 1935, Rabbit Lake, SK and Passed away December 14, 2019, Shellbrook, SK at the age of 84 years. Mary is lovingly remembered by: her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren: Annabelle (Mike) Kotun of Spiritwood, SK and their family: Amanda Kotun (Ryan Gibson) of Vermillion, AB and their son: Hayes Gibson, Adam (Brittany) Kotun of Spiritwood, SK and their sons: Zayden, Huxley & Sawyer, Jim (Dona) Bedi of Spiritwood, SK and their family: Jared (Kate) Bedi of Calgary, AB and their children: Sophie, Olivia & Charlotte, Jolene (Les) Neurauter of Lloydminster, AB and their children: Logan & Cooper, Danya Paichaud of Edmonton, AB and her son: Rorik, Donell Bedi and her husband, Oscar Smith of Calgary, AB, Her sister-in-Law, Mary Walter of Spiritwood, SK also numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. She is predeceased by: her husband, Steve Bedi (1988), her parents, George and Karolin Walter, her parents-in-law , Mike and Maria Bedi, her siblings, Alex Walter (1944), Caroline Sheridan (1982), John Walter (1988), George Walter (1990), Joe Walter (1994), Frank Walter (1997), Jim Walter (2004), Gordon Walter (2018). Mary was raised in a large family of 7 brothers and 1 sister. Life itself was hard work, feeding a family was the biggest challenge of each day and keeping warm during harsh winters when times where hard. Her father died when she was just 15. Her mother became ill some years later and things where never the same. She had to leave school after Grade 9 to become homemaker, care provider and worked wherever she was needed. She married Steve Bedi in 1954 and together they farmed and raised their daughter Annabelle and son James. When the kids were old enough for school, she went to work off the farm. She worked at local businesses such as Marks Cafe, Spiritwood Bakery, Canada Post and Spiritwood Pharmacy. She made and decorated many wedding cakes, made bridal bouquets and floral arrangements all while having a huge garden, tending to livestock, chickens, baking and helping with the harvest. Steve became terminally ill and passed away in 1988. Mom has to step out of her comfort zone big time. She took driving lessons and we were very proud of her getting her license as an adult. She travelled a bit, taking 2 trips to Hungary to search out relatives and places of birth. She loved her family, especially her Grand Children and Great Grand Children. Her favourite holidays were Thanksgiving and Christmas. She enjoyed visits with her nieces, nephews and large extended family.

Mom was always willing to lend a hand or help out in any way she could. She loved the people of her community and so, so many reciprocated that love. She will be missed terribly but is home and will never be forgotten. A funeral service was held Tuesday, December 24, 2019 at 11:00 am at the Civic Centre, Spiritwood, SK with Delores Beaulac and Rev. Nora Borgeson officiating. Everyone in Mary's immediate family took part in her Celebration of Life. Following a private family interment in the Spiritwood Cemetery, the family invited all present for lunch and fellowship in the hall. Donations may be made in Mary's memory to the Spiritwood Museum as tokens of remembrance. Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home, Mark Muir, Funeral Director, Spiritwood (306-883-3500).

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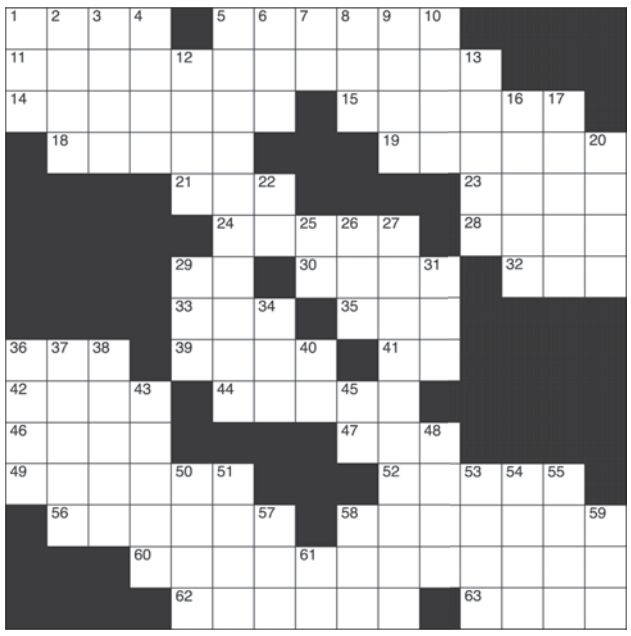

