



Schmitz, Taylor earn trio of accolades

When the *Shellbrook Chronicle* & *Spiritwood Herald* spoke to them back in March, the junior figure skating duo of Shellbrook's Ashlyn Schmitz and Regina's Tristan Taylor hinted they were readying to test themselves internationally as they regained some post-COVID normalcy.

What they couldn't have known then was just how well they'd perform on the global stage.

In their first-ever competition at the International Skating Union's (ISU) Junior Grand Prix in Riga, Latvia, which ran from Sept. 7 to 10, the duo claimed bronze to secure a two-three finish for Canada behind the duo of Ava Rae Kemp and Yohnatan Elizarov.

A month later, at the 2022 Baltic Cup in Gdansk, Poland, Schmitz and Taylor skated to a sixth place finish, once again placing just behind Kemp and Elizarov (who, in turn, were just behind another Canadian pair, Chloe Panetta and Kieran Thrasher).

Capping off a busy fall of international competitions, the pair travelled to Graz, Austria, for the 2022 Ice Challenge from Nov. 9 to 11. There, after two of the four pairs of the competition withdrew, Schmitz and Taylor skated to a decisive gold medal victory. The pair won with a combined short skate and free program score of 110.69, besting Germany's Sonja and Robert Loewenherz, who earned a total score of 94.26.

And gold was in the cards once again, when Schmitz and Taylor returned to Canada to compete in the 2022-2023 Skate Canada Challenge in Winnipeg from Nov. 30 to Dec. 3. There, the pair scored a 128.03 with their short and free programs, to beat out Quebec's Martina Ariano Kent and Alexis Leduc and Ontario's Jazmine Desrochers and Aidan Wright.

Schmitz and Taylor's golden performances abroad and at home were enough to convince Skate Canada – Saskatchewan to nominate them for Sask. Sport's Athlete of the Month honours for November. On Monday, Sask. Sport announced it had bestowed the title upon them.

Coached by David and Vicki Schultz, Schmitz and Taylor train out of Regina.

The pair was named to Skate Canada's NextGen Team at the end of May of this year, opening the door for them to represent Canada on the ISU Grand Prix circuit, in the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships, and in



Shellbrook's Ashlyn Schmitz and Regina's Tristan Taylor are international gold medallists in junior pairs figure skating. Here, they're pictured with coach David Schultz after winning gold in Graz, Austria.

other international competitions.

Brought together as a figure skating pair in 2018, Schmitz and Taylor claimed their first competitive hardware in the form of bronze medals at the 2019 Canada Winter Games in Red Deer, Alta. The pair followed up on this performance in January 2020, claiming silver medals at the Canadian Tire National Skating Championships in

Mississauga, Ont.

With all this momentum behind them, Schmitz and Taylor saw all their hard work and plans derailed for more than two years when the COVID-19 pandemic reared its ugly head in Saskatchewan. Despite this hurdle, the pair continued to train together in any capacity they could so they would be ready for the return of normal figure

skating seasons.

Thanks to their gold medal performance in Austria, the pair has qualified for the 2023 Canadian Tire National Skating Championships, set for Jan. 9 to 15 in Oshawa. Pending the outcome of nationals, they'll also be eligible to compete in the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships, set for Feb. 27 to March 5 in Calgary.

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Spiritwood Lions host Christmas Craft Show

After two years of withholding events due to COVID-19 precautions, the Spiritwood & District Lions Club has finally been able to start planning its normal functions and celebrations again.

Hence, November was a very busy month for the organization. After the return of their annual Senior Appreciation Supper on Nov. 12, the Lions brought back their Christmas Craft Sale, which was hosted at the Spiritwood Civic Centre from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Nov. 26

The Lioness Craft Sale started way back in 1982, and was taken over by the Lions Club in 2016. Save for the two years missed due to the pandemic, it has been held every year for the past 40 years.

The Spiritwood & District Lions Club says that hosting this craft sale is a way of helping local crafters promote and sell their products. It's also a means for the club to raise funds, so it can continue supporting youth, seniors, or anyone in need in the community.

During this year's Christmas Craft Sale, there were 36 tables with a wide variety of crafts and local products including crochet clothing, delicacies, household items, potteries, books, flower arrangements, candles, handbags and purses, winter and Christmas table arrangements, pet garments, a variety of homemade foods, and much more.

In addition to the many products available to those looking to check some people off their Christmas lists, there was also a lunch provided by Spiritwood Minor Ball.

All told, about 360 people came through the doors to view the goods for sale, make some purchases, or just visit with friends. Door prizes were also up for grabs, with 21 prizes available (18 smaller prizes and three large prizes). The large prizes were two \$100

gift certificates, which were won by Sally Salisbury and David Doucette, and a large outdoor Christmas planter, which was won by Malley Vandale.

Marlene Walter, one of the organizers from the Lions Club, said that the event outcome was amazing.

"This was the first social event that most people had been to, since our last Craft Sale in 2019. All the vendors were very pleased in their sales results," she added.

It was, all in all, a great day of shopping for local goods and a substantial way to take care of some Christmas preparations. And though this year's craft sale is only just in the books, the Lions say that plans are already forming for next year's sale, with the hope that it will be bigger and better.

Already, some vendors have pre-booked their tables for next year's sale.



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Christmas Eve Services

• Canwood Pentecostal Church,
Canwood 3:00 pm

• St. John's Lutheran Church,
Shellbrook 7:00 pm

• St. Andrew's Anglican Church,
Shellbrook 9:00 pm

• Shellbrook Pentecostal Assembly,
Shellbrook 7:00 pm

• First United Church,
Big River 5:00 pm

• St. Agatha's Roman Catholic Church,
Shellbrook 7:00 pm

• St. Henry's Roman Catholic Church,
Leask 7:00 pm

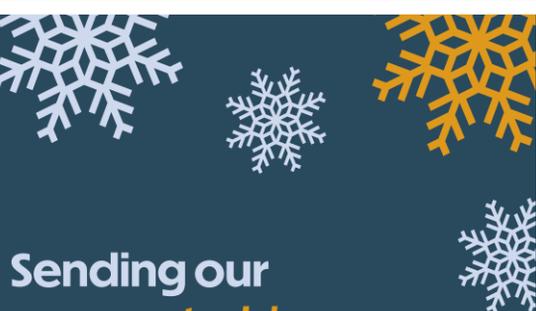
Joy to the World ... The Lord has come!



The Spiritwood Lions' Christmas Craft Sale returned on Nov. 26, offering a little bit of something for everyone.

CORRECTION

In the Dec. 8 coverage of the Arts Council's Carol Festival, it was reported that Lake Country Co-op donated goody bags for the performers. In fact, bags were donated for the entire audience. Leftovers were then given to long-term care residents at Parkland Integrated Health Centre and seniors in assisted living. The *Chronicle & Herald* apologize for the omission.



Sending our
warmest wishes
this holiday season,
from everyone
at Prairie Centre!



Highlights of a Shellbrook Town Council meeting

Shellbrook's Town Council met for its final regular meeting of 2022 in person and via teleconference on Monday, Dec. 12.

In attendance were Mayor Amund Otterson, councillors Larry Batten, Peter Halayka, Cheryl Ledding, Brent Miller, and Kathleen Nording, and the town's CAO, Kelly Hoare.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Otterson, and council began with its customary recognition of Truth and Reconciliation.

Immediately after this, it approved the meeting's agenda, adopted the minutes of its Nov. 21 meeting, and moved on to welcome a delegation of individuals who own hangars at the Shellbrook Airport.

Recently, council sent a letter to the hangar owners signalling its intention to not spend any further money on the airstrip. A bone of contention for many, the airstrip was changed from a sod/seeded grass surface to a gravel surface six

years ago when the Town of Shellbrook received a large grant to improve it. However, the airstrip still isn't long enough for anything other than recreational planes to use.

The town's letter of intent drew disappointment from the group of hangar owners, who believe the airstrip can be a benefit to the community, especially if it's upgraded to allow for med-evacs to land. They also believe it would see more use if it had a finished surface, as the current gravel surface is a hazard for planes.

Meanwhile, for councillor Miller, the biggest question was why the town owns the airport in the first place, as he doesn't see how it benefits ratepayers.

After much discussion — much of it focused on the need to relocate the airstrip to free up proper-

ty along the highway for potential development in the future — council put it to the delegates to come up with a proposal for how to move forward with any improvements to the airstrip.

With the delegation departed, council moved on to reports, starting and concluding with an update on the PARWU Board from Mayor Otterson. Following a recent presentation to mark the completion of 50 per cent of the design for the water treatment plant and intermunicipal pipeline project, Otterson said options are being explored to reduce its nearly \$80 million price tag.

Otterson also noted that an application has been submitted for an Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program grant, and that SaskWater has been engaged to lend its expertise to the

project.

Up first in new business, council took care of a pair of housekeeping items by carrying motions to appoint Western Municipal Consulting Ltd. as the town's Board of Revision and Development Appeals Board. Then, in more housekeeping, it reversed a GST charge, in the amount of \$199,76, on a GST-exempt account.

Moving on, council carried a motion to rescind policy 3014, which is the town's COVID-19 Immunization Policy, as it is no longer enforceable.

Finally, council had a lengthy discussion about proposed policy 4022, the town's Employee Health, Wellness & Retention policy. Once approved, the policy will serve as an amalgamation of Policies 4002, 4012 and 4020, and outline vacation entitlements, benefits, covered expenses, and training requirements for municipal employees.

After its discussion, council voted to table the matter, as well as a related motion to rescind Policies 4002, 4012 and 4020, and adjourned for the evening.

