

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

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Thursday, November 11, 2021

www.shellbrookchronicle.com | www.spiritwoodherald.com

PIHC elders observe Remembrance Day



Shellbrook Legion members lead the procession, during a Remembrance Day ceremony for the elders of Parkland Integrated Health Centre. Left row: Lloyd Rudolph, Homer Bator, and Brett Ethier. Right row: Henri Dagenais, Helen Dagenais, and Pastor David Bodvarson.

The Town of Shellbrook's Remembrance Day ceremonies got off to an early start last Friday morning, with a special outdoor program held for the residents of Parkland Integrated Health Centre's special care home.

Members from the Shellbrook Royal Canadian Legion, joined by Grade 6-8 students from WP Sandin High School, gathered with the elders at the health centre's outdoor gazebo. Due to COVID-19 protocols, the Legion members and the students were asked to carry out the ceremony on the outside of the fenced off area to allow for proper physical distancing.

The observance began with the Shell-

brook Legion's Henri Dagenais leading his fellow members and the students in a march, accompanied by bagpipe music from Kim Bradley. Then, after a prayer from Pastor David Bodvarson, the elders, Legion members, and students sang O Canada together, before Dagenais offered opening remarks reflecting on the freedoms we enjoy due to the sacrifices of veterans.

"This is due to all the men and women who gave their lives during the Great Wars, and also in Afghanistan, Yugoslavia, and all the parts of the world that Canadian Armed Forces were," he said.

Following Dagenais' opening re-

marks, Marcail Philp and Matt Muller were called upon to read poems they wrote for Remembrance Day. Philp's piece hopefully reminded listeners that the current pandemic reality pales in comparison to the horrors of war, while Muller's poem captured the perspective of a family member who served.

The ceremony continued on a musical note, with the students singing "Memories" by Maroon 5, and the traditional playing of the "Last Post" and the "Reveille."

After observing a moment of silence, elder Marlene Rudolph laid a wreath on behalf of the Parkland Integrat-

ed Health Centre residents, and WP Sandin student Oaklin Wilson laid a wreath on behalf of the school.

Before closing out the ceremony with the singing of "God Save the Queen," Dagenais offered thank yous and final remarks to honour the residents.

"You are our elders. You built this country for us," he said.

Prior to departing, the Grade 6 students also took a moment to honour local healthcare workers, holding up a sign that read, "To all of our healthcare workers thank you from the bottom of our hearts for everything that you do for the people in our community."

More photos on page 2



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PIHC elders observe Remembrance Day



The Grade 6 students took a moment to honour the healthcare workers of Parkland Integrated Health Centre.



WP Sandin student Oaklin Williams lays a wreath on behalf of the school.



Marlene Rudolph lays a wreath on behalf of her fellow PIHC elders.

The Board of the Shell Lake Curling Rink

would like to thank all of the individuals and businesses that generously donated to the Silent Auction, the Golf Tournament and the GoFundMe that have been held this fall to raise funds to rebuild our Curling Rink which burned down this summer.

At the annual meeting, held on October 26th, the Board made the decision to rebuild the Shell Lake Curling Rink. Some planning work is underway, and we would like to encourage members of the Shell Lake Community to **attend a meeting on Wednesday, November 17th at 7:00 pm at the Lions Hall**. This meeting is meant to update the community, as well as gather ideas and have discussions on plans going forward. Public Health COVID precautions will be followed.

Ahtahkakoop man charged in Halloween bust

A 49-year-old man from the Ahtahkakoop Cree First Nation is facing a slew of drug and weapons charges in connection to a search and seizure by the Ahtahkakoop-Shellbrook RCMP detachment on Halloween morning.

The detachment began its investigation after receiving reports about a pair of suspicious vehicles parked at the south end of the Mistawasis First Nation. When officers arrived, they found two trucks, a black one

and a burgundy one, that appeared to have been abandoned.

During their investigation, officers located and seized a number of

items from the trucks, including 242 grams of white powder, suspected to be cocaine and methamphetamine, two small bags of cannabis, drug paraphernalia, seven large knives and other edged weapons, bear spray, an assortment of ammunition, a number of pills, including narcotics, and open alcohol.

Two days after the initial search and seizure, on Nov. 2, officers arrested Fenton Sasakamoose in relation to the abandoned trucks, drugs, and weapons.

Sasakamoose is now charged with two counts of possession for the purpose of trafficking (cocaine and methamphetamine), one count of possession of the proceeds of property derived from commission of offence, two counts of possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, and one count of possession of ammunition while prohibited.

Sasakamoose appeared in court in Ahtahkakoop on Nov. 5.



Officers with the Ahtahkakoop-Shellbrook RCMP detachment seized an array of weapons and drugs during an investigation on the Mistawasis First Nation.



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Childcare Centre Inc.

Happy Hearts Childcare Centre 2021/2022

MONTHLY CASH Lottery

Dec \$2,000 & Jan – Nov \$1,500, 12 Chances to Win

★ TICKETS \$100 EACH ★
★ ONLY 400 TICKETS SOLD ★

\$500 EARLY BIRD DRAW

Draw Date: Monday, November 15th, 2021 12:00pm

Ticket Deadline: 11:59 p.m., November 14th, 2021

Tickets available for sale @ Happy Hearts Centre, or from any staff, board member or parent

12 MONTHLY CASH LOTTERY DRAWS

Ticket Deadlines: 11:59 p.m., November 14, 2021 for Nov. 15, 2021 draw

11:59 p.m., Dec. 14, 2021 for Dec. 15, 2021, 12:00pm draw

Final ticket purchase deadline 11:59 p.m. January 10th, 2022 (includes Jan. 2022 - Nov. 2022 draws).

Monthly Draws will be held on the second Thursday of each month from Dec. 2021 through Nov. 2022 @ 12:00pm.

All draws will be made at Happy Hearts Childcare Centre, Shellbrook, SK.

Tickets may only be purchased or sold in SK. Winners will be notified by phone or email.

Please call Happy Hearts Childcare Centre @306-747-3991 or email shellbrookhappyhearts@gmail.com

Lottery License #RR21-0374

We are forever grateful for the men and women who sacrificed their lives in the name of our country. May their selfless devotion, courage, and honour inspire us to make their sacrifice meaningful.

LEST WE FORGET

GARY VIDAL, M.P.
Desnethé – Missinippi – Churchill River

GARY.VIDAL.C1@PARL.GC.CA • GARYVIDAL.CA
1-844-365-9664 • @GARYAVIDAL



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Meeting Lake Haunted Forest scares for charity

As the Halloween events splurge with every spook of creativity, the Haunted Forest and maze in Meeting Lake Regional Park has become one of the sensations of the season thanks to the efforts the organizers put into the event each year.

The Haunted Forest has been organized mainly by Linda Price, with her daughter, Brandy Swistun, and daughter-in-law, Carmen Price, and was made possible with some volunteers, too.

It was set up at the Price Farm, located a half mile North of the Meeting Lake Park entrance, and was held on Sept. 25, Oct. 2, Oct. 9, and Oct. 16.

This has been their third

year of integrating this event into the Halloween season, and their admissions were by donations, with the proceeds going to support local charities.

Linda exclaimed that they did better this year compared to the previous years, and they would be handing out whatever they accumulate to charities they thought needed it most.

They were able to donate \$1,750, with half of the proceeds, or \$875, going to Prairie Community Endeavours and the other half for the same amount going to the Rose Gill Lodge residence fund in Rabbit Lake.

The organizers believe that the money will be put to good use in both places.



Kids of all ages enjoyed the spooks at this year's Haunted Forest.



A cheque, worth \$875 (half the proceeds raised by the Haunted Forest), was presented to Prairie Community Endeavours.



CWD Carcass Disposal Locations

This pilot project will provide hunters with a free and convenient way to properly dispose of cervid carcasses.

Disposal Locations

Prince Albert
Location: Prince Albert Wildlife Federation
Address: Central Avenue North (north of 15th Street NE)
Hours: 24-hour access
Contact: 306-764-8970

Melville
Location: City of Melville municipal landfill
Address: 4 km east of Melville
Hours: Mon – Sat 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Contact: 306-728-6857

Moosomin
Location: Empty lot
Address: Wright Road West (south side of road)
Hours: 24-hour access
Contact: 306-435-9157

saskatchewan.ca/cwd

Saskatchewan

A lot of creativity went into this year's decorations for the Haunted Forest attraction near Meeting Lake.

Lake Country Co-op

Invites applications for the following positions at our brand new Spiritwood C-Store & Gas Bar Location:

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The successful candidates will be well organized, capable of attaining a high level of production, with a minimum amount of supervision. They are honest and trustworthy, are results-oriented, and strive to be the best in what they do. Must have a positive and upbeat attitude – ability to live the Brand. They have the ability to work in a fast paced, guest facing environment and have a flexible work schedule including evenings, weekends & holidays.

Our Lake Country Co-op team provides a range of products and services to support our member – owners. Through the work that we do we help to build, fuel, feed and grow our communities together.

Apply today in person at our Spiritwood Agro Location or email your resume.

ATTN: Mike Sarrazin
Team Leader, Spiritwood Agro
mike.sarrazin@lakecountrycoop.ca or 306-883-2236

We thank all candidates for their interest; however, only those selected to continue in the recruitment process will be contacted.

LAKE COUNTRY
www.lakecountrycoop.ca

RESORT VILLAGE OF CHITEK LAKE NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that the Council of the Resort Village of Chitek Lake intends to adopt Bylaw #155/2021 and #156/2021 under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* for the amendment of Planning and Zoning of land; subject to Ministerial approval.

INTENT The proposed bylaw will allow The Resort Village of Chitek Lake to rezone the land area listed below from Future Development to Residential.