CLUES ACROSS

1. Beer ingredient
5. Popular FOX TV show
11. Recurring from time to time
14. Criticized severely
15. Musician
18. German urban center
19. Quenched
21. Human gene
23. Indian music
24. Accumulate
28. One who graduated
29. Atomic #109
30. Semitic fertility god
32. Sportscaster Patrick
33. Child's dining accessory
35. Payment (abbr.)
36. Guitarist's tool
39. Dabbling ducks
41. Commercial
42. Style someone's hair
44. Biu-Mandara language
46. Actress Spelling
47. Large hole in the ground
49. One-masted sailboats
52. Tropical Asian plant
56. Concurs
58. Latin term for charity
60. The number below the line in a fraction
62. Reddish browns
63. This (Spanish)

CLUES DOWN

1. Belong to he
2. One time only
3. Parent-teacher groups
4. Puts in place
5. Editing
6. In the course of
7. Helps injured people (abbr.)
8. OJ trial judge
9. Resist authority (slang)
10. Formerly alkenols
12. "Cheers" actress Perlman
13. Jewelled headdress
16. Viking Age poet
17. Vanuatu island
20. Wish harm upon
22. Unit of length
25. Blood type
26. Drain
27. Do-gooders
29. Advanced degree
31. Business designation
34. Chinese-American actress Ling
36. Performs on stage
37. Slang for money
38. Large Russian pie
40. The Mount Rushmore State
43. Narrow inlet
45. News organization (abbr.)
48. Scarlett's home
50. Micturates
51. Monetary unit
53. Any customary observance or practice
54. Sons of Poseidon
55. Facilitates grocery shopping
57. Standard operating procedure
58. Former OSS
59. Midway between south and southeast
61. The Wolverine State

Answers on page 14

Perennials! Bleeding heart and coral bells

By Sara Williams

An old-fashioned perennial, bleeding heart (Dicentra spp.) has graced prairie gardens for centuries. The common name refers to the heart-shaped flowers in shades of pink, red or white in which the inner petals protrude from the outer petals, resembling a "bleeding heart". Ranging in height from 25-90 cm (10-36 in.), they are characterized by attractive, ferny, deeply cut foliage and a graceful arching form. All are long lived. They do best in full to partial shade in well-drained soil generously amended with organic matter. They do require even moisture but are otherwise low-maintenance and fit in well in a woodland or shade garden and a mixed border. Propagate them by early spring division.

Fringed bleeding heart (D. eximia), native to the east coast of North America, is noted for its graceful arching form and ferny, compound, glaucous blue-green foliage. It is shorter (about 40 cm (16 in.) and longer blooming than other species and does not become dormant in mid-summer.

Fernleaf bleeding heart (D. formosa) is very similar in appearance to the fringed bleeding heart, but native to the west coast of North America. Its foliage is a bit greyer and it will do okay in full sun as long as it has even moisture.

'Luxuriant' (a hybrid of D. eximia and D. formosa) flowers through most of the summer with cherry- to rose-coloured blooms and a height of 40 cm (16 in.).

'Alba', 30 cm (12 in.) in height, has white flowers.

Common, Japanese or old-fashioned bleeding heart (Lamprocapnos spectablis, syn. D. spectabilis) is a close relative native to Asia. The plants are larger at70-90 cm(30-36 in.) high and often becomes dormant with yellowing foliage in the heat of mid-summer.

'Alba' is 60- 90cm(8-24 in.) with white flowers.

'Gold Heart' has pink flowers with golden foliage and is 90 cm (3 ft) tall.

