

# Spiritwood Herald



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Spiritwood, Saskatchewan Thursday, May 2, 2019

www.spiritwoodherald.com

## Team celebrates 40th anniversary of curling medal



The SHSAA Provincial Bronze Medal winners from 1979, recently celebrating their 40th anniversary. L. to r. Glen Caffet (skip), Denise Wasden (third), Claude Wasden (second) and Patty Caffet (lead), Dave Hyndman (coach). The two Wasdens are the aunt and uncle of Dalton Wasden, skip of the gold-medal-winning team in the 2019 Provincial Mixed Championships.

While Spiritwood High School curling teams have been celebrating successes in recent years—including the first ever gold medal in SHSAA Provincials for SHS's mixed team – a group of four held a brief reunion recently to celebrate the 40th anniversary of their bronze medal.

That bronze, earned in 1979, was Spiritwood High's second medal overall, its first in Mixed, and the first since the Gordon Thompson rink won silver in 1948, some 31 years earlier.

The team of Glen Caffet (skip), Denise Wasden (third), Claude Wasden (second) and Patty Caffet (lead) were undefeated through several levels of competition before reaching the Provincial tournament, held in Allan.

The road began with the Unit tournament in Glaslyn, where the four topped the rest of the field in the Medstead School Division, pre-cursor to the Northern Lakes School Division. Next was the North West Districts, held in Unity.

The third level was the Sectional tournament in Loreburn, where they scored three more wins and secured a berth in the Provincial playoffs in Allan.

They won their first game in Allan, running their string to eleven straight, before suffering their first loss. In the end, though, they stood on the podium as bronze medal winners. Their win came against the eventual gold medal winners.

They were accompanied throughout

their playoff trail, by their coach, Dave Hyndman, and their two most zealous fans, Joan Caffet and Roberta Wasden, “who shared in the behind-the-glass shotmaking and nail-biting.”

That year, Denise was in Grade 12, Claude and Glen were in Grade 11, and Patty was in Grade 10.

It took many years before banners recognizing the achievement were obtained. One now hangs proudly among the others at the Curling Rink and at the High School.

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# Ball diamond project “one step back”

Improvements at the ball diamonds at SAD SAAC Park may be a case of “two steps forward, one step back”, if recent events are taken into account.

Despite the best intentions and unpaid volunteer work to get the ball diamonds into playing condition, it's hard – and disheartening – when vandalism of one kind or another occurs.

The accompanying photo shows the result when someone thought it would be a good idea – if it can be assumed that any thinking went into it, that

is – to rip around on one of the diamonds on a dirt bike.

Of all the places in and around Spiritwood that could be considered dirt-bike friendly, one wonders how this place could be chosen.

The damage won't be costly to repair, but it will take time and effort that volunteers would likely prefer to be expending by installing the new backstop or player's benches.

According to a Facebook post from Spiritwood Minor Ball, the dirt-bike escapade is believed to have occurred sometime Monday, April 22.



Tracks from a dirt bike across one of the ball diamonds at SAD SAAC Park, believed to have been caused Monday, April 22.

## Shell Lake Spring Fling sees full house

The Shell Lake Lions Club hosted the 16th annual Spring Fling on Saturday April 27, 2019.

It was a full house that enjoyed local Saskatchewan Country music entertainer, Rod Gjerde, who did a tribute to Merle Haggard.

Rod sang many of Merle's number 1 hits from the 1960s to the

1980s. In that time Merle Haggard had 38 number one hits, from “Mama Tried” in 1968 to “Silver Wings” in 1981.

The Shell Lake Lions Club would like to express gratitude to the surrounding community for supporting this event, donating

and bidding on the silent auction items, and buying tickets on the raffle baskets and 50/50 raffle. We appreciate your support.



Rod Gjerde and company entertain the appreciative crowd.

### NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

Pursuant to subsection 214 of *The Municipalities Act*, notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll for the Town of Spiritwood for the year 2019 has been prepared and is open for inspection at the Office of the Assessor from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays.

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file his or her Notice of Appeal with the two hundred (\$200) dollar fee to:

The Assessor  
Town of Spiritwood  
Box 460  
Spiritwood, Saskatchewan S0J 2M0  
by the 30<sup>th</sup> of May, 2019

Dated at Spiritwood, Saskatchewan, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2019.

Rhonda Saam, Assessor  
Town of Spiritwood

### Notice of Impounded Animals

To Whom It May Concern:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to *The Stray Animals Act*: 1 Palomino Gelding, 1 Black Gelding with Star & Strip and 1 Sorrel Gelding with Star was/were impounded on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2019 at:

- ¼ sec. NW 13 tp. 52 Rge 12, West of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meridian, Saskatchewan, or
- Parker Bros. Pound.

Pursuant to Section 22 of *The Stray Animals Act*, where the above-described animal(s) has/have not been released from the pound within 14 days after impoundment, or where the owner remains unknown after reasonable inquiry by the municipality and the municipality has waited 7 days after impoundment, the animal(s) shall be delivered to a livestock auction market for sale by public auction.

April 29, 2019  
Colette Bussiere  
Administrator  
Rural Municipality of Spiritwood No. 496  
306-883-2034

## SARCS

Spiritwood Area Recreation, Culture and Sport Inc.  
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Returned to:  
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Questions: Call 306-883-2176




### PUBLIC NOTICE – R.M. of Canwood No. 494

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the R.M. of Canwood No. 494 intends to adopt a bylaw under The Planning and Development Act, 2007, to amend Bylaw No. 2003-7, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

**INTENT** The intent of the proposed bylaw amendment is to outline discretionary use criteria that will be considered by Council for any discretionary use application and development standards that may be applied to a development permit issued for an approved discretionary use.

**REASON** The reason for the amendment is to implement criteria for considering discretionary uses and development standards that may be applied when issuing a development permit for a discretionary use.

**PUBLIC INSPECTION** Any person may inspect the bylaw at the R.M. of Canwood No. 494 office located in Canwood during regular office hours. Copies of the bylaw will be made available.