Christmas Skate hosted at the Spiritwood Rink

The Spiritwood Skate Club hosted its annual Christmas Skate on Dec. 4, 2022, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Taking advantage of the free admission, approximately 30 skaters enjoyed an afternoon of skating to Christmas songs. Parents were also there to watch and skate together with their kids, and the Spiritwood Skate Club board served cookies and hot chocolate to the participants.

Janine Doucette, a parent of one of the young skaters, said that her son enjoyed the afternoon as much as she did. If the Christmas Skate is held again next year, she said they're interested in attending again.

On the whole, it was an enjoyable way to get to start the feeling of Christmas through skating.

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MEMBER, GDI BOARD OF GOVERNORS

WESTERN REGION I (Meadow Lake, Cochin, Leoville, Pierceland, Glaslyn, Chitek Lake, Livelong, Rush Lake, Brightsand, Spiritwood, Midnight Lake, Dorintosh, Paradise Hill)

Overview: The GDI Board of Governors has representation from the (12) Regions of the Organization, who are ratified by the Provincial Métis Council (PMC) of the Métis Nation—Saskatchewan (MN—S). The PMC Member who is assigned the Education portfolio sits as the Chairperson of the Board of Governors. All persons selected to the Board of Governors will be for a period of three years. A member who is an employee/staff person/manager of an affiliated organization of the MN—S shall not be permitted to sit on the Board of Governors of the Institute.

Responsibilities: The Board of Governors oversees the Gabriel Dumont Institute and is responsible for its operation and governance in all matters, including: to adopt policies for the effective operation of GDI; to formulate a strategic plan and to oversee its implementation; to approve annual budgets, audits and programs; to function as ambassadors for GDI and to encourage students and potential students in their study and career plans; to represent GDI to all levels of government, persons of Métis ancestry and to the public generally; and to appoint a Chief Executive Officer to be directly responsible for implementation of policy and the day-to-day management and operations of GDI.

Qualifications: All appointments to the Board must be of Métis ancestry with knowledge of the cultural, historical and social circumstances of Saskatchewan Métis. Ideally the collective skills on the board will represent a number of different disciplines and perspectives. Some of the preferred skill and training areas include education or post-secondary education; finance and administration; business; human resources (personnel); law; and communications. Individuals with extensive Métis culture and language experience are encouraged to apply. This will ensure a wide range of skills and perspectives are available when decisions are considered. A criminal record vulnerable sector check must be completed and accompany the resume submitted.

Process: Candidates can apply directly to the MN—S region or the Institute, who in turn will forward the application to the appropriate MN—S region for consideration. The MN—S region then submits the name of their selected representative forwarded from a duly called and administered regional council meeting. The name of the new board member is then sent to the PMC for ratification. Finally, the name is forwarded to the Minister of Advanced Education.

Starting Date: 2023 (Once process is complete — 3-year appointment with the possibility of renewal)

Deadline for receipt of applications: December 20th, 2022

Please submit resume to one of:

Loretta King
Western Region I, Regional Director
Métis Nation - Saskatchewan
Box 134 Dorintosh, SK S0M 0T0
Phone: (306)236-7544
Email: reddaking11@gmail.com

Rhonda Pilon
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Gabriel Dumont Institute
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Saskatoon, SK S7M 0R9
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The Gabriel Dumont Institute has permission from the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission to hire affirmatively.

NOTICE

Lake Country Co-op Agro in Shellbrook will be **closed** from **January 8th through 15th, 2023.**

We will re-open at our **new location**
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LAKE COUNTRY

Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this may cause. We appreciate your patience. Thank you from the team at Lake Country Co-op Agro!

TENDER

Lake Country Co-op Agro is currently accepting tenders for the provision of **Janitorial Services** at our new Shellbrook Agro retail facility located at #400 - 7th Street East, Shellbrook, SK.

Scope of work includes daily cleaning of Office and Retail Store facility.

Responsibilities to include:

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- Dusting
- Washroom cleaning and maintenance

Successful Applicant must be:

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- Capable of working evenings
- Able to plan workflow and arrange supply orders

Duties expected to commence January 16, 2023.

Tender submissions to clearly state qualifications and expected compensation (monthly).

Tenders to be received in writing **by 5PM December 16, 2022.** Attention Jeff Rothwell, Manager, Lake Country Co-op Agro, Box 97, Shellbrook, SK S0J 2E0 or email to jeff.rothwell@lakecountrycoop.ca

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On China, Trudeau must find his courage

We live in an age in which the lines between nations are nearly as blurry as the thin line separating fact from fiction.

Where once countries could simply ignore each other and go about their business, the advent of fast travel and instantaneous communication have made this more challenging. It's ironic, isn't it? For all the conveniences modern technology has brought to our daily lives, countries seem to be more dependent upon one another than ever before.

For all but the largest and most powerful countries, the international stage is precarious to dance upon. The steps of the mutual-interest tango can be dizzying to learn, requiring a near-perfect balance of leading and following, giving and taking. And a single misstep can be disastrous.

Often lost in the long shadow cast by the United States, Canada exists in an especially dangerous place. We have a place on the stage, yes, but we seldom have the power or influence to set the tempo of the dance. And to maintain our place, we usually have to give more than we are permitted to take.

Nowhere has this been more evident than in our careful (but often poorly executed) three-way tango with the United States and China.

At the end of 2018, when RCMP officers arrested Huawei CFO Meng Wanzhou on an extradition request from the U.S., Canada was being a good ally to its primary trading partner.

For this, we bore the brunt of China's wrath, while our ally escaped almost entirely unscathed.

China first responded with its trademark disregard for human rights by detaining Canadians Michael Kovrig and Michael Spavor. The two Michaels, as they came to be called, would spend more than 1,000 days in captivity before finally being liberated in 2021.

Next, China brought its hammer down on the Canadian economy, banning all imports of Canadian canola, effectively shutting down 40 per cent of the Canadian market and doing millions, if not



JORDAN TWISS

News Editor

billions, of dollars in damage to Canadian canola producers.

It didn't stop there, either. China also imposed unusual trade barriers on other key Canadian exports, including soybeans, peas, and pork.

And how was Canada's loyalty to the U.S. repaid? Well, certainly not by then-President Donald Trump dropping his ridiculous tariffs on steel, aluminum, and softwood lumber (not immediately, anyway).

Meanwhile, as the two Michaels unjustly spent more than 1,000 days in windowless cells said to measure three metres by three metres, Ms. Wanzhou spent her house arrest in one of her two mansions in B.C., where she was permitted to freely roam a 62 square-kilometre area.

And just two weeks ago, the U.S. dismissed all charges against Ms. Wanzhou, allowing her to walk free as part of a deferred prosecution agreement – even though she admitted to the fraud she was accused of.

The whole absurd episode would be funny, if not for the very real harm done to the two Michaels and the Canadian economy. And again, one must wonder how Canada benefitted for playing its role so dutifully.

If there's anything at all we can point to, perhaps it's in Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's incremental change in attitude regarding China.

In 2013, when he was still just the newly minted leader of the Liberal Party, Mr. Trudeau famously said, "There is a level of admiration I actually have for China because their basic dictatorship is allowing them to actually turn their economy around on a dime and say we need to go green, we need to start, you know, investing in solar."

"There is a flexibility that I know Stephen Harper must dream about: having a dictatorship where you can do whatever you wanted, that I find quite interesting."

Mr. Trudeau's admiration for China's "basic dictatorship" seems to have waned in recent years. More and more frequently, we hear him criticizing the



Chinese regime for its flagrant disregard for human rights.

This was the case in 2020, when a Chinese ambassador threatened reprisals against the 300,000 Canadians who call Hong Kong home if Canada granted asylum to pro-democracy protesters from the autonomous Chinese territory.

Belatedly, Mr. Trudeau's government also made the provocative decision to ban Huawei from Canadian 5G networks, following the lead of close allies like the U.S., Britain, Australia, and New Zealand, which all shared concerns about the potential for Chinese espionage.

And just a few weeks ago, while the Emergencies Act Inquiry was unfolding here, he somewhat hypocritically called on the Chinese government to allow its people to freely protest against its COVID lockdown protocols.

While Mr. Trudeau has become more bold in his criticism of China, he continues to do so with the caveat that Canada won't seek to escalate any disputes it might have with the country.

Mr. Trudeau has also picked his battles with extreme care, demonstrating only a selective willingness to stand up for human rights. In 2021, for instance, he and his cabinet abstained from voting on a Conservative Party motion declar-

ing China's treatment of the Uighurs, an ethnic Muslim minority, a genocide, despite mounting evidence that one million Uighurs had been detained since 2017 and subjected to political re-education, forced labour, torture, and forced sterilization.

In the coming weeks, Mr. Trudeau's convictions on China will be truly tested, as revelations about secret Chinese police stations operating in Canada, questions about the inadequacy of federal policies to curb foreign influence in domestic politics, and concerns about a Defence contract being awarded to a firm with ties to the Chinese government, are all coming to the fore.

On the last two items, at least, Mr. Trudeau has said he shares the concerns of Canadians, and – for better or for worse – his government is looking into the matter. What he and his government will actually do to confront China remains to be seen.

Though the Meng Wanzhou saga has taught us that opposing China comes with heavy political and economic costs, the moral price of continuing to admire and pander to its "basic dictatorship" is far higher.

It's time for Mr. Trudeau to make his stance on China unequivocally clear.

Does he have the courage?