'Valentine' has bright red flowers and is 70-90 cm (30-36 in.) in height.

Coral bells, alumroot

Coral bells (Heuchera spp.) describes the dainty, bell-like flowers in shades from pink to red. The older common name, seldom heard now, alumroot, refers to the high concentration of tannin in the roots, once used to stop bleeding.

A myriad of tiny bell-shaped flowers are held on slender wiry stems of 50-60 cm (20-24 in.) high above a basal rosette of foliage. The dark green, semi-evergreen leaves are rounded to heart-shaped with scalloped margins and resembles a geranium leaf in outline and texture. The woody crown slowly increases to form larger clumps but is never invasive.

Coral bells flourish in full sun to light shade (with less flowering in shade) in average, well-drained soil. Deadhead to prolong flowering. They are exceptionally drought-tolerant once established and lovely toward the front of a perennial border, as a ground cover or in rock gardens. Increase through division in early spring.

An amazing number of coral bells, with unique leaf colours and patterns, many in alluring purples, bronzes and silvers, have recently flooded the prairie market. Most were developed elsewhere and few were tested for hardiness in northern zones prior to their release. Almost none of these has proved enduring, most lasting only two or three years. A new series, Northern Exposure, with genes from our native Heuchera richardsonii, hopefully will combine beautiful foliage with a tougher constitution. Place them in a protected location.

'Northern Fire' coral bells is long blooming, long lived and drought tolerant. ***Photo credit: Sara Williams***

For now, our best bet are the Morden hybrids, bred by Henry Marshall who crossed H. sanguinea with H. richardsionii beginning in the late 1950s.

'Brandon Pink' (1957) has bright, coral-pink flowers in July. It is about 60 cm (2 ft) in height, with dense, almost evergreen, faintly mottled foliage. It flowers freely, is vigorous, and drought and wind tolerant.

'Brandon Glow' (1967) has darker pink flowers in a more open panicle and is slightly shorter at 45 cm (20 in.) with distinctly mottled green and white foliage.

'Northern Fire' (1979), a seedling of 'Brandon Pink', has dark red flowers and is about 60 cm (2 ft) in height. It blooms for 6 weeks in early summer.

'Ruby Mist' has dark green, evergreen foliage and ruby red flowers on 45 cm (18 in.) stems. It has an even longer bloom period than 'Northern Fire'.

Sara Williams is the author of numerous books dealing with gardening in cold climate. Look for Perennials for Northern Gardens in fall, 2020. Retired as the Horticultural Specialist, Extension Division, University of Saskatchewan, she to write gives workshops on a wide range of gardening topics throughout the Canadian prairies.

This column is provided courtesy of the Saskatchewan Perennial Society (SPS; saskperennial@hotmail.com). Check our website (www.saskperennial.ca) or Facebook page (www.facebook.com/saskperennial) for a list of upcoming gardening events.

The white flowers of bleeding heart form a "colour echo" with the white of the hosta leaves. ***Photo credit: Sara Williams***

Old fashioned bleeding heart (Dicentra spectabilis) needs partial shade and even moisture. ***Photo credit: Sara Williams***

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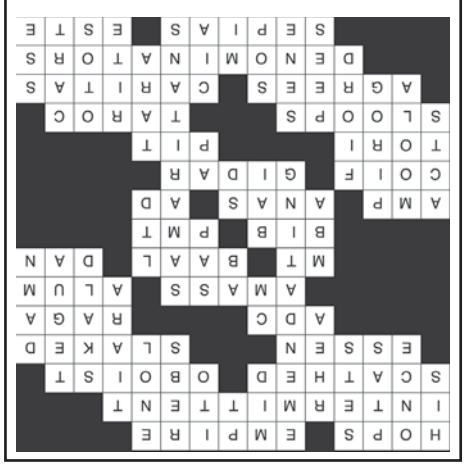

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Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency sending six more staff to support wildfire response efforts in Australia

The Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency (SPSA) is sending another six wildland fire management staff to New South Wales, Australia, for a deployment of 38 days. They will join 24 other members of the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre (CIFFC) team.