**PUBLIC HEARING** Council will hold a public hearing on May 22, 2019, at 1:15 p.m. at the R.M. of Canwood No. 494 office in Canwood. The purpose of the public hearing is to hear any person or group that wants to comment on the proposed bylaw. Council will also consider written comments received at the hearing (or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing).

Issued at the R.M. of Canwood No. 494 on May 2, 2019.

Lorna Benson  
Rural Municipal Administrator

# The Shell Lake Hall: gone but not forgotten

**By Gladys Simonar**

In the 1920s, the Shell Lake Hall sat on the Schwartz farm, about a mile and a half west of Shell Lake, where there was also a post office and a store.

It was owned by Louis Simonar Sr.

In 1930, it was moved to the present town location. It was pulled into town by a Twin City Steam engine and six horses.

It was well used for dances almost every weekend for many years, with music supplied by the Simonar Family Orchestra. This band of five to seven members played at dances from about 1920 to 1947. As family members got married and moved away, and Louis Sr. passed away, Ed recruited other musicians to keep the band playing until he joined Emil Lamontagne's band in the 1970s, which became known far and wide as The Happy Wanderers.

As the town grew, so did the Hall. Additions were added to both the north and south ends. The north end now had a stage with a basement under it, where a wood burning barrel furnace was housed. The southern addition consisted of the Hall entrance,

two cloakrooms, and a ticket booth. Many years later, a third addition was constructed on the east side. This was the kitchen, which had cupboards, shelves and a cook stove, but no running water or bathrooms.

Around this time, the old Hall was also used as a movie theatre. The projection room was above the cloakrooms. The movie screen was on the wall behind a stage. I remember Cliff Henry from Spiritwood was the film man and projectionist.

We had a matinee every Saturday afternoon, and another showing of the same movie every Saturday evening.

The grocery stores and restaurants always stayed open until an hour after the show was over, so people could pick up their groceries or go for a cup of coffee.

After Mr. Henry moved away, the town ordered the movies, and Ed Simonar took over as the projectionist.

This Hall was used for everything that went on in the community: regular dances, wedding receptions and dances, bridal showers, anniversaries, birthdays, and farewell parties.

When I was a student at Shell Lake



school, we had a Young People's Club that met in the Hall once a week to play games like badminton, table hockey, cards, crokinole, and many more. Of course, the students would always put on a Christmas concert every year, and occasionally CKBI would host an "Amateur Hour" at the Hall, where local talent would perform and the show would be broadcast over the radio.

In the late 60s', a Teen Club was formed, and many teen dances and record hops were held in this Hall.

There were also stew suppers, fowl suppers, pot luck suppers, meetings, and funerals held in this old Shell Lake landmark.

In 1977, the Lion's Club was formed in Shell Lake, and the new Lion's Community Hall was built. The grand opening for the new Hall was in the spring of 1979.

The old Hall was sold

and became a storage building. Spaces were rented out to golfers, and for almost 40 years, it has sheltered many golf carts.

Now, in April of 2019, this historic building has been torn down and put to rest, but memories of its service to the Shell Lake Community will remain.



The Shell Lake Hall, pictured the day before it was demolished.

**JOIN THE AUCTION-ACTION TEAM**

**May 4<sup>th</sup>** – Auction Sale for Marlene Boechler - Mildred – Shop, Yard, JD Riding Mower 48" cut, 16 ft Lund Boat/Motor/Trailer, 24 ft Camper, 2007 GMC Truck, Vintage Tractor, Household, Antiques & Collectables

**May 11<sup>th</sup>** – Reduction Auction Sale for Ron Holmes - Main Street, Blaine Lake – Huge Collectable Toy, Antiques/ Collectables Sale

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## Environment Field Office Changes

**Effective May 14, 2019, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment will no longer offer in-person service at the following locations:**

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• Buffalo	• Lloydminster	• Spiritwood
• Narrows	• Maple Creek	• Wadena
• Estevan	• Moose Jaw	• Weyburn
• Humboldt	• Outlook	
• Kindersley	• Pinehouse	

Hunting and angling licences can be purchased through private vendors, by phone or online through the Hunting, Angling and Trapping Licence system.

For more information on how to access ministry services, please visit [saskatchewan.ca/environment](http://saskatchewan.ca/environment), call the Inquiry Centre at 1-800-567-4224 or email [centre.inquiry@gov.sk.ca](mailto:centre.inquiry@gov.sk.ca).

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 <b>\$159,900</b> <b>RM of Spiritwood</b> 24.83 acre acreage, mature landscaped yard, 3BD, 1.5BA open floor plan family home, attached garage, wood/oil heat, outbuildings for additional storage. <b>MLS#SK760222</b>	 <b>\$239,900</b> <b>633 - 3rd St. E., Spiritwood</b> One level bungalow built in 2013, 2BD, 2BA. Open floor plan, attached heated garage with floor drain, low maintenance yard. Call for more information. <b>MLS#SK757586</b>	 <b>\$289,900</b> <b>120 - 2nd St. E., Spiritwood</b> Perfect retirement home on a 75X125 lot, 2BD, 2BA, office, open floor plan, covered deck, fenced low maintenance yard, attached heated garage with drain. Call for more information. <b>MLS#SK757579</b>

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## “Must have seemed like...”

I submitted an article to the Herald for this week's issue, and I'm left with the feeling that I may have editorialized somewhat. It should be the goal of every reporter to cover news items without bias, emotion, or opinion.

Even though I write for a small town weekly newspaper, I do take my work seriously and I try to avoid getting emotionally involved in a story.

I'm not sure I succeeded with this one, as I found the situation disturbing and I may not have done a good job hiding it.

The incident I'm referring to happened April 22, or at least, that's when Spiritwood Minor Ball said it happened. Someone, in his or her wisdom, gouged one of the ball diamonds by using it as a dirt bike track, leaving a few trenches across the infield.



DAVE  
HYNDMAN  
~  
News Editor

“It must have seemed like a good idea at the time,” I thought. Who in their right mind would choose the ball diamond as a place to ride a dirt bike?

