



## Big River garden builds stronger community

It was 2017.

Members of the Big River Multiple 4H Club were taking part in 4H Saskatchewan's Journey 2050 program, which prompted them to think about the future and the challenges of feeding a growing global population.

Eventually, all those thoughts coalesced into a single idea that would both meet this challenge, and allow the club to adhere to its mandate to give back to others: a community garden that would be open to everyone, rather allowing people to rent or own their own plots like other community gardens.

In April of 2017, the Big River 4H presented its idea to the Town of Big River, which got behind the notion in a big way.

"It started there," said Niki Panter, who oversees the garden's Facebook group, Green 4 Big River. "They loved the idea, and they donated a lot for us to start on. That was the biggest step to get it going."

Panter adds that the garden is based on the simple notion of doing a small favour in return for a small favour.

"The 4H club runs it and oversees everything there, but we get everyone involved," she said. "If you want to receive produce from it, we ask for help to weed the garden, water, and make sure everything is good there."

Three years in, Panter says the community of Big River is loving the garden and showing plenty of support for the initiative. She also feels like it's achieving its goals of building a sense of community within the town, and getting everybody involved.

This, she adds, is especially true for local seniors.

"We made it to accommo-



The community garden in Big River offers no shortage of variety when it comes to produce.

date them, with raised garden beds that are waist high. It made it really convenient," she said.

"We wanted something to help the community and get everybody involved. And it does. It brings children out. It brings the seniors out. It keeps us like a family."

This year, despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the community garden is actually bigger than ever, thanks to funding the garden received through Lake Country Co-

op's Fuel Good Days initiative.

That funding allowed for the construction of more garden beds, and even a little 4H sign for the garden. It also greatly increased the variety of produce on offer.

"We were able to go from minimal stuff, to having potatoes, peas, carrots, beans, lettuce, kale, squash, beets, radishes, cauliflower, broccoli, cabbage, peppers, pumpkins, spinach, cucumbers, and herbs. The list is just endless,

which is really awesome."

Beyond the support of the Town of Big River and Lake Country Co-op, Panter says the garden has also been fortunate to receive help from Clearwater Greenhouses, which donated vegetables to this year's crop.

The Highway 55 Football team also pitched in, building a shed for the garden, and students who came to the community via an exchange program in 2019 helped with the residing and painting of

the shed.

Going forward, Panter says she hopes the community will keep the garden going, even after the 4H kids grow up and move on.

"We do appreciate everything from the community. We'd like to thank everybody who has ever helped and continues to help," she said.

"That's the most that we ask for, is just to support each other and keep doing this. It makes our community stronger."

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# Medstead holds BBQ for Crohn's and Colitis



Around 95 people attended a fundraiser BBQ on July 9, 2020 at Medstead Hometown Grocery. Organized by Barry Starling, the BBQ raised over \$1,400 for Crohn's and Colitis support. Photos by Cheyenne Orange.

## Tyler Helm launches debut novel *Sustainability*

For Tyler Helm, who recently self-published his debut novel, *Sustainability*, becoming an author was a matter of all the stars aligning perfectly.

Though he says he's always enjoyed reading, and that events always play out in his mind in story form, he concedes that he thought about writing a book but never really found the time to write.

"I guess everybody says they're busy, but I was busy because we farmed,

and our son was pretty young, and my wife was pretty busy with her work, and I worked at the federal penitentiary," he said. "So in off-time [I'd] read a book here or there, or watch movies, and I never really gave it a whole lot of thought."

Though Helm continues to work at the penitentiary, he and the family have retired from farming, his wife just recently retired, and his son now has his driver's license. That all freed up some time for

him, and left him searching for something to do for a challenge.

It didn't take too long for him to settle on writing a book. And, about a year ago, he got down to writing *Sustainability*.

"It's a good thing to keep your mind creative, so I thought I'd give it a try," he said. "I started writing, and it led to page after page. When I was a bunch of pages in, I started looking into how long books are because I'd never looked at word count before."

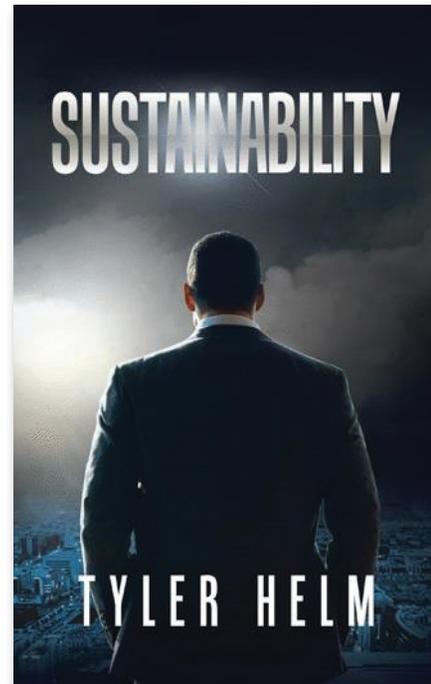
Helm's research informed him that the average book is about 90,000 words. And, after consulting his hand-written work in progress, Helm discovered he'd penned between 40,000 and 50,000 words.

"I was talking with my wife and she said, 'Well you're that far now, so you might as well keep going,'" he said. "Once you get a little support, it helps trigger you on."

After finishing his first draft, Helm admits he wasn't sure if *Sustainability* was any good. But after receiving positive feedback from family members, he began looking into options for publishing the book.

His research led him down the path of self-publishing, and to the company iUniverse, which provides a suite of services for the authors it chooses to work with.

"They take your book, review it, and then decide



Cobbled together from Helm's life experiences, and his interests in science fiction, sustainable development, James Bond-style gadgetry, and international travel, and inspired by Dan Brown's popular thrillers, *Sustainability* is a fictional take on the ongoing debate around oil and renewable energy.

The book follows the struggle between billionaire entrepreneur and investment savant, Jim Dunsmuir, and

whether they'd support it with their company," Helm said of the process, adding that *Sustainability* was eventually accepted by the company.

This, of course, was just the beginning of the journey to getting published.

"We went through the review process with them a few times. There's an editing process, and helping you design what the book looks like, including everything from the size of the font, to the cover page, to who you want to dedicate it to," Helm explained.

"After that, there's a marketing plan, where they do some advertising for you and put it on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and their own iUniverse website."

ex-oil magnate, George Anderson, as the two men compete — in sometimes less than legal ways — for a contract to provide a renewable electricity source for a new city in Saudi Arabia.

