



## Shellbrook rink project reaches conclusion



**After four years of upgrades, spearheaded by the Shellbrook Recreation Project Steering Committee, the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre is a new building both inside and out.**

That's a wrap.

After nearly four years of commitment to transforming the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre into a modern arena, the Shellbrook Recreation Project Steering Committee has realized its vision and is ready to step back and let the community take the helm.

The committee, consisting of Bruce Clements (Town Rep), Amund Otterson (Project Manager), Drew Ferster, Brent Miller (Chair, Town Rep), Tricia Bell, Jody Smart, Tasha Cyr (Treasurer), Cliff Skauge (RM of Shellbrook Observer), Shauna Tait, Chad Fisher, Cheryl Ledding, Kathleen Nording, Jay Ferster, and Scott Galloway, held

its last meeting on March 24.

There, it outlined in painstaking detail what it, and the community, managed to accomplish by working in tandem.

"I think it is a pretty incredible story of collaboration and community will to succeed," said Brent Miller.

At the outset of the project in 2017, the committee was expecting its ambitious, three-phase project to cost \$2,167,500. When all was said and done, however, the project cost just \$1,891,752.01

Tasha Cyr says these cost savings of more than \$275,000 are 100 per cent attributable to volunteers, who donat-

ed time or machinery to help the work at the rink get done.

While she's almost certain she's forgetting a few hours or donations here or there, Cyr says volunteers contributed about 8,900 hours to the project, giving their combined labour and contributions a total value of about \$202,000.

"All the little stuff people just give without thinking twice about it. People were so willing to help, it was amazing," Cyr said.

"And it didn't dwindle. We started this project in 2017, with assessments and studies, and ended it with the solar system going in this past fall. The

volunteers helped throughout the entire project."

Looking at the financial side of the project, grants, including the \$750,000 Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program grant, accounted for \$1,060,407 of the overall revenue, while Hockey Day in Shellbrook delivered \$427,062.

The Field of Dreams, meanwhile, accounted for nearly \$294,000 of revenue with its donations to both the skating and curling rinks, and direct donations to the Steering Committee totalled \$62,678.

*Continued on page 2*

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# Shellbrook rink project reaches conclusion

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With all these sources of revenue, and the overwhelming support from the community, the Steering Committee was able to finish the project with \$53,000 left in its coffers — a significant improvement over estimates that as much as 5 per cent of the project's balance would be left outstanding.

Those leftover funds will be transferred to the town, which is taking over the reins at the rink, to be used for any future capital expenditures.

To recap, phase one of the rink project included the installation of a new ice plant and the purchase of a new ice resurfacing machine, while phase two's major upgrades were the ice surface, the boards and glass, and a low-emissivity ceiling.

Phase two also included a number of minor upgrades, including new exterior and interior doors, new insulation, up-

grades to the lobby and bathrooms, and an improved viewing area from the lobby. And, separate of the Steering Committee's project, a local group undertook its own project to have 630 arena-style seats installed in the rink.

Last, but certainly not least, phase three of the rink improvement project was focused almost entirely on the installation of a solar panel array. That array includes three rows of south-facing solar panels with a total of 250 400w modules, for a total of 100kW, and will generate an estimated 120,000kW per year, or about \$16,800 of electricity at 2020 prices.

In addition to lowering the rink's carbon footprint — a key piece of the Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program grant — the solar array will receive full retail value for electricity generated, through Saskatchewan's Net Metering program.



Three rows of solar panels now stand on the property that was once Parkland Terrace. The panels marked the final stage of the renovations of the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre.

## SARCS bring in over \$55,000 in Online Community Auction

The SARCS Community Online Auction was held over a course of five weeks. Each week held its own auction running Monday through Sunday with approximately 31 items for auction. In previous years, the event would have been held in person with a live and silent auction, a raffle, and a 50/50, but due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, this format would not have been possible this year.

According to SARCS Events and Recreation Coordinator, Kali Cross, Facebook helped to reach a wider audience and people joining in on bidding who would not have attended the live auction in previous years.

"I am very pleased with the outcome of the auction and cannot thank our community enough for the support!" said Cross.

Despite the pandemic, community support was overwhelming. A total of 156 items were donated along with cash donations which is comparable to past years' donations. Although this past year has been tough on many families and businesses, Cross said she found people were still very generous with their donation and support for SARCS.

The majority of items went for value or higher, but

there were a few items that went under value which might have done better in a live auction setting. The 2019 live auction raised \$68,390.00 while the 2021 online auction raised \$55,216.00 from auction sales and cash donations. The funds raised from the auction will go towards paying the facility's mortgage.

Cross said there were perks to both online and in person formats for the auction and that community

feedback following the 2021 auction was split. She says one day she would be having a conversation with someone who misses in-person auctions and said the online format was not for them. Another day she may have been having a conversation with someone who preferred the online format and hoped SARCS would continue with it. Feedback from both sides is something Cross said she will take into consideration going forward.

"While the online format was terrific, I do look forward to the day we can have our community auction in-person," said Cross. "I hope to find the right combination of the two so there is something offered for everyone."



Despite needing to change the format of the popular biannual Community Auction to online, SARCS received an overwhelming amount of donations and support from community members and businesses.

### VILLAGE OF SHELL LAKE NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

Pursuant to subsection 214 of *The Municipalities Act*, notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll for the Village of Shell Lake for the year 2021 has been prepared and is open for inspection at the Office of the Administrator from 9:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on the following days: Monday to Thursday, excluding statutory holidays.

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

The Assessor, Village of Shell Lake  
Box 280, Shell Lake, SK S0J 2G0

by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021

Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021  
Tara Bueckert  
Assessor

### Town of Blaine Lake Assessment Roll Notice

Notice is hereby given that the assessment roll for the Town of Blaine Lake for the year of 2021 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the Assessor **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY** from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> to June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Any person who wishes to appeal against his or her assessment is required to file his or her notice of appeal with: The Assessor, Town of Blaine Lake, Box 10, Blaine Lake, SK S0J 0J0 by the 14<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021

Brenda Lockhart, Assessor

### VILLAGE OF LEVILLE NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL

Notice is hereby given that the 2021 assessment roll for the Village of Leville has been prepared and is open to inspection at the office of the Assessor from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. during normal business hours: Monday to Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 to June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

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

Any person wishing to discuss the notice of assessment or potential appeal may contact the Assessor at 306-984-2140 (Village of Leville) or 1-800-667-5203 (SAMA).

Any person wishing to appeal an assessment is required to file a "Notice of Appeal to the Board of Revision", by June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021, with Aileen Swenson, Secretary to the Board of Revision, 31 Wilkie Rd., Regina, SK, S4S 5Y3, along with the applicable fee of \$200.00, made payable to the Village of Leville, which will be returned if the appeal is successful.

Dated at Leville, Saskatchewan this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021.

Mona Chalifour  
Assessor, Village of Leville

### Notice of Preparation of Assessment Roll Village of Medstead

Notice is hereby given that the Assessment Roll for the Village of Medstead for the year 2021 has been prepared and is open to inspection in the office of the assessor from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the following days: Tuesday to Friday, April 16 to June 17, 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 with: The Assessor, Village of Medstead, Box 148, Medstead, SK, S0M 1W0 by the 17<sup>th</sup> of June, 2021.

An appeal fee of \$100 per property must accompany the notice.

Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021

Coleen Kitching, Assessor

# Highway 3 to be twinned west of Prince Albert

Ask and you shall receive.

A little over a month after the Town of Shellbrook added its voice to those calling for Highway 3 to be twinned between Prince Albert and Shellbrook, the Ministry of Highways has found room in its 2021-2022 budget to complete the requested safety improvements.

Highway 3 — especially the stretch between Prince Albert and the Shell River — has long been an area of concern, with an estimated 414 collisions and 67 fatalities occurring over the past decade. However, calls for safety improvements were further amplified after two accidents resulted in three deaths in the lead up to Christmas.

In the weeks following the fatal ac-

cidents, the Ministry of Highways said its 2021 plans for the Highway included three sets of passing lanes (six lanes total) between 10 kilometres west of Prince Albert and Shellbrook, and improvements to bridges and intersections.

The ministry also said it would be conducting a safety assessment of Highway 3 between Prince Albert and the Shell River Bridge this year, with any recommendations stemming from that assessment being acted upon as early as 2022.

For Don Fyrk, Reeve of the R.M. of Buckland, the passing lanes didn't go far enough to ease his concerns over safety on the highways.

"Passing lanes do not address the safety concerns of this section of highway. Dete-

rioration of the highway surface and narrow shoulders contribute to our concern," Fyrk wrote in a letter to the Ministry of Highways, adding a call for the highway to be twinned with a focus on the section between Prince Albert and McLeod Road

In the end, the provincial government seems to have agreed with Fyrk's assessment, as plans to twin the Highway over an eight kilometre stretch from Prince Albert to the Shell River Bridge were included in the Ministry of Highways' \$800 million highway improvement budget.

