

# Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald



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Thursday, February 25, 2021

www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

## Arts and Culture: Buffalo Charlie

What started as an idea for an annual handmade gift exchange has evolved over the last 25 years into the unique Buffalo Charlie soap found at the Spiritwood Artisan Boutique. With at least 80 per cent of ingredients being locally sourced, this product is a true area treasure.

Originally from Turtle Lake, Sask., Barb Janzen, the creator of Buffalo Charlie soap, moved to Glenbush after marrying her husband Don. Their farm, which has been home to a variety of livestock species over the years, including dairy cattle, elk, and deer, is now exclusively buffalo.

According to Barb, she had decided to try making soap for a gift exchange between friends. Afterward, one lady who had received some convinced her to book a table at a local craft fair she was organizing. With many people interested in the soap and enjoying using it, Barb became increasingly interested in soap making and started to read more about it. This was when she came across the method that she has been using to create her soap for the past couple of decades.

Homesteader soap is made by using ingredients that a person has around them. This process has shaped Barb's product over the years with a large majority of her ingredients coming directly from her farm today. She renders her own buffalo tallow from buffalo on her and her husband's farm or from their friend's and family's contributions. All her scents and colours are made from plant materials which she has foraged from her farm. Her goal is to make an environmentally safe product with as few commercial ingredients as possible.

The homesteader method is a challenging one, according to Barb. She is always adjusting ingredients and developing new methods to produce different scents and colours. Getting colours from all-natural sources is one of the most difficult, but unique aspects of her product. Tallow that is rendered at home is always a bit yellow she says, so that needs to be accounted for. Getting white and blue is



**Barb Janzen has been making homesteader soap for the last 25 years using mainly materials she finds on her own farm.**

never really an option. In the last 5-10 years, she has also started to infuse her own oils for scents. These almost always end up green in colour, so adjustments need to be made if she adds the oils to a batch.

Recently, she decided to try infusing the wild sage that she uses in her lavender and sage soap because she said the texture of the leaves after they have been dried is like leather and it does not crush well. The oil, she

said, smells amazing and is a beautiful green colour. Unfortunately, this affects the normally blueish purple colour she normally produces for this soap, but for the smell it is worth it.

*Continued on page 2*

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# Arts and Culture: Buffalo Charlie

## Continued from 1

She is always looking for a new challenge and enjoys when people make requests. She recently finished making a dandelion soap and is currently working on eucalyptus and cedar infusions. Despite olive oil being a popular choice among soap makers for oil infusions, Barb chooses to use canola oil as it is a product produced in Canada. "I haven't seen any olive trees around here," she had said after discussing a book she read about how people could drastically reduce their environmental impact if they tried to source products from within 100 miles. "We need to use what we have here."

The inspiration to forage for plant materials at home came from her daughter, who lives "where the road ends" in northern Saskatchewan. With food supply being a major issue, her daughter had got into foraging and plant identification. Since being able to recognize plants in the pasture at home like wild sage and chamomile, Barb has been able to develop new soaps with the ma-

terials she has found.

When asked about the buffalo tallow she renders to make her soap, Barb said, "It makes the best soap there is. I don't know if there is anything better for making soap. And grass-fed tallow makes the best soap."

Tallow is a product that has been used to make soap for thousands of years, but this bit of knowledge is unknown to most people today. "A lot of people don't even know what soap is," she said.

Barb has been displaying her soap at the Spiritwood Artisan Boutique since they opened, and has said that it has been a very positive experience. Like many who display at the boutique, Barb had mentioned that it is a great way get product to customers without needing to do a lot of marketing. "I hate selling my soap. I love to make it," she said. "If you are going to keep making it, you need a place for it to go."

Apart from the boutique being a way to sell her soap, Barb mentioned that it has also been a way for her to talk to customers about her soaps and how

they are made. "Spiritwood really does support local. I'm kind of shocked by the success the boutique has had. It is really nice to see," she said, "I appreciate the opportunity to be involved there."

Apart from the boutique, Barb is also normally a stop on the Northern Hori-

zons Journey to Creativity, and sells her soap on her daughter's buffalo fibre Etsy store.

"It's never been a job for me, I don't know if I'd call it a hobby either. I'm just sort of driven to do it and 25 years later, I'm still doing it."



Barb makes her Buffalo Charlie soap with buffalo tallow she renders herself from the buffalo at her farm.

## Town of Shellbrook warns of scammer

The town of Shellbrook is urging ratepayers and members of the public to be wary of scammers reaching out to them via email using the name of Shellbrook Mayor Amund Otterson.

The warning comes after town councillors and

town employees were targeted by the scammer(s) late last week.

The exchange starts innocuously enough, with the fraudster reaching out and asking for help with a "quick request." While this may seem legitimate, and the email says it's coming from Otterson, a glance at the email address (boardofdirectors488@gmail.com) reveals it for what it is.

Briefly into the email exchange, the demands for money, often in the form of gift cards, start to come.

"I need you to get some Google play (sic) cards from any stationery stores. Kindly get 5 each in \$100 denominations. Ensure you keep the receipt for proper paper recording and reimbursement purposes," the scammer wrote in this particular instance.

Kelly Hoare, Shellbrook's Chief Administrative Officer, says this case of attempted fraud has been passed along to the RCMP.

In the meantime, the easiest way to protect yourself from con artists is to never give out your personal information, such as passwords, credit card information, or social insurance numbers, unless you're 100 per cent certain it's to a trusted source.

If you have any doubts, be sure to double check the email address attached to the email, or the phone number of the caller. Or, if the email or call says it's coming from someone you know, check in with that person directly.

As for online activities, be sure to use strong passwords (a mix of letters, numbers, symbols and uppercase and lowercase characters) and don't use the same password for every account. Additionally, avoid clicking on suspicious links or unsolicited emails, and, when shopping online, always make sure you're buying from a legitimate site.

Finally, the best way to protect yourself is to educate yourself about the latest scams and the ways to avoid falling victim to them.

And, failing all that, it always helps to be a little sceptical of everything.

### NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL VILLAGE OF MARCELIN

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Village of Marcelin for the year of 2021 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the following days: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 to April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

A bylaw pursuant to section 214 of *The Municipalities Act* has been passed and the assessment notices have been sent as required.

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file his or her notice of appeal, along with a fee of \$200.00, refundable upon success of appeal, with: The Assessor, Village of Marcelin, Box 39, Marcelin, SK, S0J 1R0, by the 29<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021.

Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

Leanne McCormick  
Assessor

FORM H  
(Section 45 of *The Act*)

### Notice of Call for Nominations Municipal By-Election

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of the candidates for the office(s) of:

**Councillor: Village of Leask**  
Number to be elected is one (1)

will be received by the undersigned on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021, from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm at the Leask Village Office, 15 Main Street,  
and

during regular business hours on Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 to Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at the Leask Village Office.

Nomination forms may be obtained at the Leask Village Office or online at [www.publications.gov.sk.ca](http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca)

Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

Leanne McCormick  
Returning Officer

### NOTICE OF POLL AND ADVANCE POLL Town of Blaine Lake

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that:

- (1) A vote will be held for the election of:  
**Mayor: Town of Blaine Lake**
- (2) **Voting** will take place on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Blaine Lake Senior Centre 107 Main Street, Blaine Lake, SK

AND

- (3) **Advance Poll** will take place on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. at the Blaine Lake Senior Centre 107 Main Street, Blaine Lake, SK
- (4) I will declare the result of the voting at Town of Blaine Lake Municipal Office on Tuesday, the 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

Dated at Blaine Lake, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

Brenda Lockhart  
Returning Officer

**VOTER IDENTIFICATION WILL BE REQUIRED TO VOTE**

### RM of Medstead No. 497 2021 Gravel – Load & Haul Tender

The RM of Medstead No. 497 is accepting tenders for the loading/hauling of approximately 17,500 yards of crushed gravel from one pit located within this RM to various roads in the municipality.

Tenders must include:

Price per cubic yard per mile for hauling gravel, price per cubic yard for loading gravel, any additional surcharges or mobilization charges, equipment listing, expected start and completion dates, Sask. WCB current letter of good standing, and proof of current liability insurance.

There will be no public opening.

The lowest or any tender may not necessarily be accepted and the Municipality reserves the right to reject any and all tenders. Tenders will be accepted until March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. and reviewed at the regular council meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Incomplete tenders will not be accepted. Tenders must clearly state "RM 497 – 2021 Gravel Hauling Tender" and be submitted to:

RM of Medstead No. 497 – Box 12,  
Medstead, SK S0M 1W0  
Phone: (306) 342-4609  
Fax: (306) 342-2067  
Email: [rm497@sasktel.net](mailto:rm497@sasktel.net)

# Highlights of a Shellbrook town council meeting

Shellbrook's town council met for its regular meeting via teleconference on Tuesday, Feb. 1.

In attendance were Mayor Amund Otterson, councillors Bruce Clements, John Hughes, David Knight, Cheryl Ledding, Brent Miller, and Kathleen Nording, and the town's CAO, Kelly Hoare.

Mayor Otterson called the meeting to order at 4 p.m., and council began by approving the agenda for the meeting and adopting the revised minutes of its Feb. 1 regular meeting. After this, council quickly moved on to other business.

First, council discussed submitting a letter of interest to the Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division regarding possibilities for a joint venture between the town and the new K-12 school, which was first proposed all the way back in 2015.

While progress has stalled on the new school, Shellbrook reportedly remains a high priority for the province. In the meantime, council said it would be great to partner on a facility like a library, or something more recreation-focused like a pool or a community gym, and agreed to send a letter to the school division.