AFFECTED LAND The affected land is legally described as Block 14 Lots 1 – 4 Parcel G of Plan No. 77B04148 as shown on a plan of proposed subdivision dated August 13, 2021 and signed by Regan Rayner.

REASON The reason for this amendment is to allow for subdivision of land for Residential lots.

PUBLIC INSPECTION
Any person may inspect the Bylaw at the Chitek Lake Village office Tuesday to Thursday between 9am to 12pm and 1pm to 4pm, Friday between 9am to 12pm and 1pm to 3pm. Excluding Statutory Holidays. Copies are available at cost.

PUBLIC HEARING
Council will hold an online public hearing on November 25 at 6:30pm. Any person or group who would like to comment on the proposed bylaws please contact the Village office 306-984-2353 or rvchitek@sasktel.net for an invite to the meeting. Signed written comments will be accepted for review in advance of Public Hearing.

Issued at the Resort Village of Chitek Lake this November 2, 2021.
Signed: Tara Westmacott, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

On Remembrance Day, honour the sacrifice of our brave men and women in uniform.

LEST WE FORGET

RANDY HOBACK MP
PRINCE ALBERT

RANDY.HOBACK@PARL.GC.CA • MPRANDYHOBACK.CA • 306-953-8622

Sask. Party needs new tone on pandemic strategy

Back on Oct. 19, when he confessed that his government could have acted sooner to introduce masking and proof of vaccination mandates, Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe did something few, if any, politicians have done throughout the pandemic.

He admitted to a mistake.

Sure, his confession only came at a time when ICU patients were being transferred out of province to lessen the strain on the province's healthcare system – and after the province shutdown more than 275 services and its organ donation program to free up healthcare staff.

But the confession at least came. And, considering that many leaders have demonstrated little patience for questions about their pandemic management, that's laudable.

In the weeks since Mr. Moe admitted to his mistake and apologized to those who have been affected by delays or cancellations of elective and urgent surgeries and other healthcare services, Saskatchewan's fourth wave does appear to have ebbed.

New daily case numbers are on a slow but steady decline, reaching levels not seen since the middle of August. And hospitalizations and ICU admissions have also dipped, thanks in no small part to the fact that nearly 30 ICU patients have been transferred out of province.

This should all be cause for cautious but optimistic celebration. Cautious being the operative word.

The trouble is, Mr. Moe's apology and confession seem to have been no more than a temporary blip. An aberration.

Rather than backing words up with concrete action and a change in tone, Mr. Moe's government returned to business as usual just a few short days later.

In the midst of the province calling in the military to support overburdened hospitals and healthcare workers, Mr. Moe used a state of the province address to push back against critics calling for additional public health measures, including gathering limits and increased supports for the healthcare system.

Perhaps Mr. Moe is right when he says it's unfair to impose restrictions on the majority of Saskatchewan residents who have done their civic duty throughout the pandemic. But it's hard not to wonder whether this will just be another case of the Sask. Party gov-



JORDAN
TWISS
~
News Editor

ernment making declarations it soon has to backtrack on (as has so often been the case these past 19 months).

Last week, the government dusted off its mixed messaging to effectively kill the City of Saskatoon's attempts to impose its own public health measures. These included limits on private gatherings outside of households for the unvaccinated or partially vaccinated, and caps on attendance at weddings, funerals, and churches of 25 per cent of the building's capacity.

Government Relations Minister Don Morris and Health Minister Paul Merriman painted the matter as a case of the city stepping into the province's jurisdiction. However, on Oct. 14, Mr. Merriman said municipalities were welcome to add their own public health measures on top of the province's.

"[Cities] need to recognize that we're dealing with this on a larger picture with the province," Mr. Merriman said, apparently forgetting the countless instances in which his government has left the fine details to others over the course of the pandemic.

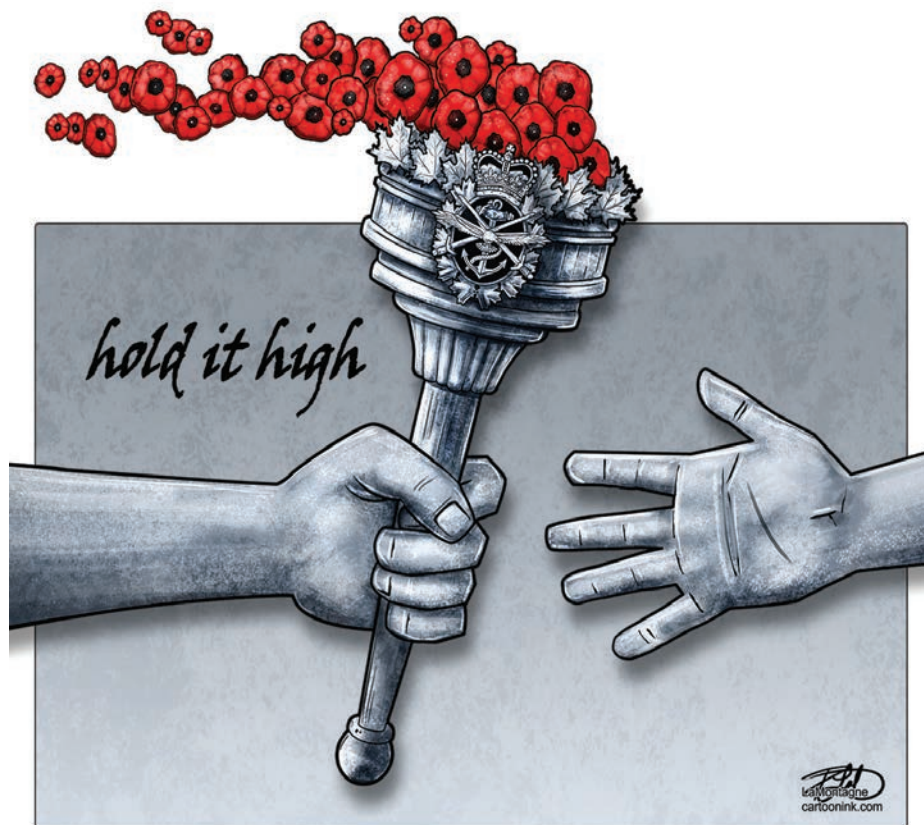
Later last week, Premier Moe and Sask. NDP Leader Ryan Meili butted heads in the legislature, with Mr. Meili repeating longstanding calls for Mr. Merriman's resignation and pressing the government for a plan to resume cancelled surgeries and services.

Telling the opposition to "zip it," Mr. Moe defended his government's record. He touted the completion of 88 per cent of scheduled procedures despite the challenges of the pandemic, and said the government is hard at work on its plan.

The very next day, however, Saskatchewan Health Authority CEO Scott Livingstone said no immediate plan is in place, adding that he couldn't even speculate about how long it will take to eliminate the province's waitlist of 35,000 procedures. Livingstone also noted the province is only completing half the procedures it normally does, meaning the backlog will grow before it shrinks.

Mixed messaging. Pigheaded refusal to act. Snarky, defensive comments. These have been the hallmarks of the Sask. Party's pandemic strategy.

If Mr. Moe was sincere when he admitted his mistake and apologized, he needs to show it with his actions and strike a new tone.



Op-ed: Seek the second source

By Tim Shoults
Operations Manager,
Aberdeen Publishing

United States Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan famously wrote in the Washington Post in 1983: "Everyone is entitled to his own opinion, but not his own facts."

Moynihan died in 2003 – the year before the launch of a little company called Facebook.

I try not to read too much into that, but there are days when it's hard not to.

People may not be entitled to their own facts, but thanks to the rise of the interconnected worlds of online search social media, they certainly have access to their own facts more than ever before.

The algorithms that power search, and especially social media, reinforce our preconceived notions and opinions by showing us content similar to that which we already consume and by connecting us to more people who think

the same way.

Ironically, that ability to connect people of similar interests is what makes social media such a powerful force for good. But that sense of belonging to a group of like-minded people makes it easier to become attached to our views and the sources than underpin them – and makes it harder for us to change our minds when presented with new information.

Then, when we do encounter people of different viewpoints, they can sound either hopelessly ignorant or actively trying to subvert the truth for some malevolent reason – and guess what? You sound the same to them.

All that makes civil discourse far more challenging than ever before. Arguing whether two and two make four doesn't sound hard, but try doing it with someone who doesn't seem to admit to the concept of addition, let alone the existence of the number two, and thinks you're trying to foist an evil

numerist agenda on them.

So what's the solution? There isn't one – not a big overarching one that can be imposed from outside.

Rather, there are millions of small solutions – one for each of us. It starts with being aware where the information we consume comes from, and actively seeking to broaden our sources.

That doesn't mean switching off social media. It's here to stay – even for community news sources online like the ones I work with, more than a quarter of our audience online comes from social sources.

Rather, a simple solution to start is: when you find a piece of information that triggers a strong emotion – anger, surprise, fear – look for a second source. Putting a few search terms into Google might just show you a different perspective on the same issue.

Is that more work? Absolutely.

But it's worth it.

Shellbrook Chronicle

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

Spiritwood Herald

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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

This week the Saskatchewan Legislature saw the continuation of the 2021 Speech from the Throne debate, which sets out our government's priorities for the future. Over the past year, we have worked together to do what was needed during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are now seeing the case numbers decrease, thanks to the actions you are taking.

Our government will continue to provide opportunities to receive vaccines and support our healthcare workers. In the past year, the Government of Saskatchewan has invested more than \$530 million to support the efforts to address COVID-19. While there is still more to do, our government will continue to invest in our province to build a stronger, safer, healthier, better educated and a more independent Saskatchewan.

Our commitment to building a better educated Saskatchewan is reflected in our commitment to invest and support Early Childhood Educators (ECEs). To this end, we are investing \$9.6 million to fund a wage increase of up to \$3 per hour for qualified ECEs in the province. This investment recognizes the dedication of ECEs while creating an incentive for people to consider becoming ECEs themselves.

