

First Hockey Day in Spiritwood a big success



MP Gary Vidal (centre left) and Mayor Gary Von Holwede (centre right) attended the senior hockey game for a ceremonial puck drop to wrap up 'Hockey Day in Spiritwood'.

The Spiritwood Recreation Centre was packed on Saturday, Jan. 18 for Spiritwood Minor Hockey's Hockey Day in Spiritwood. The fun-filled day was organized by Sheila Turgeon who was helped out by Kirstin Buswell, the Northern Wolves Female Hockey Team, the Spiritwood Timberwolves Senior Hockey Team, and Spiritwood Minor hockey players and parents. There was fun for the whole family to take in with minor league games going on all day, fun activities for kids and adults throughout the day, and a Senior Game in the evening to wrap everything up. "This is awesome!" said arena regular and Zamboni driver Joyce Willick about the day. "Even with all the drifts on the

road everyone came out here for this." She was quite right, despite the weather's best efforts to keep everyone off the road, the centre was packed with teams from Spiritwood, Meadow Lake, Medstead, St. Walburg, and Battleford.

The day kicked off with a Pancake Breakfast sponsored and staffed by Prairie Centre Credit Union. Pancakes, sausage, and coffee were served with a smile from the rink kitchen all morning and even attracted the attention of the Premier who took time out of his busy schedule to attend Hockey Day in Spiritwood. The breakfast was followed up by five minor league hockey games as well as a variety of activities going on upstairs. BINGO,

sponsored by Lakeland Country Co-op and Scotiabank kept many adults occupied after the lunch hour as the kids activities started. There was a cookie decorating station, slime making, and a fishbowl toss among other things. Fast Genetics purchased a bouncy castle for this and future events which was well enjoyed. There was a constant line outside the mezzanine to get into the Riverside Dodge sponsored Laser Tag. The day wrapped up with the Senior Timberwolves taking on the Battleford Blues. After the game, the team hosted some young Timberwolves for a bit of fun ice time.

The progressive 50/50 pot grew to \$1,190 with the winner, Darcy Glencross

of Blaine Lake, taking home \$595. Raffle tickets were sold throughout the day on three items. Bryan Wingerter was the lucky winner of the tool set, Cal Robinson took home the booze basket, and Asher Simonar got the Nintendo Switch. All the proceeds from the progressive 50/50 and the raffle went to Spiritwood Minor Hockey.

The day was filled with fun and excitement and everything ran very smoothly. The organizers made sure that every hour of the day had some form of entertainment and that there was a little something for everyone. It was a very successful Hockey Day in Spiritwood.

More photos on page 2



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First Hockey Day in Spiritwood a big success



Minor hockey players Brooklyn Saam (left) and Jada Turgeon (right) volunteering in the kids area.



Kirstin Buswell volunteering in the kitchen for Hockey Day in Spiritwood.



Arena staff Joyce Willick (left) and Cal Robinson (right) were at the rink all day enjoying the entertainment and making sure the ice was clean.



Young Timberwolves were out on the ice with members of the Senior team for a bit of fun hockey.



The kids activities were a real hit and busy all afternoon.

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CHECK IT OUT!

Spiritwood Herald Website

www.spiritwoodherald.com

Around 50 show up to play Hockey Day BINGO

The mezzanine at the Spiritwood Recreation Centre was packed with both activities and people all afternoon during Hockey Day in Spiritwood.

Lakeland Country Co-op sponsored prizes for eight rounds of BINGO, Share-the-Wealth, and a Bonanza run by Spiritwood Scotiabank staff.

Barb Szasz was on the mic for the afternoon and despite the slight tickle in her throat was as sharp as knife for the whole afternoon. Surely, she is still out trying to sell people on the idea of a 'Soggy Doggy' as a top of the line prize.

Many of the Spiritwood Timberwolves Senior team could be seen participating in the BINGO in the afternoon.

The first round of BINGO was won by Denise W. who was in town from Loon Lake for the day. She took home a Google Home Mini.

The winner of the postage stamp game was Kathleen Marinello, who took home an RC T-Rex toy and one of the coveted 'Soggy Doggy' toys.

The double line game saw Chris Robinson taking home a screwdriver set, flashlight, and water bottle.

Trent Turgeon was the second lucky winner of 'Soggy Doggy' as well as a 'My Generation Doll' for dabbing the first nine-square block.

The lucky seven game went to lucky number one JR Busiere (Spiritwood Timberwolves goaltender), who took home a Tonka Truck.

Megan Allard was over the moon when her mom Shelley Allard took home two tickets to a Saskatchewan Rush game for winning the 'All-around-the-free' game.

Trent Turgeon doubled up on prizes, winning the Guess purse and water bottle for



Many members of the Spiritwood Timberwolves senior team participated in the BINGO games, with some of them even taking home prizes.

having the first line or all four corners before Paula Goller took the last regular round prize, a Barbie Doll and Jeep, for being the first player to get the letter X.

The Share-the-Wealth 50/50 blackout was won by Denise W. of Loon Lake, who took home \$137.

The afternoon Bingo wrapped up with a faceoff between Shelley Allard and Marg Pretli for a 50" TV. Pretli ended up coming out on top.



The staff from Scotiabank could be seen selling tickets and checking BINGO cards.



Around 50 people were out for afternoon BINGO at Hockey Day in Spiritwood.

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Hockey Day highlights strength of community

Ours is truly a fascinating age. One, I've no doubt, that the historians of the future will look back upon with no small measure of confusion.

It is an era in which we have more ways than ever to connect with one another. And yet, for all these things that could or should connect us it seems as if we're actually becoming more and more disconnected from each other.

What's more, it seems at times that the very things that should be connecting us and bringing us closer together are in fact having the opposite effect by stoking the fires of division. Just look at the current state of Canada, for instance, where we are divided in so many ways and appear to have no means to, and no interest in, bridging these divides.

Looking at the fractured state of Canada as a national community, one begins to feel especially blessed to live in a small town like Shellbrook.

Certainly, we here in small-town Saskatchewan aren't immune to the seismic social, political, and economic changes occurring across the country. But, if this past Hockey Day in Shellbrook weekend proved anything, it's that our sense of community is as strong as ever.

If you doubt the truth of that statement, just ask yourself this: what other community of 1,500 people would be able to pull off



JORDAN
TWISS

~
Columnist

an event as successful as Hockey Day?

Next, ask yourself this: what community of 1,500 people would be able to pull this off for five consecutive years, and, in so doing, raise more than \$500,000 for a local facility that is vital to the future of the community?

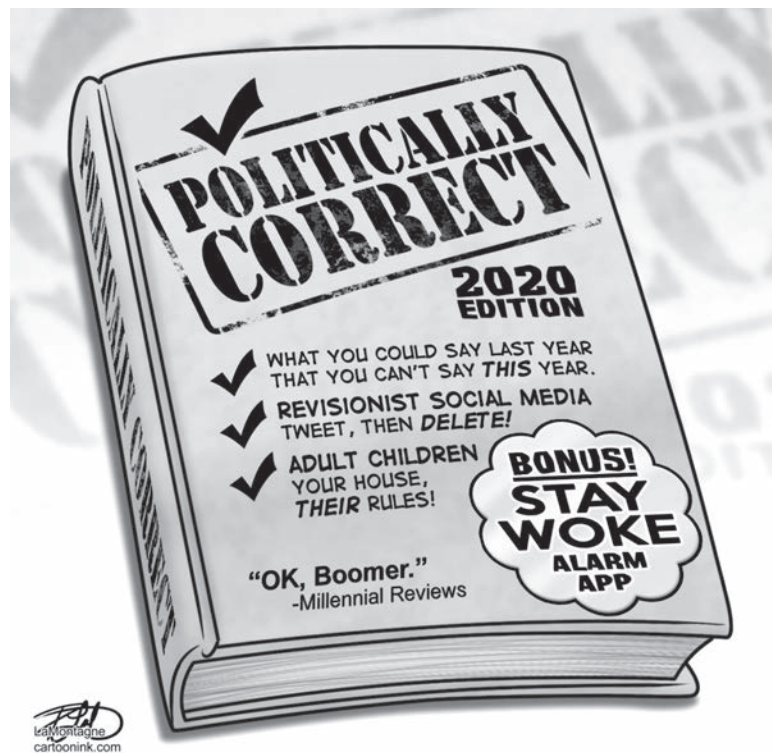
If you spent some time researching, you might come up with one or two other communities. But, even still, Shellbrook really does stand in a class of its own when it comes to rallying around its own — be it Hockey Day, local teachers

who have been treated unfairly, families dealing with a healthcare crisis, or any number of any other important issues.

For the success that Hockey Day in Shellbrook, in particular, has seen over these past five years, there is plenty of credit to go around.

However, the best place to begin would be with the Hockey Day in Shellbrook organizing committee, which saw a need and took action to fulfil it. Thanks, in part, to their efforts to put together a top-shelf event each year, the Shellbrook Recreation Complex has a new ice plant, a new ice resurfacing machine, new boards, a new ice surface, and a tastefully upgraded lobby.

Of course, organizing events on the scale of Hockey Day doesn't matter for much if one doesn't have the volunteer corps to ensure



that the event runs smoothly. If Shellbrook possesses anything in spades, it's volunteers who are willing to answer the call — even if they have no reason to throw their support behind the rink.

Going hand-in-hand with the volunteers are the local and area businesses, organizations, and individuals who sponsor and donate to Hockey Day in Shellbrook. It would be impossible to list all these supporters in the limited space of this column, but it goes without saying that Hockey Day would be nowhere near the success that it has been without their generosity.

Last, but most certainly not least, the folks who choose to attend Hockey Day — whether it's to watch their kids play or just for the love

of the sport — also deserve special acknowledgement. Without them filling the stands, Hockey Day wouldn't still be going strong.

There are probably still more thank yous and recognitions to go around. Probably far too many to fit in the confines of this column. If you have been missed, know that your contributions to Hockey Day, and to your community, don't go unappreciated.

With one more Hockey Day in the books, and only one Hockey Day left on the docket, one can't help but wonder what the next great local cause will be — for, the needs of a small community like Shellbrook are always many.

If the legacy of Hockey Day is anything to go by, we have nothing at all to be worried about.