"We got listening to the people who are around P.A. and Nadine Wilson (Saskatchewan Rivers MLA) was a great advocate for 'Maybe we should do something more,'" said Minister of

Highways, Fred Bradshaw. "We're always looking at safety, and the more she talked, and the more we heard from other people, we decided that it would be best to twin that section."

Design work for the twinning project is scheduled for this year. The contract will be tendered in the fall and, barring any delays, the twinning project will be completed by fall of 2022.

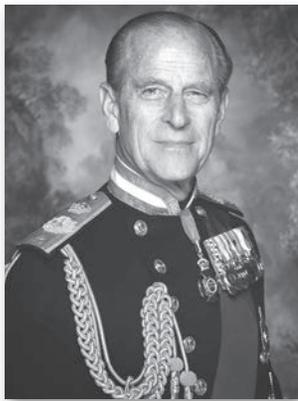
The news of the planned twinning was welcomed by Fyrk, as well as Town of Shellbrook Mayor Amund Otterson.

"[It is something] we have been looking forward to and the additional safety lanes, [and] passing lanes further west are also much appreciated," he said.

## Sask. joins world in mourning Prince Philip

Flags are flying at half mast in the United Kingdom, Canada, and around the world, in recognition of the death of Prince Philip.

Prince Philip, the husband of Queen Elizabeth II for more than 73 years, and the longest serving consort in British history, passed away last Friday at the age of 99, just two months before his 100th birthday.



"It is with deep sorrow that Her Majesty The Queen has announced the death of her beloved husband, His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh," Buckingham Palace said in announcing Prince Philip's passing. "His Royal Highness passed away peacefully this morning at Windsor Castle."

Born into the Greek and Danish royal families, Prince Philip was educated in France, Germany, and the United Kingdom before joining the Royal Navy in 1939 at the age of 18. He would go on to serve with distinction in the Second World War, seeing action in the Mediterranean and Pacific theatres.

Following the war Prince Philip was granted permission by King George VI to marry then-Princess Elizabeth, whom he had been corresponding with since 1939.

The couple was married on Nov. 20, 1947, and Philip was granted the style His Royal Highness and created Duke of Edinburgh, Earl of Merioneth, and Baron Greenwich by the King.

Prince Philip would leave active military service in

and 5,493 speeches since 1952.

In a statement on behalf of the province of Saskatchewan, it was this life of service that Premier Scott Moe chose to recall.

"It is with profound sadness that I learned today of the death of His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh. I join all of Her Majesty's loyal subjects in Saskatchewan in sending our sincere condolences to Her Majesty in her bereavement, as well as to all members of the Royal Family," Moe said.

"His Royal Highness visited Saskatchewan no fewer than eight times between 1951 and our centennial year in 2005. His sense of duty to the Canadian Armed Forces, our youth through the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, and

so many other endeavours, endeared him to us all."

The funeral for Prince Philip is scheduled to be held at Windsor Castle on April 17. The service will be preceded by a Ceremonial Procession inside the castle grounds.

1952, after Elizabeth ascended to the throne.

Prince Philip was a patron, president or member of over 780 organizations, and he served as chairman of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, a self-improvement program for young people aged 14 to 24. He retired from his royal duties on 2 August 2017, aged 96, having completed 22,219 solo engagements

### SUMMER JOB POSITIONS

**Town of Spiritwood** is accepting applications for **two** full-time Summer Job Positions. The position runs from June 21<sup>st</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Must have a valid Class 5 driver's license. Duties include: Mowing, whipper snipping, garbage cleanup, painting, and general maintenance duties. For more information contact (306) 883-2161 or email [tos@sasktel.net](mailto:tos@sasktel.net).

**Northern Lakes Economic Development** is accepting applications for **two** Summer Job Positions to work at the Tourist Booth, mowing, whipper snipping, and perform general maintenance duties. This seasonal position runs from May through Sept. For more information contact (306) 883-2426 or email [bevra.nledc@sasktel.net](mailto:bevra.nledc@sasktel.net).

**This summer job position is for youth aged 15-30 years.**

**Submit your Cover Letter & Resume (with references) by 4:00 pm on Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021.**



**Honeywood (Dr. A. J. Porter) Heritage Nursery Inc.**  
Provincial Heritage Site  
Parkside, Sask.  
[honeywoodn8@gmail.com](mailto:honeywoodn8@gmail.com)

**Online Fundraiser Timed Auction**  
Register to Bid at Myron Schmalz Auctions  
[schmalzauctions.com](http://schmalzauctions.com)  
Honeywood Heritage Nursery Fundraiser  
Bidding from: April 19<sup>th</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>  
Online Auction Rules Apply



## Building Communities

### Apply for District Council Funding.

Is your organization fundraising for a project or program that is working to build a stronger community? If so, your local Affinity District Council may be able to help!

Learn more about the funding guidelines and submit an application by visiting [affinitycu.ca](http://affinitycu.ca) > Meet Affinity > In the Community > Sponsorships > District Council Funding.

**Application deadline: May 1, 2021**

[affinitycu.ca](http://affinitycu.ca)



## Sask. electric vehicle tax reeks of carbon politicking

Historically speaking, governments that are looking to discourage or eliminate a particular societal behaviour do so in one of two ways.

In the early 20th century, prohibition was the weapon of choice for governments when it came to the consumption of alcohol.

When prohibition failed, most governments moved to regulate the consumption of alcohol rather than forbidding it outright.

This, in many ways, paved the way for what are often referred to today as "sin taxes."

In Saskatchewan, the "sin tax" on the selling price of beer, wine and spirits is 10 per cent, and the tax on tobacco is 27 cents per cigarette.

Meanwhile, as of last Tuesday's provincial budget, the



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News Editor

Saskatchewan government took aim at vaping, with a 20 per cent tax on the price of all vapour liquids, products and devices.

The explicit aim is to get vaping devices out of the hands of youth, who have been among the most common adopters of vaping over the past decade.

And, though the tax is unlikely to achieve this end (young people are notoriously adept at getting their hands on things they shouldn't, after all), it makes some sense.

Vaping may be considered safer, overall, than cigarettes, but it's still addictive and harmful to one's health, and its relative novelty means little is known about any long-term effects it may have.

So, if we've established that governments will tax something

they don't want people to do, what do we make of the province's new annual fee on electric vehicles?

The \$150 fee (a tax by any other name) was introduced with last week's budget and is the first of its kind in Canada.

According to Finance Minister Donna Harpauer and Environment Minister Warren Kaeding, the tax is about fairness.

As both have explained since the fee was introduced, the goal is to level the playing field between those who pay taxes at the pumps to support highway maintenance, and those who still use the roads but don't have to pay the tax on fuel.

Fair enough, but the notion that electric vehicle owners aren't paying to maintain provincial roads isn't quite true.

All Saskatchewan taxpayers contribute to the maintenance of provincial roads and highways by paying provincial taxes.

What's more, electric vehicle



users may not have to pay at the pumps (because they're not buying fuel), but charging a vehicle at home or charging station isn't free, meaning taxes are paid.

Finally, given the exorbitant costs of road maintenance, one has to wonder what the province hopes to do with the paltry \$60,000 it will collect through the fee. Perhaps, there's a small

pothole it can throw the money into.

When governments around the world are encouraging people to lower their carbon footprints, a tax on electric vehicles sends the wrong message.

And the fact that it comes mere weeks after the federal carbon tax was deemed constitutional, makes it reek all the more of petty politicking.

## Op-ed: Trudeau's carbon tax continues to rise

By Warren Steinley  
MP, Regina-Lewvan

The Supreme Court of Canada recently ruled that the federal government can impose a Carbon Tax. As Justin Trudeau prepares his victory lap, it's important to remember that there is one question the Supreme Court did not answer: Should the federal government impose a Carbon Tax on Canadians?

This is an important distinction because while Justin Trudeau's Liberals are hiking taxes on everyone for everything, Canadian families and businesses will bear the brunt of these rising costs. It is not as though we have a choice of not doing so when winter comes. As such, we are stuck paying more every year to match the escalating price of Trudeau's costly and ineffective Carbon Tax.

The higher costs caused by the Liberal Carbon Tax

has an effect on everyone. From higher costs for our farmers, agriculture producers, manufacturers, miners and energy producers, to the increased costs for fuel, that helps us get to work, or go to school - and the truckers who deliver almost everything we need from groceries to clothing and more. This tax hurts everyone. Unlike other provinces rich in hydroelectricity, in Saskatchewan we rely on different energy sources to light or heat our homes, which often leaves us with higher costs to begin with. A one-size-fits approach can only be to the detriment of many provinces, Saskatchewan being a prime example.