"Some of the comments I've gotten from people who have read it is sort of along that Dan Brown sort of genre," Helm said. "It's an action adventure. It's very detailed in description just to try to paint the scene."

Currently, *Sustainability*, is available in paperback via Amazon, Barnes and Noble and iUniverse's bookstore.

However, Helm says an ebook version will be available soon for those who prefer the digital format.

### Bylaw to Repeal Designation as Municipal Heritage Property

#### R.M. of Leask No. 464

Notice is hereby given that not less than thirty days from the date of service of this notice, the Council of the Rural Municipality of Leask No. 464 intends to pass a bylaw pursuant to the provisions of *The Heritage Property Act*, to repeal the Municipal Heritage Property designation of the following real property known as: St. Mary's Church, legally described as SW 20-47-03 W3 Blk E Plan 101475806 Ext 24 and located at: SW 20-47-03 W3 Blk E Plan 101475806 Ext 24.

The property was originally designated as Municipal Heritage Property by Bylaw No. 3/83 read a third time and passed on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1983.

The reasons for the proposed repeal are as follows:

1. Request from the Committee looking after St. Mary's Church.
2. Church is dilapidated beyond repair.
3. No finances to rebuild.

Any person wishing to object to the proposed repeal must serve council with a written objection stating the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts not less than three days prior to consideration of the repealing bylaw.

Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2020.

Judy Douglas – Chief Administrative Officer



Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

**INVITATION TO SUBMIT AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST AS TO THE AVAILABILITY OF SPACE FOR LEASE IN SPIRITWOOD, SASKATCHEWAN**  
FILE NUMBER: 81001817

Public Works and Government Services Canada is asking interested parties to submit a response by August 13, 2020, with respect to providing office space for lease in buildings in Spiritwood, for a term of five (5) years commencing on or about September 1, 2023.

To respond to this invitation and to view the complete text of the request, please log on to [www.buyandsell.gc.ca/goods-and-services/leasing-of-real-property](http://www.buyandsell.gc.ca/goods-and-services/leasing-of-real-property) or contact Candace Joudrey at (431) 777-5041 or by email at [candace.joudrey@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca](mailto:candace.joudrey@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca).



# Children's Festival of Sask. goes digital

Sometimes things don't work out quite as you'd imagined they would.

And sometimes that's for the best. That's all Darcie Young, general manager of the Nutrien Children's Festival of Saskatchewan, can hope for, as the event prepares to launch for its 32nd year in the new physically-distanced reality created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Typically, for four days at the end of May or the beginning of June, Kinsmen Park in Saskatoon would be filled with about 10,000 kids, parents, grandparents, caregivers, and classrooms, all there to take part in Saskatchewan's only arts festival for children.

Through the four days, they'd get to watch performances by notable names on the festival's two main stages, take part in activities and popular programming like Fossil Find (a large phosphate pit where kids can dig for fossils), and interact with performers and each other.

"The goal is an understanding of themselves, and the larger community they're part of and how to give back and work together," Young said. "We push towards those goals through the arts. It could be performing arts, circus arts, music, and we're incorporating a bit of science and physical activity into that as well."

At the start of 2020, Young and her fellow organizers began putting together the festival line-up with these

goals in mind. But the arrival of COVID-19 forced them to begin rethinking their plans in March.

Initially, the thought was to push the festival back to September. But, as the pandemic wore on, Young says it became clear that it wouldn't be worth the risk to host the festival in person.

That left Young and her fellow organizers with a tough decision to make.

"We decided we could cancel completely, or we could follow through with a new type of programming where children probably need it more than ever," she said. "There's all this insecurity. If we can follow through with something to give the children a reprieve when they need it the most, why wouldn't we?"

Bearing in mind the current economic situation, the festival organizers arrived at the decision to provide a month's worth of free festival programming online, to give kids something to do while they're still out of school.

Every weekday in August, the festival will feature two performances or workshops per day via its Youtube channel and website. All of the festival programming will remain online throughout August, so that more children will be able to access it.

As for what that programming will include, Young says the goal was to recreate the festival feeling.

"It really runs the spectrum," she said. "We tried to take what we'd do in an ideal setting, in the festival park, and transfer that to online."

In keeping with that idea, musical acts from all over the world, including Fred Penner, Splash 'N Boots, Koo Koo Kanga Roo, and The Beat Buds will be performing. The festival will also include theatrical presentations, read-alongs and read-



Though there won't be any huge in-person crowds for the 2020 festival, there will still be plenty of performances to take in online.

alouds, cooking classes for kids, circus arts, science, and arts and crafts.

For those who aren't able to access the festival on the internet, Young says the festival will be sending out 2,000 "swag bags." Many of those will be given out to at risk children by non-profit organizations from across the province, but the general public is also invited to register to receive them.

"If you don't have access to a computer, you should not feel like you're left out. We want to include as many children as possible"

As its name suggests, the Nutrien Children's Festival of Saskatchewan is sponsored by Nutrien. Other key supporters over the years have been Canadian Heritage, SaskArts, and the City of Saskatoon, to name just a few.

Young says these sponsors, and others who have already signed on for 2021, deserve a lot of credit for making the festival possible.

"They've really gone to bat for us throughout many years. We're very grateful for their continued support."

With the festival just

around the corner, Young says she hopes people who take part will share their feedback on the festival's Facebook and Instagram pages, as well as photos of their children taking part.

She adds that the organizers are certainly open to any feedback.

"We would be thrilled if people are able to tune in. I really hope the kids get something from this."

The Nutrien Children's Festival of Saskatchewan runs Aug. 4 to 31. For more information, visit <https://nutrienchildrensfestival.com/>



Children will be able to see up to 2 performances every weekday throughout August.

## Correction

In the July 23 edition of the Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald, a story regarding grant funding received by the Shellbrook Volunteer Fire Department incorrectly identified Kerry Wendel as Fire Chief. In fact, Darwin Baptist is Fire Chief, while Kerry Wendel and Larry Bergen are Deputy Chiefs. The Shellbrook Chronicle apologizes for this error, and for any confusion it may have caused.

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## Missing: Courtney Jennelle Struble

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FROM: Estevan, SK Height: 5' 3"  
Weight: 125 Lbs. Hair: Brown  
Eyes: Hazel File: 3137 V

PARTICULARS: Last seen at 1:00 am on 9 July, 2004. When last seen, she was wearing a grey bunnyhug, orange shirt and blue jeans. Courtney has a birthmark on the nape of her neck and a 1 1/2 inch scar on her left shin.