The damage done may not take a whole lot to fix. The infield looked a little un-level to begin with and I'm sure the folks trying to get the diamonds ready for play were planning on doing more work on it – maybe adding some more shale if they could find some money to do it.

But the point is that we've had some pretty crappy diamonds for far too long, and within the past year or so a group has come forward to invest a lot of time, both

in working on the improvements or on fundraising projects in order to pay for them. They don't deserve to have their work and their efforts denigrated by senseless vandalism of this sort.

In making the announcement to their Facebook page, Spiritwood Minor Ball posted “Once again I regret having to post this. Sometime yesterday someone decided the new shale infield was a good place to practice their dirt biking skills. If you or your child has a dirt bike please rethink your desire to cause us more unneeded stress as we try to get these ball diamonds ready for seasons start in less than 2 weeks.”

The implication in that, obviously, is that it was some young person who is the culprit. That's a cross that all young people have to bear. There are likely hundreds of kids who know that riding a dirt bike across a ball diamond isn't an appropriate thing to do, and the one person who does is enough to cast a negative light on everyone.

However, it's a legitimate desire to have all parents talk to their kids about what is and is not good behaviour. Too often, the advice given to a young dirt-biker is “be careful” and that's the end of the safety lecture.

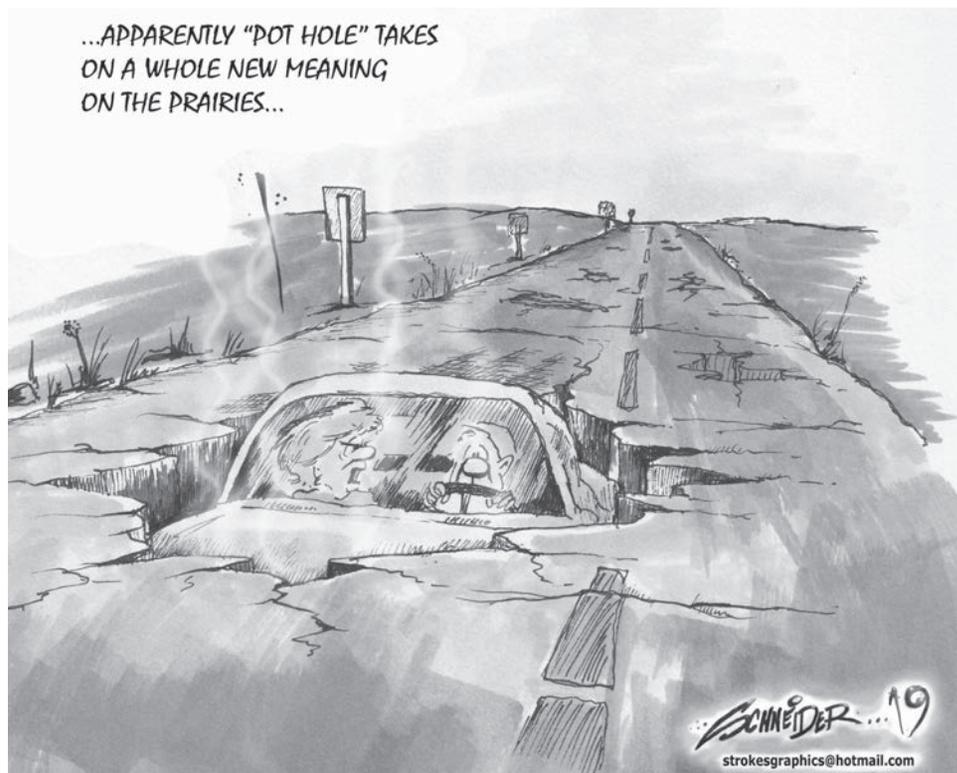
How often have you seen people standing up riding quads or snow machines. I ride neither, so I don't know whether it's safe or not, but I tend to think it isn't. Prove me wrong, if you must.

In a perfect world, the dirt-bikers would leave the ball diamonds alone. In a near-perfect world, the person who did this would come out on a work bee night and pitch in to get the diamonds in shape for spring.

In the past, a rain of any kind would render the diamonds unusable for weeks or longer. Ball season? How many games do they actually play, given that the field has to dry up over several days?

The Minor Ball group and other volunteers (some of whom have no kids involved) have spent many hours and lots of money trying to rectify the situation, and they've done an amazing job. They could actually use more support, and certainly could use fewer people undoing their efforts.

Just a note: the Dirty Pitches Slo-Pitch tournament will be designating their proceeds to Minor Ball to help keep the improvements going. If you can't play, at least go out and have a beer and a burger and help them do just that.



## Libraries still key to building strong communities

“I entered politics to help the little guy. To make life easier for you and your family. Not only so you can make ends meet, but also so you can get ahead and prosper.”

Can you guess which Canadian politician made that pledge to his voters before being elected to office? If so, you either have an excellent memory or, like the vast majority of people these days, you plopped the text into Google and let it do the work for you.

The answer, for those who don't know or don't care to Google, is, quite shockingly, Ontario Premier Doug Ford. Now, I say shockingly because, after nearly a year in office, nothing that Mr. Ford's government has done seems to jive with the above statement.

Indeed, though Mr. Ford claims to be a man who is working “for the people,” it's far easier to tell who he's not working for.

Given his decisions to axe Ontario's basic income pilot program before it had been given time to collect significant data, and to cancel a scheduled \$1 minimum wage increase, he's certainly not “for” his province's poorest and most vulnerable – the “little guy” as he so colloquially refers to them.

With his proposed cuts to education funding, which will very likely result in thousands of teacher layoffs and burgeoning class sizes, Mr. Ford clearly isn't for his province's teachers (in Mr. Ford's defence, teachers aren't necessarily the “little guy”, but they also aren't the “Liberal political elite” bogeymen that he conjures up to send his supporters into a tizzy).

In the same way that Mr. Ford isn't working for Ontario's teachers, he's also not working for the students, who are most certainly among the “little guys”. Larger class sizes certainly don't benefit students, nor does a sex education curriculum from 1998, nor do the changes Mr. Ford's government has made to student loans and grants for post-secondary education.