Last election, the Trudeau Liberals promised they would not raise the Carbon Tax. In classic Liberal fashion, they promised one thing before the election and did the opposite after. The Carbon Tax is now climbing and will triple, jeopardizing hundreds of

thousands of jobs. Under Trudeau, Canada's unemployment rate is among the highest in the developed world. Canada is experiencing the worst economic growth since the great depression. It's impossible to understand why Trudeau would choose now, of all times, to increase the burden on Canadians. Climate action is important, but Canada needs a smart approach that will actually reduce emissions without punishing workers, small businesses, their families, and the most vulnerable.

Canada's Supreme Court ruled the federal government could impose a carbon tax. But they should not. Not if they want to support everyday workers and their families. Justin Trudeau's Liberals need to stop asking whether tripling the Carbon Tax when Canadians are struggling the most is legal and start asking whether it is right, because Canadians can no longer afford it.

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Editorial: chnews@sbchron.com  
Advertising chads@sbchron.com

### C. J. Pepper, Publisher

Jordan Twiss, Shellbrook Chronicle Reporter  
jordan@sbchron.com

Alison Sullivan, Spiritwood Herald Reporter  
(306) 841-8317 or ali.sully81@gmail.com

Meghan Penney, Composition/Pagination  
& Advertising Sales chads@sbchron.com

Karen Stene, Bookkeeping/Reception  
accounting@sbchron.com

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.;

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Member of



## Report from the Legislature

The COVID-19 pandemic is not just a global health crisis, it is the biggest shock to the Saskatchewan, Canadian and world economies since the Second World War. This is a significant challenge that requires a significant response. Saskatchewan's response can best be summarized in three words: Protect. Build. Grow.

The 2021-22 provincial budget protects the health and safety of our people and our economy, builds our province through investments in infrastructure to stimulate economic activity, grows Saskatchewan through various incentives and key investments, and delivers on 14 specific campaign commitments to make life more affordable.

The budget provides direct funding to fight COVID-19, record levels of investment in health, education, social services and assistance, while supporting the protection of persons and property.

Protecting Saskatchewan People

- \$1.5 billion to help fight against COVID-19, this follows a \$2.0 billion investment last year. A further \$1.3 billion of support is in place for the next two years, for a multi-year commitment of \$4.8 billion;

- \$6.5 billion record level of health care funding;

- \$90 million for specific COVID-19 health response, including mass vaccination rollout, PPE,



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lab capacity and physician costs;

- \$23.4 million increase to the \$458 million budget for mental health and addictions services and programs, including specialized youth services, 12 new treatment beds in Estevan; and

- \$6 million to hire 100 continuing care aides, the start of hiring 300, for long-term care and expanded home care services.

This budget will build Saskatchewan through capital investment, helping our economy, creating jobs and meeting people's needs.

Building Saskatchewan Communities

- \$3.1 billion in capital investment for hospitals, schools, highways, and many needed projects;

- \$162 million in health care capital, including funding for new long-term care facilities in La Ronge, Grenfell and planning for Watson and Estevan;

- \$5.7 million for urgent care centres in Saskatoon and Regina;

- \$553.2 million in

transportation capital, part of the \$10.6 billion since 2008 to improve 17,100 km of highways and build bypasses and interchanges;

- Includes twinning on Highway 3 west of Prince Albert, as well as multiple passing lane projects on Highways 2, 3, 5, 7, 12, 14, 16, and 39; and

- \$189.9 million for education capital, including \$101.9 million to support 21 ongoing capital projects which will build 16 new schools and renovate five for a total of 57 new schools and 28 major renovation projects since 2008.

This budget will grow Saskatchewan through key investments and incentives, and it will keep life affordable for families.

Growing Saskatchewan's Economy

- \$174.8 million for the Saskatchewan Economic Recovery Rebate reducing electricity bills by 10 per cent for all customers, and \$285 million for the Auto Fund Recovery Rebate;

- \$9.3 million, an increase of \$5 million, to establish four new international trade and export offices, and support offices in China, India, Japan, and Singapore;

- \$3.8 million in royalty relief to help oil and gas producers invest in methane emission reduction projects; and

- Modernization and expansion of the High Water-Cut Program to make wells more viable for producers.

While our economy has



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fared better than most through the global health crisis, with continuing high levels of employment, the pandemic has still had a significant impact on the province's economy and finances. As a result, this year's deficit will be larger – \$2.6 billion – and it will take longer to return to balance than we had an-

anticipated.

Our government is committed to making the investments needed now to protect Saskatchewan people and drive a strong economic recovery as we emerge from the pandemic. We will manage carefully without reckless cuts or large tax increases that would threaten both our pandemic response and a strong recovery.

Throughout this pandemic, we have witnessed Saskatchewan's resolve, as our people made the sacrifices required to protect not only themselves, but also their families, friends, neighbours and co-workers. When this pandemic is over, we will witness Saskatchewan's resilience, as our economy recovers and grows, as businesses reopen and more people return to work, and as



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Saskatchewan recovers to be even stronger than before.

This year's budget protects, builds, and grows Saskatchewan. It charts a clear course for our province through the pandemic and into the strong recovery that will follow.

You can learn more at [saskatchewan.ca/budget](http://saskatchewan.ca/budget).

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*Needed a kidney transplant.*

**JIM**  
*Helped save his aunt's life.*

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# Highlights of a Shellbrook Town Council meeting

Shellbrook's town council met for its regular meeting via teleconference on Tuesday, April 6.

In attendance were Mayor Amund Otterson, councillors Larry Batten, Bruce Clements, John Hughes, 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 minutes of its March 18 regular meeting. With no business arising from said minutes, council moved on to oral reports.

In his water treatment plant steering committee update, councillor Miller reported that the plan to build a water pipeline in partnership with the Prince Albert Rural Water Utility may not be the "no-brainer" it was believed to be. While the committee is still waiting on some data, Miller said the town and PARWU may have some "hard decisions" to make.

Striking a more optimistic tone, Miller added that the grant money is beginning to roll out. He also said he's confident the town can proceed with

its original \$7.8 million project at a much lower cost, if the pipeline project falls through.

In commercial development committee news, Miller raised the need to meet with the R.M. of Shellbrook to discuss potential property developments in and around the town limits of Shellbrook. Miller said developing the lands with the help of the R.M. would benefit both parties.

In an update on minor sports, meanwhile, councillor Ledding said the organization was in the process of giving money back for the hockey season. While it waits for news from the government regarding the ball season, the organization is still encouraging people to register.

In his final report for the Recreation Project Steering Committee, councillor Miller reported that the group held its final meeting. With the project completed, the group has \$53,000 leftover. These funds will be transferred to the town, and earmarked for capital expenditures at the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre.

As has been previously reported, the plan now is to form a new committee,

which will focus on raising funds to improve the swimming pool.

Shifting gears to new business, council began by passing a motion to discontinue bylaw enforcement services with the Commissionaires. Council agreed that the town wasn't getting enough out of the service to justify the costs.

Without bylaw services, bylaw violations will now be handled on a complaint basis.

Up next, council agreed to grant Nancy Carswell and Marlene Fellows a three-month extension, until Sept. 1, to submit a business proposal for the CN Station. The pair is hoping to buy the station from the town for \$1, and turn it into an artisan's collective and farmer's market spot. However, their plans have been delayed by ongoing pandemic restrictions.

Pressing on, council carried a motion to appoint Councillor Batten to the committees former councillor Dave Knight was appointed to, as well as a motion to open the swimming pool and run as many programs as possible under COVID-19 regulations.

Later, council carried a motion to form a committee to work with the Friends of Rayside group on moving the old Rayside School house to Kinsmen Park. Miller said he's still waiting to see the financial justifications for

the plan, such as spending reductions, revenue increases, or grant funding, adding that if no such justifications can be found, the building won't be moved.

In a final item of new business, council discussed the water supply for the outdoor Kinsmen Rink. Currently, the water is pumped directly from the town's water treatment plant. However, this isn't in accordance with Water Security Agency rules, and it isn't without problems for the town as valves are prone to freezing and snapping.

With the cost of putting a dedicated direct service line to the rink estimated at \$5,000, some councillors were in favour of proceeding. However, council eventually agreed to table the matter until budget time, recognizing it has some "hard decisions" to make.

Wrapping up the meeting, councillor Hughes asked for an update regarding the speed curve, and whether or not it's finally being removed this year.

Hoare said the town is waiting for a timeline from Lake Country Co-op, which is expected to have the plans for its proposed fertilizer plant on the east side of town submitted within 45 days.

Having nothing further to discuss, council adjourned for the evening.

Its next meeting is set for Monday, April 19.

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Provincial Budget | 2021-2022



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## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Resort Village of Pebble Baye Public Notice – Basic Planning Statement Amendment

Public Notice is hereby given that the Council of the Resort Village of Pebble Baye (RV) intends to adopt a bylaw under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*, to amend Bylaw No. 2/84, known as the Basic Planning Statement (BPS).