The wage increase is retroactive to July 1, 2021. It is anticipated that centres will be able to access the funds for distribution by December 2021. The increased amount will vary according to ECE certification levels with up to \$1 per hour, \$2 per hour, and \$3 per hour for ECE certification level I, II, and III. The remaining amount from the \$17 million investment will go toward funding accelerated ECE certificate or diploma training and supporting ECEs who participate in continuous professional learning and skills enhancement.

Our government is continuing to support municipalities with the



**HON. SCOTT MOE,
PREMIER**

~
MLA for Rosthern -
Shellbrook
Toll Free:
1-855-793-3422
scottmoe.mla@sasktel.net

Targeted Sector Support Initiative. This grant is open to municipalities partnering to strengthen their core responsibilities through projects focused on regional co-operation, capacity building and good governance.

Now accepting new applications, this program provides cost-sharing grants up to 75 per cent to municipalities.

Applicants must be a municipal government and partner with at least one other community, such as other municipalities, regional committees, First Nations and parks. Since 2020, 56 grants totalling more than \$1.9 million have been approved by the Targeted Sector Support Initiative. Applications for this intake will be accepted from Nov. 1, 2021,

to Feb. 1, 2022. Interested municipalities can learn more and apply at <https://www.saskatchewan.ca> or email info@targetedsector.ca for more information.

If you know a student in Grade 12 or recent graduates entering agriculture-related post-secondary studies in 2022, tell them about the 2022 Saskatchewan Agriculture Student Scholarship Program. Application of a creative three-minute video or 1,000-word essay discussing this year's theme of transparency in agriculture are now being accepted. The awards consist of one winning scholarship of \$4,000 and three runner-up scholarships of \$2,000. The deadline for applications is March 1, 2022. For more information on the Saskatchewan Agriculture Student Scholarship Program, visit [Saskatchewan.ca/ag-scholarship](https://www.saskatchewan.ca/ag-scholarship).

An important issue for all of us is that of supporting mental health in our communities. In Regina, our government is partnering with Phoenix Residential Society to provide 25 new mental health beds to support people transitioning from hospital stays back into their communities. These beds will help

those experiencing severe and persistent mental health needs, in turn, reducing the use of emergency rooms, police calls, homeless shelters and mental health beds in hospitals. This is a part of the measures announced in the 2019-20 Provincial Budget commitment to deliver approximately 75 residential mental health beds across the province, with \$6 million of annualized funding beginning in 2020-21.

These enhanced residential supports are a key recommendation under Saskatchewan's Mental Health Addictions Action Plan. Further announcements will be made in the near future for another new 50 mental health treatment beds. This year, the province has invested a record \$458 million in mental health and addictions supports and services, accounting for 7.5 per cent of the overall Health budget.

In the future, as you travel on our highways you will see official Treaty boundary signage delineate the two largest Treaty Territories in Saskatchewan, Treaty 4 and Treaty 6. This new initiative will help to bring awareness to the Treaty Territories in Saskatchewan. In support of the



**HON. JEREMY
HARRISON
MLA**

~
Meadow
Lake
Toll Free:
1-877-234-6669
jharrisonmla@sasktel.net

reconciliation.

We will work with the Office of the Treaty Commissioner to determine the exact location and composition of signs and ensure that the proper protocols and ceremonies are observed prior to any installation. This will make Saskatchewan the first province in Canada to mark Treaty Boundaries along major provincial highways.

As always, if you have questions, comments, concerns, or require assistance with provincial government programs or services, please get in touch with our constituency office.

application put forward by the Office of the Treaty Commissioner, our government is working to further Treaty education and to work towards

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



Town of Blaine Lake OFFICE ASSISTANT

**Full Time Permanent
Salary Negotiated on Experience**

Education and Experience

The position requires Grade 12, with preference given to candidates who have completed a post-secondary office administration program or have experience working in an office environment.

Office Duties

- Provide general reception including answering phone calls
- Work with Munisoft Program
- Assist ratepayers, Council and staff members
- Provide Blaine Lake Community Association book keeping, office support
- Assist in promoting recreation and tourism
- Assist in implementing an EMO program

General:

- Be honest and bondable
- Conduct oneself in a professional manner

Apply with resume and references to:

Town of Blaine Lake
Box 10, 301 Main Street
Blaine Lake, SK S0J 0J0
Email: blainelake@sasktel.net

From the Government's Election Platform:

Canada Is Set to Become a Global Leader in Levelling the Playing Field for Local News

In a democracy, nothing is more vital than a healthy, vibrant local news media. But the threats from Big Tech are increasing every day.

The government's 100-day plan will place Canada in the front ranks of global leadership standing up for local news. The commitment is clear. All parties in Parliament support decisive action. Now is the time to act and pass legislation by early 2022.

News Media Canada, representing hundreds of trusted titles in our print and digital media industry, and our news publishing partners across Canada and around the world, call on Canadian parliamentarians to work together to level the digital playing field between local news and Big Tech.

Levelling the Playing Field with Digital Giants

In 2021, most Canadians get their news from digital platforms which drives key advertising revenues away from Canadian news organizations and towards platforms owned by social media companies and digital giants.

A re-elected Liberal Government will:

- Introduce legislation, within 100 days, that would require digital platforms that generate revenues from the publication of news content to share a portion of their revenues with Canadian news outlets. This legislation would be based on the Australian model and level the playing field between global platforms and Canadian news outlets. The bill will also allow news publishers to work together to prepare for collective negotiation.

News Media Canada
Médias d'Info Canada



News Media Canada (NMC, Canada) - BC & Yukon Community News Media Association (BCYCNA, Canada) - Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association (AWN, Canada) - Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association (SWNA, Canada) - Manitoba Community Newspapers Association (MCNA, Canada) - Ontario Community Newspapers Association (OCNA, Canada) - Quebec Community Newspaper Association (QCN, Canada) - Hebdo Québec (HQ, Canada) - National Ethnic Press and Media Council of Canada (NEPMCC, Canada) - Inter American Press Association (IAPA) - Iberoamerican Telecommunications Organization (OTI) - International Association of Broadcasting (IAB)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



Town of Blaine Lake ADMINISTRATOR

The Town of Blaine is a rural community of approximately 500 people located about 85 km north of Saskatoon. We are centrally located near several lakes with great opportunities for outdoor activities including water sports, hunting, snowmobiling, etc.

We are seeking a forward-thinking individual with strong leadership skills for the position of Administrator. The ideal applicant will have a minimum Class C certificate in Local Government Administration and have previous municipal administration experience. Excellent organizational, communication and interpersonal skills are required.

Salary will be negotiated based on experience and the UMAAS salary scale. The Town offers an excellent benefit and pension package.

Applicants are invited to submit resumes by mail, fax, email or in person to:

Town of Blaine Lake
Box 10
Blaine Lake, SK S0J 0J0
Email: blainelake@sasktel.net
Fax: 306-497-2511

The Position is available immediately, however, it will remain open until a suitable candidate is found. Successful applicant will be required to submit a clear criminal record check.

The Town of Blaine Lake thanks all interested applicants, however only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

Haunted Campground scares in Spiritwood

Halloween 2021 is officially in the books and the kids finally had the chance to showcase their exceptional costumes and were ready to hit the street for treats.

The concept of Halloween has changed since COVID-19 delivered tricks last year, setting in place rules and restrictions for some events. Nevertheless, with the innovativeness and ingenuity of almost every business and organization in Spiritwood, the idea of having fun, while advocating limitations for safety, encouraged delight and participation from nearly everyone in the community.

The Spiritwood Haunted Campground event, which was located at the Lions Campground and was held from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Halloween, has been one of the popular highlights in town.

It was mainly organized by the Northern Lakes Economic Development Corp. (NLEDC), and the idea of this event began last year as an alternative way for people who weren't sure of trick-or-

treating due to the pandemic's health and safety concerns. It allowed for donation of treats and dispersing of candy bags, while remaining a safe event as a drive-thru format.

The Haunted Campground was supported by various surrounding businesses namely; The Nines Hair Salon, Prairie Centre Credit Union (PCCU), Thompson Agencies, Spiritwood Confectionery, Papa Rene's Pizzeria, Spiritwood Lions Club, Spiritwood Pharmacy, Northern Lakes Economic Development Corp. and Beta Book Club, each of which donated candies and set up different frightening sites.

Bevra Fee, the managing director of NLEDC, explained how self-sustaining this event was.

She said, "All candy and bags were donated, and businesses set up their own haunted campground sites so there was no cost to NLEDC. Last year we made 180 treat bags from the donated candy and this year we made 200. We were around

20 bags short this year, due to increased popularity (and the reputation of the treat bags.)"

She added that next year's format will be different and that it will be a Seasonal Fall event, rather than being Halloween focused. She was hoping that, by 2022, kids can finally go back to the traditional trick-or-treating as this year there was a lot more door-to-door candy giving.



Spiritwood-based businesses and organizations teamed up to give kids plenty of tricks and treats at this year's Haunted Campground, which was held at the Lions Campground on Halloween.

Join the conversation about

OUR FUTURE POWER SUPPLY



Learn how nuclear power from small modular reactors can help us reach net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Join the conversation by attending an info session.

Scan this code with your mobile device to register for a session or learn more.



Poppy Trust Fund donates to PCE



A \$2693.25 donation from the Spiritwood Legion, via the Poppy Trust Fund, allowed Prairie Community Endeavours to purchase new medical grade chairs for the day program.

Every year, from the end of October to Nov. 11, we recognize millions of Canadians who wear a poppy as a way to honour and pledge to Canadian Veterans that we will remember those who sacrificed for our country's freedom.

The Poppy Campaign is led by Legion Branches in cities, towns, and communities across the country. Poppies are distributed freely, but generous donations are widely accepted and encouraged.