This is the second deployment of Canadian firefighters to Australia in the last three weeks under the Exchange of Wildland Fire Management Resources Agreement. A contingent of 21 Canadian firefighters deployed to New South Wales on Dec. 3. Two of those firefighters were deployed from Saskatchewan. Canada has called on Australian firefighters four times since 2015.

The original group has been helping to manage wildland fire incidents in the areas around Glen Innes, Grafton, Casino and Kempsey in the northeastern part of the state.

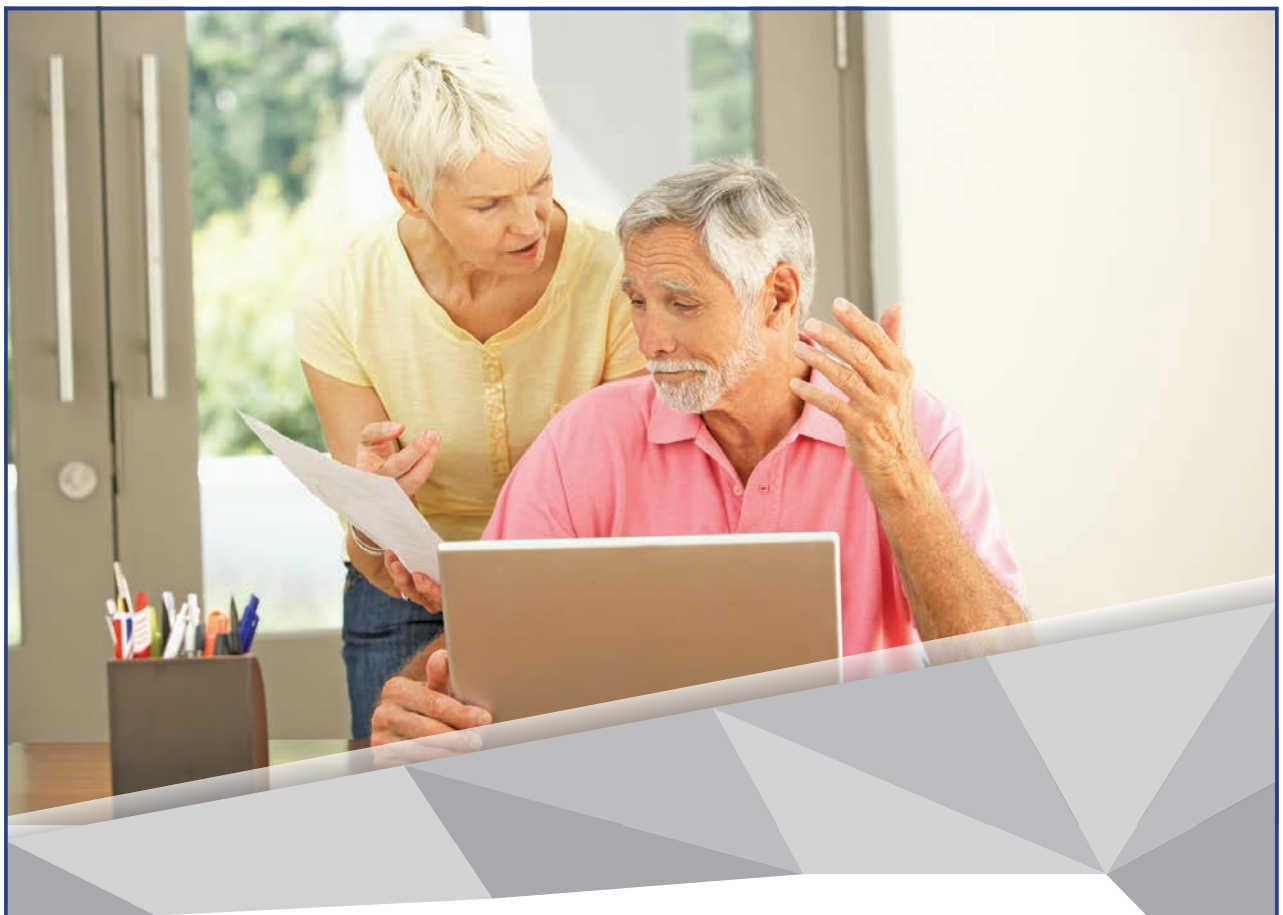
The National Resource Sharing Centre in Melbourne requested assistance from Canadian wildfire agencies to fight bushfires along the east coast of Australia. Canadian fire management staff are filling operational, planning and aviation roles.