Moving on to communications, council discussed SaskTel's response to a letter it had sent to express its concerns regarding internet speed in Shellbrook. With Access Communications now offering speeds of up to 450 MB/s, council wondered why SaskTel can't offer higher speeds — especially when Access is using SaskTel's infrastructure.

To council's disappointment, SaskTel said it had no immediate plans to improve internet speeds in town, but added that these things are subject to annual reviews.

In a last communication item, council was informed the town hadn't been selected for Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program grant funding for its planned water treatment plant upgrades.

Later in the evening, council agreed to continue applying for grant funding as windows open.

After quickly approving its regular accounts and financials, council moved on to provide oral reports. In public works, Mayor Otterson reported that Suncor isn't interested in selling a piece of land it owns in Shellbrook, but added that it would consider leasing it to the town.

The idea, Otterson said, would be to enter into a lease agreement which allows the town to fix drainage issues and clean up the property, so it can be used for additional parking for sporting events or another purpose.

In further discussion about the water treatment plant, and more specifically phase 1 of the upgrades to the facility, Hoare reported that the town's bid to extend the deadline by 60 days and hold at the same price was declined, as the costs of certain items have increased.

Councillor Miller said the price increase wouldn't be significant, and would be outweighed by the savings accrued through the proposed water pipeline project with the Prince Albert Rural Water Utility and the R.M. of Shellbrook. Council agreed it wasn't prepared to make any final decision on whether to proceed or delay at the meeting.

In a disappointing blow to minor sports, councillor Ledding reported there would be no changes until at least March 19, meaning any hope of a hockey season is essentially lost. Elsewhere, councillor Clements informed council there could soon be an update regarding the local push to improve ambulance services.

Rounding out the reports, council talked about capital investments, and,

in particular, plans to establish an industrial/commercial development to broaden the municipal tax base. Council seemed eager to explore the possibility, and, at the very least, get an idea of the associated costs.

Council agreed to set up a commercial development committee, with councillor Knight serving as chair.

Shifting to new business, council began by transferring \$532,892.30 to reserves. The large sum prompted councillor Knight to question whether some of those unspent funds could be returned to ratepayers in the form of a tax rate cut.

Hoare, however, explained that some of the money was unspent because COVID-19 delayed or cancelled necessary projects, while other dollars are being tucked away for future projects. Councillor Knight suggested that council review the matter come budget time.

Moving on, council carried a motion to transfer \$1,600 to reserves for the perpetual care for the cemetery. This money is collected from the sale of plots, and used to maintain and improve the cemetery.

Next, council carried

motions to accept changes to Bylaw 2021-02, the Fire Bylaw. Under the revised bylaw, a minimum charge of \$500 will be charged for any calls that require an investigation and result in equipment not being used.

Additionally, burning on Municipal land is permitted, providing the burn is at least 180 meters (590 feet) from an occupied building or structure, and that it takes place between Oct. 31 and March 1 of the year.

Wrapping up the meeting, council carried motions to waive interest on the Shellbrook Curling Club's account, and also waive fees for February and March. Due to COVID-19, the club is done for the season.

Council's next meeting is set for Monday, March 1.



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VIRTUAL  
ANNUAL MEMBER  
INFORMATION  
MEETING

MARCH 18, 2021 @ 6:30 PM

All members planning to  
attend must pre-register by  
5:00 pm March 15, 2021.

To register, visit our website at  
[www.lakecountryco-op.crs](http://www.lakecountryco-op.crs).

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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Seasonal approx. Apr 26 - Sept 30

- Clubhouse Supervisor
- Clubhouse & Maintenance Workers
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Students encouraged to apply.  
Wages dependent upon experience.  
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available upon request.

Apply by March 15, 2021

Submit cover letter and resume including  
references to: [canwoodrp@sasktel.net](mailto:canwoodrp@sasktel.net)  
Canwood Regional Park  
Box 9, Canwood, SK S0J 0K0  
Contact Grant Ph: 306-893-8085

AUCTION SALE for Earl Stewart & Lorraine Forbes

Location: Hazel Ridge Road, Shellbrook, SK

Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 @ 9AM

LIVE ONLINE BIDDING

1980 Case 1845 Skid Steer, 1928 Model A (running), 2008 Crossman 5th wheel camper, 2019 Lamar tandem axle car hauler, Stewart built wood splitter w/ conveyor, Stewart built sawmill (incomplete), Polaris 400 Sportsman ATV \*1 owner\*, many tools, household, etc.

For viewing arrangements, please call Michael 306-747-8202,  
viewing available starting February 25<sup>th</sup>.

Bid online in advance or live on sale day, visit  
[BID.SCHMALZAUCTIONS.COM](http://BID.SCHMALZAUCTIONS.COM) for complete listing.



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## COVID proves you never know who's at risk

From the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the common refrain has been that the disease is a slayer of the elderly, the frail, and those with pre-existing health conditions.

The numbers in Saskatchewan seem to bear out this truth.

In the span of a little less than a year, Saskatchewan has recorded 362 COVID-related deaths. Of the victims, 190 (or 52.5 per cent) have been over the age of 80, and another 124 (34.3 per cent) have been aged 60 to 79.

That's nearly 87 per cent of Saskatchewan's COVID-19 victims – a truly harrowing number for our province's most vulnerable population.

The picture is more stark when looking at the Canada-wide numbers. Nationally, 96.2 per cent of the nearly 22,000 people who have died have been aged 60 and over.

Perhaps this is why the death of Tom Thomas, a 34-year-old nurse who worked in North Battleford, comes as such a shock.



JORDAN  
TWISS  
~  
News Editor

True, Mr. Thomas was on the frontlines of the pandemic, where he was exposed every day to the risk of contracting COVID-19 while caring for others. It would have been nothing short of a miracle for him to avoid the disease.

But by all accounts, he was a perfectly healthy man. By all accounts, he fit none of the demographics of those who typically die while COVID-positive.

Mr. Thomas should still be alive. He should have experienced mild symptoms, like so many seem to, then returned to caring for others.

Instead, he is dead. And his wife, his 18-month-old child, and his family and friends are left to grieve.

The truly callous and hard-hearted might say such deaths are to be expected in small numbers. Hopefully, though, most will realize that COVID-19 doesn't discriminate, and that no one is guaranteed to be invincible.

This is why it was so important for Premier Scott Moe's government to stay the course where public health



measures are concerned.

Politically speaking, it would have been the easy move, in this pandemic-weary province, to relax restrictions in the face of the gradually declining daily case counts and let people regain a sliver of normalcy.

Odds are, though, it would have re-

sulted in a renewed surge, needlessly putting more lives at risk.

We're all tired. We all want our lives back. The best, and fastest, way to get there is to be kind, be considerate, and endure a little longer.

As Mr. Thomas' death proves, we never know who might be vulnerable.

## Trudeau's new legislation misses the mark

Dear editor,

*"Every single Canadian wants to see less gun violence and safer communities."*

While I would agree with the sentiment of that statement from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, I disagree with the way he intends to get there.

The overwhelming majority of guns used in Canadian crimes are smuggled in from the U.S. If the Liberals are serious about reducing gun crime, why team up with the NDP to defeat a private member's bill that would have increased penalties for people who smuggle illegal guns into Canada? Along with making it more difficult for suspects accused of gun-running to get bail, the same bill also would have increased minimum sentences for gun smuggling and

for being in possession of a smuggled gun.

Instead, the federal government is arbitrarily penalizing law-abiding firearms owners with legislation that, among other things, would allow municipalities to ban handguns through bylaws restricting their possession, storage, and transportation. The measures would be backed up with serious penalties including jail time for those who violate a misguided patchwork of municipal rules.

So, in addition to punishing law-abiding firearms owners, new federal legislation aims to encourage criminals not to possess, store or transport handguns they already couldn't legally possess. Does that seem effective to you?

Saskatchewan has passed legislation to restrict

municipalities from passing such bylaws on handgun ownership; we don't need a patchwork system across our province. We have also appointed a new chief firearms officer from Saskatchewan instead of allowing the federal government to appoint one.

The federal government should be targeting the real problem: crimes involving stolen, smuggled, and illegal guns. Instead, they are targeting Toronto voters, with law-abiding firearms owners the victims of bad legislation.

So ask yourself this, if the purpose is truly to reduce gun violence and build safer communities, why did Trudeau and the NDP vote against longer sentences for criminals last month?

Daryl Harrison, MLA for Cannington

### Shellbrook Chronicle

Serving the Communities of Shellbrook, Canwood, Debden, Big River, Parkside, Leask, Marcelin, Blaine Lake, Holbein, Mont Nebo, Mayview

### Spiritwood Herald

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

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: In the interest of readers of this newspaper, we will publish opinions of our readers. Letters To The Editor are most welcome; however, they must be signed and include writer's contact information and will only be published with the writer's name on it. Letters should be limited in length and be typed or clearly written. We reserve the right to edit letters depending on available space.

Member of



## Report from the Legislature

More than a year has passed since Canada's first COVID-19 case was confirmed. Since that time, the pandemic has presented challenges few of us could have imagined. Thank you for your patience, understanding and observance of public health orders to keep our friends, families, and communities safe. I offer endless gratitude to all health professionals, emergency responders and service providers, as well as the business owners and employees who have worked tirelessly to adapt and continue serving us through a difficult time.

I ask that you continue to do your part to ensure that our province emerges from this pandemic stronger than ever. On the advice of Saskatchewan's Chief Medical Health Officer, the current public health order will remain in effect until March 19. We understand the impact and inconvenience this may cause but these restrictions are necessary to keep COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations down in the weeks ahead.