Spiritwood's Prairie Community Endeavours was the fortunate group to receive a donation from the Spiritwood Royal Canadian Legion Branch, via the Poppy Trust Fund. The donation from the Fund, totalling \$2,693.25, went towards purchasing new Day Program medical grade chairs.



Lest We Forget

REMEMBRANCE DAY • 11-11-2021

Honouring those who served and continue to serve.



Hon. Jeremy Harrison
MLA for Meadow Lake
jharrisonmla@sasktel.net



Hon. Scott Moe, Premier
MLA for Rosthern-Shellbrook
scottmoe.mla@sasktel.net

Harvest Showdown still brings nostalgia

When your summer holidays as a youth revolved around heading to summer fairs, showing livestock from age five until you were in your twenties, you are naturally rather nostalgic when your career takes you back to an event focused on agriculture and shows.

So, I've always enjoyed covering Harvest Showdown in Yorkton.

The show is also something of a benchmark event personally, as one of my earliest assignments was talking to then manager of the Yor-

ton Exhibition Association, Shaun Morin, on the eve of the inaugural Showdown. I found him pounding stakes through the asphalt at the fairgrounds to secure tents that were used in the early years of the event to house stock.

It was a rather humble beginning to a show which has endured for more than three decades. It's become a sort of mini Canadian Western Agribition, with the Yorkton show focused very much on commercial farmers.

Through the years, the Showdown has of course



CALVIN DANIELS

evolved, with various events coming and going.

I can recall when a llama show was the glamour event at the Showdown for a few years. The ring was decked out fan-

cy and the show a highlight as llamas for a short time were the darlings of agriculture, fetching huge prices for a time.

There was Canola Day for a few years as well; a day featuring a series of speakers offering producers information to produce more canola and how to sell it.

The idea of sitting through a day of speakers never quite caught on, though, as the Showdown always seemed a place to come and visit, talk shop with other farmers over a coffee or brew, and relax after the

busy harvest season.

Then there was the commercial sheep show and sale, which seemed like a natural given the ongoing popularity of the commercial cattle show and sale. But the sheep event never quite found the expected niche.

Heavy horse hitch events and Clydesdale Shows have come, gone, come again, and were again off the agenda this year too.

But while change has been ongoing, commercial shows for area cattle producers and area grain producers have been at

the heart of the Showdown. They have allowed farmers to show what they produce in a somewhat casual, relaxed atmosphere, albeit with an eye on winning a red ribbon or trophy too.

For yours truly it is four busy days, covering stock dogs and chore horses, and Farmer Recognition Award winners and horse pulls and bull riding. And while I admit I am tired as I write this at the end of four days of Showdown, it's still one of my favourite events to cover each year, even after three decades.

Winter camping officially launches in Sask parks

Online reservations are now available for winter camping at Buffalo Pound, Cypress Hills, Duck Mountain, Echo Valley, Great Blue Heron, Moose Mountain and Pike Lake Provincial Parks.

"We are pleased to offer online winter camping reservations in Sask Parks for the first time ever," Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Laura Ross said. "We know many families will be staying close to home again this season, so we want to ensure there will be a variety of nearby winter experiences and overnight opportunities available for everyone to enjoy."

Nightly camping fees are decreased for the period of Nov. 1,

2021 to March 31, 2022 to reflect the reduced services during the winter months. Electrical sites are \$29/night and non-electrical sites are \$16/night.

For those who want to enjoy the winter camping experience but prefer additional comfort, warmth and convenience, three Camp-Easy yurts are available at Echo Valley and two Camp-Easy tents at Cypress Hills. The sites are equipped with cots, camp chairs, a propane camp stove, wash bin and axe. Camp-Easy sites are \$65/night and can also be booked ahead of time, online.

In addition to winter camping, a number of activities and programs will be available in the parks, including Trim Your

Tree at Cypress Hills. Starting November 27, visitors can chop down their own Christmas tree from a designated area in the park and take a piece of Cypress Hills home with them for the holidays. Free tree permits and maps are available at the park administration office. Also starting November 27, visitors can take in the following guided programs and activities (pre-registration required):

- "Marvel at the Night Sky" - Fridays at 7:30 p.m. - around a warm campfire, discover the Hollywood blockbuster films whose tales are told across the night sky.
- "Move it or Luge It" - Saturdays at 10 a.m. - fly down the

mini luge track with a saucer-style sled and take part in a series of fun winter challenges.

• "Cypress Snowshoe" - Saturdays at 2 p.m. - join park interpreters on a guided snowshoe hike through the snow covered Lodgepole pines.

The Festival of Lights will be returning to Pike Lake and Candle Lake Provincial Parks again this winter, featuring light displays sponsored by local groups and families. Pike Lake's festival will be operating on select days between December 10 and 29 and JS Entertainment Petting Farm will also be on-site during the festival. Candle Lake's festival will run Wednesdays to Sundays from December 17 to 31,

with snow castle building, campfires and hot chocolate available in the park prior to the festival. For full details including hours of operation, visit <http://parks.saskatchewan.ca>.

Valid park entry permits are required year-round in provincial parks. 2021 permits, valid until March 31, 2022, are available at a reduced rate of \$40. Annual permits will provide access to winter camping, activities and programs at all participating parks.

To stay up-to-date on all Sask Parks winter programs and activities, follow Sask Parks on Facebook. To register for a guided program or reserve winter camping, visit <http://parks.saskatchewan.ca>.

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., Nov. 15, 2021
Presort Sale 9:30 a.m., Regular Sale to follow

Fri., Nov. 19, 2021
Bred Cow/Heifer & Pair Sale 1:00 p.m.



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



Your independently owned & operated livestock marketing facility - working with the producers' best interest in mind

FEEDER FINANCE PROGRAM AVAILABLE - Please contact Glen

Brent 306-240-5340 • Glen 306-960-4732 • Boyd 306-841-7998 • Frederick 306-227-9505

Office 306-763-8463 ~ Fax 306-763-4620

For market info visit: www.northernlivestocksales.ca

MEADOW LAKE LIVESTOCK SALES LTD.



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

Wed., Nov. 17, 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.



Your independently owned & operated livestock marketing facility - working with the producers' best interest in mind

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 ~ market info visit: www.mlstockyards.com

WP Sandin hosts 3A Girls Conference Volleyball

WP Sandin High School's girls volleyball team played hosts on Saturday, welcoming four opposing squads to the community for the 3A Girls Conference Volleyball tournament.

Joining the home team for the tournament, which ran the full day, were squads from Rosthern Junior College, Creighton Community School, Osler Valley Christian Academy, and Senator Myles Venne School.

The day brought a mixed bag for the WP Sandin team, which racked up a 2-2 record over the course of four games. But the team was competitive in every match, never going down in just two sets.

The tournament started bright and early, with a hard-fought game against Rosthern Junior

College. The home team fought hard, dropping the first set 25-22 before rallying to claim the second by the same tally. It came up just short in the abbreviated third set, falling 15-8.

The WP Sandin girls bounced back in the afternoon, when they matched up with Senator Myles Venne School. The girls took out the visiting squad from Lac La Ronge Indian Band in two straight sets, winning with scores of 25-14 and 27-25.

After a two-hour rest, the WP Sandin girls returned to action against Creighton Community School. As with their first game against Rosthern, the girls put up a good fight, losing the first set 25-20 then dominating the second set 25-11. The girls couldn't rally in the deciding set,

losing 15-9.

Closing out the Conference tournament, the home team was pushed by the team from Osler Valley Christian Academy, who took the first set 25-20. The WP Sandin ladies bounced back, winning the second and third sets with scores of 25-15 and 15-7, respectively.

With the 2-2 record, the WP Sandin ladies finished third in the tournament standings, behind Rosthern Junior College in first place and Creighton Community School in second.

For her part, coach Natasha Kostyniuk says she's pleased with what she saw from her team over the weekend.

"Our team looks like an entirely different team than from the beginning of the season. Each player did so well at working together on and off the court, communicating with each other, and cheering each other on. Every successful point on the court created such energy from the players," she said.

Noting that it was great for her girls to get a chance to play competitive volleyball, Kostyniuk says she hopes her team viewed the Conference tournament as



WP Sandin's Marissa Skavlebo sets up Mya Sommerfeld for a return salvo.



WP Sandin's Tegan Naumann leaps to make a return spike.

a fun and challenging learning experience.

"I also feel as though they learned how to adjust to different situations on the court that they might not be completely used to," she added.

This weekend, the team heads to the 3A Girls Volleyball Regionals competition in Lanigan. WP Sandin will also be playing host and competing in the Provincials contest, which is scheduled for Nov. 19 and 20.

Kostyniuk says she's still looking for volunteers for the tournament.



WP Sandin's Josee Schatkoske eyes her serve in 3A Girls Volleyball Conference action against Senator Myles Venne school.