Anyone With Information, Please Contact Local Police or Child Find at 1.800.513.3463 or 306.955.0070 All Calls are Confidential You do not have to leave your name.



A Missing Person is Everybody's Responsibility



## Team Trudeau keeps cracking at the seams

When Justin Trudeau was anointed as leader of the Liberal Party in 2013, and given the unenviable task of returning the party from its political exile, there was no shortage of questions about his qualifications to lead the country.

Most of these questions were little more than the usual partisan smears. But there was no denying that Mr. Trudeau seemed to be the antithesis of everything Canadians expected from their prime ministerial candidates.

He was young, handsome, charismatic, and passionate about social justice. And, as it turned out, he was what Canadians thought they wanted their prime minister to be.

But even after Mr. Trudeau ousted then-Prime Minister Stephen Harper in the 2015 federal election, doubts still lingered about whether or not he was up to the task of delivering on everything he'd promised on the campaign trail.

To assuage these doubts, Mr. Trudeau surrounded himself with



JORDAN  
TWISS  
~  
News Editor

we were led to believe was a crack team of experts.

And yet, five years into his divine mandate, Mr. Trudeau and his colleagues have only seemed to confirm our worst fears.

There's no need to rehash the many sins that Mr. Trudeau has himself committed during his time as prime minister. With the WE Charity scandal delivering new revelations of apparent malfeasance nearly every day, few of us need reminders of just how out of touch with propriety he is.

But going down the Liberal party ranks, it seems like the list of Liberal MPs who have been embroiled in some form of scandal is longer than the list of those who haven't.

The list, for those who are curious, includes: Marwan Tabban (stalking and assault charges), François-Philippe Champagne (undisclosed mortgages with Chinese Banks), Dominic LeBlanc (conflict of interest), Raj Grewal (gambling problems), Hunter Tootoo (an inappropriate relationship), Scott Andrews, Darshan

Kang, and Massimo Pacetti (sexual harassment), Kent Hehr (workplace misconduct), and Seamus O'Regan (the Aga Khan scandal).

And, in a more damning statement of Mr. Trudeau and his Liberal party, a handful of the MPs who were meant to bring him an air of competence and legitimacy, including Jody Wilson-Raybould, Jane Philpott and Celina Ceasar-Chavannes, left or were ousted from the party in 2019 after the SNC Lavalin debacle.

All of this, however, pales in comparison to the scandal-ridden tenure of Finance Minister Bill Morneau, who has proven himself to be every bit as out of touch with Canadians as Mr. Trudeau.

Mr. Morneau's ethics woes began in 2017, when he failed to disclose a private corporation that owns a family villa in France to Canada's ethics watchdog. Around the same time, he faced further ethics scrutiny for failing to sell his shares in his business, Morneau Shepell, or place his assets in a blind trust.

On these matters, and on the SNC Lavalin affair, Mr. Morneau received little more than a stern wag of the finger. But, given recent revelations about his involvement in the unravelling WE Charity



scandal, he may be running out of rope with which to hang himself.

As Finance Minister, Mr. Morneau was naturally involved with the discussions that resulted in WE Charity receiving a \$912 million contract to administer a summer student program. This wouldn't be problematic, if his daughter didn't work for the organization, and if he and his family hadn't taken trips, valued at \$41,000, on the WE's dime.

More problematic, however, is that Mr. Morneau's only excuse for his actions is that he "forgot" that he hadn't repaid WE for its generosity.

As federal Finance Minister,

and as someone who's no stranger to conflict of interest and ethics probes, Mr. Morneau should know better, or at least be able to craft better explanations for his lack of judgment.

But, then again, perhaps it's foolish to expect better from a government that has a proven, time and again, that it believes it doesn't have to play by the rules so long as it has good intentions.

Now, it falls to federal Ethics Commissioner Mario Dion to teach this Liberal government — and Messrs Trudeau and Morneau — the error of its ways.

Will he, though?  
That's the real question.

## "It's inexcusable": Meili calls for COVID-19 testing to be ramped up

NDP Leader Ryan Meili is calling for the government to release figures on testing wait times and fix the lack of testing capacity in the province that is causing severe access backlogs.

He also called for an explanation of why the government had decreased staffing levels at a time when demand and need are rising.

"It's inexcusable that we are months into the pandemic, but people in the province are having to wait hours on 811 to speak with someone, days more to be called back, only

to be told that they will have to wait a week before they can schedule a test," Meili said.

"These delays put the re-opening of our economy and our schools at risk. The government must take immediate action to address this."

Meili called on the government to start including how many people are waiting for testing and the average wait time in daily briefings. Other provinces, including Alberta, release their testing figures to the public.

Meili noted that the Sask. Party has allowed Saskatche-

wan's per capita testing rate to drop to only 60 per cent of the national average.

"It's clear the demand for testing has risen when people are waiting several days for a call back. The premier needs to explain why staffing levels and capacity have dropped as need is rising," Meili said. "We need a plan that puts people first, that has the proper staffing in place, and that proactively addresses testing wait times."

Meili also called for further clarity on plans to increase mask use in Saskatchewan.

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Member of



## Report from the Legislature

After months of isolation and social distancing, people across the province are starting to return to more regular routines. Almost everything is open again, most of us are back to work, and we are finally able to enjoy many of the activities we love while continuing to take the necessary precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Recently, a number of COVID-19 restrictions were revised or lifted from various amenities in the province. These include:

- Drive-in theatres: reducing distance between vehicles to two metres, down from five metres.
- Retail guidelines, libraries and places of worship: reducing the length of time that returned or donated items must be held to 24 hours, down from 72 hours.
- Fitness facilities: permitting 24-hour access to fitness facilities, and ensuring registration of guests to facilitate contact tracing, if required.
- Campgrounds: laundry facilities are now able to open following new guide-

lines for safe operation.

Yard and garage sales, as well as door-to-door canvassing and sales are now permitted. Social distancing and frequent hand hygiene are encouraged and there should be no sharing of common materials including pens, pencils, and promotional materials.

Saskatchewan had one of Canada's strongest rates of job growth in June as more of the economy re-opened and our province continued its recovery from the impact of COVID-19. Another positive sign is the Canadian Federation of Inde-

pendent Business business barometer index for small business confidence which ranks Saskatchewan's business confidence above the national average and second-highest among provinces.