Gormley: Making it through the worst for Millennials

Risking a derisive “OK Boomer”, I cop a guilty plea to Orwell.

2020 begins with the continuing narrative that Millennials are so pessimistic that, for some, life seems scarcely worth living. This is heartbreaking. But they do live in a world that gins up panic, like the apocalyptic survey concluding “don't have children; it'll save us from climate change”.

A recent Canadian Press story reported Millennial misery amidst rampant wildfires in Australia, a threatened and “imminent war” between the United States and Iran and the tragedy of Canadian lives lost in the Iranian downing of a Ukrainian jetliner.

The piece cited National College Health Survey data that 60 per cent of respon-

dents were dealing with above-average or tremendous stress levels, 23 per cent diagnosed with anxiety, and 19 per cent with depression.

Even though some of these elevated negative perceptions are true, hopefully they are also due to better diagnoses and overdue attention being paid to mental health. But it's never been easy being young, uncertain, and new at life experiences.

To be sure, Millennials live in a world of ubiquitous digital culture, social media and its constant conflict and manufactured outrage. Also, there sometimes seems a lack of context; missing are older people who assure the young that life means hope, and how never giving up on the future is critical to how we live in the present.

A few decades ago, as twenty-somethings immersed in a confusing and dangerous world, many of us were at least surrounded by those who had endured the Great Depression and Second World War. Their message: better times would come. Perhaps not as self-actualized as many of today's young, we just thought that scary times were something we'd have to get through.

The memory is vivid and depressing: December 1980, watching a U.S. news report set to the music of Merle Haggard's “if we make it through December” — a recession seemingly without end, the death throes of U.S. steel towns, and the misery of people lined up having lost their jobs, homes and hope.

In 1979 and '80, the world

really did seem to be going to Hell. Strikes and strife had torn apart Britain; a group of ideologues launched Iran's “Islamic Revolution”, seized power, triggered an energy crisis that drove gas prices higher than we could afford. They held the world hostage, along with U.S. captives, for over a year.

The IRA murdered Prince Phillip's uncle, Louis Mountbatten, off the coast of Ireland, the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan, the Iran — Iraq War began and every year, without a raise, runaway inflation shrunk our paycheques by 10% or more.

North America seemed obsessed with serial killers: we asked what created Son of Sam, Ted Bundy, or the real-life terrifying clown John Wayne Gacey?

In the U.S. — Soviet Union

arms race, we knew about “MAD”, Mutually Assured Destruction, because we had to; ditto for the acronyms ICBM and START. We knew names like Trident and Pershing missiles, and the terrifying Peacekeeper, a ballistic missile carrying 10 nuclear warheads; a single missile's payload equivalent to 230 of the bombs that destroyed Hiroshima at the end of WWII.

We lived this every day. And wondered if we were next for a mysterious pneumonia-like disease contracted at an American Legion convention in a Philadelphia Hotel. If not Legionnaires Disease, there was that contagious and potentially lethal plague, discovered near the Ebola River in Africa.

Even the Olympics suffered in 1980 when the U.S.,

Canada and others boycotted the Moscow games. And just days before Christmas that year, pop culture icon and Beatle John Lennon died from a gunman's bullets on a street outside his New York home.

It didn't end there. In the ensuing months, anyone who lived it would never forget renewing their home mortgage at 19 or 20% interest rates.

Eventually we did make it through that December and many more. And for the next generation of young, it gets better.

John Gormley is a broadcaster, lawyer, author and former Progressive Conservative MP whose radio talk show is heard weekdays from 8:30am – 12:30pm on 650 CKOM Saskatoon and 980 CJME Regina

Report from the Legislature

For the past 12 years, Saskatchewan has been growing. More people, more jobs and more investment in our families and communities. We want to ensure this strong growth continues. Your Saskatchewan Party government has a new Growth Plan for the new decade so everyone continues to benefit from a growing province.

Saskatchewan's Growth Plan is a roadmap for a growing province of 1.4 million people and a strong economy with 100,000 more jobs. Increasing the number of young people who stay here to start a career and family will help grow the population.

This past year, Saskatchewan saw an increase of 10,400 jobs, or 1.8 per cent, from 2018. More than half of that job growth is due to full-time jobs.

The energy sector is also off to a roaring start in 2020 with 57 of Saskatchewan's 105 rigs working January 6th, up from 19 rigs just three days earlier. This means that Saskatchewan has a higher rig utilization rate than both Alberta and

British Columbia.

In spite of external headwinds, the creation of 10,400 jobs last year is an indication that Saskatchewan has a robust, diverse and growing economy and shows that our Growth Plan target is achievable and well on its way to being met.

Our province will continue to undertake the most aggressive youth retention plan in Canada, while exploring new incentives to keep life affordable for young people and create more opportunities for them to realize their future right here at home.

With Saskatchewan's

Graduate Retention Program, post-secondary grads who remain and work in Saskatchewan after graduation are eligible for up to \$20,000 in tax credits. To date, nearly 71,000 young people have claimed this tax credit.

The Government of Saskatchewan is also providing a quarter of a million dollars to save post-secondary students money on their textbook purchases. The innovative approach supports professors and instructors at Saskatchewan Polytechnic, the U of S and the U of R to develop open textbooks and other open educational resources.

The initiative is expected to save current and future students at least \$6.4 million with the resources developed so far.

Our investment in the development of open textbooks over the past five years is helping reduce costs for approximately 70,000 students.

The Government of Saskatchewan will continue to look at new incentives to retain more young people to live, work and raise a

family.

Saskatchewan's growing technology sector and digital economy will be an important driver of economic growth of the next decade.

Tripling the tech-sector by 2030 by aggressively pursuing new measures to attract large scale tech employers will help ensure Saskatchewan is on the right path with a modern economy, and Innovation Saskatchewan will play a large role in achieving these goals.

In 2017, Innovation Saskatchewan launched Co. Labs, a provincially backed incubator which in less

than three years has created 160 jobs, incubated 88 start-ups and secured more than \$8 million in investment. Saskatchewan also offers the Saskatchewan Technology Startup Incentive, the most aggressive tech angel investment incentive program in Western Canada.

Growing the tech sector is just one of the ways your government is strengthening and diversifying Saskatchewan's economy.

A committee of education stakeholders, parents and business professionals will meet to begin developing recommendations on future development of curriculum and high school graduation requirements in Saskatchewan. The committee includes representatives from teachers, school divisions, parents, post-secondary institutions, chambers of commerce, the workforce, and the Ministry of Education.

It is important that we hear from parents, educators, post-secondary institutions and the business community about what students need to learn in

the classroom in order to be successful. By keeping Saskatchewan's curriculum up to date, we're ensuring that our children will be well-equipped to succeed in their future.

As part of our plan to grow the province's population and economy, Saskatchewan will focus on the development, retention and attraction of highly skilled and entrepreneurial talent. Over the next decade Saskatchewan will develop:

- An agile and integrated education and training system that is responsive to the economic opportunities for businesses and prepares people for careers in Saskatchewan.

- People with the skills experience and pathways to realize their potential and build their careers in Saskatchewan.

- Workplaces that help develop the potential of a diverse population that requires labour market supports to succeed.

To learn more about Saskatchewan's Growth Plan for The Next Decade, I encourage you to visit saskgrowthplan.ca.



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YOUR TWO CENTS

Pickering Nuclear Station raises questions about Sask.'s SMR plans

Dear editor,

The emergency at Pickering Nuclear Station is a wakeup call for the world. Luckily, it was a false alarm.

Remember that Premier Moe has just signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Premiers of New Brunswick and Ontario to develop small modular Nuclear reactors.

What are the proposed safety standards to the possible 10 sites to be set up in Saskatchewan? What are the new enhanced safety features that need to put in to place? Who will pay for the security once set up? What will be done when these need to be decommissioned? What about proliferation and radiation escaping confinement at every stage of the nuclear cycle? How will the constant

transportation of enriched fuel from the east endanger our people and environment? Where are all the newly generated toxic radioactive wastes to go? Will the taxpayers of this province be on the hook in perpetuity for the radioactive orphan nuclear power plants as we are with orphan wells and old uranium mines already?

Continued on page 6

Spiritwood Herald

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Member of



Suspects sought after rural crime spree

At least two suspects are wanted by the Saskatchewan RCMP, following a string of rural break-ins during the wee hours of the morning on Friday, Jan. 17.

All told, police say the suspects hit 10 rural businesses or rural municipalities in Hafford, Blaine Lake, Leask, Shell Lake, and

Rabbit Lake, stealing more than \$16,000 worth of money, merchandise, tools, or other items.

According to police, the suspects began their crime spree around midnight in Hafford, breaking into the local post office, then the Communiplex skating rink. They

ended by breaking into the Rack Gas Bar and stealing \$5,000 in cash, cigarettes and lottery tickets.

From Hafford, the suspects moved onto Blaine Lake, where they again broke into the post office. They quickly moved onto Leask, hitting the Leask Pharmacy and

the Leask Mart around 3 a.m. Police say about \$6,000 in cigarettes and \$500 in cash were stolen from the Leask Mart.

Heading west from Leask, the suspects victimized the Shell Lake General Store around 4 a.m., stealing \$2,500 in tobacco products. They also robbed the

Shell Lake post office.

About an hour later they hit the Rabbit Lake Rural Municipality Office, stealing \$2,000 worth of shop tools, a laptop, and cash. They also hit the Rabbit Lake post office.

An RCMP statement, issued through the Saskatchewan Crime

Watch Advisory Network, said the same suspect(s) may be responsible for all break and enters and that the "suspect(s) are believed to be driving a small grey or silver SUV hatchback."

Anyone with information about the string of robberies is urged to call 310-RCMP.

YOUR TWO CENTS

Pickering Nuclear Station raises questions about Sask.'s SMR plans

Continued from 5

How can this be deemed safe? The possibility of human error could cause immense damage as we have seen a number of times throughout our world. The latest example is Pickering nuclear plant in Ontario.

There are much cheaper and faster ways to reduce our emissions than considering this dangerous and expensive technology.

A 2015 report by the International Energy Agency and the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency predicts that electricity costs from SMRs will typically be 50-100 percent higher than for current large reactors, although it holds out some hope that large volume factory production of SMRs could help re-

duce costs.