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.
Shell Lake - 2:00 p.m.
Chitek Lake - Closed for the Season
Everyone Welcome

SATURDAY
Medstead - 6 p.m.
Father Ramel Macapala

PARTNERS IN WORSHIP
Shell Lake
Worship Services
Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Pastor Sarah Urano
306-841-7333

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 Martyns
(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
(Corner of 1st Ave. and 4th St., Spiritwood)
Sun., 11 am - Worship
Service & Sunday School
Pastor Michael Kluthe
306-883-2380

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

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

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 Service - 9 a.m.
St. Andrew's - Shellbrook
Sunday, 11 a.m. Service
Canwood - Christ Church
Sunday, 2 p.m. - Service
Rev. Wendell Brock
306-460-7696
H.C. Service with Rev.
Brock - 1st Sunday of the
month

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 Klumpenhower

UNITED CHURCH
Big River
Sundays
10 a.m.. - Worship
at Anglican Church
Rev. Dave Whalley
306-747-2804

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 9 a.m.
St. Henry's - Leask
Mass - Sunday - 11 a.m.
Mistawasis
2nd & 4th Sundays, 1:30 p.m.
Fr. Phong Tran

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

Hoot N’ Howl a ghoulish good time in Spiritwood

What comes to mind whenever we think about Halloween? Is it ghosts? Pumpkins? Candies and treats? Or just merely



The Spiritwood Rec. Centre’s mezzanine was decorated in spooky fashion, with help from the Price family, who host a Haunted Forest fundraiser near Meeting Lake.

spooky stuff? Well, the Hoot N’ Howl event by the Spiritwood Area, Recreation, Culture and Sport Inc. (SARCS) had all the answers for you. It was held on Oct. 31 from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. in the Spiritwood Recreation Centre (Curling Rink) Mezzanine. Kaeli Cross, the Town of Spiritwood’s events and recreation coordinator, organized five stations for children to take part in spook-fantastic activities for this year’s Halloween. The stations were composed of pumpkin painting, mask decorating, witch slime, mummy bowling, and a bouncy castle. The most popular one was the witch slime, which ran out of supplies halfway through the event. In addition to the activity stations, there were beverages and

about 160 treat bags offered throughout the event for kids to grab. Looking ahead to next year, Cross said she would prepare for double, if not triple, the kids they planned for. With organizing an event in the midst of the pandemic, the



A Hoot N’ Howl patron paints a pumpkin.

SARCS organization found they didn’t have any struggles putting on the event as they have staffed more people than in a typical year due to vaccination/negative test requirements prior to entering. Nevertheless, the organizers felt they all had every activity they wanted to have.

SARCS was delighted by those who helped and donated to the Halloween Hoot N’ Howl, from all the pumpkin donations and beverages, to the numerous people who provided candy, and the Price family, who lent them decorations from their Halloween Haunted Forest.



Costumed kids take part in Halloween Hoot N’ Howl activities.



Pumpkin painting was one of the more popular stations, giving kids a chance to showcase their creativity.

Silvertips drop season opener in Warman

The Shellbrook Silvertips dusted off their skates, returning to action for the 2021-2022 Twin Rivers Hockey League regular season campaign with a road game against the Warman Wildcats. It was the team’s first action in nearly a year, after the last hockey season was cut short by the COVID-19 pandemic. Though the Tips certainly showed some rust and came up on the wrong side of a 10-6 loss, they succeeded in putting on an entertaining game. Saturday evening’s match was a slow burner, with the first goal coming on a power play after the halfway point of the opening stanza. Warman’s Gordon Wasteste netted the marker, with assists from Lucas Seesequasis and Brock Hounsell. The Tips used a late power play to knot things up, with Brett Mason scoring on assists from Dylan Smith and Mathew Kutnikoff. Then, they claimed their first lead of the game just a minute later. Cody Belair netted the goal, with assists from Dorin Canaday and Torey Stewart. The Wildcats clawed their way back to an even score, tying it up at 2-2 with just four seconds left on the clock. Brayden Anderson supplied the goal, with helpers from Tyler Hubbard and Brett Weiman. In a highlight filled second frame, the Tips scored early to reclaim their lead, then extended it on a shorthanded goal 50 seconds later. Parker Turner netted the first goal, with an assist from Belair, while Gage Helm struck, unassisted, on the penalty kill. Once again, the Wildcats had an answer, pulling within one on a goal from

Weiman, assisted by Wasteste. After a lull in the action, the Wildcats kicked off a wild 90 seconds of offence on a game-tying goal from Tanner Clark, assisted by Anderson. The Tips struck right back, with Smith scoring on a helper from Helm, only to have the Wildcats tie it right back up with just 34 seconds left on the clock. Logan McGuire scored the goal, with Austin Hiltz and Hounsell earning assists. After 40 minutes of tight back-and-forth action, the Silvertips seemed to run out of steam in the third period, surrendering five unanswered goals to the Wildcats (three of them on the power play). Hubbard kicked off the scoring, with an assist from Brett Weiman, then Weiman found the back of the net three minutes later on a helper from Tyson Schroeder. Making the most of his team’s power play opportunities, Thien Gamble put the Wildcats up 8-5 on assists from Weiman and Hounsell. A minute later, Taylor Elmy scored a power play marker, with helpers from David Anaka and Hounsell. Finally, Cody Kroszer tallied a power play goal, thanks to a feed from Dylan Marien. Making use of their own power play, the Silvertips tallied one last goal to close the gap to 10-6. Nathaniel Martin scored, with an assist from Smith. The Silvertips return to action this weekend, hosting the Hague Royals in their home opener. Puck drop for the game is set for 8 p.m.

Spiritwood Public Library news

The Spiritwood Public Library Board met on Oct. 13, 2021. Welcome was given to new Librarian, Heather Gatzke. Many items were discussed, including receiving the cheque for the Canada Post Community Foundation Grant – Project Growing Up with Books. It was decided the library would have a display for Saskatchewan Library Week Oct. 18-22, with a theme of Rise Above. There will be Halloween decorations as well as a take & make craft

for children to make monster puppets. Also on topic was the Block Exchanges. Wapiti headquarters sends us groups of books (Blocks), ranging from large print, audio books, DVDs, nonfiction, fiction, young adult to easy books. These books circulate around the province and provide extra reading resources to supplement our own library resources. This happens every month, so patrons are encouraged to stop in and have a look around to see what is new.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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SPIRITWOOD: Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 9 am - 5 pm; Wednesday 9 am - 5 pm; Friday 9 am - 5 pm
LEOVILLE: Wapiti Regional Library - Wednesday 10 am - 4 pm; Thursday 10 am - 3 pm
SHELL LAKE: Wapiti Regional Library - Tuesday 12:30 pm - 4 pm; Wednesday 12:30 pm - 4 pm

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BLAINE LAKE: Wapiti Library - 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 - 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. Tuesday 10 am - 4 pm; Thursday 10 am - 4 pm; Friday 1 pm - 5 pm. Kids Club is Fridays 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm, Crafter’s Choice is the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.
DEBDEN: Wapiti Library hours: Tuesday 10 am - 3 pm; Wednesday 3 pm - 7 pm. Librarian: Aline Hannon
LEASK: Wapiti Library & Legacy Gallery Hours - Tuesday 10:30 am - 5 pm; Friday 10:30 am - 5 pm; Saturday 1 pm - 4 pm
MARCELIN: Wapiti Library - 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: 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.

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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:

\$60.00 plus G.S.T. - A savings of over 30%
Available to Non-Profit & Community Organizations Only
Call Now For Further Details
“Don’t miss out on letting your Community and others know of your event!”

Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald

Box 10, Shellbrook, SK S0J 2E0
Ph: 306-747-2442 • Fax: 306-747-3000 • Email: chads@sbchron.com

Elks drop two more on home ice

The Parkland U18 AA Elks were in action on home ice this weekend, hosting the Saskatoon Sabercats on Friday evening and the Humboldt Broncos on Saturday in hopes of finally getting in the win column.

The struggling Elks showed flashes of brilliance in both games, but ultimately fell short to remain winless on the season.

Elks (2) vs. Cats (5)

Friday night's home game started off well for the Elks, with Kaiden Couture giving his team a 1-0 lead just after the midway point of the first period. Kendon Skalicky provided the lone assist on the goal.

Playing some strong defence, the Elks, and netminder Shae Stewart, kept the Sabercats off the board until the dying seconds of the frame, with Stewart turning away 22 of the 23 shots he faced. Rylan Anderson fired the shot that beat him, scoring with helpers from Matthew Paquette and Chris McMartin to knot the game at 1-1.

After a good but imperfect start to the game, the Elks fell apart in the second stanza, surrendering three unanswered goals in the first half of the period to find themselves facing a 4-1 deficit.

Tristin Tetreault-Yaremkow drew first blood for the Sabercats with an unassisted goal, then provided an assist to Nate Bohmann just a couple minutes later. Rounding out the period's score sheet, Lucas Turple found the back of the net just past the 13-minute mark. Brady Pratte and Bohm-



Elks goalie Shae Stewart gets the pad out to stop a Humboldt scoring attempt. Stewart faced a whopping 61 shots in the Elks' losing effort.

ann earned assists on the goal.

The Elks continued to struggle in the third period and compounded their struggles with penalties. This allowed Turple to score his second of the evening on assists from Ethan Tetu and Paquette.

The Elks closed out the night's scoring, tallying a late goal in an effort to salvage the game. Skalicky scored, on assists from Tylee Sylvestre and Couture, to secure the Elks' 5-2 defeat.

Elks (3) vs. Broncos (8)

The Elks were back in action Saturday evening, playing host to the hard-charging Humboldt Broncos. Things quickly took an unlucky turn for the Elks, as an unfortunate bounce created a two-on-one break-

away, allowing the Broncos to draw first blood.

Hayden Smart netted the game opener, with an assist from Ghyphum Muyco.

It was all downhill for the Elks from this point on, as the team tallied just one shot through the first 10 minutes of action and only four shots in the entire first period.

Dominating the game, and taking advantage of the power play, the Broncos went up 2-0 just after the halfway point of the period on a goal from Ty Sundholm, who received a perfect setup from Luke Schlosser and Smart.

The Elks started the second period where they finished the first, playing most of the opening five minutes in their own

end. Eventually the defence broke, allowing for a perfect setup right on their doorstep. Muyco netted the 3-0 goal, with assists from Michael Burechailo and Tyler Gudjonson.

The Elks finally showed signs of life later in the frame, finding the back of the net when the Broncos gave up too many rebounds in front of their goal. Tylee Sylvestre earned the goal, with helpers from Jake Boettcher and Ashton Tanchuk.