Subsidies and supports are available to employers and employees who may need them. For example, the Saskatchewan Temporary Wage Supplement Program provides a temporary wage supplement to eligible workers helping Saskatchewan's most vulnerable citizens through the COVID-19 pandemic. To learn more, I would encourage you to visit [www.saskatchewan.ca](http://www.saskatchewan.ca).

Recently, our government approved its first parcel of work packages to be completed through the Accelerated Site Closure Program (ASCP). The first parcel of work packages includes around 300 well and 300 flowline abandonments, 75 facility decommissions and 700 other activities. This will engage up to 50 service companies across the province, helping one of our most hard-hit industries,

the oil and gas sector, and help to develop a program that gets Saskatchewan companies back to work.

Continued investment in agricultural technology will be a driving force in our economic recovery and growth. That is why applications are now being accepted for the new \$1 million AgTech Growth Fund – the first program of its kind dedicated to the development of agricultural technologies in Saskatchewan.

Investments in local projects and initiatives will also be key to job creation. 303 new projects totaling

more than \$16.6 million of provincial investment under the Municipal Economic Enhancement Program (MEEP) 2020 were recently announced. The \$150 million program is part of our plan to build a strong province and stimulate its economic recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. You can learn more about the program at [saskatchewan.ca/municipal-economic-enhancement](http://saskatchewan.ca/municipal-economic-enhancement).

Major infrastructure projects are planned and being completed to improve campsites and visitor experiences in Saskatchewan Provincial Parks. Recently, a brand-new pool opened at Buffalo Pound Provincial Park.

This year our government announced \$10.3 million in improvements to our provincial parks as part of our governments \$7.5 billion two-year capital plan. Parks are now welcoming visitors for recreation and relaxation. Health restrictions in response to COVID-19 remain in place and we ask that visitors comply within

the guidelines to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.

As we continue to ease restrictions and reopen our economy, it is important to monitor symptoms and encourage testing to prevent any further outbreaks. Universal testing for COVID-19 is now available, even in the absence of symptoms. A referral for testing can be made by contacting the Healthline at 811.

If you have questions regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, I encourage you to visit [saskatchewan.ca/COVID19](http://saskatchewan.ca/COVID19).



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## Minutes of a Town of Spiritwood meeting

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

The regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Spiritwood was held in the Council Chambers at the Town Office located at 212 Main Street on March 10, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

In attendance were Mayor Gary von Holwede, Councillor James Bedi, Councillor Debbie Allan, Councillor Bryan Wingerter, Councillor George Pretli, Councillor Brad Nemish, and CAO Rhonda Saam. Absent was Councillor Shannon Beaulac.

A quorum being present, Mayor von Holwede called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

George Pretli: That the agenda be adopted as presented. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Jim Bedi: That the Accounts for Ratification, Cheque No. 30634 to 30661 in the amount of \$40,763.04 be approved as

presented. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Debbie Allan: That the Accounts for Approval, Cheque No. 30662 to 30691 in the amount of \$20,676.58 be approved as presented. Seconded by Jim Bedi. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That the Bank Reconciliation for the month of February 2020 be approved as presented. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

Debbie Allan: That the Financial Statement for the month of February 2020 be approved as presented. Seconded by George Pretli. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That we send Rhonda Saam to the SAMA 2020 administrator training session on April 8, 2020. Seconded by Debbie Allan. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That we accept Travis Penner's letter of resignation as Fire Chief and that the following appointments be made effective July 1,

2020: Fire Chief - Ron Radke, Deputy Fire Chief - TJ Tipton. Seconded by George Pretli. Carried.

Brad Nemish: That Bylaw No. 528/20, a Bylaw to Amend Bylaw No. 486/13, known as the Zoning Bylaw be read a first time and that we advertise in the Spiritwood Herald for two consecutive weeks the public notice of intent to adopt Bylaw No. 528/20, being a Bylaw to Amend Bylaw No. 486/13. Seconded by George Pretli. Carried.

Debbie Allan: That we approve the Spiritwood Fire & Rescue Department to have a Street Dance with bar service/liquor permit on the 100 block of Main Street in Spiritwood, SK starting on June 6, 2020 from 8:00 pm to June 7, 2020 at 1:00 am. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Jim Bedi: That we approve the temporary closure of the following street within the

Town of Spiritwood for the Spiritwood Volunteer Fire Department to host a street dance on Saturday, June 6, 2020; and that Main Street from the first back alley south of Railway Avenue to First Avenue from 1:00 pm on Saturday, June 6, 2020 until 2:00 am on Sunday, June 7, 2020. This temporary street closure will include the intersection of First Avenue and Main Street to accommodate the semi trailer for the band and foot traffic/line-ups into the event. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

Bryan Wingerter: That we apply for the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program grant to assist with replacing our Sewage Pumping Stations. Council agrees to fund the municipal share of the eligible and ineligible costs and overages related to the project by use of reserves, and by securing any additional funds required. Furthermore, Associated Engi-

neering will prepare the grant application on our behalf. Seconded by Brad Nemish. Carried.

Brad Nemish: That we provide funds to SARCS for the balance of the May 2020 Rec Facility mortgage payment in the amount of \$46,000.00. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Jim Bedi: That we approve Demolition Permit #02-2020 to demo or remove the storage warehouse on Lot 1 Block 6 Plan BH2038 and garage on Lot 10 Block 6 BK2112, subject to the condition that if the building is demolished rather than moved then the materials be disposed of as per the Ministry of Environment at a permitted or approved landfill or transfer station. Seconded by Bryan Wingerter. Carried.

Debbie Allan: That this meeting be adjourned at 8:00 PM. Seconded by George Pretli. Carried.

# Minutes of an RM of Spiritwood meeting

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

The Special Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Spiritwood No. 496 was held on Tuesday, April 7, 2020 via web conference. In attendance were Reeve, Shirley Dauvin, Division 1, Doug Johnson (Deputy Reeve), Division 2, Alan Steinhilber, Division 4, Dennis Laventure, Division 3, Terry Wingerter, Division 5, Jerome Tetreault and Division 6, Bevra Fee, Administrator, Colette Bussiere and Foreman, Darcy Laventure.

A quorum present via teleconference, Reeve, Shirley Dauvin called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Doug Johnson: That the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried.

Al Steinhilber: That the

RM of Spiritwood employees return to work on a modified work schedule to accommodate social distancing. Carried.

