



Retirement supper held for Gerry and Ann Zak

A supper was held in honour of Gerry and Ann Zak on the retirement of Gerry as pastor of Lakeland Community Church. The supper was held at the Pioneer Centre on Saturday, Sept. 28, with a full house of well-wishers in attendance.

Gerry was pastor at Lakeland Church for 11 years. Prior to that he was involved in various leadership and teaching ministries in the church and served as chairman of the board for a time.

Ann taught Sunday School for many years and served as president of the ladies group for a number of years as well.

The evening consisted of a number of gospel songs by various contributors, followed by an address by Gerry thanking all for attending and "for putting on an evening like this."

"I'm almost speechless," Gerry said, but he found the words to thank everyone.

"I have enjoyed our services so much," he said. "I have been blessed over and over again."

"I hope you're encouraged to stay true to the Lord. We all have a great job to do."

Those providing the gospel music included Cliff Quist and his daughter, Lesley Huffman, Rick Martin of Cowboy Church, Nora Borgeson of Partners in Faith, Dodi Ferguson, and Designer Genes (Linda Pilling and Betty Taylor).

The congregation had a gift for Gerry and Ann, presented by the Sunday School children in attendance. Each child received hugs from the retiring couple.

At the end of the evening, Ann and Gerry stood behind a special cake made for the occasion, after which the cake was carved and everyone enjoyed a piece.

Dale Bowman was MC.

More photos on page 2



Gerry and Ann Zak pose with the cake made in honour of their retirement.



MC Dale Bowman, with Rick Martin, pastor of Cowboy Church, about to perform a couple of gospel songs.



fall home

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Fall Home Edition
Supplement to October 31st issues of
**Shellbrook Chronicle &
Spiritwood Herald**

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Advertising Enquiries – email sales@sbchron.com or
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Retirement supper held for Gerry and Ann Zak



Cliff Quist and his daughter, Lesley Huffman.



Dodi Ferguson.



The Sunday School kids presented Gerry and Ann with a gift on behalf of the Lakeland Church congregation.

More medals for SHS athletes

Spiritwood High athletes came home with a couple more medals following golf action Sept. 27-28.

Brooklin Fry captured the bronze medal in the Provincial Championships, held in Estevan, with a 36 hole score of

78-86-164, just a single stroke behind the silver medal winner who shot one less stroke on her second round for a final of 78-85-163.

The gold went to Lauren Fox of Creighton, who carded an 81 on day one, followed by a

79 on day two for a total of 160. Fox was a teammate of Brooklin's on the Sask. Junior Ladies team that competed at the national tournament earlier this summer.

The Battle West team, anchored by Fry and consisting of Jaida Jones and Sara Francoeur, with Jodi Myszczyzyn of McLurg (Wilkie) won the silver medals in Team play, just a single stroke behind the winners representing South East.

The Battle West crew had the lowest score Saturday, but they were

still a shot behind South East at the end of the day.

Fry and Regina's Autumn Neiszner were tied at the top with 78s after Friday's first round, with Fox three strokes back.

However, Saturday belonged to Fox, as she recorded a 79 to secure her three-shot victory.

Morgan Prefontaine of SHS participated in the Boys competition, finishing well back of the field. The Battle West Boys team were outgunned as well, finishing 11th.



Battle West Girls Team, winners of the silver medals at SHSAA Golf Provincials. Left to right: Brooklin Fry, Sara Francoeur, Jaida Jones, and Jodi Myszczyzyn.

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Note: A sum for costs in an amount required by subsection 4(3) of *The Tax Enforcement Act* is included in the amount shown against each parcel.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY	Title No.	Total Arrears*	Costs	Total Arrears and Costs
LOT 2-BLK./PAR 9-PLAN 101889265 EXT 0	136239150	818.59	122.50	941.09
LOT 3-BLK./PAR 9-PLAN 101889265 EXT 0	136239194	818.54	122.50	941.04

* Penalty is calculated to the date of the Notice and will continue to accrue as applicable.

Dated this 27th day of September, 2019
Terry Lofstrom, Administrator

VP STORAGE

Ron Sawatsky

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Credit Union undergoing renovation

The Spiritwood branch of Prairie Centre Credit Union is undergoing a renovation that is expected to be completed by the beginning of 2020.

The purpose of the renovation is to develop more office space so that the entire operation of the branch will be conducted under one roof. Currently, the Credit Union is split into two buildings – the deposit building on Main Street and the lending building on 1st St. E.

Phase one of the renovation consists of renovating the “public” side of the building, while Phase Two will see more offices created in the back.

At this point, access to the ATM is via the door in the north west corner, while access to normal banking services is via the door on the north side of the building. Two windows were inserted in the wall to allow members to conduct their business with MSR's. These windows are temporary, and will be closed off once the other side is reopened for day-to-day business.



Phase one is expected to be completed by the end of October, with early 2020 the target date for completion of Phase two. The fate of the current lending building is still under discussion.

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Temporary windows have been constructed for day-to-day banking during the construction process. Once the main side is opened, these windows will be removed.



The inside of the Credit Union is undergoing a significant change, with construction due to be completed by the end of October. Until then, patrons can access the ATM via the north-west door, and normal banking activities via the north door.