But the Broncos took the wind right out of the Elks' sails again, when Edward Knittig took a textbook feed from Rhett Vedress in front of the Elks goal and found the top shelf. More poor defensive play allowed Knittig to score his

second goal of the night just a minute later, this time with assists Matthew Porter and Sundholm.

Sending the action to the third period, Sylvestre scored his second of the night, showing impressive hand-eye coordination while knocking down a puck and redirecting it into the Broncos goal. Bronson Parker earned the lone assist on the play.

The Broncos had an answer yet again, beating netminder Shae Stewart on the glove side off of an offensive zone faceoff. Tristin Ziola scored the goal, with an assist from Hadley Nakonechny.

The Elks fired right back on the ensuing faceoff, with Moe Norsten scoring on helpers from Talon Sandry and Jase Martin.

With the game all but out of reach, the Broncos tacked on another goal, with Gudjonson finding the puck amidst the chaos in front of the Elks' net and redirecting it home. Muyco and Burechailo assisted on the goal.

Capping off their scorecard in the last two minutes of the game, the Broncos made the most of a nearly four-minute 5-on-3 power play to claim an 8-3 victory. Ziola scored the goal, his second of the night, unassisted.

With the pair of losses, the Elks have fallen to 0-12-0-1 on the season.

The team now has a week off, and will return to action with a home game against the Saskatoon Icehawks on Nov. 19. Puck drop for the match is at 7:30 p.m.

GOOD NEWS

HOW SOME THINGS CHANGE!

Dave Whalley DLM(R)

First United Church, Big River

When I left the Yukon in 1964 there were no radio stations in the territory. There were no paved roads anywhere. Dawson City was deserted, doors hanging on hinges and windows broken on most buildings. There was no place to buy a meal there. The last gold mining dredge shut down around 1959. There were 41 road houses along the Alcan Highway (later renamed the Alaska Highway). When you were travelling on those impossible roads, you would never, ever, pass a vehicle stalled on the side of the road, or someone walking. Everyone soon knew people in many places of the territory. Everybody looked out for each other.

On Nov. 17, 1969, CKRW went on the air, which brought information, news, and sports to many communities. Today CKRW's programming is transmitted from Whitehorse to Watson Lake, Haines Junction, Faro, Mayo, and Teslin. It is rebroadcast on CFYT in Dawson City when that station is

not doing its own programs. We often listen to CKRW on Shaw Direct channel 856. It is now also 96.1 FM "The Rush".

When you travel to the Yukon now, the Alaska Highway is paved. Many of the streets in Watson Lake, Teslin, Whitehorse, and Dawson City are paved. Dawson City is now a thriving tourist destination. Because of the paved roads and highways there are only four road houses left on the Alaska Highway. In earlier days there was a need for more road houses because the roads were not easily driven on, tires and vehicles often needed repairs and it took longer to travel to reach a place to eat. My favourite road house is Johnson's Crossing. Today it is only a place to stop for a rest or a meal or a souvenir. Tourism has changed the way of life on the Alaska Highway.

When we listen to CKRW, one thing sticks out in my mind. Often, if someone finds something valuable on the highway, or pets wandering, the radio station will announce it on air and give

contact information. People will pass urgent messages to friends or relatives in other communities that can't be reached easily, sometimes as far as 300 kms away.

When I left the Yukon, a Tlingit woman told me that when you leave the Yukon you leave your heart behind. That is one of the truest statements I have ever been told. Leslee and I have been back to the Yukon a few times now and it truly is God's creation of beauty. I have some concerns about a few things that I have seen in the Yukon. Permafrost is disappearing and we see even homes collapsing. I have witnessed the complete disappearances of several glaciers. I have seen changes to the vegetation in the Yukon and even the herds of caribou are dwindling in some areas.

The way I see it, God created this universe for all of us, which includes the animals, birds, and vegetation. Often when we listen to CKRW, for most of the late fall, winter, and early spring, it is warmer in Whitehorse than Prince

Albert. Fifty years ago, Whitehorse and Dawson City were always colder than Prince Albert from November to March. Our climate is changing and to me, we humans are the main culprit. What I see happening in the Yukon is way more profound than changes here.

We are to be the hands and feet of God, which means we are to be good stewards of our environment. Rather than asking what I can do for God in my world, I should be asking what is God doing in my world around me and how can I be part of that. We are to protect God's creation and one of the things that we can do is protect the environment we have. I believe that we humans are causing the changes that are happening. We have many examples of people who are trying to be part of God's mission of saving this third rock from the sun. We can make a difference in God's world. We have the power to create a vision of healing and hope, with prayer and God's help, by doing our part to keep this world the way God would want it to be.

Oilers' powerplay nearly unstoppable

Words of advice for National Hockey League players to consider: Never ever be caught by a television camera singing the national anthem; water only, no vodka, in your on-bench water bottle; make sure you get paid in U.S. dollars instead of Canadian; and don't take a penalty against the Edmonton Oilers.

It should be noted that back in the 1950s, the NHL revised its rules to allow expiration of a penalty if the player's team was scored upon. Prior to that, the violator served the full two minutes, no matter how many goals the other team piled up, and it was all because of the Montreal Canadiens and their Rocket Richard-led power play being so effective that game-changing two- and three-goal outbursts during a two-minute power play were commonplace.

So here we have the Connor McDavid-powered Oilers' power play that has proven to be

close to unstoppable during the first few weeks of the 2021-22 season. Around the end of October, the Oilers were scoring goals on 47.8 per cent of their extra-man opportunities, and the offensive explosion was part of the reason for the team's 6-1 start.

More than half of McDavid's points have been coming on the power play. He and Tyson Barrie man the blue line, both of them streaking here and there to get open. Leon Draisaitl and Ryan Nugent-Hopkins play on the wings and either Zach Hyman or Jesse Puljujarvi creates havoc in front of the net. It is a nearly unstoppable unit that creates nightmares for opposition netminders.

Last year's Oilers' power play unit scored at an 18-per-cent clip. Normally, the best powerplay percentage over a season is in the mid to high-20-per-cent range. The NHL record is from 1977-78, when the Habs scored



BRUCE
PENTON

on 31.88 per cent of their chances. The Oilers will obviously cool down from their mid-40-per-cent range as the season progresses, but McDavid said he has been working on improving a few aspects of his already sublime game, and one of those improvements is the 'one-timer' shot from the right face-off circle. He has already scored a couple of power play goals with that move and if he perfects it, more individual records, and Oiler victories, could be on the horizon.

"I would not want to be defending that (power

play), especially seeing the reports you've got McDavid practicing one-timers on his off-flank," former NHLer Bryce Salvador said on a radio show. New Oiler Duncan Keith, who is 38 and has been around the NHL scene for 17 years, gets a great view from the bench this year and said "I haven't seen a power play like that before."

Few other people, except those who remember 1977-78, have either.

• RJ Currie of sportsdeke.com: "Last offseason, the NFL and its Players Association settled on a policy change: competitors who test positive for marijuana will no longer be suspended. Call it a joint agreement."

• Patti Dawn Swanson, on Twitter: "A pair of sneakers Michael Jordan wore way back in 1984 sold at auction for \$1.472 million. Apparently it was \$1,471,990 for the shoes and \$10 for a box of Odor-Eaters."

• Boston Globe sports-writer Kevin Paul Du-

pont, on Twitter: "Good news for Leafs fans: Border will open soon and they can see some decent hockey in Buffalo."

• Spotted on Facebook: "She asked me to tell her three words every girl wants to hear, so I whispered 'Go Habs go.'"

• Buster Olney of ESPN, on Major League Baseball's 'opener' strategy: "The opener will gradually move toward extinction, like the Wildcat formation, Theranos, or Kanye's presidential bid."

• Columnist Norman Chad, on Twitter: "Full disclosure: We did use the tomahawk chop at my second wedding ceremony. Man, was I fired up come that honeymoon night."

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "There is a new show on Apple TV starring Kevin Durant called 'Swagger.' Don't confuse this with the show about the New York Jets. That's called 'Stagger.'"

• Dwight Perry of the

Seattle Times: "So whose bright idea was it to tell Braves pitcher Charlie Morton to break a leg before Game 1?"

• Steve Simmons of Sun Media: "Marcus Semien has hired Scott Boras as his agent. Don't know if that's a good thing or a bad thing for the Blue Jays but know it's an expensive thing for somebody."

• ESPN's Chris Fowler, after Oregon defensive end Kayvon Thibodeaux uttered an expletive on live TV: "Thibodeaux did a Thi-bo-don't."

• TheScore.com, on Chicago's 0-5-1 NHL start: "The Blackhawks are like the Titanic: They looked good until they hit the ice."

• Kaseberg again, via Twitter, on the Raiders reeling off two lopsided wins since the firing of coach Jon Gruden: "The Jets should search their coach's computer for offensive emails."

Care to comment? Email brucepen-ton2003@yahoo.ca

Aardvarks mauled by Cougars in Provincial semi-final

The WP Sandin High School Aardvarks football team took the field in front of a huge hometown crowd on Saturday afternoon, as they hosted the Clavet Cougars in the 2A six-man Provincial semi-final.

The young Aardvarks team made it to this point by racking up an impressive 5-1 record through the regular season. They then trampled the Rosthern Longhorns 39-20 to make it to the quarterfinals against the Creighton Kodiaks, scoring a comeback 30-26 victory against them to punch their ticket to the semifinals.

The Cougars, meanwhile, went a perfect 4-0 on the season, then toppled Unity in the quarterfinal to the tune of 68-35.

In Saturday's semi-final, both teams showed up to play from the get-go. On the first Clavet drive, the Aardvarks came up with huge stop in the redzone thanks to an interception by Brandon Dingwall. The Cougars defence got their revenge on the Aardvarks' first possession, ripping the ball from Austin Helm's hands on what would have been a big offensive play.