Shellbrook Chronicle

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A Division of Pepperfram Limited Publications
Mail Registration #07621

Published Every Thursday Morning

P.O. Box 10, Shellbrook, Sask. S0J 2E0
Phone 306-747-2442 or Fax 306-747-3000

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Friday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. & 1 to 4 p.m.;

Advertising Deadline: Fridays at 4:00 p.m.

websites: www.shellbrookchronicle.com

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Member of



VIEWPOINT

SHELLBROOK CHRONICLE & SPIRITWOOD HERALD

5

DECEMBER 15, 2022 • Christmas Edition

Report from the Legislature

This year is closing on a very positive note; Saskatchewan's population recently surpassed 1.2 million for the first time in history. When the Saskatchewan Party government was elected in 2007, the Official Opposition said our population would never grow beyond one million. We believed Saskatchewan had the potential to grow with the support of a strong economy. This achievement puts us closer than ever to our Growth Plan goal of 1.4 million people by 2030. We are a province full of new jobs, opportunities, vibrant communities and a great quality of life.

Statistics Canada job numbers for November show our province added 11,800 jobs compared to last year, giving Saskatchewan the second-lowest unemployment rate in

the country. Overall employment set a new record with 574,300 people employed. The off-reserve Indigenous unemployment rate decreased to 6.6 per cent, an all-time historical low.

Thanks to the growing economy, our government can invest in expanding programs and services that support families and



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communities. We are adding new healthcare professionals, expanding mental health and addictions services, and investing in new hospitals, long-term care facilities and schools. We are on track to balance the budget, with the Mid-Year Financial Report forecasting a \$1.1 billion surplus. The increase is largely the result of high potash and oil prices, and higher revenues.

Our government is using higher-than-expected revenue to help people and businesses address higher costs due to inflation. The Four Point Affordability Plan is delivering a one-time Saskatchewan Affordability Tax Credit cheque of \$500 to all adult residents who have filed a 2021 tax return in the province, exempted the PST on fitness and

gym memberships, along with other recreational youth activities, and extended the small business tax rate reduction.

Due to interference from the federal government that threatens our growth potential, we have introduced the Saskatchewan First Act. This legislation clearly defines that Saskatchewan has the constitutional rights over our natural resources and economic future. We believe the people of Saskatchewan know the best steps to defend our economy, jobs and resources from the overreach of the federal government. Supported at Second Reading by the Opposition NDP, this legislation moves to ensure Saskatchewan continues down a path of growth.

However, growth does come with unique chal-



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lenges. Our government has recognized the pressure a growing population puts on the health-care system, and we are moving to address those needs. Our Health Human Resource Action Plan has already seen success as we work to recruit, train, incentivize and retain health professionals across the prov-

ince. On a recent recruitment mission to Manila, Philippines, nearly 130 conditional offers were made to qualified registered nurses and one continuing care aide ready to join us here in Saskatchewan. More interviews will be conducted thanks to strong contacts with potential candidates. Saskatchewan is positioned to carry this success into the new year. We are ending 2022 with one of the strongest economies in the country, with several major private investments coming to fruition in the new year. These new businesses are poised to create thousands of jobs, inject further revenue into the province, and support government investment in programs and services residents need. That's growth that works for everyone.

Connect With Us In 2023

Season's Greetings from the Ministry of Agriculture

Wishing you all a safe and happy holiday season. Did you know the Ministry has 10 regional offices around the province? Contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre (AKC), toll-free at **1-866-457-2377** to connect with a specialist to learn about our programs and services.



Merry Christmas from the Moose Jaw regional office staff

saskatchewan.ca/agriculture

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• January 9-12, 2023, Saskatoon

Ranch Management Forum

• February 17-18, 2023, Kindersley

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Saskatchewan

Silvertips drop to last place in standings

The regular season woes continued for the Shellbrook Silvertips, when they travelled to Dalmeny on Dec. 9 for a Friday night duel with the Dalmeny Sabres, only to be cut down by a score of 7-2.

Though both the Tips and the Sabres were evenly matched in terms of shots on goal in the game's opening frame, the troubles for the Tips began late in the period, when Craig Leverton opened the scoring with assists from Terrin Belosowsky and Sean Aschim.

As the period came to a close, the Sabres tacked on two more goals less than 20 seconds apart

to take a commanding 3-0 lead into the second. Belosowsky netted the first goal, with assists from Chance Adrian and Leverton, while Aschim scored the second on helpers from Zach Harms and Leverton.

An early penalty by the Tips allowed the Sabres to strike again just 45 seconds into the second period, as Harms tallied on assists from Belosowsky and Adrian. Only after this, and only briefly, did the Tips show some signs of life.

First, Travis Swanson struck on assists from Ashton Miller and Rylan Moe to close the gap to 4-1. Then, Matthew Kut-

nikoff scored an unassisted goal to bring the Tips to within two.

The Sabres proved too sharp, however, making the most of another power play to push the score to 5-2. Aschim netted the goal, with assists from Leverton and Belosowsky.

After this, Kutnikoff provided a highlight in the form of some fist-cuffs that resulted in a fighting major and game misconduct for him and Dalmeny's Airik Price. But that was the end of the Tips' excitement, and as the action moved to the third period, the Sabres tacked on two more goals to skate away with a 7-2 victory.

Leverton netted the first goal, with an assist from Aschim, then Daniel Block got on the scoreboard with helpers from Kyle Martin and Corbin Schmidt.

Following Friday night's game, the Tips had been scheduled

to play a home game against the Waldheim Warriors. Unfortunately, the game was cancelled due to a lack of available referees.

With the loss, the Tips fell to 1-8 on the season and have slipped to last place in the Twin Rivers

Hockey League's West Division.

This Friday night (Dec. 16), the Tips close out the 2022 leg of the regular season campaign at the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre with a game against the Rosthern Wheatkings.

Beau "Lac" Funeral Home hosts Candlelight Service

Although the temperature outside was cold, there was a warm glow inside from all the candles that were lit in memory of loved ones that have passed.

On Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022, Beau "Lac" Funeral Home hosted its annual Christmas Candlelight Service which took place this year at St. John's Lutheran Church in Shellbrook. Local clergy included Rev. Emmanuel Aristide, Pastor Dave Bodvarson, Deacon Bill Thibeault, Pastor Lorne Valuck, Dr. Randall McLeod, Pastor Bob Wrench,

Father Tuan Doan, and Rev. Wendell Brock.

This year, Leslie and Diana Schutte and their family blessed the congregation with their beautiful Christmas music.

We know that the holiday time is difficult for families who have experienced a death and sharing grief with others is an important aspect of recovery.

Candlelight services were also held in Spiritwood, Big River, and Prince Albert this year.

Shellbrook Chronicle Spiritwood Herald

Office will be closed from

December 22/22

@ Noon

to

December 30/22

Regular office hours
will resume on
January 2, 2023.

Advertising Deadline

is

Friday, Dec. 16/22

for December 22nd &
December 29th papers.

Wishing You Health, Lots of Laughter And A Newsworthy Season

May your holiday season contain all the makings of
lasting memories for you and your loved ones.

We thank our customers, friends and readers
for your continued support.

Main Street, Shellbrook 306-747-2442



Shellbrook and area clergy members united for Beau "Lac" Funeral Home's annual Christmas Candlelight Service in Shellbrook on Dec. 6. Pictured, from left to right: Rev. Emmanuel Aristide, Pastor Dave Bodvarson, Deacon Bill Thibeault, Pastor Lorne Valuck, Dr. Randall McLeod, Pastor Bob Wrench, Father Tuan Doan, and Rev. Wendell Brock.

Advertising Deadline is FRIDAY 4:00 p.m.

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We are now closer than ever to our Growth Plan goal of 1.4 million people by 2030. That's growth that works for everyone. Prior to 2007, Saskatchewan's population hovered around 1 million people for decades. But the government recognized that to build a stronger economy and thriving communities, we needed more people. Today, our population is at an all-time high. We are a province full of new jobs, opportunities, vibrant communities and a great quality of life.

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

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

AGRICULTURE

SHELLBROOK CHRONICLE & SPIRITWOOD HERALD

7

DECEMBER 15, 2022 • Christmas Edition

Biofuels raise important questions

When you write about agriculture, the growing interest in canola as a biofuels source is a good news story.

Anything that expands a market for a crop is good for the producer of that crop, and on the Canadian Prairies, and particularly in Saskatchewan, added demand for canola is going to be generally applauded.

The crop is already the major income generator on most farms, and with huge prices already in 2022, even the hint of adding demand has to have producers near giddy with expectation.

And in a world always hungry to consume energy, the biofuel sector is one that holds the promise of a renewable source of fuel that actually has less atmospheric impact when consumed.

Now big oil companies are no doubt less enamoured by biofuels, but realistically the biofuels sector will need to grow significantly before it really impacts fossil fuel profits.

So, when you read a story suggesting canola demand by the biofuels' sector is likely to grow, it seems like great news indeed. But wrapped up in



CALVIN DANIELS

such news is a question that should at least be asked, and that is: do we want to see increasing acres of farmland growing crops to feed cars instead of people?

The world hit eight billion occupants this year, and that is by any mea-

sure a lot of mouths to feed.

Up to this point, the world's farmers have been up to the task.

Yes, there are people going hungry, and some facing starvation at times, but those are issues of wealth to buy food, transportation problems to get food where it is needed, and politics and war. The food, if it was distributed, exists to feed people.

But for how long?

There is a finite amount of arable land on which food can be grown, and it is under pressure by urbanization, desertifi-

cation, salinization, and other factors. And that is without even admitting that crop production will be pressured moving forward by weather change.

Less land in production, or land impacted so it produces less, means food production is impacted.

On the other side of the equation is population, and it continues to grow, and there aren't even se-

rious hints that the world is willing to discuss how that might be controlled.

The combo of pressure on farmland and population growth is not a good one.

So, is crop production for fuel, or anything that doesn't ultimately feed people, a good idea even if it is a market for farmers?