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“Nearing the end”

They say, in summing up a person's working life, that he does it long enough so that he doesn't have to do it anymore. I think that's where we are at after forty years of writing for the *Herald*. It's time to pass the torch to someone younger, whose knees are better, whose grandchildren aren't two provinces over, and whose computer isn't starting to act up.

I could go into detail about the last part, but there have been strange things happening all day. Even loading a picture into PhotoShop has been an adventure. Let me stop you right there: I don't use PhotoShop to change the photo in any way. I just use it to compress the filesize so that it gets sent quicker to the people responsible for putting the paper together every week.

When I first started working on a newspaper, there was no such thing as file sizes. Few people know this, but I started my own newspaper at the age of eight, or maybe it was seven. It was a few years ago, and I'm thinking I must have been eight because my vocabulary probably wasn't all that well-developed at seven. It wasn't much of a paper. It consisted of one story each issue, and it folded after two issues. I wrote about neighborhood pets. The only pet I remember was a puppy called Tippy.



DAVE
HYNDMAN
~
News Editor

Somewhere in the body of the story, I wrote about the pup “Tip-dancing”, thinking I was pretty clever to be throwing a phrase like that into the mix. However, in one of the papers – I think I had a circulation of about three – I made an error and instead of writing “dancing” I started “dan” and then wrote a “d” in a brain-cramp moment. There was no white-out or backspace to help. This was 1954, and there was no correcting the error. I had to finish it “Tip-dandy dancing”.

One lesson I learned from that was one typo can really kill the mood. The paper folded shortly thereafter.

Some years later, I became a paperboy. Nowadays such people are referred to as carriers, because “carrier” is non-gender-specific and being non-gender-specific seems to be the banner under which we fly these days. Girls who delivered papers – and there were a few – didn't become unglued when referred to as “papergirls”.

Flin Flon had two dailies back then, the Daily Reminder and the Daily Miner. And we got the big city news from two Winnipeg dailies, the Free Press and the Tribune. Both Winnipeg dailies came to us a day late, with the Friday paper delivered on Saturday containing the weekend section, which made the paper about twice as huge as normal.

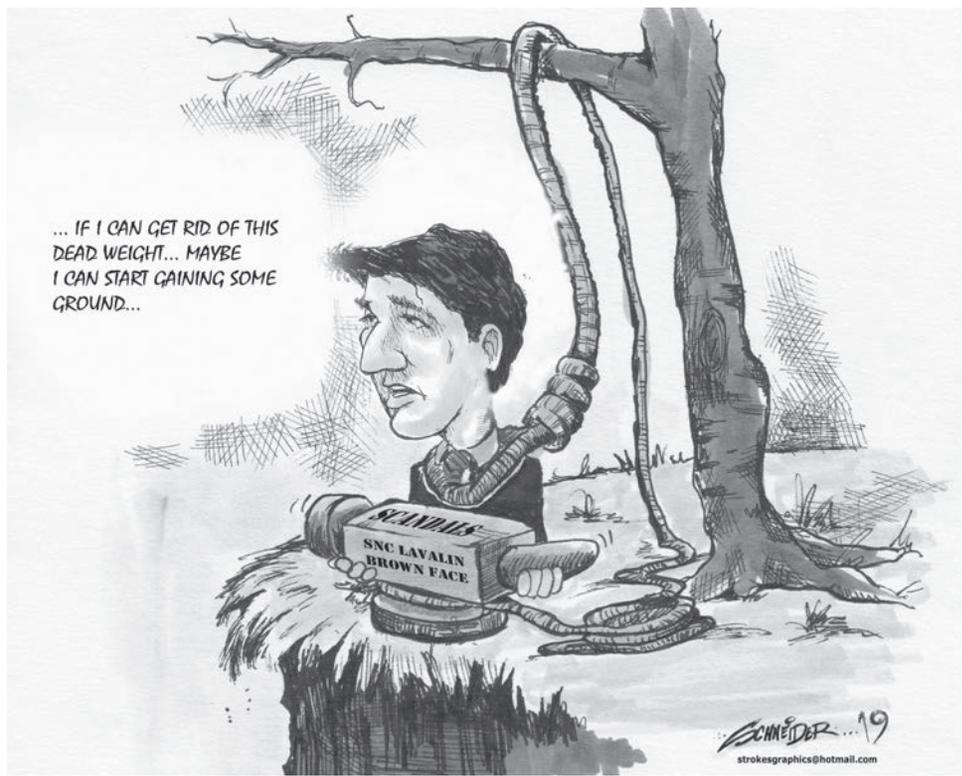
Monday to Friday, the bundles of papers were delivered to a box on the street near the school. We'd grab our bundles and deliver the papers on the way home from school. My route consisted of about 30-35 customers, mostly on Green Street, with a few on Parkway Boulevard.

Green Street at that time had nothing but bush beyond the back yards, and my section of Green Street was about a mile long.

Saturdays were different. Rather than being delivered, the papers needed to be picked up at Mr. Cressey's garage. He'd sit in his garage all day long, checking off the name of each carrier as they came in, counted out the correct number of papers, paid their bills, and left.