**INTENT:** A new discussion item and new policies would be added to the residential objective and policy section to provide context and guidance for the development of personal storage lots on lands directly north of the existing municipal boundary. Guidance for "Conservation" land use designation would be added. The entire portion of the BPS dealing with objectives and policies for future development would be replaced to guide future development, zoning, and municipal restructuring. The BPS Map 1 showing land use designations would be replaced with a new map showing areas outside of the existing municipal boundary for intended future land use.

**AFFECTED LAND:** The replacement of Map 1 would apply to all lands within the RV. NW ¼ 31-48-07-W3M would be affected by new policy for "Conservation" land use designation and Zoning. The balance of the new land use designation, objectives, and policies would apply only to future development and areas outside the current RV boundary; policy for existing development within the RV is unchanged. A copy of the proposed amendment with the new BPS Map 1 is located for public view at [www.northboundplanning.ca/public-notification](http://www.northboundplanning.ca/public-notification).

**REASON:** The RV is in the process of restructuring its boundaries to include an area north of its existing northern boundary which includes a couple residential parcels, some agricultural land, and a number of parcels used primarily for off-site storage of residents of the RV. It is advisable for the RV to provide guidance and specific policy as it relates to restructuring of its boundaries and future development in the urban fringe. Should restructuring occur, the RV wishes to have policy guidance in place to direct any future land use and development. Policy implementation for the "Conservation" land use area is being introduced for clarity.

**PUBLIC INSPECTION:** The RV does not maintain a dedicated office space. Upon request, hard copy (at cost of printing and postage) of the proposed amendment is available through the mail; a free digital copy is available at [www.northboundplanning.ca/public-notification](http://www.northboundplanning.ca/public-notification).

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Council will hold a public hearing on **May 7, 2021, at 7 PM**. Due to current and anticipated COVID public assembly, distancing guidelines, and restrictions, the public hearing will be held digitally with the ability to participate via the ZOOM app or by toll-free phone. **Please note that public hearing is specific to the proposed BPS amendment; the merits any active proposal for municipal restructuring is not being considered as part of the BPS amendment process.** Written submissions are encouraged and must be received by **May 5, 2021**. Parties interested in making in-person representation are required to register in advance by **May 5, 2021**. Please contact the RV Administrator for specifics related to participation via ZOOM. For additional information, please contact (306) 468-3104 or [resortpebblebaye@gmail.com](mailto:resortpebblebaye@gmail.com). Written submissions can be mailed: c/o Terry Lofstrom – Administrator, Box 449, Canwood, SK S0J 0K0

Issued at the RM of Canwood this 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2021.

Terry Lofstrom – Administrator – Resort Village of Pebble Baye



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[www.spiritwoodherald.com](http://www.spiritwoodherald.com)

# AGRICULTURE

April 15, 2021

www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald 7

## The future is always just around the corner

Writing about technology on the farm is not new in this space. But it is a theme that will be repeated often over the next decade-plus for anyone writing about agriculture because it will be the ongoing story, trumped only on occasion by weather disasters or political interference in trade as we move forward.

Technology is taking massive steps forward in terms of precision farming, the focused application of fertilizers and herbicides exactly where they are needed, and

not where they would be wasted. It is technology that is moving forward because of improvements in global positioning tech, and equally important sensors required to identify where product needs to be applied.

The increased knowledge of GPS is also a key in the emergence of more robotic field units. The GPS tech is piggybacked with improved robotic options, and the combination brings robotic tractors patrolling fields, potentially 24 hours a day, not tiring, simply working that much



CALVIN DANIELS

closer to reality on every farm.

And, therein lies the next step for the tech explosion I anticipate.

At the present we are still on the lead up to broad utilization of ro-

botic tech, in part because the tech needs to be tested and proven over large acres before many producers will look to making the investment.

And there is the cost. New tech typically comes at a high cost, from VCRs to flat screen televisions, to driverless cars to robotic tractors. When production begins to ramp up, costs drops, and it allows for wider acceptance and use.

Of course, this is the tech we see in the field already.

Imagine what is on the

drawing board in design departments behind closed doors?

We are beginning to see various areas of technology coming together to take farm equipment to places no one would have imagined even a decade or two ago.

In the future field labour, finding someone to operate the tractor or combine may well be a thing of history, with the skill of the future being able to maintain computer systems from a central location operating a fleet of robot machines.

There are times I read

my own columns and can't help to think it all sounds very much like something out of a science fiction story I may have read in my youth, but often the imagined fiction of one era becomes the realized successes of science in another, and that is the case here.

The future in this case is still to be fully realized, but from the vantage point of today we have a pretty good indication of how foundationally changing it will be in terms of how farmers farm.

## Rose Garden Hospice to begin construction in May

After a 14-year journey, Prince Albert's Rose Garden Hospice is set to break ground on May 15.

"The Rose Garden Hospice Association Board is proud to announce that construction of their hospice to be located in Prince Albert will begin May 15th. This is a huge step toward fulfilling our Mission: To build and operate a ten bed hospice to provide quality patient-centered end of life care to persons in Northern Saskatchewan by providing care in a home-like environments which meets the physical, emotional, cultural and spiritual needs of the client, the client's family and close friends," said Cheryl Elliott, board chair for the Rose Garden Hospice Association (RHGA).

"This journey started in 2007, there have been many ups and downs, but nothing worth having comes easy.

We are beyond thrilled that we are starting to build May 15," added RHGA board member Marina Mitchell. "We could not have come this far without the support of our families, board members, community members, volunteers and our government. This dream WILL BE a reality!"

Construction of the building is expected to take between one year and 18 months.

Over the years, the RHGA has benefitted from donations both big and small, including a \$500,000 donation from Canadian Tire owner Malcolm Jenkins. The land for the hospice, meanwhile, was donated by the late Fred Trach.

Once its built, the hospice's operations will be funded by the provincial government, which has pledged to

provide up to \$2 million annually to run the hospice.

Mitchell says annual events, like the Hike for Hospice, will continue once the facility opens its doors, to cover equipment upgrades and other needs.



A rendering of the front of the Rose Garden Hospice.

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Wed., Apr. 21, 2021  
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Fri., Apr. 16, 2021  
Bred Cow/Heifer & Replacement Heifer Sale 1:00 p.m.

Mon., Apr. 26, 2021  
Presort Sale 9:30 a.m.; Regular Sale to follow



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

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# Sask. health orders extended to April 26

While it's all systems go for Saskatchewan's COVID-19 vaccine delivery, the same still can't be said of public health orders as the province grapples with an explosion of COVID-19 variant cases, and a resurgence in daily case totals.

After raising the limit on household gathering to 10 people from up to three households, and increasing capacity in places of worship to 30 per cent, or up to 150 people, in March, the province is continuing to hold the line on the remaining measures, extending the current restrictions to April 26.

Under these measures, casinos and bingo halls remain closed, while personal ser-

vices, such as hairdressers and barbers, massage therapists, and tattooists, are still limited to 50 per cent capacity. Restaurants and bars, meanwhile, are limited to seating four people per table and licensed establishments must stop selling alcohol at 10 p.m.

On the retail side, smaller stores must reduce their capacity to 50 per cent, and large retail locations, identified as stores with more than 20,000 square feet, are limited to 25 per cent capacity.

Event venues, conference facilities, arenas, arts venues, museums, movie and live theatres and banquet facilities may still have events up to 30 individuals. However,

all guests must be seated for the duration, and food and drink are not permitted unless explicitly stated in the order.

Concurrent services may not occur within multiple locations in one facility.

Elsewhere, sports leagues and activities remain suspended, but those aged 18 and under may gather in groups of eight for practices, with a maximum of two coaches also in attendance.

Finally, visits to long-term care and personal homes are still suspended, except for compassionate reasons.

These restrictions will be reviewed on April 26, and eased, extended, or tightened depending on current COVID-19 transmission rates.

Though it's business as COVID-19 usual for much of Saskatchewan, the province has released revised guidelines for outdoor activities in advance of the spring warm up.

While the government is still recommending that child and youth day camps continue to offer online activities, it is easing restrictions to allow for multiple groups of eight to participate in activities for sport, music, art, dance, drama and educational program day camps, where space is available.

Parks and campgrounds, meanwhile, will be open to 100 per cent capacity for overnight stays and limited-term campsites.

Park, playground and aquatic access will be permitted, while all events must comply with the current public health orders. Laundry services will also be permitted, in accordance with guidelines for face coverings and maintaining physical distance.

Finally, golf courses will be able to open once again, and tee times will only be required to be a minimum of eight minutes apart, a change from 10 minutes at the end of last golf season. Additionally, tournaments will be permitted, so long as awards ceremonies and receptions are held virtually.

The government said additional guidelines will be announced over the next couple of weeks, including guidelines for youth and individual sports activities.