Saskatchewan's vaccination program continues to move ahead despite a limited number of vaccines. We soon hope to deliver to Swift Current and southwest Saskatchewan, an area that has not yet received vaccine due to the reduction in delivery from the federal government. Our province remains ready to receive and administer vaccine with Saskatch-



**HON. SCOTT MOE,  
PREMIER**  
~  
MLA for Rosthern -  
Shellbrook  
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1-855-793-3422  
scottmoe.mla@sasktel.net

ewan Health Authority clinics scheduled to take place in 181 communities.

After reviewing our delivery plan, the Ministry of Health has added 11,000 additional health care workers to the priority sequencing previously established for Phase 1 of the Vaccine Delivery Plan. This includes those who will be part of our vaccination teams, home care or direct care providers, and other critical care areas.

The goal of the immunization program is to protect the most high-risk and vulnerable in our communities. We have seen that the older an individual is, the greater the risk, and we are confident that this approach will help reduce illness and minimize deaths.

Phase 2 of the vaccination sequencing will focus on the general population in 10-year increments, starting with ages 60-69. Phase 2 will also target adults and staff in group homes for persons with intellectual

disabilities, shelters, and clinically vulnerable adults as priority. Depending on the vaccine supply arriving in our province, this is scheduled to begin in April. An information campaign throughout the province will take place to keep the public informed.

On the economic front, our province has been able to weather this storm better than most others in Canada. Right now, we have the highest percentage of small businesses operating as well as the lowest unemployment rates in the country.

Saskatchewan also had the highest wholesale trade growth among other provinces in December 2020. Compared to the previous year, wholesale trade is up by 18.1 per cent, where the national increase was just 4.8 per cent. This is an important indicator of our economic recovery and shows there is great confidence in the goods sector here in the province. This will put us in a favourable position as we emerge from the global pandemic.

Municipalities are on the front lines meeting the challenges of growth and the challenges brought on



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by COVID-19. Recently, our government recommitted its support municipalities with more than \$275 million as part of Municipal Revenue Sharing. This unconditional funding provides municipal leaders with flexibility and adaptability to invest into their communities.

Our government continues to invest in our recovery with a \$2 billion stimulus program for highway construction. This economic booster included targeted projects such as upgrades to thin-membrane surfaces and passing lane projects. Not only will our roads be safer and more efficient but many in Saskatchewan will be employed and back to

work.

It is disappointing to see the federal government's ineffective approach to achieving its stated goal of reducing gun violence and building safer communities. While few would disagree with efforts in this regard, the federal government is introducing new legislation that, among other things, would allow municipalities to ban handguns. So, in addition to arbitrarily penalizing law-abiding firearms owners, this new legislation seems to encourage criminals not to possess, store or transport handguns they already couldn't legally possess.

Saskatchewan has passed legislation to restrict municipalities from passing by-laws on handgun ownership; we do not need a patchwork system across our province. We have also appointed a



**HON. JEREMY  
HARRISON  
MLA**  
~  
Meadow  
Lake  
Toll Free:  
1-877-234-6669  
jharrisonmla@sasktel.net

new chief firearms officer from Saskatchewan instead of allowing the federal government to appoint one. The federal government should be targeting the real problem: crimes involving stolen, smuggled, and illegal guns. Instead, they are targeting Toronto voters, with law-abiding firearms owners the victims of bad legislation.

### \*\* Resort Village of Chitek Lake Hiring Summer Students / Seasonal Groundskeepers \*\*

#### JOIN THE TEAM AT THE RESORT VILLAGE OF CHITEK LAKE!

MUST BE AVAILABLE TO START JUNE 2021

##### Main Duties:

- Operate small equipment such as a push mower, weed whipper
- Garbage removal and park/beach clean up and maintenance
- Plant maintenance such as weeding, pruning, dead heading, and watering
- Clean work areas and equipment
- Attend weekly safety meetings as required
- Flexible and willing to do rotational work (weekend on / weekend off)

##### What we offer:

- Semi-monthly pay
- Will provide WHMIS & OHS training to the successful candidate

##### Skills:

- Must be a team player
- Must be able to work in various weather events such as heat, cold, rain and wind
- Able to work in a physically demanding environment, heavy lifting, long periods of standing, bending and walking
- Ability to be flexible regarding day to day tasks and operations
- Strong leadership ability
- Portray a professional and ethical image as a representative of the Resort Village of Chitek Lake

We encourage any individuals who have an interest in small repairs/mechanics, horticulture, and/or an interest in carpentry to apply as this is considered an asset.

(Positions pending grant approval)

##### Credentials (certificates, licenses, memberships, courses, etc.):

- Driver's license
- Specific Skills:**
  - Operate various equipment and machinery
  - Load and unload trucks with supplies and equipment
  - Collect and load refuse on garbage trucks
- Clean and maintain sidewalks, street, roads and public grounds
  - Assist skilled tradespersons
- Assist in routine maintenance and repair of equipment
- Assist equipment operators to secure attachments to equipment or truck

**Work Setting:** Municipal government

**Equipment Experience:** Power Mowers

**Wage/Salary Info:** \$15.00 hourly, commensurate with experience

**# of Positions:** 5

**Employment Terms:** Seasonal: F-T, June through August (possibility of starting earlier and/or extension)

**Education:** Grade 11

**Experience:** 7-11 Months

**Apply By:** April 30, 2021

**How to Apply?:** Please email your resume to [rvchitek@sasktel.net](mailto:rvchitek@sasktel.net)

### \*\* Resort Village of Chitek Lake Hiring Summer Student Coordinator \*\*

#### JOIN THE TEAM AT THE RESORT VILLAGE OF CHITEK LAKE!

We are looking for a Seasonal, Full-Time individual to fill the position of Summer Student Coordinator.

##### Main Duties:

- Oversee summer students within the village
- Including but not limited to: mowing, weed whipping, weed picking, light manual labour, maintenance tasks
- Coordinate daily duties with Office Administrator and Campground Manager
- Clean work areas and equipment

##### What we offer:

- Semi-monthly pay
- Will provide WHMIS & OHS training to the successful candidate

##### Skills:

- Must be a team player
- Ability to be flexible in coordinating day to day tasks and operations
- Must have 3-5 years experience in a similar role
- Strong leadership ability
- Able to perform small necessary repairs to equipment as required
- Ability to both operate and maintain various types of grass cutting equipment
- Must have experience and training in using a chain saw
- Must be able to work in various weather events such as heat, cold, rain and wind
- Able to work in a physically demanding environment, heavy lifting, long periods of standing, bending and walking
- Portray a professional and ethical image as a representative of the Resort Village of Chitek Lake

**Wage/Salary Info:** \$22.00 hourly

**Employment Terms:** Seasonal: F-T, May through September

**Experience:** 3-5 Years

**Apply By:** March 31, 2021

**How to Apply?:** Please email your resume to [rvchitek@sasktel.net](mailto:rvchitek@sasktel.net)



## Novus Law Group

### To our valued clients in Shellbrook, Big River, Spiritwood, Debden and surrounding areas:

As COVID-19 re-opening considerations continue, our dedicated lawyers at Novus Law Group continue to provide legal services to the communities of Shellbrook, Big River, Spiritwood and Debden and surrounding regions.

While our branch offices in these communities are currently unavailable for in-person client meetings, we have in place a work management plan that enables the Novus Law Group team to continue to deliver legal services with minimal disruption.

For assistance during this time, please make arrangements by contacting by phone or email Bill Cannon (for Shellbrook/Debden/Big River), Shelley Cannon (for Spiritwood), or any of our firm's partners or other associate lawyers.

#### Contact us:

**By Phone:** 306-922-4700 (Monday to Friday 9am-5pm)

**By Email:** Bill Cannon at [bcannon@novuslaw.ca](mailto:bcannon@novuslaw.ca)

Shelley Cannon at [scannon@novuslaw.ca](mailto:scannon@novuslaw.ca)

OR [princealbert@novuslaw.ca](mailto:princealbert@novuslaw.ca).

# Shellbrook Scotiabank gives \$1,000 to Minor Sports

Shellbrook Minor Sports (and, by association, young local hockey players) is \$1,000 richer, thanks to a donation from Shellbrook Scotiabank.

The funds come from Scotiabank's Community Hockey Sponsorship Program, which operates nationwide and sees more than 900 Scotiabank branches support teams, leagues, or hockey associations in their respective communities each year.

Funds offered through the program are available (through application) to any team or league with players between the ages of seven and 16, and can be split up between up to four teams or directed towards a single cause.

Kat Smith of Shellbrook Scotiabank says the decision this year, and last, was to award the entire \$1,000 sum to Shellbrook Minor Sports. The decision was made with hockey in mind, with the funds to be di-

rected towards gear, ice time, and fees."

"We did this to ensure that any players that needed specific equipment, or financial aid could be assisted," Smith said.

Smith adds that this was seen as doubly important, given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

"The local branch is always happy to attend Hockey Day, and, this year, ensure funds are available for Minor Sports to make sure ice time is available during COVID-19 for our local players."

In addition to the \$1,000 cheque, the program also supplies goodies like Hockey Day pucks, bags, hats, towels, clipboards, and cinch bags to local hockey players.

For information on the program, visit <https://www.scotiabank.com/ca/en/about/sponsorships/hockey/community-hockey-sponsorship-program.html>



Samantha Borix (left) and Kat Smith (right) of Shellbrook Scotiabank, present the \$1,000 Scotiabank Community Hockey Sponsorship Program cheque to Shellbrook Minor Sports representative Mason Wallin.

## Farm Safety Is Top Of Mind

There is nothing more important than returning safely to our loved ones at the end of the day. Always keep farm safety top of mind.