A report by the consultancy firm Atkins for the UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy found that electricity from the first SMR in the UK would be 30 percent more expensive than power from large reactors, because of diseconomies of scale and the costs of deploying first-of-a-kind technology.

An article by four current and former researchers from Carnegie Mellon University's Department of Engineering and Public Policy, published in 2018 in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science, considered options for the development of an SMR market in the US.

They concluded that it would not be viable unless the industry received "several hundred billion dollars of direct and indirect subsidies" over the next several decades.

The CAREM (Central Argentina de Elementos Modulares) SMR under construction in Argentina illustrates the gap between SMR rhetoric and reality. Cost estimates have ballooned. In 2004, when the CA-

REM reactor was in the planning stage, Argentina's Bariloche Atomic Center estimated an overnight cost of US\$1 billion/GW for an integrated 300 MW plant.

When construction began in 2014, the estimated cost of the CAREM reactor was US\$17.8 billion/GW (US\$446 million for a 25-MW reactor). By April 2017, the cost estimate had increased to US\$21.9 billion/GW (US\$700 million with the capacity uprated from 25 MW to 32 MW).

The CAREM project is years behind schedule and costs will likely increase further. In 2014, first fuel loading was expected in 2017 but completion is now anticipated in November 2021.

Westinghouse sharply reduced its investment in SMRs after failing to secure US government funding. MidAmerican Energy gave up on its plans for SMRs in Iowa after failing to secure legislation that would force rate-payers to part-pay construction costs.

The MidAmerican story has a happy ending: the company has invested over US\$10 billion in renewables in Iowa and is now working towards its vision "to generate renewable energy equal to 100 percent of its customers' usage on an annual basis."

How can our Premier now convince the public that this experimental technology in nuclear that he has proposed will serve the people of this province in the best possible manner?

Crystal Frenette, Shellbrook Sask.

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Nominations close March 31, 2020



New ag tech needs early adopters

I must say I am fascinated when I see a headline asking 'Are we ready for electric tractors?'

To begin with I am among those who believe, given a natural progression of things, the world will move toward less internal combustion engines burning gasoline and diesel.

That does not mean a complete shutdown of such fuel sources, but rather opting where possible for cleaner alternatives. It's actually a winning vision in the sense any conversion actually extends the

life expectancy of non-renewable fuel sources which means having them for critical uses where they prove the best option – passenger airplanes coming to mind as perhaps a key area that will long require fossil fuels.

But that swerves me away from the starting premise of whether electric tractors are viable?

Certainly electric tractors are possible. Technologies exist today.

The question is more about how the cost of electric tractors com-



CALVIN DANIELS

pare to more traditional power sources? And, do they do the job as efficiently?

The idea of tractors roving fields with essentially long, retractable extension cords attached seems a tad

strange, but at one time the mere idea of tractors taking over from horses was seen as fantasy, and I am sure my grandfather, were he alive, would stand in some awe at the sheer size of today's largest farm tractors.

It is likely, as farming evolves toward electric power tractors, units are going to be smaller, the equipment smaller as well, with the technology being married to autonomous controls. It seems the most logical to go smaller, but have the ability to program the unit to run without

an 'on the seat' operator, for much longer hours.

For an industry that has been going in a directly opposite direction, farm units growing ever-larger, with horsepower of tractors and the width of equipment growing to match the additional acres. The idea of smaller will be a near paradigm shift for many producers, who have over the last several decades seen tractors get bigger and bigger with every purchase made.

Farmers are also going to question whether electric can deliver the

needed power, although that will be a factor dealt with by smaller equipment in my mind. It comes down to seeing two smaller units at work over longer hours covering the same acres, a system that works depending on the overall associate costs of both systems.

Like most developments, from the growing of canola to zero-till farming, a few farmers will need to be early adopters of the technology, the in-field provers of the concept, and then electric will find its place in the farm sector.

NFU urges quick and fair resolution to Co-op Refinery lock-out

The National Farmers Union is deeply concerned that Federated Co-operatives has locked out unionized workers at the Co-op Refinery Complex in Regina. The NFU has sent a letter to the Board of Directors, urging them to end the lock-out immediately and return to the bargaining table in good faith.

The NFU is supportive of the co-operative business model. Many NFU members choose to use Co-op refinery products, including farm diesel fuel, gas, and oil. One reason for using Co-op products is that co-operatives are business that

are not just about the bottom line, but have made commitment to uphold the internationally accepted "co-operative principles", which include concern for community. With this lock-out, it has become harder to see how the Federated Co-operatives is different from other companies.

It is disturbing that a key issue in the dispute is whether workers will be able to use the pensions previously agreed to through collective bargaining and earned during their careers at the refinery, or if they will be forced to accept one

that is less valuable. A roll-back in pensions is an issue for the whole community: reneging on the pension promise is a way for companies to transfer a portion of money earned by the workers into the company's assets. If Co-op succeeds, other companies will be emboldened to seize their workers' pension funds.

It is also disturbing to learn that Co-op management had prepared for a lengthy lock-out by building a work camp to house scabs, and has been spending resources on helicopter flights to transport scabs across the picket line. Co-op man-

agement has apparently invested heavily in measures designed to prolong the dispute.

It is the NFU's position that federal and provincial labour laws should outlaw the employment of scab labour during the course of legal strikes or lock-outs, in order to assure the effectiveness of free collective bargaining.

In solidarity with Unifor 594, the NFU calls for a quick end to the lock-out, urges good faith bargaining, and encourages mediation to resolve the outstanding issues.

Sask. Health Authority volunteer opportunities

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

Special Groups or Individuals – Evergreen Health Centre, Leoville (306) 984-2136

Volunteers entertain, provide interesting educational presentations (i.e. Travel presentations), assist with special events, sing, and have fun with the residents.

Shifts: Flexible – 1 – 1 1/2 hrs. Once per month

Family Visiting Program Program – Spiritwood and District Health Complex

(306) 883-4432

Volunteering as a family can bring families closer together. Family members along with their young children can visit residents on a one-to-one basis or in small groups to make a positive impact in the life of the resident. Parents are responsible for their children at all times.

Shifts: Flexible

Special Groups or Individuals – Hafford Special Care Centre (306) 549-2108

Volunteers entertain, provide interesting educational presentations (i.e. Travel presentations), assist with special events,

sing, and have fun with the residents.

Shifts: Flexible – 1 – 1 1/2 hrs. Once per month

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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Tough loss for Timberwolves in overtime

The Timberwolves went head to head against the Battleford Blues on Jan. 18 to wrap up a successful Hockey Day in Spiritwood. It was a fast-paced, physical game that had those in attendance on the edge of their seats. Local MP Gary Vial was out at the rink for a ceremonial puck drop with Spiritwood Mayor Gary Von Holwede.

Both teams came out strong in the first period, flying up and down the ice. The board remained empty until Tyson Tur-

geon tapped one in past the goalie's skate from a behind the net pass from Dallan Saam putting the Timberwolves up 1-0 at 13:20. Anthony Radke followed up just a couple of minutes later at 11:02 with a wrist shot over the goaltender's pad on a rebound assisted by Dallan Saam and Aiden Nielsen-Clark. The Blues managed to get one in past Spiritwood goaltender JR Bussiere on a rebound at 9:43 to narrow the gap. The period finished up with Carson McNabb putting a one-timer into the



The Knights of Columbus were happily flipping Burgers for the Senior Timberwolves game on Saturday night.



The Saturday night Timberwolves game was a real nail-biter.

ting a one-timer into the top of the net at 0:14 on a couple of passes from Radke and Scott Haggerty. The period ended 3-1 for Spiritwood.

The Blues came out fighting in the second period closing the gap again with a quick goal going in at 19:44. The score was tied up at 12:58 when the Blues put a slapshot past Bussiere. The Timberwolves went ahead again at 4:00 when Haggerty set Radke up for a spinning pass over to Devin Beebe who put the puck

into the top of the net. A bit of roughing involving Patrick Robinson at the end of the period left both teams with men in the box for the 4-3 period close.

Fans enjoyed a small amount of entertainment during the second intermission.

The team had sold tickets for a puck shoot competition where the lucky name drawn would get the opportunity to try and get 5 pucks into the net from the far blue line for half the pot or 6 for the whole pot. Lloyd Fisher was the lucky

name drawn but despite a good effort managed only to get 4 pucks in.

The 50/50 was still unclaimed by the end of the night, but the winner was due to go home with \$622.50.

Shirley Lehouillier was drawn for 4 tickets to an Edmonton Oilers game.

The Timberwolves and the Blues both put on quite a show for the third period with both teams hoping to come out on top. Goalie JR Bussiere's performance was outstanding in the third period as he fend-

ed off shots from all angles. The Blues did manage to sneak one by him however on a breakaway with only 3:07 left to play in the third. Regulation time finished the game with a tie and the two teams headed into overtime.

The puck went up and down the ice numerous times during the overtime but came to a crashing halt with only 0:42 left to play when the Blues put one past Bussiere on a slapshot from the top of the circle ending the game 5-4 for the Blues.

PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

PARTNERS IN FAITH Lutheran/United/ Christchurch Anglican, 137-2nd St. W. Spiritwood Worship 11:00 a.m. Rev. Nora Borgeson	PARTNERS IN WORSHIP Shell Lake - Sun. 10 am (Worship in Lutheran - United Church)	BETHEL Medstead 1st Sunday, 10 am - Worship Pastor David Jensen 3rd Sunday - 10 am Worship Pastor David Jensen
UNITED /ANGLICAN Worship Services Glaslyn Time is on the sign Rev. Kun Kim Rev. Don Skinner	Gideons International of Canada Battlefords Camp Phone Art Martynes (306) 389-4633	EVANGELICAL FREE Mont Nebo Wed., 7:30 pm - Bible Study & Prayer Sun., 10:30 am - Worship Pastor Bill Klumpenhower
PENTECOSTAL Glaslyn Pre-service Prayer Sunday, 10:30 am Sunday Service 11:00 am Kids Club Tuesday 3:30 pm - 5 pm Wednesday Prayer 7 pm - 8 pm Pastor Ruth Phillips	SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST 407 - 2nd Ave .E, Shellbrook Sat., 9:45 am - Sabbath School Sat., 11:00 am - Worship Broadcast on VOAR 92.1 FM Pastor Dan Guiboche 306-930-3377	LAKELAND COMMUNITY CHURCH Spiritwood Sun., 11 am - Worship Service & Sunday School Pastor Gerry Zak
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	MENNONITE BRETHREN Glenbush 10:00 am - Sunday School Worship 10:50 am	BELBUTTE FULL GOSPEL 11 am Worship Service 1st Sun., 7:30 pm - Hymn Sing Pastor Floyd Berg
	FIELDS OF HOPE (HOFFNUNGSFELDER) MENNONITE CHURCH Glenbush Worship - 11:00 am	COWBOY CHURCH Spiritwood Every Wednesday Night 7 pm Spiritwood Legion Hall Pastor Rick Martin

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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Depth gives Canada edge on ice over U.S.