As it turned out, some of us were playing pee wee hockey at the time. We'd show up at Cressey's garage in full hockey gear after our morning hockey game, and then we'd go to the movies, stick, skates, and a bagful of Tribunes to be delivered after we walked home following the movie. It made for a long Saturday, to be sure.

And all that for our share of sixty cents a week per customer.



Renewables investment a question of values

While federal and provincial governments concoct many reasons to justify their decisions to shut-down seemingly important programs or tax credits, there are two excuses that tend to be employed far more frequently than others.

The first, and the hardest to dispute without gaining access to the government in question's data, is the argument that the programs and tax credits aren't seeing enough uptake to justify their existence.

This, for instance, was the explanation given by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau when his government nixed the federal public transit tax credit, and a series of boutique tax credits, including the children's fitness and arts tax credits, that had been introduced by Stephen Harper's Conservative regime.

The second excuse, meanwhile typically hinges on the argument that the programs and tax credits are simply too costly to continue.

This justification was used by the Saskatchewan Party government when it shuttered the Saskatchewan Transportation Company in 2017, and it's harder to dispute because it's completely subjective in nature. That is, it's essentially a question of values – and, in that case, the provincial government decided it valued saving \$85 million over five years (\$17 million per year) more than it valued providing rural Saskatchewanians with safe, reliable transportation to urban centres.

If the two aforementioned rationales are said to be among the most commonly employed, then what's the least used justification for cancelling a government program, you might ask?

Well, have you ever heard of a government suspending a program because there was simply too much demand for it?

That's precisely how SaskPower explained the suspension of its net metering program, which allowed ratepayers to receive credits for any excess energy (usually solar) they contributed to the grid, as well as a rebate for up to 20 per cent (or \$20,000) of the costs of installing solar panels for their homes.

Originally, the net metering program was meant to run until 2021, or until a capacity of 16 megawatts was reached, whichever came first.

Just a couple weeks ago, SaskPower said that applications to join the program had increased by 80 per cent since July, resulting in the capacity limit being reached two years ahead of schedule, and the program being suspended.

If allowed to continue, SaskPower contended, the cost of the program would have soared to \$54 million per year by 2025, leaving ratepayers to shoulder a 7 per cent increase in electric-



JORDAN
TWISS
~
Columnist

ity costs.

The only solution, according to SaskPower, was to suspend the program, review it, and introduce a new program that takes into consideration the impact on ratepayers who can't afford to transition to solar.

Of course, that same consideration wasn't given to those who had already spent thousands of dollars on solar panels in hopes of joining the program, nor to the 57 companies in Saskatchewan that manufacture and install solar panels; these people were simply left in the lurch.

But fear not, says minister responsible for SaskPower, Dustin Duncan, a new, revised program will be coming in weeks, not months as the government had originally planned.

Now, it's difficult to fault a government for taking the time to review, and hopefully improve, its own policies. All governments, be they federal, provincial or municipal, should be capable of such prudent self-reflection when it comes to the handling of taxpayer dollars.

However, given the Sask. Party government's less-than-impressive handling of the environmental portfolio in its 12 years at the public trough, it's easy to understand why some critics would accuse it of hamstringing its own program by placing such a low cap on it in the first place.

As has been argued before, the transition away from coal and natural gas can't happen overnight, or even within the span of a couple of years. After all, a province that generates the lion's share of its electricity from coal and natural gas, can't just turn off the taps and not expect it to have consequences for its fossil fuel-dependent economy.

That said, the transition needs to happen eventually, and the Sask. Party's baby step approach to adding renewable energy capacity to the grid isn't going to get the province to its goal of having 50 per cent renewable energy by 2030 (as of April 2018, just shy of 25 per cent of the province's energy was coming from renewables).

What's more, by pulling the emergency brake on the net metering program just when it was beginning to gather momentum, the Sask. Party has introduced uncertainty into the market. And introducing uncertainty, as we all know, is the easiest way to kill investment in an industry.

As the province with the most solar power potential in Canada, Saskatchewan should be leading the transition to renewable energy, not maintaining the status quo.

But then, it all goes back to that question of values, doesn't it?

Food, technology and the election

**By Cam Dahl,
President, Cereals Canada**

We love technology. Apple brings out a new cell phone and there are line-ups around the block. We are talking to our own houses these days as our homes become “smart”. And our houses are talking back (I think the Irish Rovers had a song about that). Yet, when it comes to technology and agriculture, the same people that stand in line for the latest phone seem to want to go back to the technology of 1950.

We had pesticide-free, grown without fertilizers, and non-GMO agriculture in Canada once. The result was an environmental disaster, with the soils of Saskatchewan blowing into Ontario and year after year of crop failure. Technology free agriculture also delivered poverty and hopelessness for farm families across Canada. We can't go back to those days.

What does this discussion have to do with the current federal election? Governments are under pressure from many activists to move away from science and risk-based regulations to limit the adoption of agricultural technology. For example, I

have participated in the discussions surrounding the creation of a National Food Policy in Canada. Several well-meaning people in these debates want Canada to turn back the clock and become fertilizer and pesticide-free while implementing regulations to limit or even eliminate new plant breeding technology.

These arguments have traction. Over time governments have become more and more urban. Most of today's politicians don't have an inherent understanding of agriculture and need to be reminded what the industry means to the Canadian economy and the number of jobs in our cities and towns that depend upon the industry.