Continuing down the lengthy list, Mr. Ford's recent decision to cancel a program that would have planted 50 million trees across the province signals that he's certainly not in the corner of the environment (a move that affects us all, big or little).

Then of course, there's Mr. Ford's cuts to OHIP (the province's healthcare coverage program), prescription coverage and other public health programs, cuts to au-



JORDAN  
TWISS  
~  
Columnist

tism services, and, most recently, a 50 per cent slash to funding for Ontario libraries – all decisions that, you guessed it, will harm the “little guy” that Mr. Ford claims to be working for the most.

If those library cuts sound familiar, it's likely because they so closely resemble cuts that the Sask. Party government tried to make to library funding in 2017, before a mass outcry of public support and community protests forced it to walk the cuts back and admit that it “made a mistake.”

But unlike the outpouring of support that Saskatchewan's Libraries received, there seems to be a divide on the importance of libraries in Ontario.

Take the following anonymous online comment, offered in support of Mr. Ford's decision, for instance: “I don't even know why we need libraries. Physical books aren't needed. Read on an electronic device or research on the internet. That's called progress. Many libraries are just havens for homeless individuals during the day. That's not what they are designed for.”

Worse than public indifference, Ontarians who support libraries, and understand their value to a community, are saddled with a premier who doesn't seem the type to walk back a decision or own up to a mistake. And less likely, still, is a scenario in which Mr. Ford changes course entirely, like the Sask. Party government appears to have done by increasing library funding in its most recent provincial budget.

But, lest the Sask. Party government make the mistake of forgetting the lesson it learned in 2017, it perhaps bears repeating that libraries are so much more than repositories of books, and that change is not always synonymous with progress.

As has been written in this space before, libraries are a source of free internet for those who may lack the service, or whose home service is inadequate. And in Shellbrook, Canwood, Spiritwood, and every small town and big city in between, libraries offer a wide array of fun and educational programming that benefits children, adults and seniors alike.

Libraries are, in short, a source of strength for any community fortunate enough to have one or more of them.

As a man claiming to work “for the people,” one would think that Mr. Ford would know this.

## Report from the Legislature

From fighting the federal carbon tax and fixing Canada's flawed Equalization program to protecting jobs and ensuring programs and services are sustainable for years to come, your Saskatchewan Party government is standing up for Saskatchewan.

This week we sent a letter to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, reiterating our concerns regarding the escalating trade restrictions China has placed on Canadian canola. Saskatchewan has proposed changes to the federally-administered Advance Payments Program to limit the effects of drastic changes in seeding intentions and to cushion producers from a need to sell into an artificially depressed market.

While the federal government seemed prepared to act quickly on this proposal, we are no further along today than we were nearly a month ago when it was first proposed. This lack of action from the federal government is concerning when canola producers are facing unprecedented uncertainty ahead of spring seeding.

We are repeating our request that changes be made immediately to mitigate the risk to our canola producers in Saskatchewan while the federal government seeks to resolve its issues with China. We have also expressed a willingness to participate in a mission to China to resolve this issue through scientific or diplomatic means. In fact, we



**HON. SCOTT MOE,  
PREMIER**  
~  
MLA for Rosthern -  
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have offered any and all assistance to the federal government to resolve this matter.

Large fires and extremely dry conditions continue to be a concern across the province. In these conditions, cigarette butts, hot ATV exhaust, and even bonfires can easily trigger grass fires that quickly burn out of control.

Thank you to all Saskatchewan firefighters and emergency personnel for their response so far. Please pay attention and follow any fire bans issued by your municipality, as they are put in place for everyone's protection.

Our province is grateful for the volunteer and professional firefighters and first responders who keep our people, property and communities safe.

Recently, we announced that Saskatchewan's 6,500 volunteer firefighters will soon have easier access to Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) benefits. Volunteer firefighters will have access to the same presumptive coverage as professional firefighters.

Expanded presumptive coverage was first introduced for professional firefighters through an amendment to the legislation introduced this past December, which includes six additional cancers – prostate, skin, breast, cervical and ovarian cancer as well as multiple myeloma.

Our government recently announced the expansion of the Rural Crime Advisory Network. Initially launched in southern Saskatchewan earlier this year, the program is a partnership with the RCMP that allows detachment commanders to send text messages, emails or



**HON. JEREMY HARRISON  
MLA**  
~  
Meadow  
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phone calls to residents with information about criminal activity in their area.

Since the program was rolled out, people across

the province have expressed interest and we're now proud to announce its expansion to include central and northern Saskatchewan. This allows the RCMP to get information to the residents when they see similar, suspicious activity.

People are the eyes and ears of a community and every new person who signs up for this program boosts the reach of the network, allowing the RCMP to more effectively communicate with rural residents about crime in their area.

You can sign up today at

saskcrimewatch.ca.

Investments into Crime Reduction Teams, Protection and Response Teams, and Community Safety Officers have all helped in addressing rural crime. Part of these efforts include making sure that police and communities are able to communicate and work with each other.

The expansion of the Rural Crime Advisory Network is all about connecting people and it is part of our government's commitment to make sure our communities are safer so that Saskatchewan remains the best place in Canada to live, work and raise a family.

## Kids have Easter egg fun at library

Spiritwood Library once again partnered with the Spiritwood Literacy Partnership to do an after school program with children. They had three stations set up, one was dying Easter eggs with rice and food coloring, a second was using cool whip and different colours to

make swirls on the eggs, and at the last station they decorated foil eggs.

It all went well until the children checked the eggs they had done with the rice and cool whip. Things didn't quite work out as planned. When they dried off the eggs, they were still white. The kids all had the funniest looks on their faces.

Everyone had a good laugh.



**The kids from the after school program display their decorated eggs. The program is a joint venture of the Spiritwood Literacy Partnership and Spiritwood Library.**



**Kids decorating foil eggs at one of the three stations.**

### Spiritwood Herald

Serving the Communities of Spiritwood, Shell Lake, Leoville, Chitek Lake, Mildred, Rabbit Lake, Medstead, Mayfair, Bapaume, Belbutte, Glaslyn

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Member of



# Rabbit Lake news highlights

**By Alan Laughlin**

It sure feels good to be outside enjoying the first suns of summer!