In the meantime, Premier Scott Moe and Chief Medical Officer Saqib Shabbab have said the goal is to have all Saskatchewan adults receive their first vaccines by the end of May (an improvement on its earlier timeline of mid-June). If vaccine supplies allow it, the province is also hoping to begin administering doses in pharmacies by April 19.

To stay up to date on the latest public health guidelines, visit [saskatchewan.ca/covid19](https://saskatchewan.ca/covid19)

## PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

### LUTHERAN CHURCH

Zion - Canwood  
Sunday School,  
Worship Sunday, 11 a.m.  
St. John's - Shellbrook  
Sunday School,  
Live-stream worship  
service on Facebook,  
Worship Sunday, 9 a.m.  
Rev. Emmanuel Aristide

### PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Parkside  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
Pastor Daniel Mooseely  
306-747-3572  
Shellbrook  
Adult Study  
9:30 a.m.  
Sun., 10:30 a.m. - Worship  
Pastor David Bodvarson  
306-747-7235  
Canwood  
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  
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

### ANGLICAN CHURCH

Leask - All Saint's  
Sunday, 9 a.m. - Service  
St. Andrew's - Shellbrook  
Sunday, 11 a.m. Service  
Re-opening for services  
Sun. Mar. 14, 2021, 11 a.m.  
Canwood - Christ Church  
Sunday, 11 a.m. - Service

### 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. Dong Doan  
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. Dong Doan  
St. Agatha's - Shellbrook  
Mass - Sunday 11 a.m.  
St. Henry's - Leask  
Mass - Sunday - 9 a.m.  
Mistawasis  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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

## Carriere takes home cake from March Dessert of the Month



Spiritwood Public Library board member Kay Willson baked up a delicious looking cake for the April Dessert of the Month draw. This month's lucky winner was Maurice Carriere.

## Protect. Build. Grow. Saskatchewan

Provincial Budget | 2021-22

The COVID-19 pandemic is not just a global health crisis, it is the biggest shock to the Saskatchewan, Canadian and world economies since the Second World War. Through this budget our government is: **protecting** Saskatchewan people, **building** Saskatchewan communities, and **growing** Saskatchewan's economy.

This is a significant challenge that requires a significant response.

You can learn more at [saskatchewan.ca/budget](https://saskatchewan.ca/budget).

**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)



# AS&AR Auto Detailing – “Never Ride Dirty”

**By Dave Hyndman**

Ah, Spring! Our favourite season. With temperatures rising, the snow disappearing, our thoughts begin to turn to some of those winter projects that have been put on hold waiting for warmer days. One such project, which many people admit to putting off, is cleaning the family vehicle. It's a job that requires time and elbow grease.

Everyone can find – or make – the time. But the effort required to do a proper job? Well, it's warmer, the days are nicer, and we'd really like to find a better way.

Well, you're in luck. A vehicle detailing company has started up in Spiritwood, offering a very thorough top-to-bottom, inside-and-out cleaning of your car, SUV, or half ton.

Since March 28, Sanale Andebor and Antonio Rosal have been cleaning at least a car a day. AS&AR Auto Detailing and Cleaning Services, the name they have given to their fledgling business, is currently operating out of their garages and driveways, but will be moving into larger quarters effective May 1.

Their new location, located at the for-

mer Winky's Welding building on the highway on the eastern side of Spiritwood, will have room for the pair to expand into detailing boats and campers.

Right now, there's a division of la-



**Antonio Rosal shampooing the back seats.**

bour. Sanale gets a start vacuuming, and when Antonio arrives she switches to cleaning and carpets, while Antonio does door panels and shampooing seats. They find that it works better when each has specific tasks.

“That way,” Sanale explains, “nothing gets missed.”

And they're not bumping into each other.

“In about a month,” Antonio adds, “we'll switch duties. That way, in time, we'll both know how to do everything.”

The two decided to begin this business to do something with their free time and to earn some extra income. Sanale works for Fast Genetics, but her day is usually done by 1 p.m., giving her an opportunity to start on a vehicle around 2 p.m.

Antonio, who works part-time at the Lodge, arrives at the site at about 3 p.m., and the two begin cleaning in earnest. The two work diligently, efficiently, until they can look back and say they've finished.

The two are associated with Never Ride Dirty, a vehicle-cleaning service that provides supplies, chemicals, bookkeeping and training. There are four Never Ride Dirty services in Sas-

katchewan and many elsewhere.

For now, they're content to use their experience to detail cars, trucks and SUVs, but eventually, they hope to add residential carpet cleaning to their list of services, and possibly curtains.

In the meantime, they are working on developing a website that will allow on-line booking.



**Sanale Andebor is in the front seat cleaning behind the visor.**

## GOOD NEWS

### HOLY HUMOUR SUNDAY!

**By Dave Whalley, DLM(R)  
First United Church, Big River**

I would like to take just a moment to give you a bit of historical significance of “Holy Humour Sunday”. It is celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter Sunday.

Some historians have written that on the first Sunday of Jesus' crucifixion, many people gathered and made fun of the Roman occupiers. What made the occasion so joyful was that the Romans thought they had gotten rid of Jesus by his crucifixion and that he was no longer a threat to the Roman Empire. The joke that those early people were celebrating was that though Jesus had been crucified, he had risen from the dead.

This period of time is when the term “Christians” became into use. Before then, people who believed in Jesus were called “followers of the way”. Years later the Sunday became known as “Bright Sunday” and for many centuries was celebrated but declined and then was not practiced at all.

In 1988 the Fellowship of Merry Christians began encouraging churches and prayer groups to resurrect Bright Sunday celebrations and call it “Holy Humour Sunday,” with the theme: “Jesus is the LIFE of the party.”

Many churches from different traditions responded enthusiastically. Holy Humour Sunday services are bringing back large crowds to churches on a Sunday when church attendance typically drops dramatically.

If you Google “Holy Humour Sunday” on the Internet, you'll be amazed at how widespread the celebrations on the Sunday after Easter have become among churches of all traditions. It's clearly a

movement of the Holy spirit to shore up belief in the resurrection of Jesus.

The idea of setting aside one Sunday each year to celebrate God's gift of laughter and joy may be new to some of you, but it has a long and rich history in many congregations around the world.

Holy Humour Sunday continues the celebration of Jesus' resurrection and God's ultimate joke on evil and death. It is a testament to the God, who as the psalmist says in Psalm 2, verse 4: “But the one who rules in heaven laughs. The Lord scoffs at them.” For the foolishness of humanity and any forces that might seek to thwart divine purposes. (paraphrased from the New Living Translation Bible)

In churches all around the world, this celebration has grown. Each year, more and more congregations of all persuasions, in the United States, Canada, as well as in the far corners of the world, are celebrating this special day in many ways.

I have been in the ministry now for 15 years and have had a Holy Humour Sunday celebration on the first Sunday after Easter every year. When the congregation gets to know about Holy Humour Sunday, I notice attendance increases for that Sunday. Maybe the theme of joy and laughter should be continued for every Sunday!

We celebrated Holy Humour Sunday again this year at First United, Big River. It is a healing service where people can forget all the negative things that are going on in their lives and around the world. This year it gave us all a break from the isolation and fears of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## 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 - Appointment Only. Wednesday 11:30 am - 4:30 pm; Thursday 11:30 am - 4:30 pm. Phone # 306-469-2152

**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.

**PARKSIDE:** Honeywood (Dr. A. J. Porter) Heritage Nursery Inc. *Provincial Heritage Site* Parkside, SK, honeywoodn8@gmail.com. Online Fundraiser Timed Auction – Register to bid at Myron Schmalz Auctions: schmalzauctions.com Honeywood Heritage Nursery Fundraiser – Bidding from April 19th to April 30th. *Online Auction Rules Apply*

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## OBITUARIES

~

*William "Bill" Housen*

HOUSEN – William (Bill)

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of William (Bill) Housen, late of Saskatoon, SK formerly of Shellbrook, SK on April 6th, 2021 at the age of 92. Bill was born January 2nd, 1929 in Unity, SK, and was taken to his new home by horse and sleigh. He grew up on the family farm 6 miles west of Unity. He attended the rural Belton School which he had to walk 1 ½ miles to get to. After the 8th grade, he lived with his grandmother in Unity to finish his grade 12.

He worked a year with the railroad company then decided more education was the route for him. After complet-

ing a one-year course at a teacher's college, he landed his first teaching job at a one-room school in Fisque, SK. He taught for 1 year then was accepted as principal/teacher at the Plato, SK three-room school where he stayed for several years. This is where he met his future wife Pearl in Plato, SK and they got married in August 1955. They decided if Bill was going to continue teaching, he should go to university and get his degree. Bill earned his Bachelor of Education degree and accepted a teaching position at Elrose Composite School. They moved to Elrose, SK in 1959 where he began teaching. After 10 years of teaching, he then became principal of the school for 3 years.