The Advisory Council on Economic Growth (“Barton Report”) recognized agriculture and agri-food as one of the key drivers of the Canadian economy, establishing the goal of increasing the value of our exports to \$75 billion by 2025. We will not accomplish this goal unless Canada is at the forefront of defining an international regulatory environment that has a foundation of sound risk-based science.

Farmers across this country depend on access to international markets for

their livelihood. A farmer in a small rural town must have access to Japan, Indonesia, Algeria, and about 100 other countries to ensure they are economically viable. If countries are free to set up trade barriers in response to the latest internet fad, with no reference to risk-based evidence or health and safety concerns, farmers will soon find themselves without any markets to sell into.

There is pressure within some of our trading partners to move away from predictable risk and science-based regulations. For example, we see extensive, unpredictable and non-science, and at times politically motivated, regulations on plant technology.

Existing and emerging European pesticide regulations, which are not based on appropriate risk models, are limiting trade. Canada can, and should, become a leader in countering these trends through the adoption and promotion of risk and science-based rules of trade. This will require

adjustments to our domestic regulatory environment on plant technology and farm inputs.

A survey of Canadian plant breeders indicates nearly half alter or scale-back their research because Canada's regulatory system has not adjusted to new techniques, like gene editing. When plant breeders pull back on innovation Canada loses out on opportunities to develop small and medium technology businesses and to open up the opportunity to deliver a broader selection of food products to consumers. Holding back innovation also makes Canadian farmers less competitive in the international marketplace.

Continued on page 6



YOUR TWO CENTS

SNC Lavalin and the Regina Bypass - Part 1

The following is part 1 of a four-part series of letters to the editor that will appear over the next few weeks.

Dear editor,

The SNC-Lavalin scandal has been on the minds of many Canadians since the story first broke in February 2019. After a report by the Federal Ethics Commissioner titled, Trudeau II, found the Prime Minister guilty of violating federal ethics codes, people have been anxious to know more.

More recently, we have heard that the Clerk of the Privy Council won't waive cabinet confidentiality to allow the RCMP to conduct a full and thorough investigation. It appears that this decision has frustrated many people, as Canada is in the wake of a federal

election scheduled for October 21, 2019.

Former RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson stated, “If [the RCMP] were serious enough, they would probably get a search warrant, but that would probably be shot down by the courts. The privilege is pretty strong at the cabinet level.”

The announcement leaves us with many questions heading into the election.

We risk the possibility of re-electing a government that may be charged later with serious crimes. Unfortunately, it appears that bribery and corruption are common themes in Canadian politics.

Saskatchewan has been facing its own LavScam here with the Regina Bypass, or should we say, BypassScam. The Trans-Canada Highway No.1 Regina

Bypass is the largest infrastructure project in the 114-year history of Saskatchewan.

There seems to be a common thread between engineering firms around the world to secure contracts unethically or illegally. It also appears that the government turns a blind eye to this activity.

It is a well-known fact that Saskatchewan's largest infrastructure project, The Regina Bypass, is a P3 Project that was tendered out to 3 contractors, SNC-Lavalin, Vinci, and AECOM.

The question that everyone asks is why the Government of Saskatchewan did not use Saskatchewan road and bridge builders to build the Regina Bypass.

Sincerely,
HighwayRobbery.org

Spiritwood Herald

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Member of



Food, technology and the election

Continued from 5

Pesticides are an important component of modern agricultural practices that are allowing Canadian farmers to reduce fuel use, increase soil health, reduce erosion, and sequester carbon. Preventing farmers from using these tools because of pressure from activists and without science and risk-based analysis, has unintended negative environmental and economic implications.

This brings us to the question of resources available to our regulatory agencies, both human and financial. We need to ensure that there is the capacity within departments to support the growing demands on our regulatory system and to extend the mandate of agencies and departments to include the promotion of science and risk-based trade. New resources should be allocated across the whole of government, including departments like

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Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Global Affairs Canada as well as regulatory agencies like the Canadian Food Inspec-

tion Agency and the Pest Management Regulatory Agency.

Farmers need to be challenging candidates and their parties to outline their plan to encourage the growth and development of Canadian agriculture and to allow our farmers to compete in international markets. Here are four questions that every candidate should face in the ongoing federal campaign:

Does your party support modern Canadian farmers' access to new plant breeding techniques and will your party review Canadian regulations to ensure that Canada can become a destination of choice for plant breeding innovation?

Will your party commit to making additional resources available to regulatory agencies to allow them to meet the growing need for sound science and risk-based decision making?

Will your party commit to explicitly extending the mandate of regulatory agencies and departments to include the promotion of science and risk-based trade?

Will your party commit to challenging regulations brought forward by our trading partners when they are not science and risk-based?



A Message from the Honourable Warren Kaeding

On behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan, I would like to extend best wishes during Seniors' Week, September 29th to October 5th.

I was recently privileged to be appointed Saskatchewan's Minister Responsible for Seniors. I believe having a dedicated portfolio to reflect the needs of seniors is beneficial, and fits well with my role as Minister Responsible for Rural and Remote Health.