With its second chance, Clavet made no mistakes this time, scoring on a short QB keeper to take an 8-0 lead. Then, after the Aardvarks' offence stalled, the Cougars went up by two scores on a short pass and run.

In a highlight-filled second quarter, the Aardvarks offence drew first blood on a goal line pass from quarterback Jesse Nyberg to Dingwall to bring the score to 16-6. With some hustle from the special teams, the Aardvarks then recovered the ensuing kickoff.

This time, Nyberg found Helm in the endzone, closing the gap to 16-12.

The Cougars roared back to life, scoring on a short touchdown pass to go up 22-12, and the Aardvarks had an answer, pulling within two points with a short touchdown pass of their own (this one from Nyberg to Dingwall on 3rd and goal).

This, however, was the closest the Aardvarks would get for the rest of the game. Clavet exploded on offence, and found its footing on defence, generating three touchdowns and two interceptions to close out the first half.

The Cougars began with a touchdown screen pass. Though two Aardvarks tacklers had their hands on the ball carrier, he powered through to the endzone.

After an interception by the defence, the Cougars extended their lead on a short touchdown run. Then, the defence came up big again, returning an interception for a touchdown on the last play of the half to give Clavet a 46-20 lead.

The Cougars started the third quarter the same way they finished the second, with the offence racking up another three touchdowns and the defence forcing a safety with the

help of the Aardvarks offence.

Only in the dying moments of the third quarter did the Aardvarks show some signs of life, when Nyberg found a wide-open Helm for a touchdown to close the gap to 70-26.

After a too little, too late stop by the Aardvarks defence, the offence tallied the final score of the game on a rushing touchdown by Dawson Stieb in the fourth quarter.

The score sealed the Aardvarks' season-ending loss by a score of 70-32.

While the Aardvarks' season is over, the Cougars will now face Wakaw in the provincial final this Saturday.



Dawson Stieb takes a big hit but manages to hold on for the first down.



Brandon Dingwall and Brett Stene (11) fail to wrap up their man, allowing a Clavet touchdown.

OBITUARIES

Larry Stanley Coles



Larry Stanley Coles
January 11, 1953 ~
October 25, 2021

It is with great sadness that the family of Larry Coles announce his passing on October 25, 2021 at the Victoria Hospital in Prince

Albert, SK.

Larry was born January 11, 1953 in Shellbrook, Saskatchewan. He was the oldest of three children: Larry, Richard and Eric.

He went to school in Foxdale and then in Shellbrook. Larry left school and worked for various farmers in the area. He also worked in the oil fields in Alberta for many years, with his sidekick and boss, Robert Miller. On November 8, 1980 he married DarryAnn. They spent many years together, travelling to different places, working at various jobs in Alberta and British Columbia.

The lure of hunting and fishing brought them back to the Parkland area of Saskatchewan. You could often find Larry in the Sturgeon Lake and Sturgeon River area, or in farmer's fields discussing crops with anyone who would stop to chat.

His final years of employment were at Parks Canada, Prince Albert National Park in Waskesiu. Larry made many friends at the park and were considered more than coworkers to him. Even in retirement he called the park during coffee time just to see what was going on. In the fall, he was a constant

at the Curran farm, working or persuading one of the boys to go hunting or fishing with him.

Larry and DarryAnn decided to buy a home in Prince Albert, where they spent many hours gardening and feeding the birds. He loved to read and watch sports on TV. He was always happy to help out Aunt Sheila with anything she needed.

Wherever Larry was, he made friends with everyone he met. He will be remembered for his humour and fun-loving demeanor. We always knew when the phone rang, Larry would greet

you with, "So, how's it goin' today?"

He was a devoted husband, proud father and grandfather, brother and loving son.

Larry is lovingly remembered by his wife DarryAnn; stepchildren: Mary Jean (Denis), Bob (Jenny); grandchildren: Chris, Darla, Tanya, Connor, Riley, Leah, Logan; brothers Richard (Cathy), Eric (Roxanne); step-mother Ruth Coles; Aunt Sheila Coles; many beloved nieces, nephews, cousins; and special friends Dean and Shannon Curran.

Larry is predeceased by his parents Leslie and Clara Coles, stepson Rick

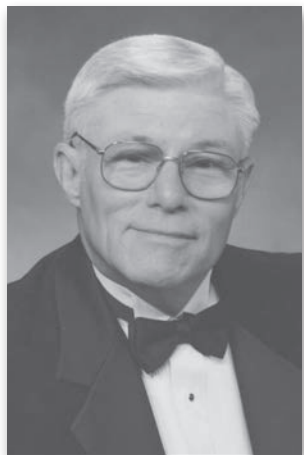
Chapman and parents-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Earl Grimm.

Our family would like to express our gratitude and thanks to the incredible nurses and doctors at the Victoria Hospital for their support and compassion during this difficult time.

There will be an afternoon of fellowship in the Spring of 2022 at the Foxdale Cemetery for all friends and family to attend.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.grays.ca. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Gray's Funeral Chapel, (306) 922-4729.

Russel Williams



Russel Williams
1936 ~ 2021

Russel Malcolm Williams was born on a cold day on January 27, 1936 at his grandparent's farm (Alice and Bill Headrick). Their farm was located 15 miles east southeast of Leask in the Bright-holme district. A month after his birth, he was taken to his parent's farm which they rented approximately 3 miles southwest of Parkside. A few years later, his parents purchased a farm 6 1/2 miles west of Parkside in the Spruce Glen area. Russel attended public school in Spruce Glen. It was located 5 miles west of Parkside. Russel went on to complete one year of high school in Parkside.

At the age of 16, Russel went up to Meadow Lake to sell for Fuller Brush. A year later, he went to work in Kilwinning and Marcelin for the CN Railroad. Later that same summer, he moved to Prince Albert and began work at the Saan store.

He remained there working until his lay off just before Christmas. Russel also drove taxi during this time until early April when he landed a job to work in Wilkie at Wally's Men's Wear. He spent 2 1/2 years there and then moved to Prince Albert to manage the shoe department at the CB Department Store. After less than a year there, he quit and went to work for Federated Co-op as a salesman, in their dry goods department which covered all of Northern Saskatchewan. He remained with them for approximately 10 years until 1967. Immediately following this, Russel went to work for Paulin Chambers and travelled out of Saskatoon, working all of Northern Saskatchewan. He spent 8 years in sales on the road in the territory and then moved to Saskatoon as Branch Manager until November in 1977.

It was at this time Russel and Georgie, along with his sister Bernice and her husband Allan, that they purchased the Brunswick Hotel in Moose Jaw. Two and a half years later, they sold and moved to Flaxcombe (a small community 20 miles west of Kindersley). On January 4, 1981, they traded the Flaxcombe Hotel for the National Hotel in Prince Albert. During that time, they put in a drive through as well as Geor-

gie's Wine and Beer Store. They stayed in operation until January of 2012 when they sold and retired.

During the winter months Russel and Georgie spent approximately 30 years going back and forth to Mesa, Arizona until they sold their property there, in 2015.

Russel passed away peacefully in the Victoria Hospital in Prince Albert, SK on November 3, 2021. He leaves to mourn his wife of 51 years, Georgie Williams; his children, Rick Williams (Shelley) and grandchildren Jodie, (great-grandchildren Danika, Taylor (and great-great-granddaughter Kaelyn), Keirsten and Joshua), Jason (Kim) and great-grandchildren (Isabella and Savannah), Jordan (Melissa) and great-grandchildren (Blake, Leah and Hunter). Cindy (Keith Fulawka) and grandchildren Jon Cennon (Shawna) and great-grandchildren (Jazmyn, Alia and Jace), and Graham Cennon (Adèle) and great-grandchildren (Zélie and Zacharie). Brad T Williams and grandchildren Nicole (Shane Weinberger) and great-grandchildren (Azalea and Ezekiel), and Brittany Williams (Kelly). Brad A Williams (Ramona) and grandchildren Gillian Derksen (Jeremy) and great-grandsons

(Grayson and Kaden), Brandon Smith, Danielle Morin and great-grandson (Bryson), Cameron Morin and great-grandson (Haden), Caleigh and Chloe. Rhonda Williams and grandchildren Tanner Courouble, Wyatt Courouble and Bryce Carter. Rosemary Leathorn and grandchildren Sylvia Wipp (Tim) and Kyle Wipp. He also leaves to mourn his sister, Bernice Ferster (Ed); his aunt, Racie Headrick; along with numerous sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was predeceased by his grandparents, William (Bill) and Alice Headrick; parents, Arthur Williams in 1981 and Doris Williams in 2008; father-in-law, Alex Sinclair in 1989; and mother-in-law, Matilda Sinclair in 2013; his brother-in-law, Allan Ferster in 2003; and his granddaughter, Brittney Morin in 2020. He was also predeceased by numerous aunts, uncles, sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law and cousins.

The family would like to thank the nurses at the Dialysis Unit at the Victoria Hospital, for the exceptional loving care that was specific to Dad in the final stages of his life. Words cannot express the gratitude we have for taking such good care of Dad.

It is the family's request that those wishing to place memorials or donations in lieu of flowers, may do so to The Dialysis Unit in the Victoria Hospital in Prince Albert, SK. The Funeral Service for Russel will be held at 1:00 p.m., on Friday, November 12, 2021, at River Park Funeral

Home, in Prince Albert, SK, with Jim Atcheson officiating. There will be a lunch to follow the service at the Prince Albert Wildlife Federation. Funeral arrangements are entrusted to the care of River Park Funeral Home, (306) 764-2727, Paula Hanson, Funeral Director.

NOTICE OF PASSING

Edna Mary Galambos



In Loving Memory of
Edna Mary Galambos
May 28, 1930 – October 15, 2021

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Edna Mary (Martin) Galambos on October 15, 2021 at Dalmeny Spruce Manor at the age of 91.