There's a reason Canada is No. 1 when it comes to North American hockey.

Depth.

The United States comes close to matching Canada when comparing the top six forwards, but it's the secondary lines and depth on defence that puts Canada into the driver's seat.

Last week, we put forth the hypothesis that a major international hockey tournament was approaching and 22-player teams from Canada and the U.S. had to be picked. Last week was Canada. This week it's the Americans' turn.

At centre, the U.S. with Auston Matthews and Jack Eichel compares favourably with Canada's best, Connor McDavid and Nathan MacKinnon. But the next two centres for the U.S. — J.T. Miller and rookie Jack Hughes — don't come close.

On the left side, the Americans could boast the quartet of Jake Guentzel, Max Pacioretty, Kyle Connor and Johnny Gaudreau ... not bad, and equal or perhaps superior to the top four Canadians at that position (Marchand, Huberdeau, Perron, Hall).

On the right side, the U.S. would start with superstar

Patrick Kane and then fall off to Brock Boeser, Blake Wheeler and Clayton Keller. (Canada's Scheifele, Stone, Marner and Konecny is a far stronger group.)

Cracking the U.S. squad on defence would be John Carlson, Keith Yandle, Ryan Suter, Seth Jones, rookie Quinn Hughes, Tony DeAngelo and Jacob Trouba, leaving Torey Krug and Kevin Shattenkirk as spare parts.

The American team would be strong in goal, with Connor Hellebuyck, a Vezina Trophy contender this year, probably the No. 1 guy. Backing him up would be Ben Bishop and John Gibson.

These two fictitious North American squads would battle it out in a best-of-seven series with Canada winning in five. Canada's four wins would come from talent, grit, depth and history. The U.S. gets its one victory from flag-waving enthusiasm.

• Ex-USC QB Carson Palmer, to the L.A. Times, on the condition of his 2002 Heisman Trophy: "The base of it is beat up. It looks like it's played in a game, like the Bengals' offensive line has pass-protected for it."

• Dwight Perry of the Se-

attle Times: "Not that football needs another rule or anything, but any player who goes nutso celebrating a first down, a touchdown or a turnover — when his team is trailing by three or more scores — should get flagged 15 yards for stupidity."

• Tottenham coach Jose Mourinho, to reporters, after getting booked by referee Mike Dean during a 1-0 loss to Southampton: "I clearly deserved the yellow card, as I was rude. But I was rude to an idiot."

• Greg Cote of the Miami Herald: "The underperforming Cowboys finally fired coach Jason Garrett. Prominent among the possible replacements being interviewed: Mike McCarthy and Marvin Lewis. Good to see that Jerry Jones be-



BRUCE
PENTON

lieves in recycling."

• Norman Chad of the Washington Post, on Twitter: "Eagles won final four games of regular season — against NFC East teams. That's like winning a 100-yard dash against a snail, a caterpillar and a fire hydrant."

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "Iran launched 20 long-range missiles at two US bases but did not hit any key targets. We're calling it Operation New York Knicks."

• Vancouver radio comedy guy Torben Rolfen: "Sign your team is tanking: When your D gives up a touchdown and gets flagged for an excessive celebration penalty."

• Rolfen again: "What a winter for agent Scott Boras. Every Christmas he celebrates the birthday of Curt Flood."

• You have to know your sports history to understand this crack from blogger Eric Stangel, on Twitter: "I mean, if the Expos can win the damn World Series, why couldn't the Oilers win the Super Bowl?"

• Stangel again: "Looking to fill the vacancy, I'm hearing Josh McDaniels is to meet with the royal family Tuesday."

• Dwight Perry again: "Casey DeSmith just coined a new hockey term: The stay-at-home goaltender. DeSmith, the netminder for the minor-league Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins, missed out on a call-up to join the parent Pittsburgh team in Montreal because he misplaced his passport. You know what they say in puck circles: It pays to fore-check."

• RJ Currie of sportsdeke.com, on Jeanne Calment —

who died at age 122 in 1997 — attributing her longevity to olive oil, port and 'regular smiling': "Oh, well; at least Bill Belichick can buy olive oil and port."

• Mike Hart of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, on the age discrepancy between Seahawks coach Pete Carroll (68) and the Packers' Matt LaFleur (40) on the eve of the teams' recent NFC playoff game: "It is quite possible that LaFleur's parents weren't even going steady when Carroll began coaching."

• Comedy writer Jim Barach, after West Virginia basketball coach Bob Huggins was fined \$10,000 for calling referees 'Three Blind Mice': "Unfortunately for him they weren't also deaf."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

TOWN OF SPIRITWOOD PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Town of Spiritwood intends to adopt bylaws under the *Planning and Development Act, 2007* to amend Bylaw 487/13, known as the Official Community Plan and Bylaw 486/13, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

INTENT

The proposed Official Community Plan amendment will:

- Re-designate from Existing Commercial to Existing Residential, Lots 1 & 2, Block 18, Plan BK4385, as shown within the bold dashed line on Sketch "A" below.

The proposed Zoning Bylaw amendment will:

- Rezone from C1 — Downtown Commercial District to R1 — Low Density Residential District as shown within the bold dashed line on Sketch "A" below.

SKETCH "A"



To be re-designated from existing commercial to existing residential and re-zoned from C1 — Downtown Commercial to R1 — Low Density Residential

REASON

The reason for the amendments is to:

- Facilitate residential development in the Town of Spiritwood.

PUBLIC INSPECTION

Any person may inspect the bylaw at the Town Office, located at 212 Main Street, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM on Monday to Thursday, and 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Friday, excluding statutory holidays. Copies of the bylaw are available at the Town Office at a cost of \$5.

PUBLIC HEARING

Council will hold a public hearing on Feb. 11th at 6:30 PM at the Town Office 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 Town Office before the hearing.

Issued at the Town of Spiritwood this 10th day of January, 2020.

Rhonda Saam, Chief Administrative Officer

What happens when you don't advertise?

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A Guide to Post-Secondary Education

Academic path leads LaFleur from USask around world

By James Shewaga

Jamie LaFleur's road to convocation has featured a few stops and starts and twists and turns, but most importantly, a long list of life-changing experiences.

The 31-year-old University of Saskatchewan (USask) honours student in anthropology from the Lac La Ronge Indian Band graduated with a bachelor's degree at Fall Convocation 2019, and is now working on her next degree—a master's in community health and epidemiology.

A cornucopia of courses and countries—studying geology, kinesiology and anthropology, along with trips to New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Thailand and Ukraine—have helped LaF-

leur find her true calling.

"I was always interested in health and well-being, which is one of the reasons that I wanted to go into kinesiology," said LaFleur. "But I just realized that it was way more fulfilling for me to focus on Indigenous social determinants of health, especially within Saskatchewan."

LaFleur started studying geology at USask in 2006/07, but left school to work full time, later moving to New Zealand where she became a certified personal trainer. She returned to university to take kinesiology, but became fascinated with her elective courses in anthropology, which quickly became her new passion. LaFleur's studies took her to Africa, Asia and Europe as she ex-

perienced new cultures and traditional healing around the world and now speaks six languages: Cree, English, Norwegian, Russian, Thai and Ukrainian.

"I was always interested in health and medical practices globally and being able to experience that just opened my eyes to different modalities that people use to address their health issues," said LaFleur, who earned a USask Indigenous Student Achievement Award for Research in Health Sciences in 2018, after being nominated by one of her first professors on campus, Dr. Ulrich Teucher (PhD) in psychology. "Biomedicine can't do absolutely everything for everyone and just finding a lot of parallels between In-

digenous medicine here and other Indigenous Peoples world-wide, has been really interesting."

It was USask's study abroad program that presented the proverbial passport to the world for LaFleur.

"It's such a valuable experience, especially when you have all the resources that we have here at this university," said LaFleur, whose experiences abroad included getting married in Norway on a bikepacking tour with her husband Morgan in 2016.

"It's something everyone should experience," she added. "You go to any country in the world and you come back to Canada and you realize that there are these same communities that live with-

in Saskatchewan. You learn more about the cultural mosaic, as some people say, and it gives you a better understanding of where you're living in Canada."

In addition to the scholarships that helped fund her study abroad opportunities, LaFleur is grateful for the

supports that are now available for Indigenous students on campus, as well as guidance she received from her professors.

"I don't think that I would be as strong of an academic or as strong of a person, if it wasn't for my professors in anthropology," said LaFleur.



Jamie LaFleur, University of Saskatchewan Student

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A Guide to Post-Secondary Education

Where the wild pigs roam

By University of Saskatchewan

In 2013, Ruth Aschim—along with 99.9 per cent of the population—was unaware wild pigs were roaming rural Canada.

Today, the University of Saskatchewan (USask) doctoral candidate is an expert on the animals, where they thrive and the destruction they can cause. But landing a wildlife research position at a university is no easy task, she explained.

“Wildlife research is expensive; you’re using GPS collars and aerial surveys and things like that. A lot of people are interested in it, so it was hard to find a program that would take me.”

Among the academics

she approached was USask Associate Professor Ryan Brook, whom she’d heard about as an undergrad.

The wild pig problem emerged from livestock producers’ desire to diversify their herds for export markets. The boars proved more difficult to manage than expected. They rooted under and jumped over fences, while producers also simply opened the gates and let them go. Many thought they would not survive in the wild.

They were wrong. And although there are large numbers of them, they’re not easy to find.