Doug Johnson: That the road improvement be tabled to the next meeting. Carried.

Bevra Fee: That the request to plant trees in the Municipal Reserve (MR) adjacent to Lot 7/Blk 4 in the Organized Hamlet of Spruce Bay be declined; and the request to plant grass in the MR adjacent to Lot 7/Blk 4 in the Organized Hamlet of Spruce Bay be approved. The maximum allowable encroachment for the planting of grass shall be 3 meters from the property line of Lot 7/Blk 4 into the MR. Carried.

Terry Wingerter: That we authorized the Administrator to remit the monthly hail collections to Sask. Municipal Hail

Insurance by electronic funds transfer. Carried.

Reeve, Shirley Dauvin turned meeting over to Deputy Reeve, Doug Johnson.

Dennis Laventure: That Bylaw No. 2020-1, being a bylaw for The Retention and Disposal of Records be read a second time. Carried.

Al Steinhilber: Per request due to personal reasons Fire Chief, Travis Penner is relinquishing his appointment as Fire Chief effective June 30, 2020. That we appoint Ron Radke as Fire Chief and TJ Tipton as Deputy Fire Chief for the remainder of the 2020 calendar year. Carried.

Deputy Reeve, Doug turned the meeting back to Reeve, Shirley Dauvin.

Budget Discussion

Doug Johnson: That the meeting be adjourned. Carried.

# Canwood, Blaine Lake receive MEEP funding

The Village of Canwood and the Town of Blaine Lake are just two of the many municipalities to benefit from the latest round of provincial funding through the Municipal Economic Enhancement Program.

All told, 303 municipal projects received \$16.6 million in funding through MEEP announcements unveiled on July 22.

First, the Village of Canwood received the greenlight, and \$47,718, for a project to rehabilitate one of the forcemains at its lagoon.

"It's in a response to an issue that was discovered inside one of our cells at the lagoon area," said Erin Robertson, Administrator for the Village of Canwood. "It centers around the reconstruction of the older of the two forcemains. It's either been broken or become disconnected."

A forcemain is a pressurized sewer pipe that conveys wastewater in a situation where gravity sewage flow is not possible.

While a problem has been identified with one of the forcemains, the village has yet to decide on best course of action to resolve the issue.

"We're still in the planning stage with our consultant and our EPO," she said.

Robertson was also quick to clarify

that the problem with the forcemain at the lagoon won't have any impact on local water, as no municipal wells are located within proximity of the issue.

"Water's good, everything is fabulous there," she said.

Elsewhere, the Town of Blaine got the greenlight for two MEEP projects, totalling \$71,720.

The first project, which received \$60,000 in MEEP funds, will see the municipal office renewed and repaired. Meanwhile, the second project, an electronic message centre sign, was awarded \$11,720 through MEEP.

Last week's funding announcement brings the number of approved project to 497, and the total investment by the provincial government to \$38 million.

The \$150 million MEEP 2020 was announced in May, and is a key component of the Government of Saskatchewan's \$7.5 billion, two-year capital plan to build a strong province and stimulate its economic recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

All MEEP 2020 funding must be used by municipalities by March 31, 2022. And municipalities have until July 31 to apply for program funding.

## PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

### LUTHERAN CHURCH

Re-opening delayed until further notice. Follow us on Facebook at St. John's Lutheran Church, Shellbrook/Zion Lutheran Church, Canwood. Live-stream worship service Sundays - 9:00 a.m. Rev. Emmanuel Aristide

### PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Parkside  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
Pastor Doug Hope  
306-747-3572  
Shellbrook (starting July 5)  
Sun., 10 a.m. - Worship  
Pastor David Bodvarson  
306-747-7235  
Canwood

10:00 a.m. - Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. - Worship  
Pastor Glenn Blazosek  
306-468-2138  
Leask Gospel Tabernacle  
Sunday 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.  
Pastor Lorne Valuck

**SOVEREIGN GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Currently meeting in homes on Sunday morning & Wednesday evenings  
Parkside 306-747-2309  
Leask 306-466-4498  
Marcelin 306-226-4615

**PRESBYTERIAN**  
Mistawasis  
Sunday worship  
11:00 a.m.  
Rev. Katherine Bretzlaff

### IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

Parkside  
11 a.m. - Worship  
Pastor Chris Dean

### ANGLICAN CHURCH

Leask - All Saint's  
Sunday, 9 a.m. - Service  
St. Andrew's - Shellbrook  
Sunday, 11 a.m. Service  
Canwood - Christ Church  
Sunday, 11 a.m. - Service  
2 p.m. Service 2nd Sunday  
of the month  
Rev'd Eyad Ajji  
306-980-5916

### UNITED CHURCH

Shellbrook - Knox United  
Sun., 10 am - Worship  
306-747-3434  
Student Minister  
Jon Worrall  
Big River  
Sundays  
10 a.m. - Worship  
at Anglican Church  
Rev. Dave Whalley  
306-747-2804

### MENNONITE

**BRETHREN CHURCH**  
Blaine Lake Gospel Chapel  
109 Railway Ave. W.  
Blaine Lake  
306-497-3316  
Pastor: Rick Schellenberg  
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.  
Worship

### EVANGELICAL FREE

Big River  
11:00 a.m. - Worship  
Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.  
Summer: 10:30 a.m. - 12  
306-469-2258  
Youth Nite: Fridays  
Mont Nebo  
Bible Study & Prayer  
Sun., 11:00 a.m. - Worship  
Pastor Bill Klumpenower

### CATHOLIC CHURCH

Debden  
Sun. Mass - 9:30 a.m.  
Fr. Michael Fahlman  
Big River - Sacred Heart  
Sun., 11:30 a.m. - Mass  
Whitefish  
Sun., 2:30 p.m. - Mass.  
Victoire  
Sat., 7:30 p.m. - Mass.  
Fr. Michael Fahlman  
Eucharist Celebrations  
Muskeg  
Sunday, 3 p.m.  
St. Agatha's - Shellbrook  
Mass - Sunday 9 a.m.  
St. Henry's - Leask  
Mass - Sunday - 11 a.m.  
Mistawasis  
2nd & 4th Sundays, 1:30 p.m.  
Fr. Phong Tran

### SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

407-2nd Ave E, Shellbrook  
Sat., 9:45 a.m. - Sabbath School  
Sat., 11:00 am - Worship  
Broadcast on  
VOAR 92.1 FM  
Pastor Liviu Tilihoi  
306-747-3398

## Donor's Choice hands out final cheque



Norma Dahl presents Al Dion of Shellbrook First Responders a final cheque, in the amount of \$439.40, from Donor's Choice 2020. This cheque brings to an end Donor's Choice, which was first organized in Shellbrook on Oct. 6, 1969. As of July 31, 2020, there will be no more Donor's Choice. Dahl says the organizers of Donor's Choice are grateful to everyone who "so faithfully supported" the initiative, and encourages everyone to "always remember to keep your charities in mind."