That is a question that the world will need to answer one day.

Social housing in Spiritwood

By Dave Hyndman

The Spiritwood Housing Authority is one of about 270 such authorities in Saskatchewan offering housing under the Province of Saskatchewan's Social Housing Program. Although the number of units varies from community to community, the Spiritwood Authority operates 39 housing units, consisting of 28 senior units and 11 family units.

The Social Housing Program is intended to serve households with low incomes, providing housing to individuals and families in need. Priority is given to seniors and families with children or dependents.

Social Housing isn't intended to be a long-term option. As families

improve their economic circumstances and are able to afford housing in the private market, they typically seek private rental housing or home ownership. This ensures that social housing units are available to those in greatest need.

Whether senior or family, the rent for a housing unit is based on gross household income.

One misconception about allocation of available units is that they are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. This is not the case. An application from a person or family is "point-scored" according to a set of criteria in order to determine who is in the greatest need at the time. A "wait-list" of accepted applications may be drawn up, but

the applicant with the highest need will be given the first opportunity to be awarded a unit.

But the only way to be considered for a unit that may come available is to have an application on file. Application forms are available at the Spiritwood Town Office or online.

To be accepted, an application must include information regarding income, such as: copies of the most recent income tax return filed, a recent bank statement, and pay stubs or employment record for the previous year. All of these are used in determining eligibility and in computing rent. As well, an application must include a recent rental history, including landlord references.

Family gifts baking to Shellbrook seniors



Crystal Fajt of Shellbrook made baking trays for the residents of Homestead Place. Her grandsons, Desmond and Drayden Niechziol, handed out the trays. Pictured: Desmond hands a tray to Ester Schmalz.

MEADOW LAKE LIVESTOCK SALES LTD.



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Wed., Jan. 11, 2023

Regular Sale 10:00 a.m.

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Mon., Dec. 19, 2022

Regular Sale 8:30 a.m.

Mon., Jan. 9, 2023

Regular Sale 8:30 a.m.

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For market info visit: www.northernlivestocksales.ca

Shellbrook Kinettes host Santa Fun Day

For the second time this holiday season, Santa has made a stop in Shellbrook.

This time, he took a few hours away from his Christmas preparations to take part in the Shellbrook Kinettes' Santa Fun Day, much to the delight of the more than 80 children, and their families, who stopped in at the Shellbrook Community Hall between 1:30 and 4:30 p.m. on Saturday afternoon.

Sponsored by the Town of Shellbrook's Recreation Department (which provided free use of the Community Hall), the event was a new experiment for the Shellbrook Kinettes, who would typically host their Cookie Walk around this time of year but opted not to. Ki-

nette Kim LaMotte, who led the planning of Santa Fun Day, said the group was just looking to do something different this year.

Given the work that has gone into the Cookie Walk since it was first held in 2002, one can hardly blame the Kinettes. Prior to last year's highly successful Cookie Walk, which brought in \$1,423.25 to help the Kinettes execute their community project plans throughout the year, members of the group were tasked with preparing anywhere from five to 10 dozen cookies or other treats.

"We still wanted to do something that was fun for families and kids because we usually had Santa come visit the Cookie Walk," LaMotte said. "There's lots of kids around town who don't get the chance to see Santa other than then, so we wanted to make a fun day for them to have something to do with family and get ready for Christmas."

Though Santa Fun Day marked a change of pace from the Cookie Walk, there were still plenty of treats available. The day included cookie decorating (with cookies purchased from Prairie Homestyle Bakery to support a local business), Pop Tart house building (with Pop Tarts donated by Y Business Concepts), and a hot chocolate bar with all the fixings.

Kids could also take part in Christmas ornament making, colouring, games, writing letters to Santa (which have now



Santa came out for a visit during the event and was accompanied by Mrs. Claus and an elf.

been forwarded to him), and have their picture snapped with Santa, Mrs. Claus, and an elf.

"It was a hit. Nobody really knew what to expect, so they were really happy there was so much to do," LaMotte said. "Most families came early, and they stayed until 3:30 or 4 p.m. It was a nice gathering for the families."

In addition to providing families with an event to help them get into the Christmas spirit, Santa Fun Day also did some good for the community. With admission being by donation of non-perishable food items, the Kinettes were able to deliver three large boxes to the Shellbrook & District Ministerial Food Bank.

Given this, LaMotte considers the day a success, and says plans are already being made to host another Santa Fun Day next year.

Equally successful this year was the Kinettes' third annual Twinkle Tour,

which was held Saturday evening and saw more than 40 houses officially enter the contest (though, more houses in town were festively decorated).

Between 30 and 40 vehicles, many of them decked out with Christmas lights, assembled on Elevator Road around 5:30 p.m. to tour the town and take in all the lights.

The addresses of this year's entrants, and a map, are available on the Kinettes Club of Shellbrook Facebook page for those who wish to do the tour on their own time, and votes can be emailed to shellbrooktwinkletour@gmail.com until noon on Saturday, Dec. 17.

Prizes of \$300, \$200, and \$100 are available for the first place, second place, and third place entries, respectively. The cash prizes were made possible by the Shellbrook Business Improvement District (BID) Committee, which also provided any decorations and supplies needed for the event.



With admission being by donation of non-perishable food items, the Shellbrook Kinettes were able to deliver three large boxes to the Shellbrook & District Ministerial Food Bank.

PRAISE & WORSHIP

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

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

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

Summer: 10 a.m. - Worship
Pastor Bob Wrench
306-468-2138

Leask Gospel Tabernacle
Sunday 11 a.m.
306-466-2296

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
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
Sun. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
(10:30 a.m. June - August)
306-468-2525

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. Mariusz Zajac
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. Mariusz Zajac
St. Agatha's - Shellbrook
Mass - Sunday 9 a.m.
St. Henry's - Leask
Mass - Sunday 11 a.m.
Mistawasis
1st & 3rd Sundays 1:30 p.m.
Fr. Tuan Doan

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

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 1:30 p.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.
SATURDAY
Medstead - 6 p.m.
Everyone Welcome
Fr. Ramel Macapala

COWBOY CHURCH

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

LAKELAND COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

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

MENNONITE BRETHREN

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

Gideons International of Canada

Battlefords Camp
Phone Art Martynes
(306) 389-4633

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

BELBUTTE FULL GOSPEL

11 am Worship Service

PARTNERS IN WORSHIP

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

Shellbrook Kinettes host Santa Fun Day



Many letters were written to Santa during the event.



Kids and parents had fun building (and eating) Pop Tart houses.



Santa and his elf stuck around for the Twinkle Tour, and took in the lights from his truck-pulled sleigh.



Shellbrook Fire and Rescue took part in the tour, with trucks decked out in Christmas lights.



Mrs. Claus and an elf take a break from pictures with kids to decorate a cookie.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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 12 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 - 4:30 pm; Wednesday 3 pm - 7pm; Friday 10:30 am - 4:30 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.

SPIRITWOOD: Witchekan Wildlife Federation - Horn Scoring, Saturday, December 17, 4pm to 8pm, Ag Barn is Spiritwood.

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Minutes of an RM of Spiritwood meeting

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

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Spiritwood No. 496 was held on Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2022.

In attendance were Reeve Shirley Dauvin, Division 1 Larry Vaagen, Division 2 Al Steinhilber, Division 5: Heather Warkentin, Division 6 Bevra Fee, Administrator Colette Bussiere, and Foreman Darcy Laventure.

Absent: Division 3 Terry Wingerter and Division 4 Dennis Laventure.

A quorum being present the meeting was called to order at 8:19 a.m. by Reeve, Shirley Dauvin.

Fee: That the Oath of Office signed by Heather Warkentin, acclaimed member of council to fill the vacant seat of Division 5 Councillor be acknowledged & filed. Carried

Warkentin: That the agenda be adopted as presented. Carries

Councillors Larry Vaagen, Al Steinhilber and Bevra Fee acknowledged a conflict of interest in the matter of the Campground and RV Site Fee Bylaw.

Steinhilber: That the minutes of the Sept. 13, 2022, Regular Meeting of Council be approved as presented. Carried

Steinhilber: That the Di-

vision Boundary Review be tabled pending further consultation with the Ministry of Government Relations. Carried

Vaagen: That the CAO's report having been read now be filed. Carried

Fee: That the Foreman's report having been read now be filed. Carried

Foreman Darcy Laventure left the council meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Dauvin: That the bank reconciliation for the month ending Sept. 30, 2022, be accepted as presented. Carried

Steinhilber: That the "List of Accounts" as listed on the attached Schedule "A" forming part of these minutes be passed for payment: Cheque No. 13872-13909 (\$96,320.86), Payroll File No. 383 & 385 (\$50,306.34), EFT 2022-0045-2022-0050 (\$78,879.29). Carried

Vaagen: That the Statement of Financial Activities for the month ending Sept. 30, 2022, be approved as presented. Carried

Steinhilber: That Councillors Heather Warkentin and Bevra Fee attend the SARM Midterm Convention held at TCU Place in Saskatoon on Nov. 16 & 17, 2022, and that they be authorized as voting delegates. Carried

Fee: That the RM of Spiritwood No. 496 partner with the

Town of Spiritwood to provide the household glass recycling program at SARCAN. Carried

Warkentin: That the request for compensation for vehicle damages be declined. Carried

Councillors Larry Vaagen, Bevra Fee and Al Steinhilber declared a conflict of interest and left the council meeting.

Warkentin: That Bylaw No. 2022-2, being a bylaw to Provide for Site Fees for Campgrounds and RV Parks be read a third time. Carried

Councillors Larry Vaagen, Al Steinhilber and Bevra Fee returned to the council meeting.