“Because we’re looking at a nocturnal species, an elusive species... we couldn’t

use aerial surveys, the conventional wildlife monitoring technique, because we didn’t even know where they were. How were we going to go looking for them?

“I did all my data collection through social science techniques. I spoke with stakeholders and wildlife professionals. I would travel around Saskatchewan going to wildlife-related meetings or events or fundraisers, giving presentations and just talking to people.

“Then I spent three months living out of my vehicle (in summer 2015) and I camped across Western Canada, talking to conservation officers and biologists.”

Results showed that wild pigs are the most wide-

spread in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta; smaller populations exist in B.C., Ontario and Quebec. But despite all the research, it’s still impossible to say how many wild pigs are out there.

But why does establishing the numbers and habitats of wild pigs matter?

“Disease is a huge concern with wild pigs,” Aschim said. “They can be transmitted to domestic livestock, wildlife, and humans.

“Then we have environmental issues, which are huge with wild pigs. One of the main problems is the rooting behaviour; they upturn the soil because they like to eat the roots and tubers of vegetation. It’s essen-

tially like a rototiller went through an area.”

Bare soil is open to weeds, erosion and nutrient cycle disturbance, as well as a loss of biodiversity, she said.

Another concern is water quality. Wild pigs wallow in wetlands, causing bank slumping, erosion, water sedimentation and—because of defecation and urination—algae growth and disease transmission.

Furthermore, one would

not want to surprise a boar. They’re not aggressive unless threatened, but their four sharp tusks—the top tusks sharpen the bottom ones—can slash someone quite seriously.

Considering the many problems created by wild pigs, Aschim is often asked how she feels about her research subjects.

“I don’t like them,” she tells her questioners, “but I respect them.”



Start your degree at Medicine Hat College

By the Medicine Hat College

Dr. Nicoelle Wanner has been going to Medicine Hat College (MHC) for as long as she can remember.

She recalls following big footprints through the hallways when she attended early learning programs as a child, singing with the MHC Girls’ Choir as a teen, and studying in the cafeteria for high school finals. More recently, she goes to the college to work as one of the physicians in the campus medical clinic.

“Medicine Hat College has always been here for me,” says Wanner.

When the time came to start her post-secondary education, the decision was a no brainer.

“I could have moved away to another city or another university, but that was never really high on my priority list. I knew that I could get a very good educa-

tion here with the added logical benefits of cost saving and smaller class sizes,” she explains.

“The college gave me the education and training I needed, in the environment that I needed during that time in my life. I never had to sacrifice anything by staying here.”

After completing two years of university transfer science courses, she went on to finish a Bachelor of Science at the University of Calgary. It was there she had her first real ‘a-ha’ moment about what made a MHC education so special.

“I was sitting in my first big lecture hall with four hundred students and thinking ‘Oh my God, what is happening?’ because that was not what I was used to. At MHC, you just had so much more one-on-one time with your instructors which improved the education

for sure, but quite frankly it improved the fun.”

In addition to the solid education she received at MHC, she also had the opportunity to connect with people and develop relationships – skills that have served her well in her career.

Wanner finished her medical degree at the University of Alberta and returned to Medicine Hat for her residency. With strong roots in the community, she established her medical practice, started her family and began building the life she wanted to have. After 13 years, the busy mom of three closed her practice and moved to the MHC campus clinic, allowing her more time for family activities and non-clinical initiatives.

“The thing I love most about my job is the opportunities it’s given me. My training has allowed me to create the job that I want and give me that independence to really tailor my work,” says Wanner, who is also involved with improving pediatric mental health services in Medicine Hat.

Being back at MHC, Wanner says she has come full circle. “In a way, I see myself in so many of the students that come to see me. I know they just want to get to where they’re going, but I want to tell them to sit back and take their time. Enjoy the ride - you’re going to get there eventually if that’s where you’re meant to be.”

Learn more about the programs that MHC offers at www.mhc.ab.ca/ProgramsandCourses.

Melissa Chinski
BACHELOR OF APPLIED ARTS ALUM

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Photo courtesy of the Medicine Hat College



Saskatchewan Polytechnic launches Bachelor of Applied Management program

Building on their technical expertise and work experience, students in the Bachelor of Applied Management program will develop administration and leadership skills for management positions. The program provides theoretical knowledge and technical training

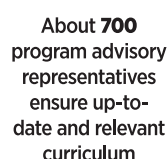


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requirements include completion of a two-year, non-business diploma from a recognized post-secondary institution or completion of a journeyperson

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A Guide to Post-Secondary Education

MHC takes you from classroom to career

By the Medicine Hat College

From roads and buildings to machines and robotics, the Built Environment Engineering Technology (BEET) program at Medicine Hat College (MHC) gives students skills in drafting, engineering and design to create the products and places that move our world forward.

BEET focuses on the core disciplines of the built environment; mechanical, civil, and building. Students in the program learn to research, plan, design, construct and test with considerations for the relationship between the built environment and the natural environment.

Meet Cody Evjen, a Computer Aided Drafting and Design

(now known as BEET) grad for some insight on where the BEET program can take you:

Q: Can you explain what a "day in the life" looks like for you in your occupation?

As the technical documentation supervisor at QinetiQ Target Systems a typical day consists of me working with the technical document staff (technical illustrators, engineering designers and our technical writer) to review drawings and assist with designs. I also do designs of my own, and create technical drawings/publications.

I set aside processes and ensure that those are followed and work closely with the director of engineering in terms of budgeting, estimations, level

of efforts and identifying our expertise and skill areas.

Q: How did your education at MHC help you in your career?

The education I received at MHC helped me build the foundation I needed to be able to branch out into a variety of career paths. From there, once I decided the direction I wanted to pursue, I could build on that foundation.

Q: What path has your career taken since you attended college?

As part of the diploma course I had a two week practicum at QinetiQ and about half way through they offered me a summer position. I worked the summer as a student and from there I was given a full time contract working as a

technical illustrator. After four years, I was promoted to engineering, design and drafting technologist. I became a certified engineering technologist through the Association of Science and Engineering Technology, and from here I was promoted to lead. A couple years later, I got my current role. I have continued to further my education and received the project management professional certification through the Project Management Institute.

Q: What are your future aspirations?

My future aspiration is to get my professional engineering license through the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta

(APEGA). With this I would be a mechanical engineer, with a more defined scope under that specialty.

Q: What do you feel makes the BEET program at MHC special?

You are able to establish a good foundation and understanding in all of the disciplines (i.e. civil and mechanical engineering as well as building design technology) which enables you to pursue a variety of career paths.

If you are creative and curious, with a clear understanding of computers, mathematics, and physics, the BEET program at MHC may be the right fit for you.

Learn more about the program at www.mhc.ab.ca/ProgramsandCourses.

Our government is working with innovative professors and instructors in the development of open textbooks for our Post-Secondary students. This \$1.25 million investment is helping to reduce costs for approximately 70,000 students.

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Nadine Wilson

MLA for Saskatchewan Rivers
saskrivers@sasktel.net

Hon. Jeremy Harrison

MLA for Meadow Lake
jharrisonmla@sasktel.net

Hon. Scott Moe, Premier

MLA for Rosthern-Shellbrook
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OBITUARIES

~

John David Klassen

John David Klassen
February 26, 1946 –
December 27, 2019

It is with sadness that the family of John Klassen announce his passing on December 27, 2019 at the age of 73 years. John was born to Meno and Tena Klassen on February 26, 1946 in Herbert, Sk and grew up on the family farm in Beechy. After graduating from the Beechy High School in 1964 he attended Bethany Bible Institute for three years, then went on to Mennonite Brethren Bible College in Winnipeg, MB. On July 20, 1968 John married Charlotte Lepp in St. Catherines,

Ont. They continued their life together in Winnipeg, where John received a Bachelor of Theology degree in 1972, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Winnipeg in 1973. After University, they moved to the farm in Beechy, where their two children April and Allan were born. Over the next 25 years John farmed with his dad and uncle. During this time he became active in church as a Sunday School teacher, Sunday School Superintendent, church council member, and as church moderator for 7 years. He was also captain of Boys Battalion and occasionally spoke in various churches. In the community, he was active on the Beechy Hospital Board as member and chairman, and also chairman of the Ambulance Board. He served on the Community Pasture Advisory Board for 8 years. Over the years he took courses in calving management, Farm Chemical Safety, Basic Carpentry, Basic Electrical Wiring for

farms, Income Tax Preparation and accounting. Further a field, he served on the MCC Peace and Social Concerns Committee for 6 years, 3 years as chairman. He was actively involved with MCC Swift Current Relief Auction for 13 years, 5 as chairman. His hobbies included reading, puzzles, photography, gardening, assembling miniature models – airplanes, cars and he had a significant HO railroad and John Deer Tractor collections. In 1999 John and Charlotte moved to Medstead where John pastored the Glenbush MB Church until 2008. Charlotte's health deteriorated and after cancer treatments and back surgery she passed away October 18, 2016. John's devotion and care for Charlotte was deep and steady to the end. John was a wonderful husband to his sweet wife of 48 years and loved her immensely. During these years John worked at various jobs in the area: farm work, accounting, Med-

stead Hometown Grocery, Canada post and part time Water Plant Manager where he was a friend to all in the neighbourhood. In June of 2017 he met Dian Southwick, and they were married on November 25, 2017. One month later, John was diagnosed with stage four cancer. This short marriage was one of sweet love and deep devotion. John entered heaven's gates December 27, 2019. More importantly than what he did though was who he was, John was a farmer and his happy place was anywhere out in a field watching what God would develop under his care. He was a teacher in many capacities. He was a leader and excellent example of God's love to those he came in contact with. Though he loved photography, anything to do with numbers, gardening, and working with his hands; when he was asked about his greatest accomplishments it was his children who made his heart full. His love and pride in April, Allan and

his grandson Lake was always evident. He would also want you to know that he loved you all. He was a friend to everyone and maintained fabulous relationships with many people. He was a man of integrity and unwavering love to those around him. His dearest challenge was as a pastor where he taught, prayed for and blessed those who came to learn and listen. He did this with a devotion typical of his whole life. One of his most remarkable characteristics though was his solid and steadfast walk with God. His greatest desire was to share the gospel with all who need it. Like an oak, his roots were deep and he was unwavering in his love for God. This blessed devotion carried him through to the last day of his life. His life was well lived, and it was well with his soul. John will be greatly missed by: his wife, Dian Klassen and her children and grandchildren, his daughter, April (Dean) Steppan, his son, Allan (Joan) Klassen,

his sister, Ivie (Michael) Parker and their children: Matthew and Catherine, numerous other relatives and friends that also share the loss of a loving and truly honourable man. He is predeceased by: his wife of over 40 years, Charlotte Klassen, his parents, Meno and Tena Klassen (nee Guenther). Funeral Services were held Saturday January 11, 2020 from the Medstead Community Hall, Medstead, SK with Pastor Monty Buhler officiating. Interment took place in the Glenbush Mennonite Brethren Cemetery prior to the funeral service. Memorial Donations may be made to Spiritwood and District Long term care Facility, Spiritwood, SK in memory of John Klassen as tokens of remembrance. Those wishing to send online condolences are invited to visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Mark Muir of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home, Spiritwood, Sask. (306) 883-3500.