Usually at this time of year farmers are busy with spring work and seeding preparations. This year there are combines finishing up what had to be left from fall. This is next year country but perhaps this year the crops will all get off before the snow. Let's hope.

Meeting Lake is not entirely ice free yet but usually is before the May long weekend. We were very concerned about the runoff from an above average snow pack and how that might impact the already full lake. Fortunately, the lake is high but no higher than it has been recently.

April 13 the Rabbit Lake Community Hall held its annual spring summer. Jason Loehndorf was the winner of the 50-50 draw.

April 15 the quilting group held its spring show and tell at the community hall. Many projects were on display. Of course, quilts were

the main feature but there were also potholders, and kids art. Donna German teaches kids from 5-16 years old art lessons over the winter months. This year from 4 to 12 kids took in the opportunity to become creative. A highlight of the evening was recognizing Lynn Morrison for her 7 years of instructing the quilters of the community.

The Rabbit Lake and District Agricultural Association held its annual general meeting on April 7. The treasurer reported that both the ball tournament and the snowmobile rally were financially successful. The books were reviewed by Ed Szasz and found to be in good shape. The board of directors for 2019-2020 is; Russell Aumack president, Derek Moore vice president, Alan Laughlin secretary, and Lynne Moore treasurer. Directors are Dave Rodh, Curtis Bassingthwaite, Amanda Moore, Isabelle McLennan, Trevor Pauls, Mary MacDonald, Darren Spielmann

and Micky Allchurch. The annual slo pitch tournament will be held on July 5, 6 and 7 in the community of Rabbit Lake.

The Rabbit Lake Library held its annual meeting on March 20. The library board remains with Donna German chairperson, Lynne Morrison secretary/treasurer, and Norma Sherman, Joan Dzialo, Marie Balazsi and Naomi Unger, directors. Lynne Morrison is the librarian.

The Rabbit Lake Senior Sunrise Circle held its annual meeting after the April potluck supper. Jim Tomkins remains the president, Norma Sherman vice president, Naomi Unger secretary and Lynne Morrison treasurer. Directors are Melita Hildebrand, Isabelle McLennan, Carol Ferguson, Karen Vallee, Gordon Sherman, Cornie Martens, Elaine Tomkins and Ken Rogers. A very big round of gratitude goes to Shirley Leigh who has served on the Seniors Board for many, many years but has stepped aside due to health



**Cindy Miller (left) presents Lynn Morrison (right) recognizing her years of instructing quilting at Rabbit Lake.**

issues. The seniors are pleased to be bringing Terryann Strongarm back for a musical evening on April 26th and Will Ballendine on May 10th.

As the season changes from spring toward summer, people will be busy getting their yards all spruced up, getting RVs all ready for the camping season, and gardens tilled.



**"Crumbs". Potholders quilted by Naomi Unger.**



**A version of the log cabin pattern quilted by Marie Balazsi.**



**A collection of quilts done by the Rabbit Lake Quilters over the winter. All quilts are a variation of the log cabin pattern.**



**Sample of Kids' Art done throughout the winter.**

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## China-US spat casting shadow over global trade

There are rules to trade between most countries, but that does not mean those rules are always followed.

Of course there are avenues to push for the rules to be applied properly, but like the wheels of justice in general the process on world trade has wheels which move slowly.

The body in terms of world trade is ultimately the World Trade Organization (WTO), which recently again came to the forefront in terms of farm

trade, as it brought down a ruling in favour of the United States in a trade dispute regarding China's application of tariff-rate quotas (TRQ's) for wheat, corn and rice.

What is interesting here, more so than the ruling, is the general slowness of the process.

According to a recent Western Producer article, "the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) estimated that US\$3.5 billion of corn, wheat and rice could have been im-



CALVIN DANIELS

ported by China in 2015, if the latter applied the TRQ's in a proper manner.

We are now talking

about a trade issue that was first noted four-plus years ago.

Granted, the same article also noted, "it wasn't until December 2016 that the U.S. requested consultations with China regarding the latter's application of TRQ's. Eight months later the U.S. turned to the WTO to settle the matter, and submissions from the U.S. and China were made during the spring of 2018."

However you mark the actual dates on a calendar the dispute hung a cloud over trade between two major economic powers for an extended period of time. While such a dispute might be assumed to singularly involve the two countries directly involved, when it is major traders such as China

and the U.S., it does hang a cloud over trade in the particular commodities involved on a broader basis.

In this particular case, the dispute is but one element of a larger issue in terms of world trade, which has the U.S. and China in a confrontation separate from trade, but with trade being dragged into the dispute as a club for both sides to bring pressure to bear.

The dispute is ultimately a symptom of a

protectionist American government, led by a wild card president, positioned versus a China that has emerged as a world economic leader and is flexing its economic muscles to get what it wants.

It is a situation which should be seen as worrisome, as it brings a definite air of instability in world trade which has nothing to do with supply and demand economics, but is being caused by political arrogance and posturing.

## Farmers cannot wait any longer for action on canola exports to China

The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan says the growing season is here and farmers need to know what our governments are planning to do about the shutdown of Canadian canola exports to China.

"Spring seeding has begun in some parts of the province, and many other producers are getting close," says Todd Lewis, APAS President. "Saskatchewan farmers need to know now whether the government intends to put any additional supports in place to help them manage the unprecedented risk in growing canola this year."

APAS brought several proposals to a meeting with the federal agriculture and trade ministers a month ago in Saskatoon but have not heard anything since.

"Obviously, diplomatic conversations and negotiations need to be happening at the highest level in order to resolve this situation, but in the meantime, there are steps the government can take to strengthen the safety nets available to our farmers."