In June of 1964, their first son Trevor was born, and their second son Paul was born in November of 1966. Bill enjoyed his 13 years in Elrose then moved to Shellbrook in 1972 when he accepted the superintendent position for

the Parkland School Division. He finished his career as Director for the Parkland School Division in 1986. After retirement, he worked part-time as the superintendent for the Ahtakakooop First Nation School for 2 years. The kids there referred to him as "Mushom" which means Grandfather. He enjoyed that title.

Bill was an avid fisherman, and he frequented a lot of local lakes. He went on many fly-out fishing trips over the years with a few of his teaching colleagues. Bill cherished the fishing he did up north with his son Trevor, who is also an avid fisherman. Bill enjoyed his fishing experiences in the NWT when he and Pearl would visit with their other son Paul in Yellowknife, NWT. He even got the chance to go deep-sea fishing with Trevor when they were in Mexico.

Bill and Pearl really enjoyed camping, they took their boys all over from Riding Mountain National Park in Manitoba, all over Saskatchewan, west to Radium and Fairmont Hot Springs, &

Vancouver Island.

Every summer you could find Bill and Pearl tending their garden in Shellbrook. They both enjoyed the rewards of their labour with plenty of fresh vegetables.

Bill was a dedicated Elks Lodge member for many years. He put in countless hours of volunteer work at many functions hosted by the local Elks Club. Bill developed many lasting friendships with these members. In the winter-time, you could find Bill at the local arena cheering on his sons in minor league hockey games or during the popular Elks hockey league or junior b Knights games. He could also be found next door at the curling rink as he enjoyed participating in this sport for many years.

Tragedy struck the family in December 2006 when Bill's loving wife Pearl suddenly passed. He continued to live in the family home on his own, until 2011. Reluctantly, Bill moved from Shellbrook to Saskatoon to be closer to the boys. He moved into an independent living

facility named Parkville Manor. He resided there for nine years and enjoyed the friendships of many residents. He spent his last 3 months living with his son Paul and daughter-in-law Trudy. This short time was enjoyed very much by the family.

Bill was a very fine gentleman, always humble and kind. He never had a bad word to say about anyone. He was always cheery and would say hello to anybody. Bill was a dedicated father and family man. He will be greatly missed and fondly remembered always. We love you Dad. God bless.

Bill was survived by his sons Trevor (Wendy) and Paul (Trudy), his granddaughter Nicole, his sisters-in-law Joyce (Mark), & Betty, and his brother-in-law John (Joan). As well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Bill was predeceased by his loving wife Pearl, his parents Fred & Eula, his brother Maurice, his brothers-in-law Bobby, Ray, Billy, Harold, Donny, Al, and Gerald, and his sisters-in-law

Audrey and Marge.

Bill deserved a large celebration of his life for his dedication to Shellbrook all those years and for being such a wonderful human being. Unfortunately, the service will not be open to the public. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the funeral service is limited to immediate family only. Condolences can be left for the family on the MacKenzie Funeral Home Website at <https://mackenziechapel.ca/book-of-memories/4582612/Housen-William/index.php>. The service will be recorded, and once available can be viewed through the MacKenzie Funeral Chapel website. In lieu of flowers, the family asks to please send donations to the Saskatchewan Lung Association, 2308 Arlington Avenue, Saskatoon, SK S7J 3L3, or go to [www.lungsask.ca](http://www.lungsask.ca). Arrangements in care of MacKenzie Chapel & Crematorium – Shellbrook Funeral Home. Brian & Bev Stobbs, Renee Phaneuf & Mark Gyoerick. [www.MacKenzieChapel.ca](http://www.MacKenzieChapel.ca) 306.763.8488.

*Sunni June Margaret Hubbard (née Davies)*

Sunni June Margaret Hubbard (née Davies)

On April 1, 2021 our family circle was changed forever by the passing of Sunni June at the age of 88 years. Sunni was born in Kinistino, Saskatchewan and grew up primarily in Henribourg. She was the youngest of four girls and excelled at sports and school. She attended high school as a boarding student in Prince Albert and then went on to nursing school, training at the Victoria Union

Hospital in Prince Albert. She married Gordon in July 1963.

Sunni and Gordon raised their family in Leask; except for several winters when they packed up and moved to various communities in Alberta and Saskatchewan; so that Gordon could work as a hockey coach and player. Relocating a family each year could not have been easy but she always said it was a good opportunity to clean house once a year.

Sunni lived a life of service. She loved her career as a nurse; working first at Shellbrook Hospital and then as the Community Nurse for both Muskeg Lake and Mistawasis First Nations. She is remembered not only for her compassion and her willingness to go the extra mile but also as a

strong advocate for her patients. Living in a rural community, Sunni was frequently asked to assist at accident scenes and support people with a variety of health emergencies and needs. She never said no to any of those requests.

In addition to her full-time work as a nurse, Sunni managed a very busy household of kids, gardened, fed hired men and took on part-time jobs piercing ears and doing surveys. She and Gordon built a very successful farming operation. Gordon liked to joke that when Sunni and he married that she didn't know which came first - swathing or combining.

But the roles that Sunni enjoyed the most were that of wife, Mom and Grandma. The kids and grandkids remember all the special things

she somehow managed to organize such as the birthday parties, the Gingerbread house decorating, the holiday meals, the Easter egg hunts and the holiday decorations. There was always room at the table for whomever showed up at the door. Her Oreo cookies, pies, popcorn balls and turtles were legendary. In her retirement, she also had more time for crafts such as knitting and cross stitch.

She will be lovingly remembered by her husband of 57 years, Gordon; daughters Betty, Debbie (Dean Reidt) and Bonnie (Mike

Walsh); sons Don (Neeru Kavia), Billy (Angela Schmiemann) and Myles (Bonnie). She will be dearly missed by her grandchildren: Jeremy, Kristen, Megan, Tyler (Tetinya), Courtney (Brody), Alicia (Chris), Tori, Paige, Jordan, Brooke, Ryan and Adam; and her four great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her sister Donna Schmid; sisters-in-law: Jean Scholton and Audrey Hubbard, brother-in-law Lloyd (Beryl) Hubbard; as well as numerous extended family. She was predeceased by her first husband Alvin Halcro; son Allan; her parents J.C. and Betty Davies and her sisters Sylvia and Colleen.

Although we are glad that her struggle with pain and poor health are over, we will miss her presence in our lives.

Her memory will live on in the lives of those she loved and who loved her.

Deep gratitude to Dr. Ali and the staff in Roughrider House at Parkland Integrated Health Centre in Shellbrook for the dedicated and professional care they provided during the 17 months that she lived there. A celebration of Sunni's life will be held when it is safe to gather together. Memorial donations can be made to Parkland Integrated Health Centre, Box 70, Shellbrook, S0J 2E0. 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 and Crematorium, Mark Muir - Funeral Director, Leask, SK. 306-466-4822.

OBITUARIES

Rodney Morris Jonasson



JONASSON – Rodney Morris  
April 17th, 1952 – April 4th, 2021

It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of Rodney Morris Jonasson. With many loved ones by his side, he lost his battle to cancer on April 4th at the Shellbrook Hospital.

Rodney is survived by his loving wife Cindy, his children; Melanie Quintal, Tianna (Matt) Brown, Tara (Ryan) Bunton, Justin Jonasson, his grandchildren; Ethan

and Owen Ambros, Dexter and Korbyn Brown, and Kacen and Avianna Bunton, His mother, Margaret Jonasson, siblings; Marie Nickleson, Larry (Dianne) Jonasson, Lorna Britton, Linda (Ernest) Lepage, Randy Jonasson and many nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his father Albin Jonasson, his sister Debbie Ledsham and his brothers in law; Art Britton and Ben Nickleson.

Rodney was born on April 17th, 1952 in Big River, Saskatchewan. He was an amazing man who had (what seemed like endless amounts) of love and kindness to give. All who knew him felt his positive energy and calming nature. He loved camping, hunting, and being at the lake but his greatest joys in life were his grandkids and spending time visiting with many fam-

ily and friends. He will be greatly missed and thought of often as he leaves many cherished memories behind.

There was a private family service held April 8th, a recording of the Funeral Service will be available on the Beau "Lac" Funeral Home & Crematorium website within a few days of this service. There will be a Celebration of Life and Interment held at a later date.

In lieu of other tributes, donations in memory of Rodney may be made to the Shellbrook & Districts Health Services Foundation. Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit [www.beaulacfuneralhome.com](http://www.beaulacfuneralhome.com). Arrangements have been entrusted to Beau "Lac" Funeral Home & Crematorium, Lori Saam, Funeral Director- Shellbrook, SK 306-747-2828.

George Edward Morris



George Edward Morris  
1931-2021

George Edward Morris passed away peacefully, at the age of 89, with his family by his side on Saturday April 3, 2021 at the Shellbrook Integrated Health Facility. George was born October 14, 1931 in Battleford, SK.