Abram "Abe" Martens

Abram "Abe" Martens
September 9, 1927 –
January 6, 2020

Abe passed away in the Battlefords Union Hospital, with his family by his side, on Monday, January 6, 2020, at age 92. Abe resided in North Battleford since 1997, but his heart never left the farm near Rabbit Lake. He was a farmer all his life and often talked about breaking the land and how farming practices changed over the years, but knew it was

the only vocation for him. He was a quiet and gentle man who loved his family dearly, was thankful to God for all he had been given, was hardworking and helped wherever he could.

He is survived by his wife Margaret, daughter Cheryl Redekop (David), son Eldon Martens (Laurie), daughter Joyce Fast (Trevor). Grandpa will be greatly missed by his grandchildren Justin Redekop (Ashlyn), Brandon Redekop, Sarah Brotzell (Graham), Mikayla Martens, Shawn Martens, Josh Fast (Karissa Quessy), Marissa Fast; also by great grandchildren Baylor and Calder Redekop, Tiffany and Lincoln Brotzell, and Amelia Prouse. He is predeceased by: His parents, Abram and Anna Martens, his sisters, Judith and Helen, his brother, Henry, his brothers-in-law, Sam Bergen, Art Froese, and Ervin

Friesen, his sister-in-law, Evelyn Martens.

The Funeral Service was held on Saturday, January 11, 2020 in the Rabbit Lake Community Hall with Rev. Don Unger officiating. Private Family Interment followed in the Rabbit Lake Mennonite Church Cemetery. Donations in memory of Abe Martens may be made to Gideon's International in Canada as tokens of remembrance.

The family wishes to thank the nursing staff in Palliative Care at the Battlefords Union Hospital for their compassion and kindness while caring for their Dad. Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home, Mark Muir, Funeral Director, Spiritwood, SK (306-883-3500).

Vivian Martodam

Vivian Martodam
October 10, 1921 –
December 31, 2019

It is with sadness that the family of Vivian Martodam announce her passing on December 31, 2019 at the age of 98 years. A Funeral Service was held Saturday January 4, 2020 from Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, Spiritwood, SK with Rev. David Jensen officiating. Private Family Interment took place in the Spiritwood Cem-

etery. Vivian was truly one of a kind! Endlessly supportive, caring, understanding and loving. She lived for family and had the biggest "fan" club because she was a role model to many generations. Vivian is lovingly remembered by:

her children and grandchildren: Marene Iverson, Gail (Gordon) Ferster, Bob (Roseline) Martodam, Dennis Martodam, Joan Martodam, Karla (Barry) Britton, Bernie (Jim) Coates, Greg (Shawne) Martodam, her grandchildren: Brad (Cathy) Iverson, Marnie Permann, Cari (Robert) Cross, Nadean (Dave) Crooks, Tanya (Cory) Jacobson, Richelle (Darren) Rothecker, Colin (Alison) Martodam, Kyle (Thora) Martodam, Brigitte Martodam (Bert), Cory Britton, Adria Britton, Ryan Coates, and Karly Coates (Dan), her great-grand-

children: Paige, Regan, Zevan, Lauren, Ashley, Alex, Ben, Kyler, Teneille, Mitchell, Kaitlyn, Hanna, Eric, Megan, Mallori, Chloe, Lydia, and Lucas

her sister, Shirley (Howard) Walrod, numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. She is predeceased by: her husband, Leonard (May 22, 1998), her son, Bill (March 3, 2015), her son-in-law, Larry Iverson (June 8, 2014). Memorial Donations may be made to Spiritwood and District Long Term Care Facility, Spiritwood, SK in memory of Vivian Martodam as tokens of remembrance. Those wishing to send online condolences are invited to visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Mark Muir of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home, Spiritwood, Sask. (306) 883-3500

OBITUARIES

~

Sharon Painchaud

PAINCHAUD, Sharon
(nee Walker)

January 29, 1946 –
January 14, 2020

Sharon will be greatly missed by her loving husband and caregiver of 55 years, Albert Painchaud. She is survived by her daughter Bridget Osika and her children Joely, Abby and Robyn Osika; son Brian (Bonnie Fitzpatrick) Painchaud and their children Danielle (Brendan) Osatiuk and their daughter Harper Osatiuk; Kyle (Aurora Donaldson) Painchaud, Kristen Piecowye, Kayleigh Painchaud, Stefanie (Fraser) Williams; son Brent Painchaud and his children Mitchell, Braydon and Rachel; Sharon's siblings Guernsey (Linda) Walker, Pat Elder, Mona Chalifour; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law Wanda Walker,

Therese Boutin, Lea (Dave) Oliver, Lou (Linda) Painchaud, Irene (Rick) Peerenboom, Muriel Painchaud; as well as many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and special friends. Sharon was predeceased by her parents Charles and Jessie Walker; in-laws Alfred and Alice Painchaud; brother Gary Walker; brother-in-law Lloyd Elder and sister-in-law Aline Smith and her partner Richard Hiebert. Sharon will be missed by her favourite companion, her dog Finnegan. Sharon grew up on the family farm near Ranger, SK. She attended school in Ranger, Spiritwood and Leoville. She later completed a diploma at Saskatoon Business College and returned later to upgrade her computer training. She worked in a bakery, sewing factory, SaskPower as a meter reader and in the office. She worked as a book keeper, real estate agent and various office jobs. She was a co-owner at Blinds Plus and cherished her time working at Telemiracle. Sharon loved to read and sew. She enjoyed camping, boating and loved swimming. She enjoyed travelling and

had many memorable journeys with Albert, friends and to many Dance and Baton competitions with her granddaughters. Albert and Sharon moved to Australia in 1991 for almost 3 years, but missing her new grandchildren brought her back. She loved to dance and kick up her heels as Albert led her around the dance floor. She loved spending time with her family and visiting with friends. We are saddened by the struggle of Alzheimer's that Sharon had to endure. We are grateful for the support of family and friends that have helped us through this journey. Memorial Donations may be made to Kinsmen Telemiracle (<https://telemiracle.com/>). A Celebration of Sharon's Life was held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, January 20, 2020 at Windsor Chapel (704 Winsor St.) in Saskatoon. To view the service, you may go to www.windsorchapel-saskatoon.ca. A Private Family Interment will be held at a later date. Arrangements in care of Chelsea Krentz – Mourning Glory Funeral Services (306) 978-5200 www.mourningglory.ca

Hilda Proulx-Muloin

Hilda Proulx-Muloin
January 28, 1957 –
January 3, 2020

It is with great sadness that the family of Hilda Helene Proulx-Muloin, beloved wife of Larry

Muloin, announce her passing on January 3, 2020 at the age of 62 years in Shellbrook, SK. Hilda will always be cherished by: her loving husband, Larry; her sisters and brothers and their families: Verna Creed, Doris Pitceathly, Lorraine (Lavern) Pitceathly, Raymond (Lynn) Proulx, Leon (Sakhon) Proulx; her sister-in-law, Madeline Muloin; her brother-in-law, Bert Stoller; her aunts, Gertie Pratt and Bertha Skye; her uncle, Mervin Fraser; and numerous cousins and friends. She is predeceased by her par-

ents, Andrew and Edith Proulx, her son, Larry Proulx, her parents-in-law, Joseph and Cecile Muloin, her sisters-in-law, Eva Dionne, Lucille James, Lorraine Stoller, and Sylvia Muloin, her brothers-in-law, Doug Pitceathly, Richard Creed, Bob James, Ben Stoller, Joseph Muloin, and Oliver Muloin, numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. Funeral Mass was celebrated on Friday, January 10, 2020, at Notre Dame des Victoire Roman Catholic Church, Victoire, SK. with Fr. Michael Fahlman as Celebrant. Music Director



PITCEATHLY – Vera Ann

1929 - 2019

It is with sadness that the family of Vera Ann Pitceathly announces her passing on December 11th, 2019 in Kamloops BC. Vera is survived by her children Lavern (Lorraine) Pitceathly of Surrey BC and their two children Allen (Leanne) Pitceathly and his son Dyson; Alleana (Bruce) Tyler of Kamloops BC; Sandra (Garry) Richet of Kamloops BC and children Shawn (Dina) Bodger and their children Chase and Hannah, Cory (Monica) Bodger and Corinna of South Surrey BC, Mervin (Lori) Pitceathly and children Lindsay Aylen children Colby, Riley and Avery; Tamsyn (Michael) Angelini and children Gabriel, Raphael, Casiel; Alex (Ashley) Pitceathly children Mackenzie, Alexander and Octavia; Sharon (Don) Rudichuk of Kelowna BC children Tracy Rose child Tyler Sleva of Winnipeg Manitoba; Chad (Christine) Rose of Aldergrove BC children Courtney, Stephanie,

was Gilles Francoeur. Cross Bearer was Alleana Tyler, Hilda's goddaughter. Eulogists were Lorraine Pitceathly and Verna Creed. Readers were Shawna James and Bobby Corrigan. Honorary Pallbearers were "All her nieces, nephews, relatives and special friends." Pallbearers were Norman Shynkaruk, Allen Pitceathly, Shaun Vaagen, Derrick