Learn more online: [saskatchewan.ca/farmsafety](https://saskatchewan.ca/farmsafety)

### Important dates to remember:

- Agriculture Literacy Month - March 2021
- Agriculture Student Scholarship deadline - March 1, 2021
- Agricultural Safety Week - March 14 - 20, 2021

Stay informed about Ministry of Agriculture programs and services by following us on social media:



Contact a regional specialist by calling the Agriculture Knowledge Centre toll-free at  
**1-877-457-2377**

### Mental Health Supports

#### Farm Stress Line

Call 1-800-667-4442

#### Health Line 811

Call 811 or 1-877-800-0002

#### Download the *Avail* mobile app

A tool to help producers track their mental health and access supports.

## Open markets come with dangers, benefits

When you have been penning a weekly column dedicated to agriculture for better than 30-years, there are themes which have repeated often through the years.

One of those has been the now long-disbanded Canadian Wheat Board which was much despised by about half of Prairie grain farmers and loved just as passionately by the other half.

Interestingly the debate that raged here in Canada as the CWB fate was meted out now seems to be replaying in India as the national government there has been moving to open up highly regulated markets, and many farmers are resisting, fearful of change according to an article by Brian Zinchuk - Local Journalism Initiative Reporter (Estevan Mercury).

The debate might be the same at its heart, regulation to provide some market stability and fairness versus free access to the market with the best marketers prospering while a neighbour may not, but the spot in the history of agriculture in India today is vastly different from when Canada chopped the CWB.

As the article noted, in India agriculture is the largest employer of the Indian population, and most of those are small-scale, subsistence farming operations.

That is hardly the case here. While



CALVIN DANIELS

agriculture remains a major export sector, the small farmsteads of the early homestead days have long gone, with farm size growing in a rather steady arc since the end of the first great war.

Small Indian farmers are in a totally different world and one can appreciate they are fearful of change and why protests are said to

have numbered as many as 250 million people, taking part in a 24-hour general strike in late November, 2020.

The deregulation is being touted to open markets, but removes farmers' "guaranteed, timely sale and distribution, stop businesses from hoarding produce, keep prices at a fair level, and prevent small farmers from being taken advantage of by agribusiness corporations" as Slate.com described it on Dec. 9, 2020.

Timely sales alone have to be enough to make small farmers shudder in terms of having money to survive on.

Now, with the better part of a decade of hindsight, Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe is suggesting that the Indian farmers might not need to be so afraid of what is coming, as Saskatchewan farmers have benefited from open markets, according to the article.

On Feb. 11, Moe said, "The path of agricultural reform being pursued by India is one that has been walked by

Saskatchewan in the past. As a province we have moved from small scale subsistence-based farming practices in a highly regulated and government-managed production and marketing system to one in which our producers have the ability to manage and market their own produce."

The end of the CWB had little to do with the evolution from small farmers, a trend started decades earlier and mimicked in the United States and other major grain growing countries.

The evolution will happen in India. The big fish ultimately eat the small.

The question is how long the process is and how the small farmers fare on their way off the land.

Certainly deregulation changes things, as Moe noted.

"This has created tremendous prosperity for our province and literally helped feed the world through massive gains in production volumes and efficiencies. Most recently we saw records smashed with over \$16B in agricultural exports in the last year alone," he said.

The missing number is of course what have profits been. It's great to boost production volumes, but if you are forced to produce more bushels because you are making less per bushel in profit, the equation skews in another direction.

The transition facing India is a massive one given the make-up of the agriculture industry there and the best advice is to proceed with caution and a well-thought out plan.

## Hujber wins January Dessert of the Month



The Spiritwood Public Library has kicked off their Dessert of the Month Draws with a dessert made by Librarian Joyce Carriere. The lucky winner was Dave Hujber.

**PRINCE ALBERT LIVESTOCK SALES**  
A division of Northern Livestock Sales

*To consign cattle or for on-farm appraisals please contact Brent, Glen, Boyd or Frederick*

**Mon., Mar. 1, 2021**  
Presort Sale 9:30 a.m.; Regular Sale 1:30 p.m.

**Fri., Mar. 12, 2021**  
Bred Cow/Heifer & Pair Sale 1:00 p.m.  
*feat. Artesian Angus Farms Heifers*

Direct Livestock Marketing Systems  
**DLMS**  
www.dlms.ca

*Producers wishing to market cattle prior to sale day please contact the office 306-763-8463 for delivery.*

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**Office 306-763-8463 ~ Fax 306-763-4620**  
For market info visit: [www.northernlivestocksales.ca](http://www.northernlivestocksales.ca)

**MEADOW LAKE LIVESTOCK SALES LTD.**

*To consign cattle or for on-farm appraisals please contact Brent, Blair or Brody*

**Fri., Mar. 5, 2021**  
Bred Cow & Heifer Sale 1:00 p.m.

**Wed., Mar. 10, 2021**  
Regular Sale 9:00 a.m.  
Presorted Internet Calf Sale 11:00 a.m.

*Producers wishing to market cattle prior to sale day please contact the office 306-236-3411 for delivery.*

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**FEEDER FINANCE PROGRAM AVAILABLE - Please contact Brent**

Brent 306-240-5340 • Blair 306-240-9883 • Brody 306-240-6504  
**Office 306-236-3411 ~ Fax 306-236-3412**  
Email: [mlstockyards@sasktel.net](mailto:mlstockyards@sasktel.net) ~ market info visit: [www.mlstockyards.com](http://www.mlstockyards.com)

# COVID case reported at Debden school

A positive case of COVID-19 has been identified at École Debden Public School.

The case was reported by Robert Bratvold, director of education for the Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division, on Tuesday, Feb. 16.

At the time of the announcement, Bratvold said there was no clear evidence to suggest the case had been acquired or transmitted at the school, allowing for the resumption of in-person classes at the end of the February break. Following an investigation by public health, it was also determined that staff and students in the affected classroom wouldn't be required to self-isolate.

"Only those with symptoms need to self-isolate and call 811 for further directions," Bratvold reported. "All

other students and staff can resume in-person learning after the February break."

In his notice, Bratvold extended the school division's get well wishes to the affected student, and pledged the division's support for the broader school community and families.

While highlighting the COVID-19 measures SRPSD schools have in place, he also said that COVID-19 is becoming more prevalent in the community, and urged students, teachers, and parents to be diligent in their efforts to prevent its spread.

"The division deeply appreciates the support that students, parents and community members have demonstrated, especially as the number of cases in our region

climbs," he said. "We all share responsibility to minimize the risk of COVID transmission."

Despite the challenges, Bratvold says it's important that students, families and community members continue to:

- be diligent in performing the daily health screening and self-monitoring;
- stay home if ill;
- call the HealthLine at 811 if exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms;
- practice proper hand hygiene;
- maintain physical distancing as much as possible;
- wear a mask when appropriate; and
- do whatever we can to keep each other safe.

## *The Protection of Freedom of Conscience Act introduced in the House of Commons*

Kelly Block, Member of Parliament for Carlton Trail – Eagle Creek, has tabled a private members bill to protect the conscience rights of medical professionals.

"Freedom of Conscience is one of the first fundamental rights laid out in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and it is at the core of our Canadian identity," said MP Block. "This private members bill is a response to calls from physicians and patients to ensure conscience rights for medical professionals."

The bill would extend protections for medical professionals who have chosen to not take part, directly or indirectly, in medical assistance in dying or euthanasia. It would make it a punishable offense to use violence, threats, coercion, or intimidation in order to force a medical professional to take part in or refer a patient for medical assistance in dying or assisted suicide. It also prohibits the firing or refusal to hire medical professionals if the sole reason is their refusal to take

part in medical assistance in dying.

"In the absence of conscience protection, the group with the most to lose are the patients--the people we are all trying to help," stated Dr. Ellen Warner a professor of medicine at the University of Toronto and a staff medical oncologist at the Odette Cancer Centre at Sunnybrook since 1993. "If all physicians who treat incurable diseases must promote medical assistance in dying, then there will no longer be such a

thing as a second opinion."

Dr. Heidi Janz who is an adjunct professor at the University of Alberta and who multiple severe disabilities said of the bill, "When I was born, my mother's conscience told her it is good I exist. We need to protect conscience rights so I can find doctors who believe so too."

Medical associations, medical professional groups, and other concerned organizations across Canada have called for conscience protection for

medical professions including the Ontario Medical Association and First Nation leaders in recent letters to the federal Minister of Justice.

This Bill protects the doctor-patient relationship by ensuring doctors and other medical professionals are always able to recommend and provide the care they believe is best for their patient.

Every patient deserves a second opinion. Conscience protections ensure that second opinions are always an option.

## Police seeks suspects in Shell Lake Museum thefts

The Spiritwood RCMP is seeking assistance from the public following a series of break and enters and thefts from the Shell Lake Museum.

According to a notice sent out through the RCMP Saskatchewan Crime Watch Advisory Network, the Spiritwood RCMP detachment is currently investigating the break-ins, after three separate incidents occurred over the course of a month.


While the notice didn't mention particular dates for the incidents, break-ins and thefts are said to have occurred sometime between Jan. 10 and 21, then be-

tween Feb. 10 and 17, and finally between Feb. 18 and 19.

During the incidents, a number of items were stolen, including a glass cupboard, a hand bell, a donation box, an antique double barrel shotgun, a World War 1 sword and sheath, tobacco pipes, antique cameras, an army tunic, musical instruments, antique spoons, a strip film projector and a mantel clock.