## Glyphosate ban would ripple through industry

Most of the time when the world moves to change one thing, the impact tends to ripple into areas that whether unexpected, or simply ignored, changes things in ways which may not be the best.

It's easy enough to think of a range of such ripple effects, for example electric cars might be good in terms of stretching the non-renewable fuel resource, but the batteries wear out and there are concerns about their disposal.

In terms of farming there is growing consumer concern over the use of

the herbicide glyphosate, and that means processors are starting to pay attention.

We saw a backlash to glyphosate tolerant canola in some markets, those markets restricting access of such seed.

The reaction to herbicide tolerant canola in some markets squashed development of herbicide tolerant wheat varieties, and in that move farmers lost a tool to weed control.

Starting next year, the two largest oat millers in Canada will only buy oats that are free of glyphosate.

Richardson Interna-



CALVIN DANIELS

tional told oat growers in June it will no longer purchase oats if they have been treated with a pre-harvest desiccant.

Back in 2015 Grain Millers, which processes oats in Yorkton, Sask., stopped

buying oats that are sprayed with glyphosate before harvest.

These moves are being made to appease consumers and companies cannot be blamed for making changes to keep customers satisfied.

But a crop such as oats is very much a niche opportunity for Prairie farmers these days. Producers can grow oats, and lots of them, but the market is well-defined so that production tends to be focused on well-established demand.

But with any niche crop farmers have to see a ben-

efit in producing those crops or the limited acres can easily turn yellow with canola, or switched to wheat.

In the case of oats, if farmers lose access to a long-used, key herbicide, it could push acres out of production, and that has to be worrying for Prairie processors.

How squeezing production impacts the consumer is an interesting question, with the most obvious answer prices might inch higher. In the competitive world of breakfast cereals and alternative offerings, that could be a bad thing

as consumers are apt to look to cheaper options, if oat products were to increase too much.

Of course a bigger question for farmers is what happens with glyphosate use moving forward. If oat processors are moving away from grain where the product has been used, how long before other food sectors follow suit?

And, if glyphosate goes by the wayside, what happens to canola, where the chemical resistance bred into many varieties was largely responsible for it becoming the major crop it is today.

## Controlling Colorado potato beetles in the garden

By Erl Svendsen

The bane of many vegetable gardeners is the small but numerous and voracious Colorado potato beetle (CPB, *Leptinotarsa decemlineata*). At first there maybe only a few on your potato plants, and these you can pick off and gleefully grind them with your heel in the pathway. But overnight, while your back is turned, they can turn into a vast and mighty hungry horde. Their preferred food is potato but they will also happily munch on tomatoes and eggplant.

Know your enemy: The body of the adult CPB is divided into three easily recognizable major parts: head, thorax and large abdomen. The head and thorax are bright orange with black markings. The hard coverings over the wings and abdomen, or elytra, are creamy yellow with 10 parallel and evenly spaced dark brown stripes running lengthwise. The adult beetle is about 1 centimetre (3/8 inch) long, the size of a large pill. Small orange or yellow eggs are laid in clusters of up to 30 on the underside of leaves, hatching within 4-15 days. The hungry, soft-bodied, reddish-brown larvae have ridged backs with two rows of dark spots running along each side. The final development stage before entering adult-hood occurs when the larvae drop off the plant and burrow several centimetres into the ground before turning into pupae. Depending on temperature, light con-

ditions and host availability, hungry adults may emerge ready to reproduce after only a few weeks, or the pupae may stay dormant in the ground until spring. Lastly, CPBs are generally poor fliers, preferring to walk to their closest meal or catch a ride on a strong wind.

Controlling the little critters takes patience and persistence, as well as taking advantage of their weaknesses and overcoming their strengths.

1. The first point of control is in the fall after harvest. Rototill the garden before freeze-up to bring the pupae to the surface where they can be killed by low temperatures.

2. If you have the advantage of a large garden, plant your potatoes in a different spot every year. A shallow trench around your potato patch may prevent the walkers from arriving at the free buffet. To prevent the wind-swept ones from reaching your spuds, cover the crop as soon as you've planted it with a crop- or row-cover (a thin white polyspun fabric sheet used to prevent insects from landing on your crop).

3. All stages from egg to adult are highly visible and you can pick or knock the beetles into a soapy-water filled can to drown them (or squish them with your heel with great satisfaction). Remember to look on the undersides of leaves for the orange egg masses.

4. Potato plants can tolerate some damage. CPBs never attack the tubers, preferring instead to feast above ground on the leaves. As long as the tubers have already formed, losing a few leaves early on or even losing a lot later in the summer will have little impact on the number of potatoes formed or even final yield. Grow short- and mid-season varieties: 'Norland', 'Caribe', 'AC Ptar-migan', 'Viking', 'Yukon Gold'.

5. CPB are prolific leading to some populations becoming resistant to both synthetic and organic pesticides. Therefore, take a multi-pronged ap-

proach to your control strategy.

6. Larvae are more susceptible to chemical control methods than adults. Keeping in mind #5 above, chose your weapons carefully and never use the same one twice in a season. Registered controls: acetamiprid (synthetic), diatomaceous earth (organic), insecticidal soap (organic), malathion (synthetic), permethrin (synthetic), pyrethrin (organic), Spinosad (organic). Biological con-

trol by disease (*Beauveria bassiana*). Some of these controls may be difficult to obtain locally.

Erl gardens in Saskatoon and Tweets about gardening occasionally @ErlSv

This column is provided courtesy of the Saskatchewan Perennial Society (SPS; [saskperennial@hotmail.com](mailto:saskperennial@hotmail.com)). Check our website ([www.saskperennial.ca](http://www.saskperennial.ca)) or Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/saskperennial](http://www.facebook.com/saskperennial)).