APAS has suggested improvements to the Cash Advance Program as well as the following changes to the Federal-Provincial Agri-Stability program:

- Enhance Agri-Stability coverage to deal with export market issues,
- Waive enrolment fees for 2019 Agri-Stability applications,
- Extend the 2019 enrolment deadline beyond April 30, and waive late enrolment penalties,
- Be prepared to make Agri-Stability interim payments should trade issues seriously reduce farm income
- Make Saskatchewan Crop Insurance staff available to assist producers with their applications

"These programs are intended to help producers cope with situations of uncertainty and risk and provide emergency support to producers and rural families. It is time for the government to step up and commit to program changes that will provide meaningful financial support during this time of need. The time to act is now," Lewis said.



### Saskatchewan Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program

The Saskatchewan Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program is now available in hospitals across the province that regularly deliver babies. Newborns receive a hearing screening test before being discharged from the hospital to identify any early signs of hearing difficulty. By identifying early signs of hearing loss, the language and literacy skills of children who are deaf or hard of hearing can be improved.

The Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program is available in:

- Estevan
- Fort Qu'Appelle
- Humboldt
- Kindersley
- La Ronge
- Lloydminster
- Meadow Lake
- Melfort
- Moose Jaw
- Moosomin
- Nipawin
- North Battleford
- Regina
- Rosetown
- Saskatoon
- Swift Current
- Yorkton
- Coming soon - Prince Albert

For more information on the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program, please visit [www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/health/accessing-health-care-services/audiology-and-hearing-services](http://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/health/accessing-health-care-services/audiology-and-hearing-services)

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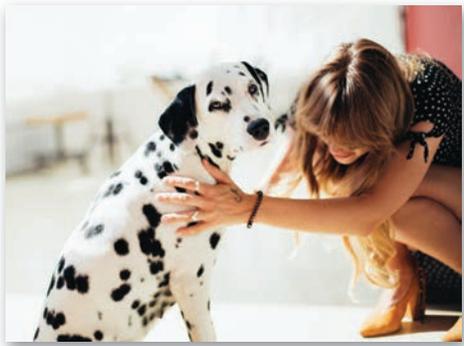
# Five ways having a dog improves your health

(NC) Coming home after a long and stressful day and being greeted by a wagging tail, you instantly feel happier. Not only does your own experience show this, but so does research. Scientific evidence shows that having a dog in your family improves your health and well-being.

Here are some of the ways your canine companion is improving your well-being:

1. More exercise: Research shows that people living with a dog walk more than others – approximately 20 minutes more per day – resulting in lower blood pressure and cholesterol.

2. Relaxation: Spending time with your animal and petting them is an instant de-stressor. It releases feel-good hormones like serotonin



and oxytocin, while lowering the stress hormone cortisol.

3. Social interaction: Pets can help you connect with other people, whether a new neighbour strikes up a conversation about your dog, or you get to know the regulars at the dog park.

4. Sense of purpose: Even if you don't want to get up in the morning, your dog jumping on the bed wanting to go outside is a motivator. With this sense of belonging and value, those who have dogs are generally happier, more trusting and less lonely.

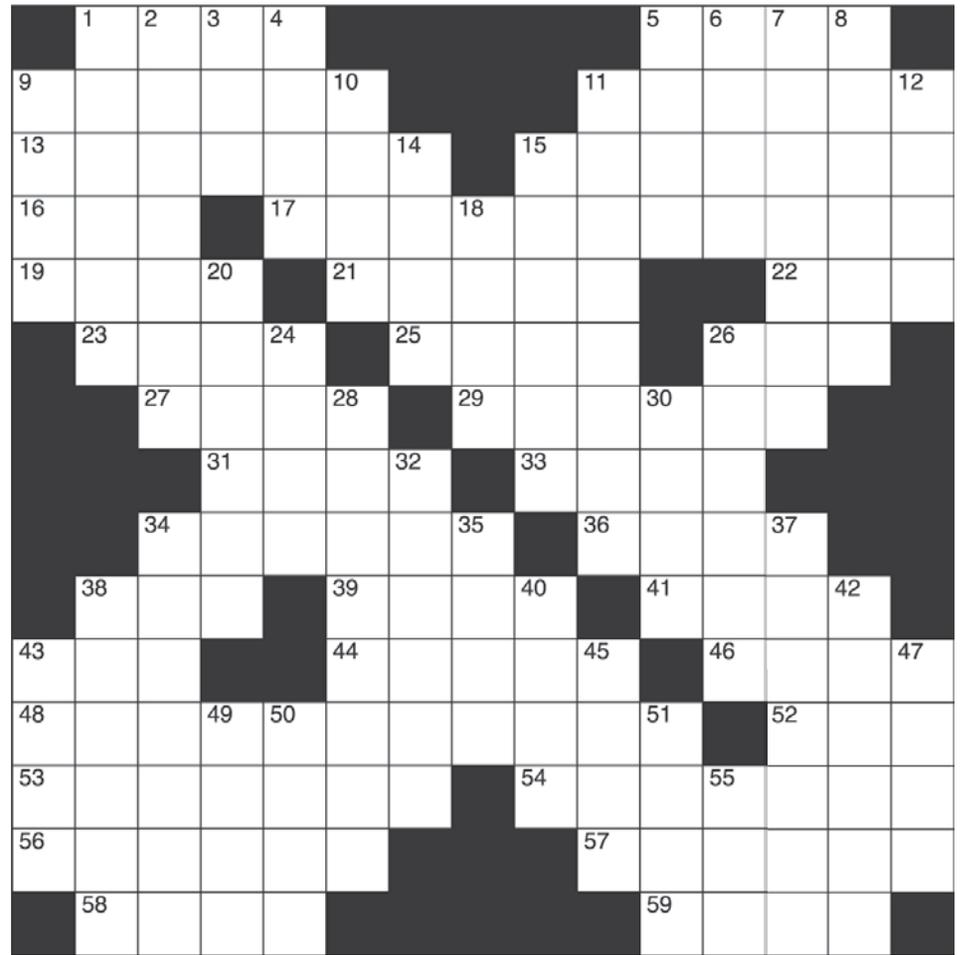
5. Longer life: Various studies have shown that those with furry friends live longer than those without, likely due to the exercise and the close bond developed.