Anyone with information about the incidents is urged to call 310-RCMP for immediate response, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

**PICK OF THE WEEK**



**2015 F150 S/Cab XTR 4X4 145WB**  
2.7L-V6/ Kylss Entry/ Rmt Strt/ SYNC/ Rvrs Snsng/ Rvrs Cmr/ Tlr Tw Pkg/ Rng Brds/ Guard/ 121kms\*

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\*Kms and price in thousands. Taxes not included in price.

### Investing \$130 Million in Highway Construction

This investment is part of our government's two-year, \$2 billion stimulus program aimed to drive investment to help our economic recovery from the global pandemic.

Sixteen highway construction projects worth more than \$130 million have recently been awarded and should be completed this fall. Another eight construction projects are in the tendering process and at least four more will be tendered later this year.

**Nadine Wilson**  
MLA for Saskatchewan Rivers  
[saskrivers@sasktel.net](mailto:saskrivers@sasktel.net)

**Hon. Jeremy Harrison**  
MLA for Meadow Lake  
[jharrisonmla@sasktel.net](mailto:jharrisonmla@sasktel.net)

**Hon. Scott Moe, Premier**  
MLA for Rosthern-Shellbrook  
[scottmoe.mla@sasktel.net](mailto:scottmoe.mla@sasktel.net)





# Minutes of a village of Canwood meeting

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

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council for the Village of Canwood, held at the Canwood Elk's Hall, Seniors Room, 640 2nd Avenue East, Canwood, Sask., on Monday, Jan. 18, 2021, was called to order by Mayor Thompson at 9:37 a.m.

Present: Mayor – Robert Thompson, Deputy Mayor – Svend Hansen, Councillor – Lorne Benson, Ken Moar and Ron Willner, Administrator – Erin Robertson

Hansen: That the minutes of the Dec. 21, 2020, Regular Meeting of Council Dec. 21 Minutes be approved as presented.

Moar: That the Statement of Financial Activities and Bank Reconciliation for Financials the month of December 2020 be approved as presented. Carried

Willner: That the water report for the month of December 2020 be approved as presented. Carried

Thompson: That we acknowledge receipt of Maintenance Manager Calendar, Office Assistant and Administrator Attendance Statements for December as presented. Carried

Moar: That we issue cheques 5213 to 5237, Other payments totaling \$29,319.51, as detailed on attached

List of Accounts for Approval, 2020 Pay Period 18 and January payroll advance from the general account. Carried

Thompson: That we move to in-camera at 10:55 a.m. to sighting The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, section 15(1)(b)(ii) and section 23(1)(b) "personal information" and ask that the Administrator remain in chambers. Carried

Thompson: That we move out of in-camera at 11:31 a.m. Carried

Committee Updates:  
Highway 55 Waste Management Corporation – verbal report provided by Robert Thompson and Lorne Benson

Park Board Committee – verbal report provided by Robert Thompson and Svend Hansen

Benson: That we agree to have the Administrator pay the fees for snow clearing at the Canwood Elk's Community Hall during the month-end process with the timely submission of the required invoice. Carried

Benson: That the correspondence be noted and filed:

- Hudson Bay Route Association Membership request
- Municipalities of Saskatchewan Call for Nominations Executive Committee

• SUMAssure Call for Nominations for Management Board

• The Royal Canadian Legion request for advertising

• Canwood Public School re: Summer Youth Program 2021. Carried

Willner: Whereas the Canwood Public School is not able to partner with the Village of Canwood and participate as the host site for the Summer Youth Program in 2021, be it resolved that we agree to cancel the Summer Youth Program for the 2021 year. Carried

Moar: That we agree to the Automobile Fleet Schedule as prepared by Tait Insurance Group Inc., with an effective date of Jan. 8, 2021. Carried

Benson: That we apply for one (1) labourer summer student with the Canada Summer Jobs Program for the 2021 program year. Carried

Thompson: That we acknowledge the submission of Sewer Works Reports for Jan. 1, 2020, through to Dec. 31, 2020, as presented. Carried

Willner: Whereas The Municipalities Act, section 113(3), requires presentation of bonds or insurance at the first meeting in January, be it resolved

that we acknowledge Aon, on behalf of SUMAssure, has indicated that the Villages Certificate of Insurance 2021 Insurance Bond from SUMAssure was not ready for presentation for this meeting. Carried

Hansen: That we agree to the registration of Administrator, Erin Robertson into LAFOIP Foundations training webinar with the Office of the Saskatchewan Information and Privacy Commissioner Feb. 1 and 2, 2021. Carried

Hansen: That we adjourn at 1:44 p.m. with the next meeting to be Feb. 16, 2021, commencing at 1 p.m. Carried

**NEWSPAPERS ARE TRENDING**  
READERSHIP AT ALL-TIME HIGH OF 88%  
52% of community and daily newspaper readers access content from both print and online sources.

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#NewspapersMatter #Newspapers247

News Media Canada  
Médias d'Info Canada

\* Totum Research; Canadians 18+, weekly readership, March 2019

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**SPIRITWOOD:** Wapiti Regional Library - Limited Capacity. Tuesday 9 am - 5 pm; Wednesday 9 am - 5 pm; Friday 9 am - 5 pm

**LEOVILLE:** Wapiti Regional Library - Appointment only. Wednesday 10 am - 4 pm; Thursday 10 am - 2 pm

**SHELL LAKE:** Wapiti Regional Library - Curb Side Pickup. Tuesday 12 pm - 4 pm; Wednesday 12 pm - 4 pm

**BLAINE LAKE:** Wapiti Library - Appointment only. Wednesday 11 am - 6 pm; Friday 11 am - 5 pm; Saturday 10 am - 4 pm. Contact us for more info 306-497-3130, www.wapitilibrary.ca.

**BIG RIVER:** Wapiti Library - Curb Side Pickup. Monday 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm; Wednesday 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm; Friday 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm

**CANWOOD:** Canwood Branch of Wapiti Regional Library. Appointment only. Tuesday 10 am - 4 pm; Thursday 10 am - 4 pm; Friday 12 pm - 4 pm. Call 306-468-2501 to book a slot.

**DEBDEN:** Wapiti Library hours: Appointment only. Monday 2 pm - 7 pm; Tuesday 10 am - 4 pm. Librarian: Aline Hannon

**LEASK:** Wapiti Library & Legacy Gallery Hours - Limited Capacity. Tuesday 10:30 am - 5 pm; Friday 10:30 am - 5 pm; Saturday 1 pm - 4 pm

**MARCELIN:** Wapiti Library - Appointment only. Tuesday 2 pm - 7 pm; Thursday 2 pm - 8 pm; Saturday 9 am - 2 pm. For information on all your library needs, please contact 306-226-2110.

**SHELLBROOK:** Shellbrook Branch of the Wapiti Library located at 105 Railway Ave., West (Provincial building). Library Hours: Limited capacity - Monday 2 pm - 6 pm; Tuesday 12 pm - 8 pm; Wednesday 2 pm - 8 pm; Thursday 12 pm - 6 pm; Friday 9 am - 4 pm.

## TRIPLE YOUR ADVERTISING

We'll advertise your important community event in our Community Calendar FREE for two weeks prior to the event with purchase of a 2 column x 2" Display ad for only:

**\$60<sup>00</sup> plus G.S.T. - A savings of over 30%**

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Ph: 306-747-2442 • Fax: 306-747-3000 • Email: chads@sbchron.com

## CALL FOR DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS

The Elections Committee of **Diamond North Credit Union** will receive written nominations for the position of Director of Diamond North Credit Union.

In 2021, four director terms are open for nomination. Three positions are three-year terms and one position is a two-year term.

Interested persons must attest to director qualification requirements in writing by the nomination deadline. Nomination forms are available online at [diamondnorthcu.com/nominations](http://diamondnorthcu.com/nominations) or at any branch of Diamond North Credit Union.

**Nominations must be received by the Credit Union no later than the close of business on Friday, March 5, 2021.**

If required, an election will be held from **Monday, March 22 to Friday, April 2, 2021**. Members have one vote which they can cast on-line by accessing the credit unions website at: [www.diamondnorthcu.com](http://www.diamondnorthcu.com) or by paper ballot at any branch of Diamond North Credit Union during normal work hours.

Should you require further information, please contact Executive Assistant, Wilma Brick at: [wilma.brick@diamondnorthcu.com](mailto:wilma.brick@diamondnorthcu.com).



# Minutes of a Village of Debden meeting

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

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council for the Village of Debden, held Dec. 10, 2020 at 7 p.m. at the Village Office Chambers.

Present

Mayor- Rod Fisher, Councillors: Norman Cyr, Paulin Beaulac, Cecile Compagna, and Administrator: Tamara Couture.

A quorum being present Mayor, Rod Fisher, called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Compagna: That the agenda with additions be accepted as presented. Carried

Fisher: That the minutes of the November 3, 2020 meeting be adopted as presented. Carried

Fisher: That the minutes of the First Meeting of Council be adopted as presented. Carried

Cyr: That the Correspondence be acknowledged as presented. Carried

Cyr: That the financial statements for the month of November 2020 be approved as presented. Carried

Cyr: That the accounts payable for the month of November 2020 for the amount of \$78,022.73 be approved as presented. Carried

Beaulac: That the water report for the month of November 2020 be approved as reviewed and presented. Carried

Beaulac: That the Maintenance Time Sheet be approved as presented. Carried

Beaulac: That the Administration Time Sheet be approved as presented. Carried

Delegate: Mr. Derek Belair and Mr. Clayton Hannon approached Council re-

garding custom work and the resulting invoice for a water break and curb stop replacement at 406 4th Avenue West.