Our province is fortunate to have such a vital, active and contributing seniors' population. I look forward to hearing your ideas about issues affecting seniors. Please feel free to contact me at minister.rrhe@gov.sk.ca or at Room 208, Legislative Building, 2405 Legislative Drive, Regina SK S4S 0B3.

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Saskatchewan

Sask. Health Authority volunteer opportunities

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

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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 enter-

tainment, 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.

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Saskatchewan

Farm land changes in Ukraine could be felt here

In a world where international trade is critical to national economies, particularly there in Canada, keeping track of changes on the other side of the planet that can impact things here is frankly a near full-time undertaking.

That is particularly true in terms of agriculture, as there are so many things that can send a ripple through markets, and that can impact the future face of trade in farm products.

We tend to appreciate that weather has that impact; a drought, or

excessive rain, or early frost in a grain growing region somewhere in the world sends a definite message to the farm marketplace.

Ditto, when a key trade country imposes new trade barriers. We have seen that in Canada throughout 2019 with the impact rule changes imposed in China have had.

But less easy to track, by individuals at least, are the internal regulation changes in key countries which will change how agriculture operates there.

So, it was enlightening to read a recent



CALVIN DANIELS

Western Producer article about proposed changes to how things work in terms of farmland ownership in Ukraine.

Ukraine was once a major exporter of grain in Europe, and while the efficiencies of the

system dropped under the Communist regime, the productive land remains. The hurdle following the break-up of the USSR has been how to modernize agriculture in a country stuck decades in the past in terms of farm techniques and technology on much of the land?

In the article, Reuters reports that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy has ordered his government to submit a draft law for farmland reform by the beginning of October.

That is a huge step forward for farming in Ukraine if it transpires.

The article suggests state-owned land is expected to be privatized starting in April, and the longstanding ban on the sale of privatized land will be lifted.

"Ukraine's private farmland is owned in 6.4-acre plots by about 6.4 million people. Owners are forbidden from selling the land but can lease it out," details the article.

"Much of that land is being leased by agricultural holding firms called agroholdings, which are large corporate entities that operate a minimum of 25,000 acres of land.

They are vertically integrated enterprises that do everything from producing farm inputs to exporting grain.

"Some agroholding farms have up to 1,000 lease agreements."

It's not hard, from a Canadian perspective, to see the potential efficiencies to be gained by larger, owned holdings, especially in dealing with financial institutions.

While any changes in Ukraine will not come overnight, a new course could certainly make them a far more significant competitor for trade moving forward.

Time to reconsider crop residue

By Travis Peardon PAg, Livestock and Feed Extension Specialist, Outlook

With most areas of the province experiencing below average precipitation early in the growing season, hay supplies are going to be short this winter. Luckily rains arrived in time to allow annual crops to recover from the dry conditions which will create a supply of crop residue for winter feeding. Crop residue can make up a large portion of the ration when hay is in short supply as long as it is accompanied with a concentrate such as oats, barley or grain screening pellets. Crop residues have limitations, so producers must plan accordingly when incorporating into winter rations.

Most producers harvest crop residue in round bales but there are options for grazing chaff piles which allow the straw to be spread. Some producers have built chaff boxes that collect chaff only, and deposits the material in piles weighing 20 to 25 pounds. The box trips automatically when full and resets using a counterbalance weight. These boxes are not commercially made and have to be constructed from scratch. Some trial and error is usually involved in getting them to work properly. Our Crop Residue Collection for Field Grazing publication contains information on collecting crop residue for grazing with basic plans and description on how to build chaff boxes. It works best to restrict cows to smaller areas using electric fence. This forces them to clean up the piles and reduces waste.

Crop residues such as straw and chaff do not contain adequate levels of energy, protein, minerals or vitamins to be a sole source of winter feed. Cows cannot eat and digest enough straw or chaff to meet their nutritional requirements. Since these ma-

terials are digested at a slower rate than hay, cows consume less volume compared to hay on a daily basis. Grinding or processing straw will increase intakes, but without proper and balanced supplementation of energy and protein, problems such as malnutrition, impaction, reduced milk output and lowered conception rates can result.

In most instances, crop residue has a lower energy content than grass hay and is very low in digestible protein. Adequate protein is necessary to avoid impaction. Rumen microbes require a certain level of crude protein just to maintain fiber digestion. Diets low in protein lead to lower dry matter intakes and lower levels of fiber digestion.

Due to the higher fiber content, it takes longer for a cow to digest crop residue than hay or grain, thus limiting intake. For example, a 1,200 pound cow may be capable of eating 25 or 30 pounds of crop residue in a 24 hour period. However, the microbes in the cow's rumen are only capable of digesting 15 to 18 pounds of straw in that same time period. Impaction can and does occur.

Feeding limited amounts of hay, even poor to medium quality hay, will improve any crop residue ration. The cheapest source of protein will vary based on region and what is available. Livestock and Feed Extension Specialists can help you decide on the most economical way to supplement protein. It is advisable to feed cows hay instead of straw starting at least six weeks prior to calving and throughout the lactation period (until the cows are turned out to spring pasture).