Your dog improves your health, so it's important for you to protect theirs. One potential health danger for both humans and canines is parasites, such as fleas, ticks and worms.

Talk to your veterinary team about an all-in-one option that protects your dog, and your family, against both internal and external parasites.

Find more information about protecting your furry friend's health at [parasitepolice.ca](http://parasitepolice.ca).

# CROSSWORD



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Type of fruit
- 5. Unit of time
- 9. Oil company
- 11. Benson's "partner"
- 13. Fictional mob boss Tony
- 15. Visual record
- 16. Small constellation
- 17. Popular family TV series
- 19. Tough outer layer
- 21. Cut
- 22. Vietnamese offensive
- 23. Horizontal mine passage
- 25. Greek war god
- 26. Have already done
- 27. Six (Spanish)
- 29. Remarks for the audience
- 31. Relaxing spots

- 33. Prevent from seeing
- 34. Disguised
- 36. Comedian Rogen
- 38. Afflict in mind or body
- 39. Sour
- 41. People native to N. Mexico
- 43. No seats available
- 44. Ned \_\_\_, composer
- 46. A fit of irritation
- 48. Ability to move objects mentally
- 52. Luke's mentor \_\_\_-Wan
- 53. Herbal medicine ingredient
- 54. Oscar-winning director Bigelow
- 56. Likes
- 57. In a sound way
- 58. Part of a staircase
- 59. Exemptions from play

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. How will it play in \_\_\_?
- 2. Grows
- 3. Swiss river
- 4. Canadian flyers
- 5. Affirmative! (slang)
- 6. Root of taro plant
- 7. Large, long-legged rodents
- 8. Recycled
- 9. Pre-1917 emperor of Russia
- 10. Sometimes it's on you
- 11. Contrary beliefs
- 12. Remain as is
- 14. Spicy stew \_\_\_ podrida
- 15. Play time
- 18. Italian monetary unit
- 20. Type of fuel
- 24. Portable conical tent
- 26. Yazoo and Mississippi are two
- 28. What people earn
- 30. Insect repellent
- 32. After first
- 34. Plays the viola

- 35. Not good
- 37. Esteemed guest
- 38. Where rockers ply their trade
- 40. Office furniture
- 42. Ancient Greek oracles
- 43. Quantitative fact
- 45. Missing soldiers
- 47. Minute
- 49. This (Spanish)
- 50. Maintain possession of
- 51. Knife
- 55. What to say on New Year's Day (abbr.)

Answers on page 10

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## Tiger resumes chase for 18 majors

Tiger Woods is back on the train to Jack's 18.

Once thought automatic, then impossible, winning 18 major golf championships is now back in the discussion after Woods stunned the sports world by winning the 2019 Masters at Augusta, Ga.

What a comeback! Woods was 1,199th in the world in December of 2017. Now he's officially No. 6. In the hearts of legions of golf fans, he's No. 1.

It was in late January of 2015 and the tentative comeback attempt by Woods from injury, scandal and public humiliation was in its infancy. It was sad. He was at the Phoenix Open, having not played a regular PGA Tour schedule for most of 2014, finishing only three tournaments. Back injuries had him wondering whether he would ever play again.

So here he was in Phoenix in 2015, trying to start another comeback. He shot 73 in the first round and skulled and chunked chips in the second round en route to an embarrassing 82. The critics were quick to declare his storied career finished. When he withdrew prior to the first round the next week at San Diego, the critics' claims seemed validated.

Not so fast.

He hobbled his way to 10 more tournaments in 2015, making the cut in six, but managing only one top 10. He didn't play at all in 2016 and Woods made a momentous decision following a missed cut at the Farmers Insurance Open in San Diego in January of 2017 — to have back fusion surgery in April, costing him the entire 2017 season. Later in 2017, he was arrested for DUI with a concoction of pain-killing drugs in his system, creating an unforgettable mug shot. The low point had been reached. "He'll never be back," was a common refrain.

You know the rest. He returned for the 2018 campaign, rising to as high as 12th in the world rankings, racking up seven top 10s and winning the Tour Championship.

But would he ever win a major again? Could he possibly resume his chase for Jack Nicklaus's storied record of 18 major titles? A major had eluded Woods since winning No. 14 in 2008. "No. 15 will be the hardest," said Tour rival and Florida buddy Rickie Fowler, leaving unsaid that if Woods were to win his 15th major, others could quickly follow.

So the golf world's eyes will be on Woods, now 43, at mid-May's PGA at Bethpage Black in New York, at June's U.S. Open at Pebble Beach in California and at the Open Championship in July at Northern Ireland's Royal Portrush. "The best thing for the game would be for him to win a couple of majors and get closer to 18 and things will go really crazy," another fellow pro, Marc Leishman, told SI.com's Alan Shipnuck. "They're going crazy now. Can you imagine?"

• Headline at



BRUCE  
PENTON

SportsPickle.com: "So it turned out that Tiger Woods was the next Tiger Woods."

• Patti Dawn Swanson in the River City Renegade on NHL playoff officiating: "The skunk shirts are making more mistakes than your local meteorologist."

• Headline in theonion.com: "Steve Kerr Reminds Warriors To Seem Sad DeMarcus Cousins Injured"

• TC in BC: "Baltimore Orioles' Chris Davis ended his record hitless streak this week at 54 at bats. The most embarrassing part was when his hitting coach pitched him beach balls in batting practice and he still struck out four times."

### Office Clerk Town of Spiritwood

The Town of Spiritwood invites applications for the position of Part-Time Office Clerk. The successful applicant will be responsible for assisting with daily operations 2-3 days/week. Must have strong leadership skills, and the ability to work under minimal supervision.

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Fax: 306-883-3212

We would like to thank all applicants who apply, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

• RJ Currie of sportsdeke.com: "With the Lightning suffering a Round 1 sweep, I'll spare them electrical puns, like lacking a spark, feeling revolted or the Jackets being amped up. I'll only say this: Watt happened?"

• One more from Currie: "Phillies star Bryce Harper and his wife are expecting their first baby. They've set aside part of his \$330 million salary to bribe the kid's way into the best kindergarten possible."

• Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "Tiger Woods' redemptive win at the Masters was nearly undone in the third round when a security guard slipped and slid into Woods' ankle, but it all worked out in the end. Tiger got his green jacket, and the guard got a yellow card."

• Janice Hough of left-

coastsportsbabe.com, on Robert Kraft and karma: "How perfect that the Patriots finally are on other side of being unknowingly videotaped."

• Jack Finarelli of SportsCurmudgeon.com, on Magic Johnson's ill-fated front-office tenure: "You might say that the Lakers hired 'Magic' Johnson as their team president, but they got 'Earvin' Johnson in terms

of performance."

• TC in B.C. again, on Donald Trump announcing he would award his buddy Tiger Woods with The Medal of Freedom for his comeback to win the Masters: "Tiger said he would reciprocate by giving Trump an autographed copy of the Nine Commandments."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

### Town of Spiritwood Town Office Caretaker

Applications are now being accepted for the Spiritwood Town Office Caretaker position. This one year term contract position is effective from June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020.

List of caretaker duties may be obtained at the Spiritwood Town Office.

Please submit resumes by May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 4:00pm to:

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9-23CH

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2-19CH

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1-18H

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## Crossword answers

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A	T	E	N	V	S			S	E	T
N	A	R	H	T	V	K		D	E	E
I	B	O		S	I	S	E	N	I	K
T	I	N	S		M	E	R	O	R	
		S	O	V	A	L	D	I	C	V
		H	T	E	S		D	E	T	I
			L	E	E	S		S	V	S
		S	E	D	I	S	V		S	I
D	I	D		S	E	R	V		T	I
T	E	T			E	C	I	L	S	
E	S	U	O	H	R	E	L	L	U	F
T	U	O	D	V	E	R		O	N	V
S	E	G	D	E	H			O	C	V
		R	A	V	E	Y			R	A

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Wednesday Prayer  
7 pm - 8 pm  
Pastor Ruth Phillips

### CATHOLIC SUNDAY

Spiritwood - 11:15 a.m.  
Leoville - 9:30 a.m.  
Chitek Lake - Closed for the Season  
SATURDAY  
Medstead - 6 p.m.  
Shell Lake - Closed for the Season  
Father Peter Nnanga MSP

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Pastor Celeste Wright

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Worship  
Pastor David Jensen

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# Giants of the perennial border

**By Sara Williams**

Some are sun loving and others do best in shade, but they all need space. Lots of space!

Shield-leaf orastilboides (*Astilboides tabularis*) previously called *Rodgersia tabularis*, is the shortest of the giants, but its leaves are the largest. If you've visited English gardens and marveled at (and had your photo taken with) *Gunnera*, here is a slightly smaller but much hardier version. The perfect antidote for "Gunnera withdrawal" when prairie garden travelers invariably return home from gentler climes, I've grown it for over a decade in my rural Saskatchewan garden (formerly zone 2, now designated as zone 3).

A bold plant of great architectural value, it is nevertheless well behaved, forming a slowly enlarging clump. Its large circular leaves are 12 to 18 inches in diameter and about 3 feet in height. The leaf stalks are in the center of the leaf blade,

giving them an umbrella-like appearance. (Just hope for no hail!) As the genus name, *astilboides*, suggests, creamy white flowers, formed on four foot stalks in early summer, resemble those of a *stilble*. The species name *tabularis* means table, a reference to the leaves, while one of the common names, shield-leaf, again describes the shield-like appearance of the foliage.

Plant it in full or partial shade in humus rich but well drained soil. It demands even moisture but should not be waterlogged. Mulching is beneficial.

Native to northern China, Manchuria and North Korea, where it grows in moist woodlands and near lakes and streams, it is much hardier than its classification in many publications suggests. It's excellent in a woodland garden alongside ferns and hostas and is easily divided in early spring. It should be much more widely available!



**Astilboides tabularis showing its enormous round leaves and flowers resembling those of an astilbe. Image credit: Sara Williams**

The giant white fleecy-flower (*Persicaria polymorpha*) makes a lasting and positive impression on all who see it. A massive perennial (up to 2.4 m/8 ft. in height and about half that in spread), it looks much more like a shrub than an herbaceous perennial. Huge plumes of white flowers (somewhat resembling those of the Japanese tree lilac) appear in mid-summer and remain until hard frost, gradually fading to an attractive cream colour.

It grows in sun to par-

tial shade and is extremely drought-tolerant once established.

Introduced to North America by Wolfgang Oehme, the famous landscape architect well known for his use of grasses, it seemed to have appeared out of nowhere and taken the continent by storm. But it was collected and described just after the turn of the last century by the Japanese botanist, Takenoshin Nakai, and is native to China and the Himalayas. I first saw it in Dawson Creek in the garden

of a friend who was kind enough to let me take a little piece of the thick rhizome (and attached stem) home with me on the plane. The same plant has now made its way as far east to Winnipeg and west to Calgary. It should be much more widely available!

The name giant scabious or giant pincushion flower (*Cephalaria gigantea*) says it all. Easily 6 feet in height and about 2 feet wide, this is another plant for the back of the border. The genus name, *Cephalaria*, is from the Greek word *kephale*, meaning head. It describes the shape of the pale-yellow flowers formed in mid-summer in 2-inch heads on erect stems high above the airy foliage. The common name, scabious, denotes the resemblance of the flowers to another hardy perennial, scabious.

In spite of its height, the overall impression of this perennial is one of lightness, openness and see-through-ability. It

does not require staking. If pinched in early spring it may be wider and is surprisingly drought-tolerant once established.

Place it in full sun. Native from the Caucasus Mountains to Siberia, it is relatively short-lived in zone 2, but will reseed.

*Sara Williams is the author of many books including Gardening Naturally, Best Trees and Shrubs, and Best Groundcovers and Vines with Hugh Skinner, Creating the Prairie Xeriscape, and with Bob Bors, Growing Fruit in Northern Gardens. She gives workshops on a wide range of gardening topics throughout the 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.*



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