Steinhilber: That Bylaw No. 2022-4, being a bylaw Respecting Animals Running at Large be read a first time. Carried

Vaagen: That Bylaw No. 2022-4, being a bylaw Respecting Animals Running at Large be read a second time. Carried

Warkentin: That Bylaw No. 2022-4, being a Bylaw Respecting Animals at Large be given three readings at one meeting. Carried Unanimously

Fee: That Bylaw No. 2022-4, being a bylaw Respecting Animals Running at Large be read a third time. Carried

Steinhilber: That Bylaw No. 2022-5, being a bylaw to Prohibit the Use of Engine Retarder Brakes in Designated Areas be tabled. Tabled

Warkentin: That Taxservice,

on behalf of the Rural Municipality of Spiritwood No. 496 be authorized to proceed under The Tax Enforcement Act to acquire title to the land described as SW 31-53-10-W3 Ext 0 & Ext 1. Carried

Steinhilber: That we enter into an agreement with the RM of Meota to engage the services of a Community Safety Officer ("CSO"), which includes bylaw enforcement and provincial statute enforcement authority, and such other services to a maximum of 16 hours per month as the RM of Spiritwood and the RM of Meota may agree upon from time to time. Carried

Fee: That Craig Thompson, Gerrett Reddekopp and Dalton Harasym be appointed to the Spiritwood Fire Dept. Carried

Vaagen: The Council of Rural Municipality of Spiritwood No. 496 supports the application for a Targeted Sector Support (TSS) Initiative Cost-shared Grant in the amount of \$25,000 for future capacity building, in partnership with the following municipalities:

RM of Great Bend No. 405, RM of Leask No. 464, RM of Mayfield No. 406, RM of Meeting Lake No. 466, RM of Blaine Lake No. 434, RM of Round Hill No. 467, RM of Redberry No. 435, RM of Medstead No. 497, RM of Douglas No. 436, and RM of Parkdale No. 498

AND that Council commits

to fund the pro-rated portion of 25% of the municipal contribution amount;

AND that Council authorizes the Administrator to execute the funding agreement should it be approved by the Ministry. Carried

Fee: That the following correspondence having been read now be filed: SARM Policy Bulletins, SARM Rural Sheaf, SARM Updates, PARCS Updates, Wapiti Regional Library - September 2022 Newsletter, Farm & Food Care - October 2022 Newsletter Carried

Steinhilber: That Muskeg Lake Cree Nation Public Works Dept. be authorized to haul liquid domestic waste from Aspen Ridge Estates to Aspen Ridge Lagoon. Carried

Fee: That we enter into road maintenance agreements with Mistik Management Ltd. to haul timber from the following land locations: NE 32-52-10-W3. Carried

Fee: That the regular meeting of council be adjourned at 12:27 p.m. to move in-camera to discuss any HR concerns. Carried

CAO Colette Bussiere left the council meeting at 12:27 p.m.

CAO Colette Bussiere returned to the council meeting at 12:38 p.m. The regular meeting of council was called back to order at 12:38 p.m.

Steinhilber: That the meeting be adjourned.

GOOD NEWS



ANYONE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Can an ordinary person make an extraordinary difference?

I believe the answer is yes.

I got reading an article that was titled "Keys to Resilience: The Good News at the End of the Road."

The article mentions, "Four thousand miles away in Winnipeg, Man., a 20-year-old Bible college student was praying about his future. More than anything else, Ken Gaetz felt called to take the gospel where no one else had gone in Canada.

"Ken was adaptable. He learned how to fell trees, use the wood to build a cabin, survive Arctic winters, drive a dogsled, operate a river (skiff or boat), start a nursing station, administer a hospital, ... survive a flood...

"Resilience is not something that some people have and others simply don't. Resilience is in all of us and can be learned and developed. Resilience, as Ken came to understand, is not something that can be mustered in a moment of rising

to the occasion. It is formed over a long period before the crisis of testing.

"The big news in Alberta was the completion of the Mackenzie Highway into Hay River, the end of the road. Hay River was just a dot on the shore of Great Slave Lake, but the "end of the road" sounded like the perfect place for Ken. He informed his family and Sarah (his wife) that God was calling him to take the message of salvation to the people in the North.

"On Jan. 10, 1949, Ken's dad and his friend, Clarence McAlister drove him to Peace River. From there, Ken hitched a 400-mile ride (or 643 Km) with a trucker on what was simply a gravel road. The pair pulled into Hay River at 10 p.m. on Jan. 12 in -40°F weather, only to find out there was no lodging available. They slept in the cab of the truck. The next day Ken helped the driver unload his lumber and bid him Godspeed. Suddenly he was alone.

"It was supertime, so Ken dropped into the only café and introduced himself to the men one by one. The (owner) inquired as to his purpose in Hay River. 'I'm here to start a church.' The (owner) laughed and said, 'A Church? Who here wants a church?' He asked each one, and to a man they made it clear that church was not for them.

"Ken testifies that the Lord sustained

him in that moment.

"Ken learned to fell trees and used the logs to build a two-room 16 by 16 foot honeymoon cottage for his new bride. Sarah arrived in November 1949 at -25°F. She described her arrival in Hay River as "city girl meets no man's land." Sarah caused quite the stir, being only one of the few women living in Hay River.

On Sundays their cottage was packed with upwards of 25 children for Sunday school and an adult service in the evenings. That spring Ken cleared land next to their cottage, hauled logs and completed a chapel with siding.

Ken who was in his mid-20s was asked by the community leaders if he was interested in starting a nursing station in Hay River. He had absolutely no experience in health care but felt God leading.

"Ken found 2 nurses Beatrice Purdy from Saskatchewan and Adeline Drisner from Edmonton they would come and work for no guaranteed salary. They started with a nursing station and eventually opened a hospital.

"The hospital was run by a mission staff that prayed with patients before surgeries and over newborns.

"The mission was larger than Hay River. It extended into the north. Ken and the missions team planted church-

es in Fort Resolution, Fort Providence, Fort Norman, Fort Good Hope, Pine Point, Fort Smith and even Coppermine way up in the High Arctic. Can an ordinary person make an extraordinary difference? I believe so.

My connection with Ken. Well, he baptized me in water in Sandy Creek. I think I was about 12 years old at the time. When we were pastoring in Southern Saskatchewan, I was the camp director. I had this thought, why not have Ken come and share as our missionary speaker at Plains Camp? He graciously agreed.

My mom, Theresa Bodvarson, had worked in the kitchen at the Hay River hospital for years. I believe she started as a dish washer and later on became a breakfast cook. As Ken shared about his time in the north at Saskatchewan camp, he said something about my mom. That she was a rough jewel and that she was his first convert in Hay River. I never knew that.

So glad Ken and Sarah obeyed the call to come north. I am in ministry because of the prayers of my mother and also because Ken was willing to come share the Good News. Ordinary people, with God's help, can do extraordinary things.

Blessings,
Pastor D. Bodvarson,
SPA

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SPORTS

SHELLBROOK CHRONICLE & SPIRITWOOD HERALD

11

DECEMBER 15, 2022 • Christmas Edition

World Cup, from A To Z

A — Alphonso Davies, Canada's No. 1 world-class player, made history by scoring his country's first-ever men's World Cup goal.

B — Bonuses for players are determined by individual countries; hot rumour: after Saudi Arabia's major upset win over Argentina, each player's reward was a Rolls Royce.

C — Canada competitive on the world stage? Yes, zero wins, but an emphatic yes!

D — Davies, Alphonso (see above) is likely to be named Canada's male athlete of the year for 2022.

E — Europe remains the centre of football/soccer excellence — Spain, France, Germany, England... where the sport is lived and breathed.

F — 'Football' everywhere except North America, where it is 'soccer'.

G — Goooooooooooooooooaaallllllllll! is the go-to call for announcers when a ball hits the net.

H — Hand-touching the ball is not only illegal, but almost an automatic goal if the violation occurs in a player's own penalty area.

I — Injuries often at first look close to fatal, but miraculous recoveries are the norm.

J — John Herdman, the Canadian coach, made some uncomplimentary comments about the Croatian team prior to their Group F contest, and his words may have been motivating for



BRUCE
PENTON

~

the Croatians, who easily won, 4-1.

K — Knockout round is the goal of each starting World Cup team. Unfortunately, only two teams from each group advance to the knockout round.

L — Losing does not mean coming up short at the World Cup. Losing is not making it into the 32-team field. Ergo, Canada is a winner.

M — Money talks at the World Cup. Total payout: \$440 million. Winning team gets \$42 million; runner-up earns \$30 million.

N — November is an abnormal time to play a World Cup, but it's just too hot in Qatar during the tournament's standard summertime schedule.

O — Offside. Does anybody recognize a play that's offside? (Showing my soccer ignorance here.)

P — Pulisic, Christian. The undisputed No. 1 American player is No. 2 among North Americans. (See A and D above).

Q — Qatar, a controversial choice to host, due to a variety of political reasons.

R — Run: Amazing how fit and athletic these world-class soccer players are, constantly on the run.

S — 'Soccer' it is in North America, because if two very different sports were called football, confusion would reign.

T — Tie? No, it's called a draw.

U — Uruguay was host of the first World Cup, in 1930.

V — Victory for the winning team will probably put an estimated \$400,000 in the bank account of each player. So yes, those are real tears from losing teams' players.

W — 'World' Cup it is; almost every corner of the globe is represented, unlike baseball's 'World' Series.

X — X is the only letter of the alphabet that is not the first letter of a country of the world.

Y — Yawn! Some say World Cup games are boring. Few shots, fewer goals.