Vera Ann Pitceathly

Alysha, Jacob and Olivia; Amanda Connors of Vernon BC children Jordan, Chelan and Kylie; Judy (Stan) Mayo children Jim, Lisa (Brad) Rose children Coleby and Tenille all of Shell Lake SK; Colleen (deceased) children Melissa Dell (Justin) of Merritt BC, Christopher Of Surrey BC; Lisa (Dave) McDonald of Kaleden BC children Hailey and Tony of Surrey BC Sisters and Brothers; Fern (Henry deceased) Chaykowski of Spiritwood; Jack (Jean) Howard of Flin Flon, Man; Betty (Roman) Sawicki of Humboldt SK; Norma (Noel) Pell of Lacombe Alberta; Leslie (Audrey) Howard of Humboldt SK as well as numerous nieces and nephews and other relatives. Vera was predeceased by her parents Lucille and Norman Howard, husband Alexander Pitceathly, son Allen Pitceathly, daughter Colleen Dell, brother Gordon Howard, sister Marie Monz. Vera Ann (Howard) Pitceathly was born July 5th 1929 in Mildred SK. To Norman and Lucille Howard one of eight children. She married Alexander (Sandy) Pitceathly February 4th 1947 had eight children and lived in Mildred. Vera full time job was raising her children, grandchildren and any other child that needed care. Our Mother loved her children and was proud of each and everyone of us. And it

could not have been easy raising 7 children. Our Mother made many sacrifices for her family and times were hard but we never heard her complain. She was a wonderful Grandmother and a great grandmother to so many. At the end of the day, what she did with her life was no small thing. She cultivated a beautiful and strong family. Maybe there were things she didn't remember but at the end it didn't matter, she loved us all equally, she never played favourites and she never spoke badly about any of her family. Our Mother loved to sing and she sang her way into Heaven. The last years she spent in a Care Home, the staff and our mother's caregivers including our Sister Sandy who spent countless hours with our Mother right til the end and to all those special staff that would talk to us about her kindness, humility and dignity. Our lasting memories of Mom are simple: a hard-working, passionate figure of strength who never waned in her support or love of her family. And who soldiered on, even though times were tough. So it is with heavy hearts and tears in our eyes that we lay her down to rest and say our last goodbye. Cremation has been entrusted to Drake Cremation & Funeral Services LTD, 210 Landsdowne street Kamloops BC. Celebration of life will be held at a later date.

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James, Brian Pitceathly and Tom Corrigan. Hilda was laid to rest in the Victoire Cemetery. The Victoire Church Community provided an excellent lunch afterward. Donations in Hilda's memory may be made to Saskatoon's Jim Pattison Children's Hospital Foundation. Online condolences may be sent through www.beaulacfuneralhome.com.

OBITUARY

~

Norma Sherman



Norma Gustina Ellen Sherman was born in Lloydminster, SK on May 27, 1943 and passed away on Jan 9, 2020 at the North Battleford Union Hospital.

She is survived by her Husband Gordon of Rabbit Lake, SK.

- Son Barry(Sylvia) Sherman from Lloydminster, AB and their children, Mellissa (Kyle) Rowland of Lloydminster AB, Megan (Colson) Brown; Eli and Max, of Lloydminster, SK, Monte (Mandy Stone) of Lloydminster, SK.

- Daughter Rhonda (Steven Prescesky) of North Battleford, SK. Darley (Shelby) of

Warman, SK, Jarett (Sarah) of Martinsville, SK. Tristin (Bailey) of Rosetown, SK.

- Brother Lyle(Deb) Oliver, of Saskatoon, SK, Sister Mary Lou Haugen(Joe Orosz), of Spiritwood, SK Sister-in-law Wanda Oliver, of Hillmond, SK, Sister-in-law Jean Sherman of Maymont, SK. Several Nieces, Nephews and Great nieces and Nephews.

She was predeceased by Father and Mother Jim and Mary Oliver, brother Ronald Oliver, Father and Mother in-law Rudolph and Muriel Sherman and Brother-in-law Everett Sherman. She was born to Mary Kunstz (nee Perner) and the late Gustav Kunstz, raised in Lloydminster by her widowed Mother and Granny. At the age of 5 her mother married James Mitchell Oliver and moved to the farm at Hillmond.

Norma met Gordon Sherman in 1961 and they married in 1963. Barry was born in 1964 and they moved to Mull-

ingar in 1965 and Rhonda was born soon after that same year. They spent the next 50+ years in that community. She was first and foremost a farmer's wife. She started working at the Rose Gill Hospital in 1975 and retired in 1996. She had a brain aneurysm in 1996 and had a successful recovery. She worked as a commissionaire at the Spiritwood RCMP detachment for 3 years. She volunteered on many committees throughout her life at Mullingar and Rabbit Lake and received the Saskatchewan Volunteer award. She enjoyed history, sewing, knitting, crocheting, cross-stitching, the wild life and watching the hummingbirds out of the kitchen window. The last 15 years she enjoyed quilting and made a quilt for each of her grandchildren. Norma was infinitely proud of her children, grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren. Barry and Rhonda are a jack of all trades, they

are able to do anything they turn their hands too. They have provided Norma and Gordon with a Daughter-in-law and Son-in-law that she thought the world of as well as her 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. But the apple of her eye and the love of her life was always Gordon. He was her first love, only husband and her soul mate. Norma was the proverbial "Mother". She was many things to many people: friend, confidant, wise-woman, teacher, mentor, Granny and wife. She will be missed by many people all around the world, as her cousins in Germany were very saddened to hear of her passing. We, the Family would like to

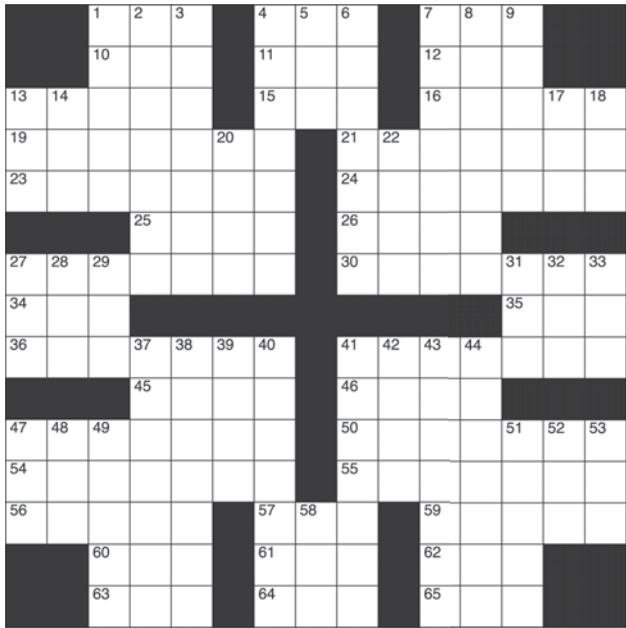
thank Mark and Staff at the Beau Lac Funeral Home for their expertise; to Pastor Don Unger and Dolores Beaulac for Officiating; to Cornie and Marlene Martens for the music; to Ken Rodgers for reading the Eulogy; to "Otis" for the beautiful and memorable slide show; to the Old Mill Players for providing, making and serving the luncheon; to the Tent Guys from Lloydminster for providing the sound system for the slide show and recorded music. To Doug and Peg Haryung for looking after the farm through all of this. To all our friends, families and neighbors- we thank you all for your support. It's greatly appreciated. Gordon Sher-

man, Barry and Sylvia Sherman & Families, Rhonda and Steven Prescesky & Families.

The Funeral Service was held Friday January 17, 2020 from the Rabbit Lake Community Hall, Rabbit Lake, SK. Donations in memory of Norma Sherman may be made to Rose Gill Lodge, Rabbit Lake, SK or to the Rabbit Lake Museum as tokens of remembrance. Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit www.beauacfuneral-home.com. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home, Mark Muir, Funeral Director, Spiritwood, SK (306-883-3500).

CROSSWORD

- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Public broadcaster
 - 4. Hit lightly
 - 7. Keyboard key
 - 10. Grain
 - 11. Make a mistake
 - 12. To the ___ degree
 - 13. Endure without complaint
 - 15. Chinese-American actress Ling
 - 16. Edible stomach lining
 - 19. Sunrooms
 - 21. Feared
 - 23. Most eager
 - 24. Excessive chatting session
 - 25. MLB ace
 - 26. Major Central European river
 - 27. Muscular weaknesses
 - 30. Where seedlings germinate
 - 34. Former monetary unit of the EU
 - 35. Personal ads abbreviation
 - 36. Mythical animal
 - 41. Members of Orthodox Jewish sect
 - 45. German city
 - 46. Algerian coastal city



- 47. Military men
- 50. Salt of sulfuric acid
- 54. Rhododendrons
- 55. Mixture
- 56. Recommended quantities
- 57. 007's creator
- 59. Men
- 60. Kids need it
- 61. Midway between east and east-northeast
- 62. OJ trial judge
- 63. Yes vote
- 64. USDA branch that manages the FCIC
- 65. Create with cloth

- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. English seaport
 - 2. What's owed
 - 3. Sound systems
 - 4. Elections feature them
 - 5. Southern constellation
 - 6. London and Brooklyn are two
 - 7. One-time Ugandan capital
 - 8. Attacked with bombs
 - 9. Rebuke
 - 13. Expression of disappointment
 - 14. A way to work the soil
 - 17. The human foot
 - 18. Sun up in New York

- 20. A small island
- 22. Abnormal rattling sound
- 27. Make lively
- 28. A team's best pitcher
- 29. It goes on the floor
- 31. Not good
- 32. Peyton's little brother
- 33. Barrier that holds back water
- 37. Move quickly
- 38. Deteriorate with age
- 39. Colorless crystalline compound
- 40. Cheekier
- 41. Expresses praise or joy
- 42. Famed boxing promoter
- 43. Cured sausages
- 44. Fill with air or gas
- 47. Angry
- 48. Chemistry prefix
- 49. Practitioner of Jamaican religion
- 51. Softly bright or radiant
- 52. Buffer solution used to separate nucleic acids
- 53. First responder group
- 58. Defensive nuclear weapon