## 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 10:00 a.m.  
Rev. Nora Borgeson

### UNITED / ANGLICAN

Worship Services  
Glaslyn  
Time is on the sign  
Rev. Kun Kim  
Rev. Don Skinner

### CATHOLIC SUNDAY

Spiritwood - 11:15 a.m.  
Leoville - 9:30 a.m.  
Chitek Lake - Closed for the Season  
Shell Lake - 1:00 p.m.  
Everyone Welcome  
SATURDAY  
Medstead - 6 p.m.  
Father Peter Nnanga MSP

### PARTNERS IN WORSHIP

Shell Lake - Sun. 10 am  
(Worship in Lutheran - United Church)

### 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 Liviu Tilihoi  
306-747-3398

### MENNONITE BRETHREN

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

### FIELDS OF HOPE (HOFFNUNGSFELDER) MENNONITE CHURCH

Glenbush  
Worship - 11:00 am

### BETHEL

Medstead  
1st Sunday, 10 am -  
Worship  
Pastor David Jensen  
3rd Sunday - 10 am  
Worship  
Pastor David Jensen

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(306) 389-4633

### EVANGELICAL FREE

Mont Nebo  
Wed., 7:30 pm -  
Bible Study & Prayer  
Sun., 10:30 am - Worship  
Pastor Bill Klumpenhower

### LAKELAND

COMMUNITY CHURCH  
Spiritwood  
Sun., 11 am - Worship  
Service & Sunday School  
Pastor Gerry Zak

### BELBUTTE FULL GOSPEL

11 am Worship Service  
1st Sun., 7:30 pm  
- Hymn Sing  
Pastor Floyd Berg

### COWBOY CHURCH

Spiritwood  
Every Wednesday Night  
7 pm  
Spiritwood Legion Hall  
Pastor Rick Martin



A family of Colorado potato beetle larvae making a meal of a potato leaf. Photo credit: Tavo Romann.

## One NHL loser could be a big winner

'Tanking' during the regular season for a favourable position in the amateur draft might happen occasionally in the National Hockey League, but tanking in the playoffs? It could happen this summer if and when the NHL tries to salvage what it can from the 2020 pandemic-induced mess that the world has endured since March.

While 24 teams will start the playoffs Aug. 1 with a chance to win the Stanley Cup, only one of eight losers in the play-in round will have a chance to win the right to draft Alexis Lafreniere, the big prize in this year's amateur draft.

Thanks to a surprise development in the NHL's draft lottery, held in June, one of the eight teams that loses in the first round of the playoffs will be awarded the No. 1 draft pick following a second lottery draw. The top pick is supposed to go to one of the poorer teams, but the very definition of 'lottery' deals with an immense amount of random chance, or dumb luck. One of those eight first-round losers will capitalize on that

luck.

So here's a possible scenario. A series featuring the Calgary Flames and the Winnipeg Jets — two teams with unlikely chances to go all the way through the playoffs to win the Cup — instead find themselves playing (by losing) for a chance to get Lafreniere, a potential franchise player with Crosby-McDavid-MacKinnon-type talent. The best-of-five series is tied 2-2, with the winner to go on to play first-place St. Louis in the second round. So do the Flames and Jets play for next week? Or do they play for next year, and the next 10 years, with the possibility of a franchise player like Lafreniere to build around?

Fans can only hope a 3-3 tie in Game 5 of this fictitious Flames-Jets game doesn't go to overtime. It might never end.

Coach Claude Julien of the Canadiens runs one of those teams with a) no shot to win the Cup; and b) a 1-in-8 chance to draft Lafreniere by losing to Pittsburgh in the play-in round.

Julien told NHL.com



BRUCE PENTON

that he realizes a good chunk of Habs' fans probably want their team to lose to Pittsburgh to have a crack at Lafreniere.

"That's totally normal. Totally normal. There's no issues there," Julien said. "I think everybody's got their opinions and they're entitled to it because some fans, and rightfully so, get excited about the possibility of having that guy there."

It's been a weird 2020, so keep the weirdness going. And what's weirder than NHL fans praying their team loses in the first round of playoffs?

• Patti Dawn Swansson, aka the River City Renegade: "I note that Vlad (The Bad) Putin has signed a one-way deal to

rule Russia until at least 2036, about the same time Tom Brady is expected to show signs of slowing down."

• From Super 70s Sports, on Facebook: "In 1991, Andre Dawson was called out looking by umpire Joe West and then ejected for arguing the call. He was fined \$500 by the National League and paid it via cheque with the memo line filled out 'Donation for the blind.'"

• Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: The Fuji-Q Highland amusement park in Japan, saying that droplets from screaming on roller coasters could spread the coronavirus, is urging riders to 'Please scream inside your heart.' If you think that's extreme, wait'll they try to ban booing in Philadelphia."

• Another one from Swansson, on Patrick Mahomes' \$500-million-plus contract: "Mahomes' new contract is 117 pages long. I've lived in towns that didn't have phone books that big."

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "Green Bay. QB Aaron Rodgers has broken up with his girlfriend, race driver Danika Patrick. Rodgers just felt their relationship was going around and around in circles."

• Comedy writer Brad Dickson of Omaha, on Nebraska Cornhusker football fans: "There's something seriously wrong with people who will wear a rubber corn cob head on their noggin but won't be seen in public in a Covid mask."

• Headline on theonion.com: "Jerry Jones Chang-

es Team's Name To Redskins Now That It's Available

• Rockets coach Mike D'Antoni, to reporters, on why coaching while social distancing isn't an issue for him: "That's how we guard anyway."

• Dwight Perry again: More than 10 umpires will not participate in the pandemic-shortened MLB season. Talk about a mixed message: They want to be safe, so they're out."

• Ex-Florida AD Jeremy Foley, to the Orlando Sentinel, on the COVID cash crunch facing college athletic departments: "You have those reserves to get you through a rainy day, but obviously this isn't a rainy day; this is a hurricane."