A mature cow can safely consume about eight to nine pounds of concentrate such as grain or pelleted screenings at one feeding. If the level of concentrate being fed

each day exceeds that amount, consider dividing the concentrate and feed equal portions twice per day. Ionophores may be added or mixed with the concentrate to reduce the incidence of bloat. Ensure that adequate and balanced levels of minerals (calcium, phosphorus, magnesium, potassium and sulphur), trace minerals (copper, zinc, manganese, iodine, cobalt, selenium) and vitamins A, D and E are incorporated into the ration. These requirements change throughout the various stages of pregnan-

cy and lactation.

Developing a balanced ration is key to success when grazing crop residue. It is important to understand its limitations in a daily ration. A little planning can go a long way when you are using crop residue to stretch out high-quality feed sources. For more information or for assistance with winter feeding plans contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377 or your local Livestock and Feed Extension Specialist.

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Minimum wage in Saskatchewan is \$11.32 effective Oct. 1

Employers and employees are reminded that Saskatchewan's minimum wage increased to \$11.32 as of Tuesday, Oct. 1.

The change, which was announced in June, is the 11th increase since 2007 when the

minimum wage was \$7.95.

"Our government continues to introduce minimum wages that are sustainable and predictable," Labour Relations and Workplace Safety Minister Don Morgan said. "Since 2007 our government

has increased the minimum wage by more than 40 per cent. We have also taken approximately 112,000 Saskatchewan residents off the provincial income tax roll, to help families keep more of their pay cheques in their

pockets."

Every year Saskatchewan's minimum wage is calculated using an indexation formula. In 2010, the government introduced the formula, which gives equal weight to changes to the Consumer Price Index

and Average Hourly Wage for Saskatchewan. This annual review provides regular and predictable changes to the minimum wage.

Increases are announced by June 30 and take effect on Oct. 1 of each year.

Government of Saskatchewan is monitoring for vaping-related illnesses

On Sept. 20, Saskatchewan Health Minister Jim Reiter issued the following statement:

"I am concerned with the recent incidents of vaping related illnesses, as well as the high rates of vaping we are seeing among Saskatchewan youth. Although Saskatchewan has not recorded any instances of pulmonary

illness associated with vaping similar to the recently reported cases in the United States and Ontario, earlier this week I directed Saskatchewan public health officials to monitor all cases as they present in intensive care units.

"Pursuant to section 31 of The Public Health Act 1994, Saskatchewan Chief Medical Health Officer Dr. Saqib Shahab sent notification to Hospital Intensive Care Units across the province that all cases of severe respiratory disease that may be due to vaping be reported to local medical health officers by phone immediately. "Parents, please speak

to your children about the risks associated with vaping. Any and all members of the public who have questions about non-severe symptoms they may be having due to or exacerbated by vaping should contact the Healthline at 811 or talk to their health care provider."

For more information visit <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/severe-lung-illness-related-to-e-cigarette-use-vaping>.



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PUZZLE NO. 992

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<p>ACROSS</p> <p>1. Vegetable box</p> <p>4. Footfall</p> <p>8. End</p> <p>11. Cheer for a toreador</p> <p>12. Snatch</p> <p>13. Keats poems</p> <p>15. Veteran: hyph.</p> <p>17. Persons</p> <p>18. Miner's product</p> <p>19. Flawed</p> <p>21. Thin</p> <p>24. Street sign</p> <p>26. Holler</p> <p>27. Killarney's location</p> <p>32. Female singer</p>	<p>33. Explosive noise</p> <p>34. Slender woodwind</p> <p>35. Beauty</p> <p>37. Messy fellow</p> <p>38. Gift paper</p> <p>40. Shipped</p> <p>41. Perfect</p> <p>45. Vane reading: abbr.</p> <p>47. Seasoned</p> <p>48. Helped</p> <p>53. Bagel feature</p> <p>54. At the top</p> <p>55. Nay's opposite</p> <p>56. Roads: abbr.</p> <p>57. Back talk</p> <p>58. Entertainer Vereen</p>	<p>DOWN</p> <p>1. Ghostly greeting</p> <p>2. Feeling awful</p> <p>3. Buntline or Beatty</p> <p>4. Blend</p> <p>5. Subdues</p> <p>6. ___ out (barely manage)</p> <p>7. Carry out, as a task</p> <p>8. Health food</p> <p>9. Movie hero</p> <p>10. Fur</p> <p>14. Shade of blue</p> <p>16. Indian drum</p> <p>20. Gibbon or gorilla</p>	<p>21. Rug style</p> <p>22. Lounge around</p> <p>23. Tad</p> <p>25. Jeweled headpiece</p> <p>28. Profits' opposite</p> <p>29. Talented</p> <p>30. Middle of the day</p> <p>31. Loan or mortgage, e.g.</p> <p>33. Dressers</p> <p>36. Acknowledge</p> <p>39. Mexican coins</p> <p>41. Fan's cry</p> <p>42. Selfish trips</p> <p>43. Sensed</p> <p>44. Roman date</p> <p>46. Wrongdoings</p> <p>49. Bottled-water source</p> <p>50. Flap</p> <p>51. Optometrist's concern</p> <p>52. Hideout</p>
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ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 992

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS USE AMERICAN SPELLING

Powerful Astros poised for another series title

Houston, we don't have a problem. We have a baseball power.