Cyr: That the Village pay the amended invoice from Triple M Daylighting for curb stop replacement at 406 4th Avenue West that reflects the removal of after hour charge and reduction in sand price. Carried (3 for, 1 against)

Compagna: That Council implements the rates for 2021 as attached. Carried

Cyr: That Council appoints Gord Krismer & Associates as our 2021 Board of Revision. Board members to be appointed: Jeff Hutton, Clint Krismer, Gord Krismer, Kirby Bodnard, Brenda Lauf, Cameron Duncan, Dave Lang, Pam Maluch and Christina Krismer. Carried

Cyr: That Council appoints Aileen Swensen of Gord Krismer & Associates as the Secretary to the Board of Revisions for 2021. Carried

Cyr: That the Council of the Village of Debden appoint the following persons to represent the municipality on the Morin Lake Regional Park Board for 2021: Mr. Luc Pouliot, Ms. Collette DeMontarnal, Mrs. Doreen Couture, Mrs. Aline Hannon, and Mrs. Helene Boutin. Carried

Compagna: That Council appoints Tyler Paslawski of District 33 RAT Eradication Program as the Pest Control Officer for 2021. Carried

Cyr: The Village of Debden appoints Grant Thornton LLP, as Auditor for the 2020 Audit & Financial Statements as per quote dated November 2020. Carried

Cyr: Under the Uniform Building and Accessibility Standards Act, Council appoints: Chris Gates, Karly Heatcoat and Terry Rolleston of BuildTECH Consult-

ing & Inspections Inc. as the 2021 Building Officials for the Village of Debden. Carried

Cyr: That the amount equivalent to the 2020 Infrastructure Revenue be transferred to the Water/Sewer Reserve Account. That this amount be transferred to term account upon maturity. Carried

Cyr: That 25% of Administrator Wages be moved to Lagoon Project expense account to reflect time spent on Lagoon project for 2020. Carried

Compagna: That the amount equivalent to the 2020 Extrication Revenue be transferred to the Fire Department Reserve Account. Carried

Cyr: That the Village use \$5,000 from reserves for sidewalk project and \$5,000 from reserves for road reclamation project. Carried

Cyr: That the renewable term set to mature on March 21, 2021 be reinvested in a Redeemable 1 year Term for \$96,670 for Water/Sewer Reserve. & That the renewable term set to mature on Dec. 27, 2020 be reinvested in a Redeemable 1 Year Term for \$23,500 equivalent to our Current Centennial Reserve Account. Carried

Compagna: That the Village Council discussed the possibilities and actions that would constitute fraud within the Village of Debden. As a small business, trust may be placed in employees of the Village of Debden. Council is aware of the possibility of fraud and checking accounts being paid and supplies being ordered for the Village of Debden as a watch for any unusual activity. Employees need to be aware of a zero tolerance policy for fraud committed against the Village of Debden. Carried

Beaulac: That Bylaw 6/2020 being a Bylaw to Establish the Community Center Board be introduced and read a first time. Carried

Cyr: That Council amends Policy 1/2020, known as the Infectious Disease Policy as attached. Carried

Cyr: That Council amends Policy 2/2020, known as the Pandemic & Exposure Plan, attached. Carried

Cyr: That for the 2020/2021 season, the Village reduce the waste fee for the Debden Rec Board to \$25.00/month. The utility rate is to remain the same. Carried

Cyr: That the following meeting expenses be approved: Rocky Gaudry - \$200.00, Tamara Couture - \$200.00. Carried

Cyr: Council approves wage increases as follows: That Rocky Gaudry receive a \$0.25/hour increase effective Jan. 1, 2021 and an increase of an additional \$0.25/hour after obtaining Water Treatment and Distribution Class I. Each certificate thereafter will also increase another \$0.25/hour. Tamara Couture receive a \$1.00/hour raise effective Jan. 1, 2021. Carried

Beaulac: That Council acknowledges the submitted expense and Council remuneration forms and authorizes payment. Carried

Cyr: That Council approves signing the Lease Agreement between the Community Center and the Village of Debden Office spaces. Carried

Cyr: That whereas the Village of Debden wishes to acquire from the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency and the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency wishes to provide dispatching services, the Village Council authorizes the Administrator to sign the Fire Dispatch Service Agreement as attached. Carried

Compagna: That Council acknowledge the 2019 Saskatchewan Housing Municipal Settlement Share. Carried

Beaulac: That the Village renew the Lagoon Hauler agreement with Dean Lehouillier. Carried

Fisher: That Council acknowledges the kw change in the Generator Tender and authorizes payment for Progress Payment Invoice 5858 in the amount of \$7492.50. Carried

Cyr: That Council acknowledges the additional cost of iPad and authorizes full payment to Raymond Brad as per the Electronic Policy. Carried

Compagna: That this meeting be adjourned at 12:05 a.m.

## 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. Sarah Urano

### 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  
Everyone Welcome  
SATURDAY  
Shell Lake - 2:00 p.m.  
Medstead - 6 p.m.  
Father Ramel Macapeia

### PARTNERS IN WORSHIP

Shell Lake  
Online Worship  
306-841-7333  
Pastor Sarah Urano

### 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

### 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

### LAKELAND COMMUNITY CHURCH

Spiritwood  
Sun., 11 am - Worship  
Service & Sunday School

### 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



## Junior Citizen of the Year Scholarship

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

These prestigious awards are given to youth who:

- Have a positive lifestyle
- Have had the ability to overcome life's challenges
- Have a strong sense of caring and responsibility
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- Inspire others
- Are between the ages of 8 to 18



This year four deserving youth will receive \$3000 bursaries to use towards their post-secondary education. Nominate someone from your community today.

Visit [www.swna.com](http://www.swna.com) for further information and nomination forms



Nominations close March 31, 2021

## Hextall completes full circle with Rutherford

The Jim Rutherford-Ron Hextall story — spaced out over 50 years — has movie potential.

The Coles notes: Veteran National Hockey League goalie befriends young son of a teammate in the early 1970s; teaches him some goaltending tricks of the trade. Fifty years later, that veteran goaltender-turned NHL executive retires and is replaced by that same seven-year-old lad he played with 50 years ago. That youngster is now a 56-year-old with an extensive hockey background.

Lights! Camera! Action!

At the press conference announcing his hiring as general manager of the Pittsburgh Penguins in early February, Hextall reflected on his relationship with Rutherford, who stepped down Jan. 27 for what was termed 'personal reasons.' Young Hextall, an aspiring netminder who was aged five through nine while his dad, Bryan, Jr., played for the Pens, would hang around the

dressing room waiting for his dad to shower after practice, getting tips from Rutherford while he waited.

Their paths separated after Bryan Hextall retired from the NHL in the mid-1970s after more than 500 games and 99 goals. After retirement in 1983, Rutherford went on to a 27-year stint as general manager of Hartford/Carolina and Pittsburgh. Young Ron Hextall, meanwhile, made a name for himself as a junior goalie star with his hometown Brandon Wheat Kings, a 13-year career in the NHL (where he was a Rookie-of-the-Year winner and later a Conn Smythe trophy recipient). After retiring, he took on a front office job with the Los Angeles Kings and then served four years as general manager of Philadelphia Flyers.

Then, in early February, the Penguins announced that Hextall would be Rutherford's replacement as general manager, making complete the circle of friendship that began back



BRUCE  
PENTON

in 1971. Brian Burke, longtime NHL executive and more recently a Sportsnet TV analyst, was hired alongside Hextall to run the Penguins show.

Besides getting goaltending tips from Rutherford, Hextall reminisced about playing road hockey with a couple of Pirates baseball players who lived in the Hextall family's upscale Green Tree neighbourhood, Rennie Stennett and Manny Sanguinetti.

"I've come full circle," Hextall said in a Penguins press release. His hiring certainly cements the Hextall name in the foundation of the NHL. His grandfather, Bryan, Sr., scored the overtime

winning goal in 1940 for New York Rangers and is a member of the Hockey Hall of Fame. His father, of course, played more than 500 games in the league, as did his uncle, Dennis Hextall. Now, Ron is in an ultra-exclusive group — one of 31 NHL general managers.

Hollywood could have fun with this one.

- Josh Braaten on Twitter, about the great Tom Brady: "If he really wants to cement his legacy, he'll do this in a Vikings jersey a year from now."

- Jay Busbee of Yahoo Sports, on the scrambling required by the two Super Bowl quarterbacks: (Patrick) Mahomes was running for his life, while (Tom) Brady had time to make himself a sandwich."

- Patti Dawn Swanson, aka the River City Renegade, on ex-Jet Patrik Laine being benched for half of his fourth game under coach John Tortorella of Columbus: "Four games as a Blue Jacket and bully coach Torts turns him

into a garden gnome."

- Swanson, advising Laine about the drawbacks of signing a long-term contract with Columbus: "Can you imagine spending the next 10 years or so with someone barking in your ear? If that's what you want, just get married."

- Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "A clearly drunk Tom Brady throws the Lombardi Super Bowl trophy 10 yards from his boat to another boat. The impressive part of that throw to me was how Brady looked off the other boat in the cover two defence."

- Kaseberg again: "Not to say Tom Brady is getting up there, but when they asked, 'Tom Brady, you just won the Super Bowl. Where are you going now?' Brady said, 'Leave me alone, Jeopardy is on.'"

- Headline in theonion.com: 'This Cements Brady As The Second-Best Quarterback Of All Time' Proclaims Terry Bradshaw

- Another one from theonion.com: "7,500

Health Care Workers Instinctively Rush Field To Treat Player Injury"

- Headline at fark.com: "Up for Emmy consideration: Matthew Stafford acting like it was hard to leave Detroit."

- Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "Offshore sports book Bovada says it won't pay out on a \$10,000 Super Bowl streaker prop bet placed by the fourth-quarter interloper — or any of his associates — that would have made them all a hefty profit. Now that's what you call a losing streak."

- Tim Hunter of Everett's KRKO Radio, on Yankee Stadium doubling as a vaccination site: "Out of habit, Red Sox fans immediately started yelling, 'Vaccines suck!'"

- Bob Molinaro of pilotonline.com (Hampton, Va.), on the Super Bowl commercial featuring Bruce Springsteen out on the range in a Jeep: "Bruce in a cowboy hat? He's not even from West Jersey."

Care to comment?  
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## OBITUARIES

*Bertha Pauline Gurney*

Bertha Pauline Gurney  
(née Sommerfeld)

May 5, 1928 - February 15, 2021

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Bertha Pauline Gurney on February 15, 2021. Bertha passed away peacefully, in her sleep, at Herb Bassett Home at the age of 92. Bertha was born May 5, 1928 in the Bright-holme district near Shellbrook, SK, to Adolph and Anna Sommerfeld. Bertha was the oldest of three children. She grew up on the farm, attended Mount Teviot School, enjoyed her life growing up with family and friends in the area.

Bertha married Richard Gurney in October 1949, they then moved to Lacombe, Alberta, where they had three children, Carol, Rodney, and Janet. Four years later, they moved to Prince Albert, SK, where she spent the remainder of her life. While in PA, Richard and Bertha added one more child to their family, Rick.

Bertha was a kind, loving, generous, hard-working person always willing to help anyone she could.

She was a long-time member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints where she served in many positions for over 60 years. Besides her church activity, she enjoyed bowling, water aerobics, volunteering at the Thrift shop, being a greeter at Walmart, as well as lunching with the 'Sanitorium ladies' and other friends. Over the years, Bertha has cooked for thousands. Between working at Kresge's & Woolworth's lunch counters, the Coronet & Marlboro hotels, the Voyager, Lowe's at Waskesiu

and retired after many years of cooking at the Saskatchewan Penitentiary. Many will remember her delicious cinnamon buns.

She is survived by her children Carol (Brent) Bryson of Arizona, Janet (Merv) Grasby of Alberta, Rick (Shelly) Gurney of Prince Albert, SK, 12 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren, her sister Esther Sommerfeld and brother Walter Sommerfeld.

She is predeceased by her husband Richard, son Rodney and great-grandson Samuel.

The family wishes to thank the staff at Herb Bassett Home for the excellent care of our mother and to all those who have expressed their condolences.

Arrangements in care of MacKenzie Chapel & Crematorium - Shellbrook Funeral Home. Brian Stobbs, Renee Phaneuf & Mark Gyeorick. www.MacKenzieChapel.ca 306.763.8488.

*Gordon Roderick "Rod" Higgins*

It is with deep sorrow that the family of Gordon Roderick "Rod" Higgins announces his peaceful passing on February 5th, 2021.

He will be dearly missed by his loving wife Linda, their children; Dwayne (Maria) Higgins and their

family, Danielle (Lane and son, Eli), Brittany (Tylor and children, Elizabeth and Henry), Jared and Carter; Wade Higgins' family, Braden (Chantelle), Madison (Troy and daughter, Ella); Laura-Lee (Eric) Cross and their family, Ryan (Chawny) and Tyler, his siblings, Jean Crowther, Jacquie (Fred) Moffat, Wendy Riekert, Chuck (Lori) Higgins. Rod is predeceased by his son, Wade, his nephew, Shayne Higgins, his brothers, Roy and Paddy, his parents, Effie and Gordon.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, there was a private family service held. In lieu of flowers,

please make a donation to the Idylwild Lodge Ladies Auxiliary - Spiritwood and District Health Complex.

If you were to ask Rod Higgins what heaven would be like, we have a pretty good idea of what he would say. A fish on the line, a cold Coors Light in his hand, his son Wade by his side and memories of the love of his life dancing in his mind. Family and friends wishing to send online condolences may visit [www.beaulacfuneralhome.com](http://www.beaulacfuneralhome.com). Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home, Lori Saam, Spiritwood, SK., 306-883-3500

*Relda "Doreen" Short*

Relda Doreen Short (Walker) passed away peacefully on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at RUH in Saskatoon at the age of 85, the institute of her initial nursing employment. Born on July 23, 1935, oldest of three children to Roy and Doris Walker. Doreen grew up on a farm near Senlac, Saskatchewan where she took her schooling and developed her love for all sports. She graduated in 1953 and entered St. Paul's School of Nursing on September 2, 1953, graduating May of 1956 as a Registered Nurse. She started her career at the University Hospital in Pediatrics. In May of 1957 she travelled to Halifax,

Nova Scotia and nursed at Victoria General Hospital from June - December, then returned to Saskatoon's University Hospital. Doreen met Alan Short at an Easter Sunday Sunrise service at St. Thomas Wesley on April 1, 1956 and the April Fools laughs continued their whole relationship. A dear friendship that led to marriage on July 11, 1959, a love that lasted for over 61 years with everlasting memories. They moved to the family farm in the R.M. of Medstead and began their journey. She nursed in Spiritwood and Rabbit Lake Hospitals until she transferred to Home Care in 1982 and worked until 1997, working in both Prince Albert and North Battleford districts. Doreen was also the active coroner for several years. A passion for nursing led her to a career of over 40 years, forming many friendships and acquaintances.

Being new to Medstead in 1959, she soon became an integral part of the community that would become her home for her entire family and married life. Doreen enjoyed spending time with

family and friends, forever the entertainer!

Survived by her loving husband, Alan Short, her children; Leanne (Bob) Thomas - Jordi (Kaelyn), Derek; Alison (Dennis) Ogenchuk; Murray (Rae) Short - Dayton, Quintin, Ryann; Trevor (Jeanette) Short - Andrew, Shelby (Matt), Mason; her sister - Carol (Bob) Cooper of Unity, SK.; brother-in-law - Evan Short of Union Bay, B.C., and numerous relatives. Doreen is predeceased by: her parents - Roy D. Walker and Doris Walker, her brother - Carmen Walker, her sisters-in-law - Joyce and Elizabeth.

Memorial donations in memory of Doreen Short may be directed to Medstead and District Recreation Association (MADRA) Box 86, Medstead, SK, S0M 1W0 or Donor's Choice. Family and friends wishing to send private online condolences may do so by visiting [www.beaulacfuneralhome.com](http://www.beaulacfuneralhome.com). Arrangements have been entrusted to Lori Saam of Beau "Lac" Funeral home in Spiritwood 306-883-3500

## GOOD NEWS

## GOD IS WITH US ALWAYS

By Jonathan Worrall  
Student Minister,  
Knox United Church

We are once again entering the Season of Lent. It was near this time last year that the pandemic swept across the globe, changing everything. First, there was the lockdown; people retreated to the safety of their homes. As months passed, the province entered into a "reopening plan." There were safety guidelines put in place to ensure that the transmission of COVID-19 was hindered, curbing the threat of outbreaks. At present, we have grown accustomed to wearing masks in public spaces/buildings and maintaining social distance.

Since the pandemic began, I have heard numerous people ponder the possibility that COVID-19 may be some form of divine punishment or wrath for our sins and failure to care for creation. In turn, my mind draws an immediate connection to our plight with the story of Noah and the Ark.

I do not believe in a vengeful or wrathful God of divine punishment. If we look to Scripture, the flood does not appear to be an act of wrath, but of God's broken heart and despair over the state of creation. "The Lord saw that the wickedness of humankind was great in the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually. And the Lord was sorry that he had made

humankind on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart," (Genesis 6:5-6). These are the words of a depressed and anguished God.

What's more, it is clear that following the flood, God has perhaps recognized that this is not the way to deal with creation. This is reflected in the fact that God re-enters into the covenant with humankind, knowing full well that humankind will be unable to be entirely free from sin. Indeed, God recognizes the likelihood of this. Sin is impossible to separate from humanity.

Yet, in spite of the certainty that humanity will falter and sin, God re-enters the covenant with nothing expected of humankind in return. God promises the safety of all humanity, and by extension, the animals and creatures of creation. This promise is eternal and inclusive; it was not a covenant made only with Noah and his family; it extends to all. It is the divine vow that God will never abandon creation, or subject creation to such punishment. Essentially, this illustrates to the faithful, as theologian John Cobb stated, that "God's power is persuasive, not coercive."

This covenant was made to our faith ancestors and is extended to all of humankind. I feel that our faith is affirmed in that God, knowing we are imperfect and prone to sin, still recognizes that humankind (which was created in the image of the divine) is still good; and still

gives God an abundance of joy.

God is not a God of wrath and punishment. God has made an eternal promise; God will never abandon or punish creation. While God will take us as we are, God will still inspire

and empower us to care for each other and all of creation. We are all blessed with God's grace. No matter the circumstance, no matter our mistakes, no matter our hardship, God remains with us. Always.