Z — ZZZZ — Expanding on 'Y' above, yes, some of the games may be sleep-inducing.

- Spotted on Vince the Sign Guy's leaderboard in Indian Hills, Cool: "My boss wants me to sign up for a 401 (k); no way I'm running that far."

- RJ Currie of sportsdeke.com, with an oldie but a goodie: "Police were recently called to a Michigan McDonald's after a man came in wearing scuba gear. Once during Grey Cup week I carried jumper cables into a bar — they warned me not to start anything."

- Patrick Allen, on Twitter, after KC Chiefs beat LA Rams 26-10: "BREAKING: At 3:06 a.m., Arrowhead Stadium security found a trespasser wandering around the field. The man appeared to be extremely confused and told security he was 'looking for Travis Kelce.' The man, Jalen Ramsey, a CB for the LA Rams, was told the game was over and to go home."

- Comedy writer Brad Dickson of

Omaha: "At his press conference (new Nebraska football coach) Matt Rhule said he could've made good money sitting on his butt and doing absolutely nothing. In Omaha we call someone like that 'mayor.'"

- Vancouver comedy writer Steve Burgess: "The Vancouver Canucks should trade in their jerseys for fitted sheets. At least that way they won't fold so easily."

- Comedy guy Torben Rolfsen of Vancouver: "RIP Hall-of-Fame pitcher Gaylord Perry. He used more ingredients on the mound than Gordon Ramsay in the kitchen."

- Another one from Brad Dickson: "So soccer doesn't stop every three minutes for a long video review by the refs? This isn't a sport!"

- Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "The Denver Broncos are 3-8 since trading the farm for Russell Wilson. It is the worst trade since Pete Best left the Beatles to play drums for the Cockroachers."

- Headline at theonion.com: "New Golf Channel Show Just 30-Minute Praising Of Saudi Royals"

- fark.com headline: "Facing the nightmare scenario of both Alabama and Ohio State missing the playoffs, the CFP expands to 12 teams."

- Tim Hunter of KRKO Radio, on Chiefs QB Patrick Mahomes and his wife welcoming their second child: "Doesn't the godfather have to be Jake from State Farm?"

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca

Elks win one, lose one over weekend

Fresh off a loss in a Thursday night game they could have won, the Parkland U18 AA Elks continued their regular season with another home stand against the Saskatoon Sabercats on Friday night, and a road trip to meet the North West Stars on Sunday afternoon.

It was another weekend of mixed results for the Elks, who posted a win and a loss despite playing some strong hockey.

Elks (2) vs Cats (1)

When the Parkland U18 AA Elks hit home ice at the Richardson Pioneer Recreation Centre to face off against Saskatoon Sabercats on Friday night, they did so knowing they had previously beat their opponents by a score of 8-1.

There were no offensive fireworks to be found in this game, but the Elks got out to a fast start from the opening puck drop, forcing the Sabercats to match their pace. The Sabercats were able to weather the early storm, however, as Tristin Tetreault-Yaremko was set free on a stretch pass and slipped a well-placed shot past Elks goalie Hunter Nakonechny.

The rest of the period — and indeed much of the rest of the game — belonged to the Elks after this point. On the power play, the Elks controlled the zone well, even if they didn't direct many shots on the goal. And on the penalty kill, they looked dangerous (and might have scored more than once, if they'd fired their shots on net).

Finally, with time winding down in the first period, the Elks scored at even strength when Kendon Skalicky fought his way through a wall of Sabercats de-

fenders and buried a shot in the back of the net.

The game now tied at 1-1, the Elks ended the period on a 5-on-3 power play, which they failed to take advantage of. This paved the way for a back-and-forth second period that saw the Sabercats find their skates and begin to rack up scoring opportunities. The Elks, meanwhile, were kept alive by a strong penalty kill, even as their power play failed to get anything going.

This story continued through much of the third period as

well, until Tavis Galloway found the back of the Sabercats' goal on a floater from the point that threaded its way through traffic. Bronson Parker and Skalicky assisted on the goal.

In a strange strategic decision that may have decided the outcome of the game, the Sabercats chose not to pull their goalie while on the power play in the final two minutes. This allowed the Elks to hold off their desperate last charge, and skate away with a hard-earned 2-1 victory.

Elks (1) vs Stars (4)

Travelling to Meadow Lake to play the North West Stars on Sunday afternoon, the Elks had no trouble getting shots on the goal, but struggled to get them in. This, a less impressive showing on the penalty kill, and more struggles on the power play, ultimately proved to be their downfall.

After a deadlocked first period with no goals and no penalties, the Stars found their time to shine in the second period, scoring just 32 seconds into the frame. Louis Dubray-Regnier scored the goal, with assists from Hayden Mesza-

ros and Devante Pratt.

The Elks took a penalty almost immediately after this, allowing the Stars to take a 2-0 lead on a goal from Pratt, assisted by Caleb Pockrant and Meszaros.

Later in the frame, the Elks' Jake Boettcher struck at even strength, on an assist from Bronson Parker, to close the gap. However, another Elks' penalty yielded another power play goal for Pratt, assisted by Meszaros.

In a mostly quiet third period, the Stars had the only highlight, as Dubray-Regnier netted his second of the game on yet another power play. Again, Meszaros provided the only assist on the goal.

With the win and the loss, the Elks now sit at 7-12-1-0 on the season, and are in a four-way tie for seventh place in the Centre Four Conference.

This Thursday (Dec. 15) they play their final home game of 2022 against North East, before hitting the road on Friday and Monday to close out the year against the Humboldt Broncos and the Saskatoon Screaming Eagles.



Elks captain Bronson Parker rifles a shot on the Saskatoon Sabercats' goal.

OBITUARIES

*Thérèse Agnes Dupuis*

Carole and Phyllis. She had seven grandchildren, Leon (Jen), Brendan (Deidre), Amie (Graham), Robbyn (Lee), Daniel, Tara and Sabrina. She had ten great grandchildren, Lucas, Sam, Quinn, Julie, Wesley, Vanessa, Huxlee, Ashlee, Kaylee and Evelyn. Thérèse cherished her family and leaves many wonderful memories. She loved family gatherings always presenting wonderful food and special treats. She loved hearing laughter and she enjoyed having fun. Thérèse was musically gifted, playing several instruments and excelling in keyboards. She enjoyed travel, visiting several countries during the years. She and Roland wintered in Arizona for 19 years engaging with family and making new friends. Thérèse was predeceased by her husband, Roland and two adult children, Martin and Phyllis. A private family memorial will celebrate her life and legacy. Arrangements entrusted to Travis Minor – Mourning Glory Funeral Services (306) 978-5200. To share memories of Thérèse or send condolences please visit www.mourningglory.ca

DUPUIS, Thérèse Agnes
July 17, 1928 –
November 30, 2022

With great sadness, we announce the death of Thérèse Agnes Dupuis (née Casavant) on Wednesday, November 30, 2022 in Saskatoon. At the age of 94, Thérèse had lived a long and fulfilling life. She was born into a large family and grew up in Domremy, sharing in family chores and activities surrounded by siblings and friends. Thérèse married Roland Dupuis of Hoey and they farmed in the Shellbrook area until retirement when they moved to Saskatoon. Thérèse and Roland shared 72 years of life together during which time they were socially active and very involved with extended family. Thérèse had five children, Claudette, Gilles, Martin,



Jessie Nichol Thorburn was the youngest of 9 children born to Mungo Walter and Nora (née Macleod) Thorburn. Walter was an accountant turned farmer, and Nora loved singing and looking after her large family. Jessie had a sister Katie that passed of TB at age 16 in 1922. Jessie was born in September of 1926. She was 11 years old when her 16-year-old brother Bruce passed of influenza in 1937. She was also predeceased by her 3 remaining brothers:

James (Jim) (Ruth Bartlett) 1987, Ross (Bertha Mae Bartlett) 2007, Douglas (Dougal) 2007, and sisters: Jennie (Sal) Lars Anderson in 2007, Margret Ray Anderson in 2012, Joan (Earl) Johnson 2011; and her husband William Hanchar in 1971.

Jessie maintained relationships with all of her siblings, either writing letters, sending Christmas or birthday cards or making time to phone or visit.

She attended Parkview school for grades 1-10, Shellbrook for 11-12 and attended Normal school

in 1946-47. Jessie taught in rural schools in the Canwood and Shellbrook area. Her first school had 36 students from grades 1-10.

In her youth, Jessie loved riding horses and going fast, and if she happened to fall off, she would jump back on.

Jessie married William (Bill) Hanchar whom she described as a musician and a farmer, at age 27 in 1953 and enjoyed married life. They had a small farm in Hawkeye, near Mont Nebo, where they raised registered Jersey cows. They played music together in the Happy Wanderers band, Bill the violin/accordion and Jessie the guitar. In their early married days Bill and Jessie bought a deep freeze but didn't have much money left to put anything in it, so they got a large chunk of bologna so it wouldn't be empty! In 1962 Jessie got a teaching position in Mont Nebo. Jessie and Bill were unable to have children and after sustaining burns in a tragic house fire, Bill passed away in January 1971. A widow at 44, Jessie chose to move to Shellbrook in June of 1971, obtaining a teaching position with Parkland School Division where she now taught grade 3. She would read aloud from books like *Old Yeller*, and *Island of the Blue Dolphins*. She had Nick Bilyk build her a house that she moved into in 1975 and that she lived in until her passing. After years of summer school, Jessie proudly

received her Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Saskatchewan in 1975.