Edna leaves to mourn her passing and cherish her memory: her children Murray (Sandra) Galambos, Brenda

(Gordon) Sommerfeld, Dwayne (Rose) Galambos, her grandchildren Brett (Cara) Galambos, Kelby (Angela) Galambos, Jillian (Colton) Smith, Cody (Kristen) Sommerfeld, Britta (Max) McKenzie, Emma Sommerfeld, Lane Galambos and Kadie Galambos, as well as her great grandchildren Ethan, Arlow, Jackson, and Maverick. Her siblings Ruth Bold and Gordon Martin.

Edna is predeceased by her husband Alex Galambos, her parents, Albert & Mary Martin, her brother Ken Martin, and sister Norma Wall.

A private funeral service was held Friday, October 22, 2021 and the Leask Cemetery.

**Advertising Deadline is
Friday 4:00 p.m.**

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Garden Soil: determining what you have

By Sara Williams

If you've recently purchased a new home, you're probably anxious to begin landscaping. But before planting, check out your soil. New homes in new developments may or may not include topsoil: it could either have been sold, covered, or moved in the process of grading, developing infrastructure (roads, sewers, etc.) or building the house itself. Even if your 'new' home is in a mature neighbourhood, it is still worth the time and effort to evaluate your soil.

The first step is to identify your soil's texture or the proportion of sand, silt and clay. This can be done through a time-honoured method called "manual texturing". Simply place a bit of soil in the palm of your hand along with enough water to wet it. Then rub the mixture between your thumb and forefinger.

If it's gritty and you can feel individual particles, the soil is predominantly sand. If slippery and sticky, it's predominantly clay. If it's soapy or silky, it's predominantly silt. If you can't figure it out, it's probably somewhere in between these extremes – and that's

a good thing. A soil that has equal proportions of sand, silt and clay is called "loam" and is the preferred type for most gardening activities. Note: The word "loam" describes soil particle size, not organic matter content.

The next step is to figure out how much, if any, organic matter the soil contains. This is straightforward. Regardless of texture, the darker the colour, the more organic matter is present – and the more the better. Black soils are high in organic matter; grey soils are low.

Step three is determining drainage. Few plants tolerate seasonally or permanently waterlogged soils. Drainage will likely be a problem if your lot is in a low area of a development with other lots draining toward it, or if your subsoil is predominantly clay.

If you find yourself in either of these situations, and water sits for a while in spring or after a heavy rain, there are solutions. You can build "dry stream beds" that act as drainage channels, carrying excess water away from your landscape. These can lead to a back lane or across a front sidewalk into storm sewers.

Check with your town or city authorities for information about drainage bylaws.

A second solution is to plant flowers, bulbs, and small shrubs on raised berms so their root systems are not sitting in seasonally standing water. A berm is a mounded planting bed up to 60 cm (2 ft.) in height and 2 to 3 m (6-9 ft.) in width, with sides that slope gently down to the original grade. Besides keeping plants out of waterlogged soil, it makes for a more interesting backyard topography in our flat prairies. When developing a berm, add a generous amount of organic matter so it doesn't dry out in the prairie wind. Berms that are gently curved to fit the space they occupy are more pleasing than rigidly geometric ones.

Prior to purchasing and spreading topsoil or soil amendments, cultivate the existing soil to a depth of about 15 cm (6 in.). This can be done by hand digging (which is said to build character) or tilling.

It's critical that this step be carried out to improve drainage. Avoid creating distinct layers of different types of soil. By first loosening the existing soil, it becomes much easier to

thoroughly incorporate any topsoil or amendments that are added later. If good quality topsoil is simply dumped on top of poor soil, you'll find that many plants will root into the first layer, but then tend to root laterally or sideways once they reach the "poor" soil below.

This results in shallowly rooted plants that are vulnerable to environmental stress such as heat, cold, strong winds, drought or flooding. As well, the upper layer (the good soil) will become saturated with rain or irrigation water before any water begins to percolate into the different type of soil texture below. Again, the final result is shallowly rooted plants.

Sara Williams is the author and coauthor of many books including *Creating the Prairie Xeriscape*, *Gardening Naturally with Hugh Skinner* and, with Bob Bors, the recently published *Growing Fruit in Northern Gardens*. She continues to give workshops on a wide range of gardening topics throughout the prairies.

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



Sandy soil holds little moisture and is often nutrient poor.
Photo credit: Sara Williams



Clay soil is often poorly drained when wet and cracks when dry.
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Mistawasis, U of S form knowledge partnership

Mistawasis Nêhiyawak has partnered with the University of Saskatchewan's (U of S) College of Arts and Science to share and create knowledge, with a focus on land-based learning, the environment, and climate change.

The five-year partnership was formalized by the signing of an Asota, a sacred Cree term which translates to "make a promise," and opens up opportunities for students from Mistawasis Nêhiyawak and students and faculty from the U of S to work together and learn together.

"From nation-to-nation, tribe-to-tribe, we made promises to one another, we smoked the pipe, and the Creator was the witness to our promises," Anthony Blair Dreaver Johnston, a special advisor from Mistawasis Nêhiyawak said of Treaty 6 (an example of an Asota), to which Mistawasis was the first signatory.

"For me, the make a promise agreement we now have connects our past to our present reality with a shared hope for a good future."

Over the next five years of the Asota, Mistawasis Nêhiyawak and the College of Arts and Science will collaborate to develop new teaching and research in the areas of Indigenous wellbeing, community development, and environmental stewardship.

The first outcome of this collaboration is a new 400-level geography course at the U of S, GEOG 465: Environment and Health in Indigenous Commu-

nities, which will begin in May 2022.

In the new course, taught by Johnston and Department of Geography and Planning faculty members Dr. Corinne Schuster-Wallace and Dr. Paul Hackett, U of S students will form small study teams with students from Mistawasis Nêhiyawak High School to study the environmental and health challenges the community faces.

During the three-week course, the high school students will visit the U of S campus and work with their university counterparts and university faculty. The U of S students, meanwhile, will spend a week living in the community of Mistawasis Nêhiyawak, where they will camp out in tipis behind the high school, walk the land, and learn about Indigenous worldviews.

"There is so much to hear, learn and understand from communities like Mistawasis Nêhiyawak. I want our students to recognize the strengths and resources that exist here. I want us to build bridges between First Nations communities and the university campus," Dr. Schuster-Wallace said.

This isn't the first partnership Mistawasis Nêhiyawak has formed with the U of S. In 2014, after years of heavy flooding, the community looked to neighbouring communities, non-governmental organizations, and the provincial and federal governments for a solution.

The result of the gathering



Attendees at the signing of an Asota between Mistawasis Nêhiyawak and the U of S College of Arts and Science, from left: Anthony Blair Dreaver Johnston (special advisor, Mistawasis Nêhiyawak), Shaunna Currie (principal, Mistawasis Nêhiyawak High School), Emily Snyder (interim vice-dean, Indigenous, College of Arts and Science), Paul Hackett (faculty, geography and planning), Corinne Schuster-Wallace (faculty, geography and planning), Bobbi Dreaver (high school student), Peta Bonham-Smith (dean, College of Arts and Science), Alec Aitken (department head, geography and planning), and Daniel Sylvestre (land-based program coordinator, Mistawasis Nêhiyawak).

Photo credit: Vanessa Hyggen

of these groups was Honor the Water, a five-year, \$1.8 million project aimed at dealing with the current flooding problems and preparing for future flood events.

The project, which was shared far and wide in the hopes of helping other communities, First Nations and otherwise, drew the attention of the College of Environment and Sustainability, leading to a partnership with the community that was formalized with the signing of a similar Asota in 2017.

With this first Asota, and the new one signed with the College of Arts and Science, Johnston says the hope is always to get youth in the community involved.

"For a number of years, Mistawasis Nêhiyawak has been developing and is now applying land-based programming in both our high school and elementary school at all grade levels, so that students learn on the land and from the land, combined with the provincial curriculum requirements," he said.

"This [new Asota] is just one of many projects we have with the university. We always look for ways to include our students...

with the hope that this might inspire our young people to consider post-secondary education."

For many students in Mistawasis Nêhiyawak, Johnston says, partnerships like these are the first time they'll meet a university student or professor. Johnston adds that he hopes to see the students share these experiences, both within the community and outside of it, so others can follow Mistawasis Nêhiyawak's lead and see the same benefits.

Conversely, for the university students who may be visiting a First Nations community for the first time, Johnston says he hopes they will learn about the past, present, and future, and develop an appreciation of life today for First Nations people.

This, he hopes, will spark the imaginations of all parties involved and guide them towards solutions when it comes to important environmental concerns like climate change.

"Mistawasis has been working with the university — and we work with a number of non-government organizations — to collectively understand the climate and the changes we're experiencing, and to look for ways to work together and adapt to

the changes today and the likely continuing changes," he said.

With Canada and its First Nations committed to work towards Truth and Reconciliation, Johnston calls partnerships like those between Mistawasis Nêhiyawak and the U of S "reconciliation in action" and steps in an ongoing process.

Also ongoing, are the community's plans when it comes to partnerships like these. In the new year, the community is hoping to sign a third Asota with the College of Agriculture and Bioresources, while also looking at potential agreements with other organizations.

In the even longer term, Johnston would like to see local students, as well as Indigenous and non-Indigenous students, be able to complete their first year of university in the community.

"First year is the toughest year of university," he said. "For many young people, it's their first time at university... and it's their first time living alone in the city."

"If Mistawasis and surrounding youth can get their first year of university some place close, they may have a better first year experience and be more prepared."



Mistawasis Nêhiyawak councillor Robin Daniels signs the Asota alongside College of Arts and Science dean Peta Bonham-Smith.

Photo credit: Vanessa Hyggen

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