An embarrassment of riches both on the mound and at the plate should be enough to make Houston Astros the favourites to win the 2019 World Series.

The Astros, one of two American League teams with more than 100 victories as the regular season came to a close, were already stacked on the mound before they added Zack Greinke from Arizona and Aaron Sanchez from Toronto at the July 31 trade deadline.

How strong are they on the mound? Well, manager A.J. Hinch can call on two guys who might be 1-2 in the majors in the rankings of pitchers: Justin Verlander, the likely Cy Young Award winner, and Gerrit Cole. The addition of Greinke likely means that Wade Miley, who put together a 15-win season, will be shunted to the bullpen for the playoffs, since a starting staff of three is usually enough in a best-of-five or best-of-seven series.

And can the Astros hit? Uh, yes. Their run differential with a week

to play in the 162-game season was plus-265, 60 better than their closest American League rival (the Yankees) and about 25 higher than the NL's best, the Dodgers.

Averaging a major-league best 5.7 runs per game and a .276 team batting average, the Astros were humming along with offensive stars Jose Altuve, Carlos Correa, George Springer, Mickey Brantley, Alex Bregman and Yuli Gurriel and then added rookie slugger Yordan Alvarez at mid-season, turning the Houston club into a virtual murderers' row. All Alvarez did in half a season was belt 27 home runs, drive in 78, and hit for a .316 average. Houston's 1-through-6 in the batting order of Springer (.295), Altuve (.301), Brantley (.318), Bregman (.295), Alvarez (.316) and Correa (.280) is the most intimidating lineup in the bigs.

OK, so we've established that Houston is the favourite to win the World Series, but it's hardly guaranteed. The Yankees also won more than 100 games and have a now-healthy lineup



BRUCE PENTON

nearly equal in offensive power. In the National League, Los Angeles Dodgers and Atlanta Braves are the class of the senior circuit, and both are stacked on offence and in pitching.

It says here, however, that the best team in baseball is Houston and they will be crowned champs for the second time in three years in late October.

• RJ Currie of sports-deke.com: "Some Florida elementary schools are trying to fight inactivity by showing students fitness videos — but the kids don't have to do the exercises. It's about as useful as having the Maple Leafs watch Stanley Cup footage."

• Norman Chad of the

Washington Post, on the well-travelled QB Ryan Fitzpatrick, who has a 50-75-1 record with eight NFL teams: "He's the classic chicken-and-egg signal-caller: Did he just happen to play on a lot of bad teams, or did they become bad teams because he was their quarterback?"

• Patti Dawn Swanson, the River City Renegade, on Triple Crown winner Justify, failing a drug test before the Kentucky Derby yet not being stopped from racing: "This was one case where the winning jockey, Mike Smith, really did have to get down off his high horse."

• Swansson again, on Justify's trainer Bob Baffert alleging the drug must have come from a contaminated hay bale: "So I guess authorities are now looking for a needle in a haystack. Literally."

• Bob Molinaro of pilotonline.com (Hampton, Va.): "The Jets tweeted out birthday wishes to 28-year-old safety Bennett Jackson. Later that day, they cut him. And then deleted the tweet."

• Chad again, on Twit-

ter: "Tom Brady was just sacked in Dolphins game. The NFL expects to complete its investigation by mid-week."

• Omaha's Brad Dickson on Twitter: "What names did Lovie Smith's parents reject before they went with something that sounds like a type of Pampers?"

• Dickson again: "I'm pretty sure an NFL team with a depleted quarterback situation would offer a contract to the late Ken Stabler before they'd sign Colin Kaepernick."

• Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "The Miami Dolphins — outscored 102-10 in their first two games — are so bad that five SEC teams are already trying to get them on next season's non-conference schedule."

• @Richie59FIFTY, on the Cowboys' Wednesday waiving of former No. 1 draft pick Taco Charlton: "They should've released Taco Tuesday."

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg, with his early NFL MVP candidates: "Tom Brady (always); Dak Prescott; Pat Mahomes; Cam Newton's personal stylist; Antonio Brown's therapist."

• Another one from Swansson: "According to scientists, there's been a dramatic decline in the North American bird population in the past 50 years, with a loss of 2.9 billion of our feather friends. If only something could be done to get rid of the Baltimore Orioles."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE ESTATE OF DAVE ALLEN KRELOW, late of Spiritwood, in the Province of Saskatchewan, deceased. All claims against the above Estate, duly verified by statutory declaration and with particulars and valuation of security held, if any, must be sent to the undersigned before the 31st day of October, 2019.

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spquist@outlook.com or for more info call Shane at 306-940-4033. 4-40CH

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED - Leoville & District Arena is now accepting applications for caretaker for the 2019/2020 season. Please mail resume to Box 398 Leoville, SK S0J 1N0. Resumes will be accepted until Friday, October 18, 2019 at noon. Only successful applicants will be contacted. 2-41H

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Medstead and District Recreation Association (MADRA) is now accepting tenders for the following position: Cleaning/Kitchen Caretaker - The position consists of the following duties: making sure that the kitchen is in order and cleaning the deep fryer; cleaning of the lobby, bleachers, upstairs lounge, hallways, bathrooms and all dressing rooms; as well as ordering food and supplies as needed. The above position description may change with

additions and/or deletions at the discretion of the MADRA executive. Sealed tenders must be received by 5pm October 25th, 2019. Please send tenders to: MADRA, PO Box 86, Medstead SK, S0M 1W0 or email to cheyenneorange@hotmail.com 3-42H

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SPIRITWOOD: Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 9:00 am - 4:30 pm, Wednesday 9:30 am - 4:30 pm & Friday 9:00 am - 4:30 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.