Mrs. Hanchar was a schoolteacher for 37 years. She taught grade 3 at Shellbrook Elementary until her retirement in June of 1984. She continued to purchase yearbooks until her final grade 3 class graduated! Jessie had an active retirement, she volunteered for her community, at the nursing home/hospital and singing in the Anglican Church choir. She helped organize the Parkview History book. She was a practical lady who did not want recognition or thanks. She enjoyed volunteering and felt the money on a thank you card and stamp would be better used on clients or for programming. She had a full social calendar, was always on the go and still playing guitar with the Happy Wanderers. Jessie was a fan of Blue Jays baseball. Jessie also enjoyed many bus trips to various US and Canadian destinations, often to enjoy country or gospel music or a bit of gambling. Alcatraz, Pigeon Forge, Dollywood, Loretta Lynn's home, are a few of the places she visited. Jessie remained active in her community/church.

Jessie had a deep religious faith and carried a well loved bible in her purse. Jessie was baptized at St. Andrew's Anglican church and today her funeral is here. Jessie was not one to brag or complain, she enjoyed

a good laugh and often had a twinkle in her eye. She passed peacefully on November 3, 2022 in her home in Shellbrook at the age of 96.

The Funeral Service for Jessie took place on Saturday, November 26, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. at St. Andrews Anglican Church in Shellbrook with Rev. Wendell Brock officiating.

In lieu of tributes, memorial donations may be directed to St. Andrew's Anglican Church or Shellbrook and District Health Services Foundation (Box 33 Shellbrook, SK. S0J 2E0).

Family and friends wishing to send online condolences are welcome to visit www.beaulacfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Beau "Lac" Funeral Home and Crematorium, Tammy Smart - Funeral Director, Shellbrook, SK 306-747-2828.

*David
Creston
Story*

STORY, David Creston
February 16, 1961 –
December 11, 2022

David passed away peacefully at Royal University Hospital after a brief battle with cancer. He was surrounded by those he loved. As per his wishes there will be no funeral service. Interment will be held at Ranger Cemetery at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to Aimé Laventure – Mourning Glory Funeral Services (306) 978-5200. To share memories of David or send condolences please visit www.mourningglory.ca

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Thank you to Beau 'Lac' Funeral Home for making the arrangements for Jessie Hanchar's funeral, to the RCMP who came to my house to let us know she had passed, to the choir eulogy from Bev Leding, the ACW for doing to lunch very nice, for the lovely floral offerings at the church, the cards, the pallbearers, phone calls, Emile Lamontagne and Joe Jacobs for the special music. Aunt Jessie would have loved it.
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The holly and the ivy... and the mistletoes

By Jill Thomson

Mistletoe has been used by many ancient cultures, and although the leaves and berries of some species are toxic the plant has also been used historically for curing a number of ailments, including arthritis and infertility. It was also associated with peace and love by the Romans, who hung it over doorways to protect the household. It has become a part of Christmas celebrations worldwide since the 18th century, and nowadays couples are expected to kiss when standing under a bunch of mistletoe. This tradition has been popularized by the music of the 50's - "I saw Mommy kissing Santa Claus, underneath the mistletoe last night...", and by more recent songs. The tradition of kissing under the mistletoe became very popular with the servants in Victorian times. Apparently, any man could kiss a woman who was standing under the mistletoe, and if she refused him she would suffer from bad luck. At one time a berry was removed for every kiss, until the branch was bare - and presumably the kissing stopped. This tradition is no longer popular, probably because bunches of mistletoe are usually quite small and expensive in countries where the European mistletoe does not grow, and often artificial plants are used, making the berries non-expendable.

Mistletoes are hemiparasitic plants that feed on other plants, so they do not need roots to grow in the soil, or green leaves that can photosynthesize. They produce specialized structures called haustoria that penetrate the host plants' tissues to extract the water and nutrients necessary for their growth. However, they do have leaves capable of photosynthesis for part of their life cycle. A commonly known species of mistletoe, the European mistletoe (*Viscum album*), is native to Britain and much of Europe, and it is the mistletoe plant used in Christmas decorations. It is

very noticeable in British apple orchards, particularly in winter-time, when the trees are leafless. The mistletoe consists of woody stems that bear smooth-edged, oval, yellowish evergreen leaves and waxy, white berries that are present on the branches in clusters of 2-6. Mistletoe berries contain seeds that are coated with a sticky jelly called viscin, and for many species the seeds are spread by birds. Different kinds of birds spread the berries of different species, and they may use different methods. The seeds may be ingested, then regurgitated from the crop. Seeds of other mistletoe species may pass through the digestive tract and are then dispersed in the bird droppings. The seeds may also stick to the bill of a feeding bird, and are then wiped off onto the bark of a different tree. When the seed germinates on the branch of a suitable host, it produces a hypocotyl (the stem of a germinating seedling) that grows towards the bark of the tree, and eventually penetrates the bark. This can take a year or more, and until the haustorium is formed inside the host and reaches the conductive tissue, the mistletoe has to rely on its own photosynthesis to survive and grow.

Other species of parasitic plants that grow in a similar

fashion are also called mistletoe, and they are found in many parts of the world, including South America and Australia. There is even a species of mistletoe that occurs in Saskatchewan. Dwarf mistletoe (*Arceuthobium pusillum*) is parasitic on white spruce and other conifers. It has a fragile stem, and small, scale-like leaves. There are male and female flowers, found on separate plants, and although the mistletoe plant itself is inconspicuous it causes the host tree to form many branches around the infected area. These bushy growths are called "witches' broom" and are very noticeable. I recall collecting specimens from infected coniferous trees south of Meadow Lake for plant pathology classes in the 1980's, and they were easy to spot. Dwarf mistletoe is not a species that could be used as a Christmas decoration! It is now rare in the province and is only found in eastern Saskatchewan.

Very best wishes for a happy holiday season, I hope you have many festive plants to enjoy.

Jill Thomson is a plant disease specialist (retired) who enjoys gardening in Saskatoon with her family, including the dogs.

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



European Mistletoe. Photo Credit: Creative Commons (CCO)

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Chronicle & Herald wins Sask Lacrosse media award

The work of the *Shellbrook Chronicle & Spiritwood Herald* was recognized on Nov. 26, when the Saskatchewan Lacrosse Association (SLA) hosted its 2022 awards gala in Regina.

Courtesy of a nomination from the Prince Albert Lacrosse Association, *The Chronicle & Herald* was presented with the SLA's 2022 Media of the Year Award for its coverage of the inaugural lacrosse season in Shellbrook.

The SLA's Media of the Year Award is presented annually to a member of the media — radio, television,

or newspaper, regardless of size or frequency or publication — who is deemed to have contributed to the promotion of Lacrosse.

"2022 was the inaugural season for lacrosse in the town of Shellbrook and the *Shellbrook Chronicle* was there to cover it from start to finish! From the "Try Lacrosse" events in early April to the final home games at the end of June, you could see *Chronicle* reporter, Jordan Twiss, present with camera and notepad in hand," the nomination form read.

"The coverage provided by the *Chronicle* aided the

initial development of lacrosse in Shellbrook. As the game of lacrosse has plans to grow in Shellbrook, we know that the *Chronicle* will continue to be there to report on all the action."

The Chronicle & Herald wasn't the only local winner at the SLA's awards gala. Shellbrook-based lacrosse player turned coach, Talon Sandry, won the junior coach of the year award in recognition of his contributions to Shellbrook's fledgling lacrosse program (the *Chronicle & Herald* will have more on this in the future).

Minutes of a Village of Canwood meeting

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

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council for the Village of Canwood, held at Canwood Elks Community Hall, 640 2nd Avenue East, Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2022. Meeting was called to order by Mayor Thompson at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor - Robert Thompson, Deputy Mayor - Ken Moar, Councillors - Kaytlyn Mitchell, Lorne Benson, Ron Willner, and Administrator - Erin Robertson.

Mitchell: That the minutes of the Sept. 21, 2022, Regular Meeting of Council be approved as presented. Carried

Willner: That the minutes of the Sept. 28, 2022, Special Meeting of Council be approved as presented. Carried

Moar: That the minutes of the Oct. 13, 2022, Special Meeting of Council be approved as presented. Carried

Moar: That the Statement of Financial Activities and Bank Reconciliation for the month of September 2022 be approved as presented. Carried

Thompson: That the Water Report for the month of September 2022 be approved as presented. Carried

Mitchell: That we acknowledge receipt of Maintenance Manager Calendar, Office Assistant, Administrator Attendance Statements for September 2022 as presented. Carried

Moar: That we issue Cheques 5694 to 5721 and Other payments totaling \$114,016.87 as

detailed on attached List of Accounts for Approval, September payroll and October payroll advance. Carried

Thompson: That we move to in-camera at 6:51 p.m. citing The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, section 15(1)(b) (ii) and section 23(1)(b) "personal information" and Human Resources. Carried

Thompson: That we move out of in-camera at 8:14 p.m. and note that all members of council and administration are in attendance. Carried

Committee Updates:

EMO — verbal update provided by Councillor Willner and Administrator

Hall Committee verbal report provided by Councillor Moar

Dr. Recruitment Committee — verbal report provided by Councillor Willner

Highway 55 Waste Management — verbal summary provided by Mayor Thompson and Councillor Benson.

Thompson: Whereas the Village of Canwood Council understands the value in inter-community cooperation that enhances local governance, be it resolved that we support and participate with an application to Targeted Sector Support (TSS) Initiative — Municipal Grant Program for a Regional Emergency Operations Committee. Carried

Thompson: That we agree to the appointment of Erin Robertson to remain as the Secretary Treasurer for the Canwood Elks Hall Committee.