Answers on page 18

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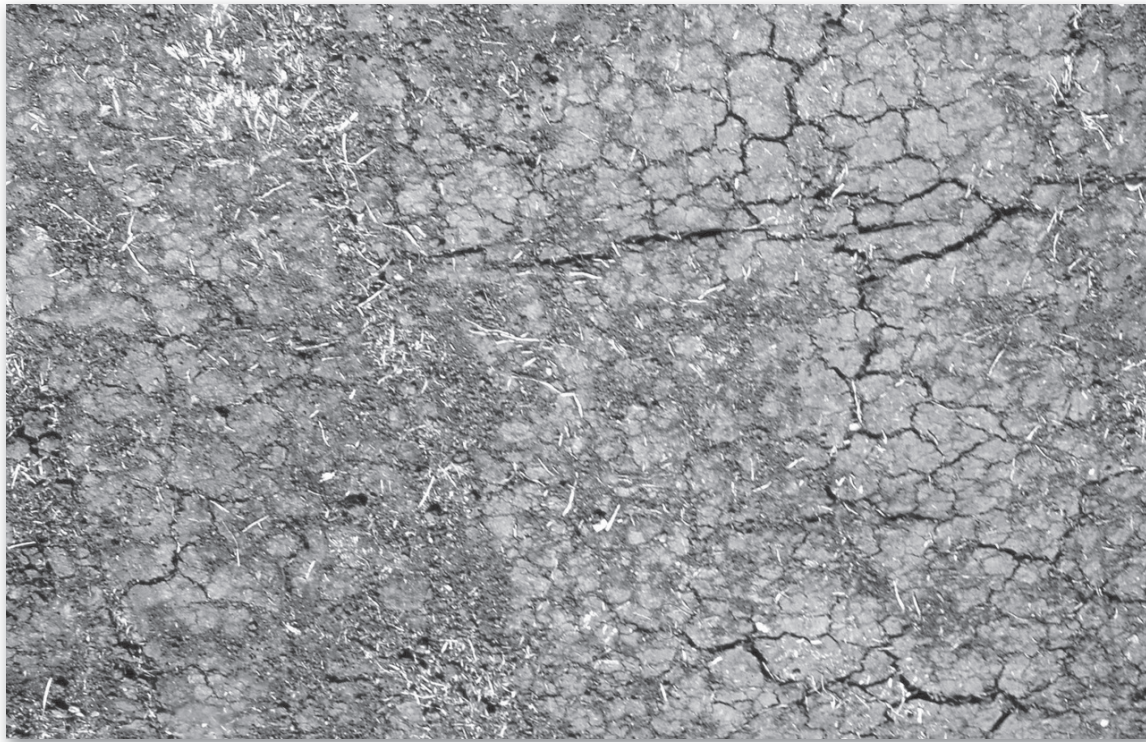
The dirt on soil (Part I)

By Sara Williams

Although generally considered a dry topic, understanding our soil is essential to good gardening. A relatively thin crust on the earth's surface, soil is the medium in which our plants grow. Soil water is used for their biochemical reactions and cooling system. It allows them to stand erect and provides the nutrients they need for growth. As well, soil is a habitat for the microorganisms that determine nutrient availability.

It looks and often feels solid, but only 45 to 50% of a healthy soil is made of solid materials – rock particles broken down into very small pieces by wind, water and other forces. The remainder is pore space that is filled with some proportion of air and water. The air provides essential oxygen – needed by all plant cells including those in the roots. When soils are waterlogged or poorly drained, these cells lack oxygen and plants often die.

About 5% of our soils is composed of organic matter – material that was or is alive. In the Canadian prairies, this is usually decayed vegetation originating from the roots of the perennial grasses that once dominated the landscape. It also consists of the millions of microorganisms some of which are essential to plant health. As gardeners, we can augment the organic matter in our soils with compost, well-rotted manure, alfalfa pellets or peat moss. Organic matter prevents compaction by maintaining the pore structure (the space be-



Heavy clay soil. Photo credit: Sara Williams

tween the solid particles) of the soil, improves its workability or tilth, and allows it to absorb and hold water and nutrients.

Soil Texture

Soil texture is the relative proportion of sand, silt and clay that make up the solid mineral portion of soil. The ideal soil is a loam – one in which there are equal proportions of sand, silt and clay. The term “loam” has nothing to do with organic matter. It refers to the particle size of the solid portion of the soil.

Sand has the largest particles (0.05 to 2.0 mm in diameter). They are visible to the naked eye and feel gritty when wetted. Sandy soil has a low moisture and nutrient holding capacity, which means you'll have to

water and fertilize it more often, and it's more vulnerable to wind and water erosion. On the positive side, it's well drained and warms up quickly in the spring.

Silt particles are irregular in shape, intermediate in size (0.002 to 0.05 mm in diameter), visible only under a microscope, and feel smooth and slippery once wetted.

Clay has the smallest particle size (less than 0.002 mm in diameter), visible only under an electron microscope. It feels sticky when wetted. Clay soils are slow to warm up in the spring, often poorly drained, and can be difficult to work: gummy if too wet and like concrete if too dry. They expand

ten.

If your soil is predominantly sand, add generous amounts of organic material. If it is predominantly clay, add equal volumes of coarse sand and organic material. Adding sand alone to clay will result in a soil much like concrete.

Always thoroughly incorporate amendments into the existing soil. A gradation of organic matter should exist from the soil surface to the subsoil below. Layering will impede both water percolation and root penetration, leading to shallow root development.

Next: Improving Soils!

Sara Williams is the author of Creating the Prairie Xeriscape and with Bob Bors, Growing Fruit in Northern Gardens. She gives workshops on 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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This newspaper accepts advertisements in good faith. We advise that it is in your interest to investigate offers personally. Publications by this paper should not be taken as an endorsement of the product or services offered.

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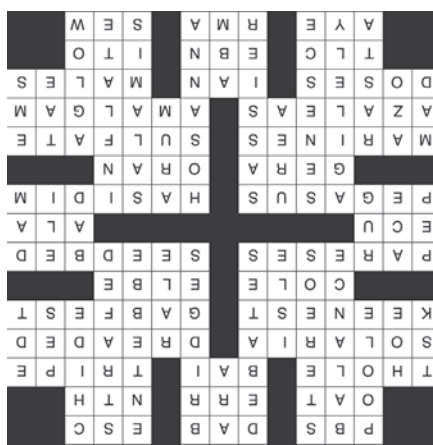
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FEED FOR SALE - Oats & barley green feed bales, 5¢/lb., dry, no rain. Can assist with trucking. Shellbrook area. 306-714-7979. 3-06CH

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The family of Vivian Martodam wish to express our gratitude for all tributes and for the written and verbal expressions of sympathy in our time of bereavement. 1-04H

Crossword answers



Classifieds Work!

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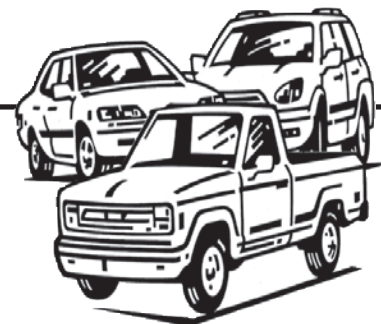
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Spiritwood Herald

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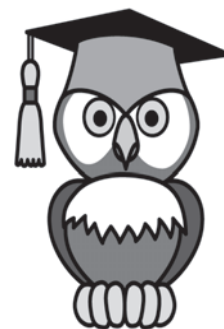
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“When recycling make sure your newspapers are not bagged. It will save recycling facilities time.”



Support Recycling
It is up to all of us!

Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association
and their Community Newspaper Members

RECYCLING tip

Plastic Bags & Newspapers

Don't Mix

This program may not be available in all communities.

Five minor hockey games kept the rink busy for Hockey Day in Spiritwood

A big day of hockey kicked off with a visit from Premier Scott Moe, who stopped in for the pancake breakfast and puck drop for the Novice game against Medstead. He hung around long enough to work the gate for the Bantam game against St. Walburg for the first period. The Pee wee 1 team hosted Meadow Lake next, followed by the Initiation teams facing off. Minor

hockey games wrapped up with the Pee wee 1 and Atom teams mixing up and playing a fun exhibition game.

All the minor hockey players were out at the rink with smiles on their faces, either enjoying the activities throughout the day or helping out with the running of those activities. They all played hard and helped make the day a huge success.



Novice teams from Spiritwood and Medstead gave it their all for the first minor league game of the day.



Premier Scott Moe helped work the door for the Bantam game.

Confidence is key when hitting the roads this winter

(NC) Whether we like it or not, the cold weather is here, which likely means over-eating during the holidays, bundling up and, inevitably, harsher winter road conditions. To ensure you make the best of the season's extreme and unpredictable road conditions, here we distinguish fact from fiction when it comes to the biggest winter driving myths.

First and foremost, it's essential to equip your car with four high-quality winter tires. Contrary to common belief, all-season tires are not up to handling severe winter conditions of heavy ice or snow. Once the temperature consistently approaches freezing, winter tires are encouraged in all provinces in Canada and mandatory in Quebec by December 1st.

"Third-party testing for snow braking showed that a Michelin winter tire stops on average 35 per cent shorter than the average of several of our all-season tires," says Farrell Scott, technical mar-

keting manager at Michelin. "The rubber compound found in some of our winter tires like the X-ICE Xi3 provide the added grip, traction and flexibility needed when it comes to tackling snow and ice."

Another common myth is that four-wheel-drive vehicles are safer, which is incorrect. Four-wheel-drive does provide optimized power transmission delivery, but minimal assistance in transverse handling and braking situations. With winter tires, you can feel optimized levels of traction during all maneuvers including acceleration, braking, and handling.

While winter tires are built with safety in mind, drivers must also prepare for the unexpected by getting ahead of seasonal road changes, making sure winter tires are in perfect condition and ensuring never to mix new and used tires with varying wear and tread depth, which can significantly impact the stability and performance of both tires and vehicle.

BILL 194 MAKES LOCAL GOVERNMENT LESS OPEN

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

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

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

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

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

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

BE INFORMED. BE HEARD. BE PART OF THE PROCESS

Call, write or visit your MLA to let them know you deserve PUBLIC NOTICE not just public access.

Or contact the sponsoring minister Hon. Lori Carr, Ministry of Government Relations

Phone: (306) 787-6100 or Email: minister.gr@gov.sk.ca

Mailing address: Room 30, Legislative Building, 2405 Legislative Drive, Regina, SK, S4S 0B3

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