He grew up in Avebury, SK and attended school until grade 7 at which time he went out and worked for local farmers. He met the love of his life, Shirley, at the age of 20 and they

celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on June 29, 2018. While raising his family on the farm at Shell Lake, SK George wore many hats. He had a tractor and breaking plow, and he broke land for local farmers. He obtained the Dray Business hauling goods from the train station to the local businesses. George had a contract to haul garbage for the town of Shell Lake for many years. He also had the coal business in Shell Lake delivering coal to local farms and houses in town. In 1955 he started the Morris Sanitation Business that his son Larry operates to this very day under the same name. He also owned and operated a School bus route for many years. George was very well known and liked in his many business ventures. George and Shirley also ran a small purebred cattle operation for

many years. They also raised chickens, sold eggs, and cream. There were many family gatherings held at the farm with "Grandma" making huge meals with all the produce from their huge garden. He was also a proud member of the Shell Lake Lions where he spent many hours volunteering his time in different projects in the community. George's favorite pastime was visiting with family and friends. This past year of visiting restrictions was very hard on him.

Later in life George with the help of his daughter Barb was able to locate and meet his biological family. He was happy to have met them.

Near and dear to his heart were his adoptive parents and family Nellie and Bill Morris, brother Tom Henshaw (Esther), and his 3 nieces whom he loved



Marjorie "Juanita" Lindsay  
September 18th, 1926 – March 13th, 2021

It is with grave hearts that we announce the passing of a loving mom, grandmother, and great grandmother.

Left to cherish her memory is her daughter Dianne Wingerter, her grandchildren:

Barb (Ernie Heidt), Terry (Coralie) Wingerter, Bryan (Tammy) Wingerter, Kimberly (Alistair) Buchan

Her great grandchildren:

Danyelle (Brandon Gregoire) Heidt; Kolby (Jossa Danis) Heidt; Alyssa (Brodey) Chalifour; Devan (Brittany Lehman) Wingerter; Jayden (Hunter Muir) Wingerter; Jacelyn Wingerter; Ryan, Colin, Tyson Buchan and soon to be a great-great grandchild.

Juanita was predeceased by her husband George Lindsay

dearly Eileen Donahue, Carol Penner and Joyce Savoy.

George will be lovingly remembered by his children, Barb (Darryl) Dutchak of Saskatoon, Lyle (Rose-Ann) Morris of Shellbrook and Larry (Jessie) Morris of Shell Lake.

His Grandchildren, Sheryl (Denis) Lafond, Eddie Lehman (Tari-Lynn), Chad (Nadia) Lehman, Stephanie (Cory) Uzelman, Leanne Lehman (Brody), Craig Lehman (Dustin), Ron (Tania) Elliott, Chris (Allie) Morris and Caitlynn Morris.

Marjorie "Juanita" Lindsay

of 58 years, son-in-law Robert (Bob) Wingerter in 2011, granddaughter Faith Marie Wingerter in 1973, her parents Bert and Triphena Mitchell, her siblings; Bill, Alec, Elaine, Idelle and Bev, and many sisters-in-laws and brothers-in-laws.

Juanita was born in Vanderhoof, B.C. to a local farming family. In 1944 her father passed away, Juanita then 18, with her mom moved to Vancouver. Juanita became a telephone operator. Juanita and George married in Vancouver after the war and moved to Pinchi Lake, B.C. to work in the sawmill owned by George's parents.

In 1953 they moved to Fort St. James so Dianne could attend school. At this time Juanita became in charge of the telephone exchange, which lasted for 10 years, when it turned to automation. After this Juanita was a faithful worker of the Hudson's Bay Company for 28 years. Juanita was involved in the Seniors group and Legion.

In her younger years she had a great love for outdoor activities, be it camping, fishing, quad-ding or ski-dooing. She also was her own master fix-it, if she seen something needed doing, she was not afraid to tackle the project.

In 2000 George had a massive stroke and they moved to the Mildred/

Spiritwood area to be closer to family. Juanita lived in a senior's unit and made friends with many people although her heart remained in Fort St. James. In 2009 Juanita became a resident of Evergreen Health Center in Leoville where she was well cared for and loved.

She gave her opinion on many things, her grandchildren and great-grandchildren can attest to that, whether it be a hairdo or your weight. But one never left without a hug and a kiss from her. Juanita had a great love of dogs, over the years she had many including "Shep" the nursing home dog.

Over the years Juanita suffered from many health issues. A benign growth leaving her loss of hearing in her right ear to numerous hip repair and replacements, but never slowing her down. Juanita was laid to rest on March 20th, 2021 beside her loving husband George in the Mildred South Cemetery. A big thank you to Evergreen Health Centre for the awesome care she received while a resident.

Donations in memory of Juanita may be made to Evergreen Nursing Home Resident and Family Council, Leoville, SK. Arrangements entrusted to Beau Lac Funeral Home, Mark Muir Funeral Director.

His Great Grandchildren: Tyler (Shayleen) Lafond, Kelly, Erin (Jordan) and Carter Lafond, Jordan Bittner, Brandon, Taylor (Dyson) and Carson Lehman, Brittany (Devan), Miranda (Arthur), Braily Lehman, Jake Gordon, Bennet and Knox Uzelman, Seth and Liam Elliott, Maddox Lehman, Aurora, Clair and Kyara Morris.

Great-great grandchildren: Kallia, Charlee Bittner, and Violet Lafond.

Also, numerous nieces and nephews. George was

predeceased by his wife Shirley, two infant sons Richard and Dale, and his adoptive parents Nellie and Bill Morris, his biological mother Ethel Bendell his sister Anita Schneider, brothers Charlie and Raymond Bendell.

Due to COVID restrictions there will be a private family celebration.

In lieu of other tributes, donations in memory of George may be made to the Shellbrook and Districts Health Services Foundation-Long Term Care Box 33 Shellbrook, SK. SOJ 2E0.

## Thanks to offence, Jays promise excitement

Toronto Blue Jays are going to score a ton of runs in 2021, and get huge TV ratings because of their explosive lineup, but rules of baseball insist that manager Charlie Montoyo put his team out in the field on defence for nine innings every day.

That could be the part that hurts.

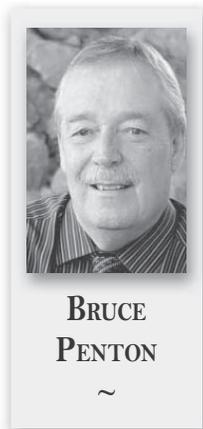
Toronto's offence was ranked third-best in all of Major League Baseball by MLB.com's Anthony Castrovine (behind only the Yankees and Dodgers), but unless Hyun-Jin Ryu — the only legitimate pitching star on the team — can pitch every other day, the Jays could lose almost as many as they win.

But what an offensive lineup! And if the pitching somehow over-achieves, Toronto might just make the playoffs and give hope to fans across Canada that a World Series title is possible.

sible.

The Jays, who will use Dunedin, Fla., as their home base for at least the first two months due to COVID-19 restrictions, have one of the most talented young teams in baseball. The trio of Vladimir Guerrero, Jr., Cavan Biggio and Bo Bichette, all sons of former major leaguers and all entering their third year, are expected to blossom this year. The slimmer and quicker Guerrero, especially, is expected to have a breakout season, having lost about 30 pounds in the off-season.

But that's not all. The Jays brain trust went out and signed free agent centerfielder George Springer, who was a member of the 'Cheatin' Astros in 2017 who won the World Series. He was probably the best free agent available and that the Jays were able to sign him (\$150 million for six years) offers proof that ownership is



BRUCE  
PENTON

intent on winning.

Springer and the three aforementioned youngsters have plenty of talent surrounding them. Teoscar Hernandez has 25-30-home run potential and Lourdes Gurriel, Jr., is a future star. and power to spare (42 career HR in 206 games). Another outfielder with pop is Randal Grichuk, who hit 12 homers in 55 games in 2020. Marcus Semien was another free-agent signing and while his stats pale in comparison to Springer's, he has enough power

er to put fear into opposing pitchers.

But ah, the pitching. After Ryu, the Jays are thin on the mound. None-household names Robby Rae, Nate Pearson and Tanner Roark fill out the other three rotation spots, with Steven Matz the fifth starter and out to prove that his 0-5 record and 9.68 ERA with the Mets last year was an aberration. He was 11-10 with the Mets in 2019.

Injuries, hot streaks, breakout players .... who knows what will happen in the next six months? But it's almost guaranteed that the Jays will never be out of a game, no matter how far behind they might be. It may or may not be a championship season, but they're going to be a fun team to watch.

• Comedy writer Brad Dickson of Omaha, who spent 13 years as a writer for Jay Leno's NBC Tonight Show, about Leno's lack of sports knowledge: "(He would use) an elaborate set of notes in case anything came up that he didn't know — for example, how many

points a touchdown is worth or what's meant by the word 'dribble.'"