SHELL LAKE: FALL SUPPER - Sunday, October 6 - Shell Lake Lions Hall. Doors Open 4:20 pm, Supper 5 - 7 pm. Adult - \$14; Under 12 - \$5; Under 5 - Free. Sponsored by Our Lady of Smiles & Partners in Worship Churches, Shell Lake

SHELL LAKE: Shell Lake & District Lions 41st Annual Novemberfest Dine & Dance. Saturday, November 2, Shell Lake Lions' Hall. Cocktails ~ 5:30 pm; Salad Bar ~ 6 pm; Supper ~ 7 pm; Elimination Draw ~ 8 pm. 17 winner totalling \$1,825. Dance to follow draw. Music by Half Na Piv. \$45/ticket available at: Shell Lake General Store ~ 306-427-2044; Corrie ~ 306-427-4922. Lottery License # SR191609. 230 ADVANCE Tickets (Only) To Be Sold

SPIRITWOOD: Sacred Heart Parish FALL SUPPER, Spiritwood Civic Centre. October 20, 2019, Doors Open 4:30; Supper 5-7 pm. Adults \$13; Under 12 \$6; Under 5 Free.

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Protecting your cedars for winter

By Patricia Hanbidge

Our seasons are not always the same from year to year and this year is no different. Expect our technically correct autumn to be non-existent in spite of enjoying an extra month of fall-like weather. As the mercury drops, I am thankful to have a warm house to help me survive the deep freeze but feel for any living thing that has to spend the winter outside.

Evergreens in the landscape provide shelter for our feathered friends and also help to control snow and wind. They are aesthetically important as their evergreen foliage is so appreciated while the rest of the landscape exhibits so many shades of grey. Of the many evergreens we can grow, cedars seem to be the evergreen that is most susceptible to winter damage. Read on to help ensure your evergreen cedar does not turn into shades of brown.

The most common cedar of our landscapes is the eastern white cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*). It is found naturally throughout North Eastern North America. Traditionally, the eastern white cedar was used by aboriginals to prevent scurvy as it contains Vitamin C. This practice was passed onto French settlers which gave rise to the name arborvitae or “tree of life”. The wood is valuable as it is resistant to rot and insects. Traditionally it was used for the framework of canoes but today it has many uses including posts,



poles, shingles and even shelter for alternative livestock operations.

Although the eastern white cedar is not found naturally in Saskatchewan, they can tolerate our extremely dry and cold winters with a little extra care. Over winter, these cedars need to have adequate shelter from the desiccating effects of our winter sun and wind to maintain their evergreen colour.

Choosing the right cultivar will help

to ensure you are successful in incorporating cedars you're your landscape. 'Brandon' (4 m tall by 1.5 m wide) is likely the most common cedar grown and has good hardiness. 'Holmstrup' (2 m tall and 1 m wide) has a nice green colour only topped by 'Smaragd' (4m tall by 1.5 m wide) which exhibits the most intense green. For good sized globe cedars try 'Woodwardii', 'Globosa' or 'Little Giant' (all about 2 m tall and wide). If you are looking for smaller selections try 'Hetz Midget' (1 m tall by 1 m wide) or 'Little Gem' which will be of similar height but slightly wider than 'Hetz Midget'.

Proper care is essential to keep your cedar green. Throughout the growing season, it is important to ensure that these evergreens receive enough moisture. They will need supplemental irrigation in order to thrive. It is

also important to water them in just prior to freeze up. Throughout the winter, they need to receive shelter from the wind and shade from the sun. Planting them on an east or north exposure is a good choice. If you have the misfortune of your cedars living in a location that is not sheltered, it is best to provide some protection. You need to minimize their exposure to the late-afternoon sun. Even in winter, the sun has a lot of power and will result in a daily freeze/thaw cycle that is extremely damaging to the tissues of the cedar.

I know that in my landscape I have some cedars still needing shelter so hopefully sharing this information with you will also spur me outside to give my cedars some consideration. It used to be recommended to wrap your cedars in burlap for the winter – but this is really not the best choice. The absolute best way to protect your cedars is to tap some poles into the ground close to the cedars. (It is recommended that you do this prior to the ground freezing solid!) Create a screen using burlap (or other suitable material) that will serve as a shield for wind and sun. As a bonus – you can still enjoy the great green that your cedars provide to the landscape.

I don't recommend using anti-desiccant sprays. They work by coating the leaves with a very thin layer of wax. These “miracle” products never quite deliver as promised and are definitely not a substitute for proper care.

Hanbidge is a horticulturist with the School of Horticulture and can be reached at 306-931-GROW(4769); by email at growyourfuture@gmail.com; facebook: @schoolofhort; twitter: @horticulturepat; instagram: patyplant or check out our website at saskhort.com.



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