Care to comment? Email [brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca](mailto:brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca)

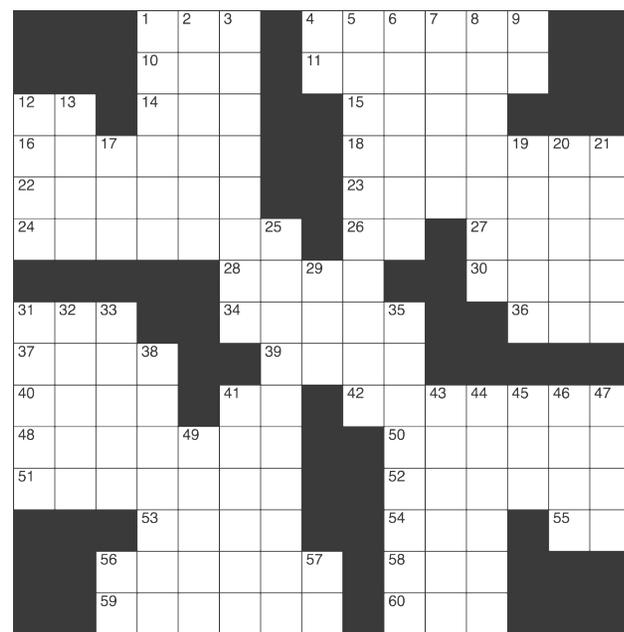
## CROSSWORD

### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Central processing unit
- 4. Military action
- 10. How electricity gets to train carriages (abbr.)
- 11. Unsafe
- 12. Of (French)
- 14. Autonomic nervous system
- 15. Type of bean
- 16. Accuse formally of a crime
- 18. Promote
- 22. Type of lava
- 23. Meat from a deer
- 24. Herbaceous plants
- 26. Potato state
- 27. Helsinki neighborhood
- 28. Sports officials
- 30. Shout wildly
- 31. Reptile genus
- 34. Frocks
- 36. Born of
- 37. N. Scandinavian indigenous people
- 39. Poultry cage
- 40. Aquatic insect genus
- 41. Of I
- 42. Ad \_\_: tirelessly repetitive
- 48. Item

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Presides
- 2. Artist's tool
- 3. On a higher floor
- 4. Commercial
- 5. Something to watch
- 6. Chased
- 7. Commercial producers
- 8. Keyboard instrument
- 9. Blue grass state
- 12. Phonograph recording
- 13. Unusual
- 17. Popular average
- 19. A native or inhabitant of Asia
- 20. N. Sweden river
- 21. Related on the mother's side
- 25. Mediator
- 29. Partner of to
- 31. Arm bones
- 32. Korean seafood dish
- 33. Tap of the foot
- 35. Astronauts
- 38. Carolina footballer
- 41. Indiana city



- 50. Produce
- 51. Seedless raisin
- 52. Bond in a third party's control
- 53. Legendary character \_\_\_ Finn
- 54. Space station
- 55. Note at the end of a letter
- 56. In a way, contradicted
- 58. Midway between northeast and east
- 59. Bears important traffic
- 60. Brooklyn hoopster

- 43. Of or relating to bears
- 44. Not widely known
- 45. Body part
- 46. At the peak
- 47. High-pitched cries of a cat
- 49. A way to intimidate
- 56. Prosecutor
- 57. Atomic #66

Answers on page 10

What happens when you don't advertise?

Very little.

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# Family-friendly outdoor activities during COVID-19

Children who spend a lot of time outdoors benefit from exposure to nature in myriad ways, some of which may surprise even the most devoted outdoorsmen.

According to a 2006 study published in the journal *Human Dimensions of Wildlife*, fifth graders who attended school at a local prairie wetlands where lessons in science, math and writing were integrated in an experimental way had significantly stronger reading and writing skills than their peers who attended more traditional schools. Another study published in the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* found that holding a class outdoors one day a week significantly improved the daily cortisol patterns of students, reducing their risk of stress and improving their ability to adapt to stress.

Parents who want their children to reap the rewards of being exposed to the great outdoors can encourage educators to incorporate nature into school curriculums and also embrace these family-friendly outdoor activities.



· **Nature treasure hunt:** A treasure hunt in nature can keep kids engaged on family hiking excursions and provide an excellent opportunity for parents to teach children about the assortment of plants, birds and wildlife that live in the parks and along the trails near their home.

· **Outdoor art class:** Families don't

even need to leave their properties to spend quality time together outside. Pick a pleasant afternoon and set up an outdoor painting station, encouraging everyone to paint what they see. Fall is a great time to host an outdoor art sessions thanks to the assortment of vibrant colors that have become synonymous with autumn landscapes.

· **Bonfire:** Outdoor activities need not be limited to daylight hours. A post-dinner backyard bonfire can entice everyone outside, where families can tell scary stories as they make s'mores.

· **Stargaze:** Stargazing is another way families can spend time outdoors and learn a few things at the same time. Some blankets, a thermos of hot cocoa and a chart of constellations can provide the perfect complement to a sky full of bright stars. If visibility is compromised in the backyard, find a local spot where everyone can get a clear view of the night sky.

· **Fruit picking:** Apple picking is a popular autumn activity, but families need not wait for the autumn harvest to enjoy a day picking fruit or vegetables at a nearby farm. Visit a local farm during its harvest season, teaching children about how the foods they love are grown and eventually make it to the family dinner table.

Families looking to spend more time together in the great outdoors can look to a number of activities people of all ages can enjoy.

## GOOD NEWS

### AN EXPLANATION OF GOD

**By Pastor Glenn R. Blazosek  
Canwood Pentecostal Church**

This explanation of God is fabulous! It was written by an 8-year-old named Danny Dutton, who lives in Chula Vista, CA. He wrote it for his third grade homework assignment, to "explain God." I wonder if any of us could have done as well? (... and he had such an assignment, in California, and someone published it, I guess miracles do happen!)

"One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn't make grownups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers."

"God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like

preachers and things, pray at times beside bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off."

"God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere which keeps Him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting his time by going over your mom and dad's head asking for something they said you couldn't have."

"Atheists are people who don't believe in God. I don't think there are any in Chula Vista. At least there aren't any who come to our church."

"Jesus is God's Son. He used to do all the hard work, like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn't want to learn about God. They finally got tired of him preaching to them and they crucified him. But he was good and kind, like his father, and he told his father

that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said O.K."

"His dad (God) appreciated everything that he had done and all his hard work on earth so he told him he didn't have to go out on the road anymore. He could stay in heaven. So he did. And now he helps his dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother God. Like a secretary, only more important."

"You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they got it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time."

"You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there's anybody you want to make happy, it's God!"

Don't skip church to do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong. And besides the sun doesn't come out at the beach

until noon anyway."

"If you don't believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like to camp, but God can. It is good to know He's around you when you're scared, in the dark or when you can't swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids."

"But...you shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and he can take me back anytime he pleases.

And...that's why I believe in God."

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