"Having Australia request more support not only shows how bad these wildfires are, it also demonstrates the quality of our staff," SPSA President Marlo Pritchard said. "It also exemplifies the fact that Saskatchewan is a province of people that are willing to step up when others are in need."

A severe and early fire season in eastern Australia has led to fatalities, property loss and the destruction of large areas of New South Wales and Queensland.

Saskatchewan is a member of the CIFFC. When appropriate, Canadian provincial wildfire agencies export firefighting resources at the request of other jurisdictions through mutual aid resource sharing agreements.

To learn more about the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency visit https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government- structure/crown-corporations/saskatchewan-public-safety-agency.



BILL 194 MAKES LOCAL GOVERNMENT LESS OPEN

Bill 194, the Miscellaneous Municipal Statutes Amendment Act, was recently given second reading in the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly and could soon become law. It recommends amendments to several Acts relating to the publication of official notices by city, town and rural municipalities.

In short, Bill 194 removes the requirement for city, town and rural municipalities to provide 'public notice' of valuable information that affects our daily lives, in exchange for 'public access' to that information.

It gives local government the option to post information only on its own website rather than using independent media to inform citizens of its actions.

If this bill is passed, it will be up to you to have to go and find out yourself if any land is being rezoned, or if your municipality has hired people without advertising that a position was available, or if there is a notice of an upcoming election.

Local government has said that the sections in Bill 194 that affect mandatory publishing of public notices in newspapers will be at the discretion of the council or municipality as to whether they will do that.

Bill 194 must be amended to keep public notice in independent media and to protect openness and transparency of local government.

BE INFORMED. BE HEARD. BE PART OF THE PROCESS

Call, write or visit your MLA to let them know you deserve PUBLIC NOTICE not just public access.
Or contact the sponsoring minister Hon. Lori Carr, Ministry of Government Relations
Phone: (306) 787-6100 or Email: minister.gr@gov.sk.ca
Mailing address: Room 30, Legislative Building, 2405 Legislative Drive, Regina, SK, S4S 0B3

This message is brought to you by the Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association swna

Do gift cards have additional fees?

With gift cards being a popular holiday gift choice, the Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority (FCAA) wants consumers to know the rules surrounding gift cards and their usage. Consumers often have concerns surrounding fees, expiration and redemption.

Here are some tips to know when using gift cards:

• There are no additional fees. Gift cards, unlike credit cards, should not have post purchase activation fees, usage fees, or annual/monthly payments.

• Gift cards can't expire, except for a few exceptions. Gift cards that are purchased and sold in Saskatchewan don't have expiration dates. The only time an expiry date is allowed on a gift card is if you received the card after making a donation to a charity or nothing of value was provided to obtain the card. (For example, free promotional gift cards distributed for advertising purposes can have expiry dates).

• Use your gift cards promptly. If a store goes out of business, it's unlikely you'll be able to recover the value from your card.

• When buying a gift card, make sure to read the fine print. By reading the fine print, you will know all the limits the card has prior to purchase.

For more information, visit http://fcaa.gov.sk.ca/consumers-investors-pension-plan- members/consumers/consumers-of-goods-and-services/gift-cards.

Contact Consumer Protection Division

The Consumer Protection Division may be able to help consumers with gift card disputes. Consumers can call toll free at 1-877-880-5550 or by email at consumerprotection@gov.sk.ca.

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