• Dickson again, on the night Terry Bradshaw was a Leno guest and how 'stupid' they acted together: "How stupid did they act? Picture Curly and Moe if Larry called in sick."

• RJ Currie of sports-deke.com: "Brian Cashman, GM of the Bronx Bombers, pays his ex more than \$1 million annually in their divorce settlement. So Yankee Stadium isn't his only costly diamond."

• Greg Cote of the Miami Herald: "A Miami Heat arena name change is at hand. It's going from American Airlines Arena to FTX Arena, after a cryptocurrency exchange. Will players now be paid in Bitcoin?"

• PGA Tour player Chesson Hadley, who thought Joel Dahmen might party too much after winning his first PGA Tour title at the Corales Puntacana Resort championship, on Twitter: "I'm so happy for @Joel\_Dahmen! Absolutely first class human. No chance he makes the

charter tomorrow to San Antonio."

• Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "Gov. Greg Abbott has lifted all COVID-19 restrictions in the Lone Star State, meaning the Texas Rangers' home opener might be a sell-out. The rules there are now so lenient that even catcher's masks aren't mandatory."

• Another one from Perry: "And, in news about free agents, the Blue Jays signed George Springer, the Phillies signed J.T. Realmuto and the Royals slammed the door on Prince Harry's possible return."

• Headline at TheOnion.com: "Nelson Agholor signs 2-year, 23-drop contract with Patriots."

• Headline at Fark.com: "NFL owners approve increased profits for NFL owners."

• Another headline from fark.com: "The Pittsburgh Pirates surprise a local health-care worker with tickets to the home opener. Hasn't she suffered enough?"

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

## PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

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Rev. Sarah Urano

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

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Spiritwood - 11:15 a.m.  
Leoville - 9:30 a.m.  
Chitek Lake - Closed for  
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Shell Lake - 2:00 p.m.  
Medstead - 6 p.m.  
Father Ramel Macapeia

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Sat., 11:00 am - Worship

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Pastor Liviu Tilihoi  
306-747-3398

### MENNONITE BRETHREN

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

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Glenbush  
Worship - 11:00 am

### BETHEL

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Worship  
Pastor David Jensen  
3rd Sunday - 10 am  
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Pastor Bill Klumpenhower

### LAKELAND COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

### BELBUTTE FULL GOSPEL

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We miss you everyday  
Lester, Margie, Raymond & Families 1-15

## CARD OF THANKS

The family of Marjorie "Juanita" Lindsay would like to thank everyone for the messages and phone calls of condolences on the passing of our mom, grandma, great grandma. We would especially like to say a great big thank-you to staff and residents of Leoville Evergreen Health Center. You made a home away from home for mom with so much love and caring. You are certainly angels. Thank you to Delores Beaulac for doing such a lovely service at the graveside. To Beau "Lac" Funeral Home, thank you for your compassionate and caring service.  
Dianne Wingerter, Barb, Terry, Bryan, and Kim and families

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## Missing: Dylan Koshman

Date of Birth: Apr 11, 1987 MISSING SINCE: Oct 11, 2008  
FROM: Edmonton, AB Height: 5' 9"  
Weight: 190 Lbs. Hair: Brown  
Eyes: Hazel/Brown File: 3197 SR

**CHARACTERISTICS:** Dylan has a scar on his left cheek and left eyebrow.  
**PARTICULARS:** Dylan was last seen wearing jeans, dark colored t-shirt and skate boarding shoes.

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# What is the best potato to grow?

By Jackie Bantle

“What is the best potato to grow?” is one of the most common questions that I often hear from eager vegetable gardeners. According to the World Catalogue of Potato Varieties (co-edited by Lukie Pieterse and Uwe Hils), there are at least 4500 cultivated varieties of potatoes in over 100 countries around the world. The best potato for you to grow depends on the end use.

Potato cultivars typically found in Saskatchewan can be organized into one of four categories: white, russet, red or novelty. Red skinned potato varieties are recommended for boiling since their flesh is usually more watery. Russet varieties generally have more solids/tuber and usually become mushy when boiled. Potatoes that are high in solids are preferred for frying as they use less oil. The cooking qualities of white skinned and novelty potatoes are dependent on the variety.

Traditional potato varieties on the Prairies have included mainstays like Russet Burbank (formerly known as ‘Netted Gem’). Russet Burbank has a dry texture and is excellent as a baking potato or French fry but often turns mushy when boiled. Growing Russet Burbank can be challenging in a dry climate like the Prairies as this variety is prone to hollow heart (i.e. holes in the centre of the potato) and knobs when moisture conditions fluctuate during the growing season. Better

choices for drier fleshed potatoes that are good for baking or French fries include Goldrush, Gemstar Russet, Umatilla and Ranger Russet.

Pontiac was the traditional ‘red-skinned’ potato variety grown on the Prairies for many years. Pontiac is early maturing, recommended for boiling and usually produces excellent yields of large sized tubers. However, Pontiac is also known for its intense scab problems, hollow heart and deep eyes.

Norland (red skin) was registered as a variety in 1960 and is still one of the most popular red potato varieties for Prairie gardeners. Norland’s skin is a brighter red than Pontiac and does not oversize as quickly as the Pontiac. Norland is early maturing, somewhat resistant to scab and has excellent boiling qualities.

Other red skinned potato cultivars recommended for the Prairie garden include; Viking (early maturing, oversize tubers late in the season), Sangre (mid-season maturing, excellent boiling, medium sized tubers) and AC Peregrine (mid to late season maturity, uniform size and shape, resistant to scab, the best storage variety of the



Potato varieties grown in Saskatchewan at harvest time. Photo credit: Jackie Bantle.

reds).

Two purple skinned cultivars with bright white flesh that perform well in the Prairie garden are Purple Viking (early-maturing, large tubers and excellent flavour) and Caribe (mid-season maturity with good flavour).

Shepody is an excellent flavoured white skinned potato recommended for boiling, French frying and baking. Shepody tends to produce oversize tubers later in the season and is susceptible to scab and hollow heart. Adora, an early-maturing, light yellow fleshed potato is recommended for boiling and baking.

Yukon Gold (good yields, boiling, bake or fried) and Bintje (late maturing with excellent yields of small to medium sized potatoes) are deeper yellow fleshed cultivars recommended for their flavour.

Some unique potato varieties to try include: Banana or French Fingerling (long to banana-shaped, small, yellow-fleshed tubers), Russian Blue (purple skin and purple flesh) or All Red (red

skin and red flesh).

Always plant certified potato seed, preferably seed that is grown locally. Purchasing local potato seed grown by experienced Saskatchewan seed potato growers reduces the risk of spreading devastating potato and soil diseases.

Although it is tempting to plant potato tubers early, if the soil is too cold (below 10°C), certain fungal diseases can rot seed tubers in the ground or result in disease issues like rhizoctonia (the black ‘dirt’ that won’t wash off your potatoes at harvest time).

To get an early start on potatoes without risking disease issues, try green sprouting your potato seed tubers. At least 10-14 days before planting out, spread potato tubers out in a single layer in a brightly lit location. Ideally, the air temperature should be near 20°C with high humidity. Warm temperatures will encourage the potatoes to sprout while bright light will prevent the sprouts from elongating. Higher humidity prevents the potato tubers from drying out. Potato tuber sprouts should be less than 2.5cm long, dark green in color and may have small leaves forming. These green sprouted potato seeds will have been growing for two weeks under ideal conditions indoors before being placed outside in the warm soil (15°C+). When planting outdoors, take care not to break off the developing sprouts.

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

## Sask. introduces civilian-led model for police oversight

Saskatchewan has introduced The Police (Serious Incident Response Team) Amendment Act, 2021. This change implements a civilian-led independent Serious Incident Response Team (SIRT) to investigate serious incidents involving police officers.

“The Government of Saskatchewan understands the importance of transparent oversight of serious policing incidents,” Justice Minister and Attorney General Gordon Wyant said in a statement. “The proposed changes are the next step to enhancing police over-

sight and ensuring public trust.”

Acting under a Civilian Executive Director, SIRT members will investigate all matters where a person has suffered a sexual assault, serious injury, or death while in the custody of the police or as a result of the actions of a police officer. Investigations may also be conducted in other incidents where the Executive Director believes it is in the public interest to do so.

The proposed amendments ensure the SIRT includes Indigenous representation by requiring

an appointment of a First Nations or Métis community liaison if the victim is of First Nations or Métis ancestry. Appointed liaisons will assist the Executive Director and perform functions such as coordinating with the family of the victim and advising investigators on community interactions. The Executive Director will also have discretion to appoint a community liaison in all other matters.

The SIRT is expected to become operational in the fall of 2021, once staffing and training are completed.

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