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## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the estate of NORMA WALL, late of Shellbrook, Saskatchewan, deceased. All claims against the above estate, duly verified by statutory declaration and with particulars and valuation of security held, if any, must be sent to the undersigned before the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2021. NOVUS LAW GROUP Barristers & Solicitors 1200 Central Avenue Prince Albert, SK S6V 4V8 Attention: Bill Cannon Solicitors for the Estate 2-09

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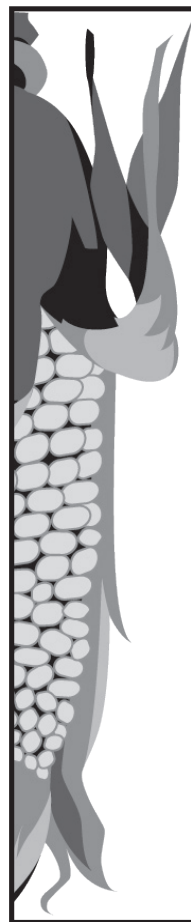
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St. Andrew's - Shellbrook  
Sunday, 11 a.m. Service  
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Sun. Mar. 14, 2021, 11 a.m.  
Canwood - Christ Church  
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Sun., 11:30 a.m. - Mass  
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Sun., 2:30 p.m. - Mass.  
Victoire  
Sat., 7:30 p.m. - Mass.  
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### Missing: Katelyn Noble

Date of Birth: Apr 4, 1992      MISSING SINCE: Aug 17, 2007  
FROM: Radisson, SK      Height: 5' 5"  
Weight: 125 Lbs.      Hair: Blonde  
Eyes: Blue      File: 3194 V

PARTICULARS: Katelyn was last seen in Radisson, Saskatchewan, believed to be coming home to Mission, BC

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.

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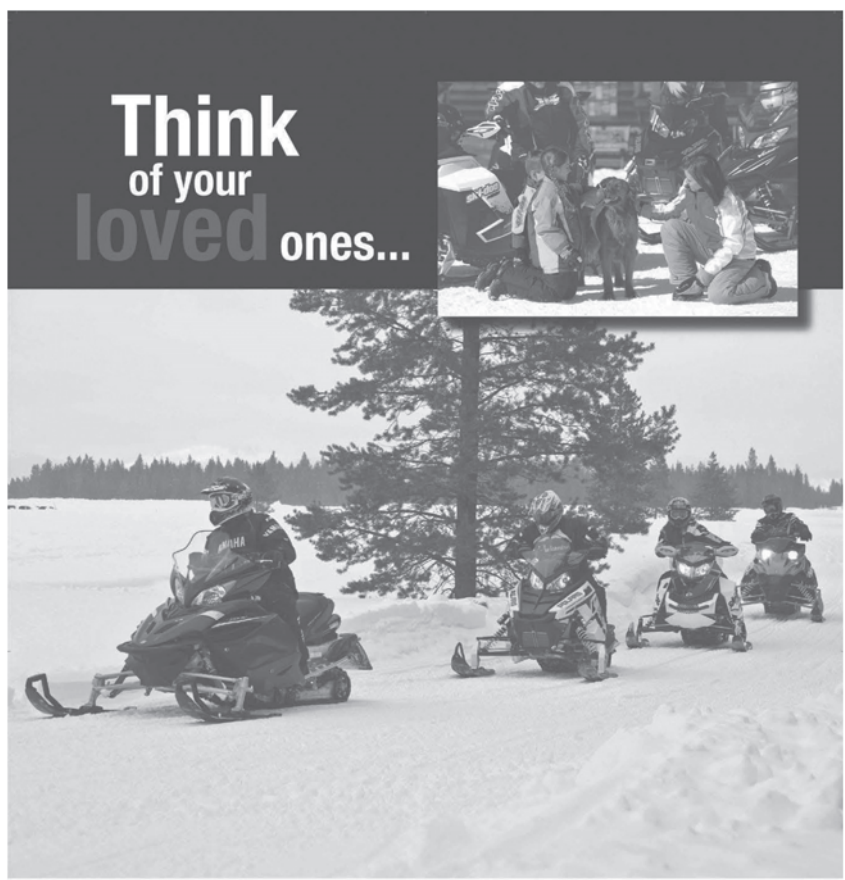
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# A walk on the wild side

**By Jill Thomson**

When we are introducing new plants to our gardens, growing conditions should be matched to plant preferences – soil type, drainage, hours of direct sunlight, amount of shade, proximity to other plants, shelter from wind, etc. Recently, I have realized that observing plants in their native habitat helps with choosing their placement in my

garden. One of my favourite and frequent places to walk our dogs is at Chief Whitecap Park (CWP), south of Saskatoon. The park has a wide range of habitats, particularly if you walk through the undisturbed native prairie at the south end and then into the transition zone between the river bank and the river woodland, where prairie shrubs are found.



**Erigeron species. Photo credit: Jill Thomson**

You can scramble down the steep bank and walk along the river's edge, then walk through the woodland in the valley before taking a path back up to the grassland. There are many beautiful native plants that bloom from the end of the first snow in the spring to the frosts and snow of fall. I have made notes and taken photos of the flowers that bloom sequentially throughout the season.

Many people walk through the park to see the prairie crocus (*Anemone patens* var. *multifida*) that flowers in the undisturbed prairie at the south end, even when we have a late snowfall. This plant needs to grow in undisturbed soil that is not shaded, and does not usually do well in a traditional garden. However, I have included its Latin name, because the native plant has been crossed with a European species (*Anemone pulsatilla*) and their hybrid offspring are a great addition to the garden.

Another favourite early flowering prairie plant is

the three-flowered avens (*Geum triflorum*) and it is this plant that clued me in to taking notice of where plants like to grow. I had planted a specimen at the edge of my north-facing front yard, close to the sidewalk. It grew well for about 5 years but gradually died out as the rest of the garden grew taller and even the edge became shaded. Now I enjoy seeing it flourish in the open, sunny areas of the prairie area.

*Liatris* and *Penstemon* species are both showy, flowering plants that need to grow in full sun, and both can be seen flowering at CWP in the open grassy areas in mid-summer.

There are several plants that can do well in most conditions, and the wild rose (*Rosa* species) is an excellent example. Short stemmed plants are found in the sunny locations, with flowers varying from white through various shades of pink. When growing in shaded areas, including the edges of the woodland and the denser underbrush in the river valley, the stems grow longer, reaching up in the canopy, and the flowers tend to be a darker, more vivid pink. These may be different species, found in the differing habitats (e.g., prickly rose [*Rosa acicularis* ssp. *sayi*] in prairie habitats and Wood's rose [*Rosa woodsii* var. *woodsii*] in treed habitats). This type of rose can flourish under similar conditions in the garden, mine has grown well at the edge of my overgrown front yard for at least 25 years.

Honeysuckle (*Lonicera* species), fleabanes (*Erigeron* species) and lilies (*Lilium* species), are all plants that are usually found at the edge of wooded areas along the river bank. Relatives of these species will also do well in the semi-shaded areas of your garden.

In the woodland area, on the banks and along the river valley, you can find plants that might do well in shaded areas of your garden, but remember to see what moisture conditions they prefer. Two-leaved Solomon's seal (*Maianthemum canadense*), bunchberry (*Cornus canadensis*) and wild sarsaparilla (*Ara-*

*lia nudicaulis*) are all common understory plants. There is also a small patch of pink wintergreen (*Pyrola asarifolia*) I have seen beside one of the paths and I hope to buy some plants to try in my garden in 2021.

I have only mentioned a few of the many flowering plants you will see when walking in this park, and other native habitats. An excellent reference book for identifying native plants that might do well in your garden is "Native plants for the short season yard" by Lyndon Penner.

Please remember that you should not dig up native plants from natural areas for two reasons. First, transplants may perform

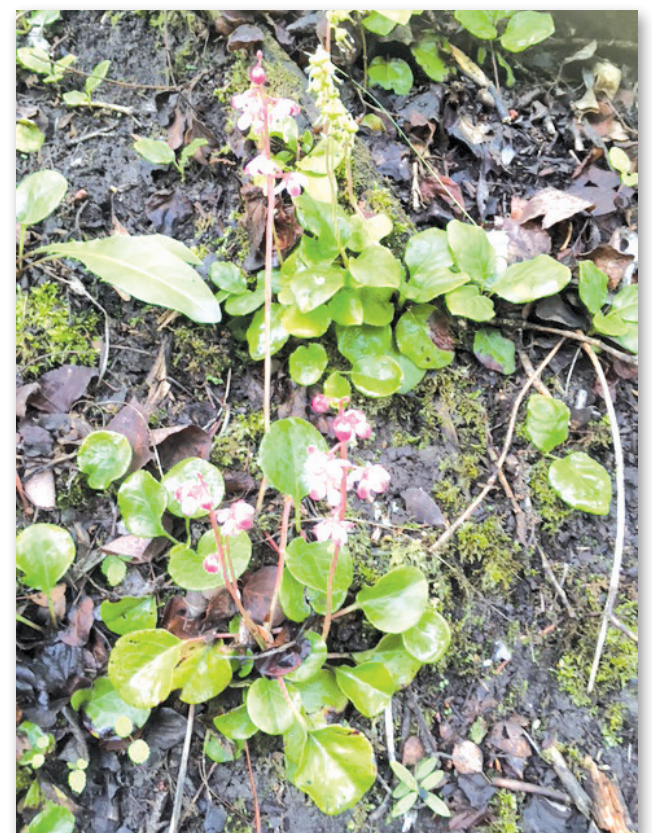
poorly and die within a short period as garden conditions are so different from where they were recently growing. Second, you are creating an area of disturbance that will allow weeds to get a foothold. Rather, buy from reputable garden centres specializing in native plants that have grown plants from seed collected in a sustainable manner.

*Jill Thomson is a plant disease specialist (retired) who enjoys walking her dogs at Chief Whitecap Park.*

*This column is provided courtesy of the Saskatchewan Perennial Society (SPS; saskperennial@hotmail.com).*



**Liatris species. Photo credit: Jill Thomson**



**Pyrola asarifolia. Photo credit: Jill Thomson**

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