Carried

Willner: That the correspondence be noted and filed (list omitted due to length). Carried

Benson: That we agree to accept the donation of Block K, Plan CJ1418 Ext 0, Parcel Number 133156212, from Hugh Danberg and Stuart Danberg. Furthermore, we agree to abate the 2022 municipal taxes, pay any portion of school tax levy as required and cover the title transfer fees. Carried

Mitchell: That we agree to cancel the Utility service billing on Account 0110 0010, Roll 110, as service did not commence with ownership change. Carried

Willner: That we instruct the Administrator to void and reissue Cheque No. 5465 as it has become stale dated. Carried

Moar: Let the minutes note that only one tender was received for the demolition, cleanup and site leveling for the remaining Canwood Curling Rink Structure. Carried

Moar: That we agree to the method of demolition and cleanup of the remaining portion of structure at the Canwood Curling Rink, 790 Main Street, as presented by Johnson Enterprises Ltd., Leask, Sask. Furthermore, we agree to accept the Johnson Enterprises Ltd. proposal and bid price of \$26,500.00, plus applicable taxes, as indicated in bid emailed Oct. 5, 2022. Carried

Thompson: That we agree to transfer from reserves \$3,157

from Summer Youth Program Reserves to cover the shortfall for the 2022 Program Year. Furthermore, we authorize the transfer of above-mentioned amount from Funded Reserves Savings Account 001 into General Chequing Account 099 held at Affinity Credit Union. Carried

Moar: That the Council hereby declares the building located on Lots 20 to 23 inclusive, Block Y3516 Ext 0, the civic address of the property being 650 Railway Avenue, to be a nuisance under Section 5 and 6 of Bylaw 2018-04, the Nuisance Abatement Bylaw, for the following reason(s):

The main floor entrance facing the highway is not locked and can be pushed open, and the doors and windows on the side of the building as well as the second floor are not secured;

That the Designated Officer is hereby authorized to issue an order to the owner of the said property, 624306 Saskatchewan Ltd., requiring them to undertake the following work:

All doors examined and, if needed, secured from outside entry;

Said work to be completed on or before the 9th day of November, 2022; And that if the work noted above is not completed by the date noted above, the municipality is authorized to take whatever steps are necessary to complete the work and recover the costs. Carried

Moar: That we agree to give first reading to Bylaw 2022-07,

that is a Bylaw to regulate the meeting procedures of Council, Council Committees and other bodies for the Village of Canwood. Carried

Benson: That we agree to give a second reading to Bylaw No. 2022-07, that is a Bylaw to regulate the meeting procedures of Council, Council Committees and other bodies for the Village of Canwood. Carried

Thompson: That we agree to give three readings at this meeting to Bylaw No. 2022-07, that is a Bylaw to regulate the meeting procedures of Council, Council Committees and other bodies for the Village of Canwood. Carried Unanimously

Mitchell: That Bylaw No. 2022-07, being a Bylaw to regulate the meeting procedures of Council, Council Committees and other bodies for the Village of Canwood be read a third and final time and adopted. Carried

Moar: That we agree to retain Lorna Benson to perform secretarial duties as assigned for Committees of Council in the absence of the Administrator. Carried

Thompson: That we agree to maintain Section 3.1(a) Base Rent of the Landlord Tenant Agreement for land/premises/equipment located at 580 Main Street for the first six months of the renewed agreement. Carried

Willner: That we adjourn at 10:07 p.m., with the next regular meeting to be at the call of the mayor. Carried

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How to make Christmas Eve special for kids

Christmas Eve is viewed differently by different people, even those who live under the same Santa-ready roof. Adults may see Christmas Eve as crunch time when they must prepare food for the next day or set up presents for their children to open in the morning. Children, on the other hand, are focused on Santa's visit and little else.

Parents naturally want to make Christmastime as special as possible for their children, and that may involve ensuring that Christmas Eve is just as memorable as Christmas Day. The following are some ways to impart more magic into Christmas Eve celebrations.



Children like to leave out a plate of cookies and a glass of milk for Santa. That makes Christmas Eve a perfect time to whip up a fresh batch of cookies. Explore different recipes to come up with a unique offering each year.

Read a Christmas story

Watching television or looking at a tablet or mobile phone before bed can be too stimulating when it's time for children to wind down for bed. Choose a holiday tale or tales that can be read as a Christmas Eve bedtime story. Reciting the poem "A Visit from St. Nicholas ('Twas the Night Before Christmas)" is a great way to set the Christmas Eve mood.

Make a batch of 'reindeer dust'

Why should Santa's reindeer be left out when it comes to receiving treats? Reindeer dust, made from a combination of oatmeal, rice cereal, dried fruits, and glitter (if desired), is purported to attract Santa's reindeer and provide them a nibble at the same time. Plus, it's generally safe for other animals in the yard to eat.

Go caroling

Caroling may not be the norm, but some families may want to revive it. Close-knit communities can organize family-centric caroling opportunities and roam the cul-de-sacs and other pedestrian-friendly areas singing popular songs.

Christmas Eve is a great time to embrace various traditions that help to make the season even more special.

Popular songs to stream this holiday season

The holiday season is steeped in tradition. One of the most popular traditions is playing holiday music, which many retailers begin to broadcast over their PA systems shortly after people put their Halloween costumes in storage. The popular music streaming platform Spotify tracks the most popular holiday songs each year, and 2021 featured a mix of some newer songs and some all-time classics. According to Spotify, these five songs were the most streamed holiday tunes on the platform between November 1 and December 9, 2021.

1. "All I Want for Christmas Is You" - Mariah Carey
2. "Last Christmas" - Wham!
3. "It's Beginning to Look A Lot Like Christmas" - Michael Bublé
4. "Jingle Bell Rock" - Bobby Helms
5. "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" - Brenda Lee

Individuals who want to stream something a little more contemporary this holiday season can consider these songs, which Spotify reports are the five most-streamed holiday songs that were released over the last half decade.

1. "Snowman" - Sia
2. "White Christmas" - Amy Grant
3. "Santa's Coming for Us" - Sia
4. "Hallelujah" - Pentatonix
5. "Merry Christmas" - Ed Sheeran and Elton John



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"The 12 Days of Christmas" is one of the most recognizable carols, and for good reason, as the popular song can trace its history back several centuries. Researchers have traced the earliest printed version of the poem on which the song is based all the way back to 1780. That's three years before the signing of the Treaty of Paris, which officially ended the American Revolutionary War. The song has long been suspected to have been a way for Catholics in Britain to teach their children the catechism, as the 1700s was a controversial period for Catholicism in the country. However, no documentary evidence exists in support of that theory, and many historians feel it is inaccurate.



Others indicate that, while 1780 is likely the first time the poem was printed, the poem is likely much older than that, with origins potentially in France or Scotland. What is known is that the version many people recognize today, namely in song form, can be traced to the early twentieth century, when English singer and composer Frederic Austin first popularized the melody for the song. Austin performed that version of the song beginning in 1905, and it was first published in 1909.

"Angels We Have Heard on High" is a beloved and instantly recognizable Christmas carol. The origin of the original song remains unknown, though the English translation of the lyrics from the French song "Les Anges Dans Nos Campagnes", which is considered a derivative work since the lyrics are not a direct translation, is credited to 19th century Roman Catholic priest James Chadwick.

"Deck the Halls" often conjures the festive atmosphere of the holiday sea-

son. The English-language lyrics to "Deck the Halls" were written by the Scottish musician Thomas Oliphant in 1862, and the song many people know today is a traditional Christmas carol. However, the Welsh melody that is part of the song can be traced to the 16th century and a song called "Nos Galan." That song is not about Christmas, but rather New Year's Eve.

"Jingle Bells" has become a wildly popular Christmas carol despite not mentioning Christmas or any other holiday. Written by New England native James Lord Pierpont, "Jingle Bells" is commemorated with plaques in two different cities, each of which claims to be the place where Pierpont wrote the song in the 1850s. One plaque is in Medford, Massachusetts, where Pierpont is said to have written the song from a tavern while watching sleigh races taking place outside. The other plaque is in Savannah, Georgia, where locals believe Pierpont wrote the lyrics prior to leading a sing-along of the song at a local church in 1857.

There are various English-language versions of "O, Christmas Tree," each of which traces its

origins to a traditional German folk song that, at least initially, was unrelated to Christmas. That changed over time, and by the mid-19th century the song was being sung as a Christmas carol.

"The First Noël" (also known as "The First Nowell") is among the oldest songs now sung as a Christmas carol. The song is believed to be of Cornish origin, which means it can be traced to an ethnic group associated with the historic county of Cornwall in southwest England. According to Classichistory.net, historians believe "The First Noël" was written as early as the 13th century. During that time, Miracle Plays that depicted Biblical stories were very popular in Europe, and "The First Noël" is believed to have been inspired by those plays. The song tells the story of the birth of Jesus as depicted in the Gospels of Luke and Matthew.

"Away In a Manger" has an interesting history. German priest and Protestant Reformation leader Martin Luther was long believed to have

written the song. However, historians no longer believe that's the case, and it is now widely considered to have American origins. In fact, the author of the third verse remains a topic of debate, as that verse does not appear in the earliest renditions of the song. Though that final verse is often attributed to American John T. MacFarland, various sources indicate that more research is necessary before that credit can be safely assigned.

"O Holy Night" can be traced to a request made

by a 19th century French priest. In the fall of 1847, that priest asked a French merchant named Placide Cappeau to write a Christmas poem. Cappeau's poem was eventually shared with French composer Adolphe Adam, who quickly set the poem to music. The song made its debut on Christmas Eve 1847 and has been a beloved holiday song ever since.

The origins of popular Christmas songs



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Craft an entire day around tree shopping

Though retailers may begin playing holiday tunes shortly after Halloween, for many people, no date on the calendar marks the beginning of the holiday season better than the day they pick up their Christmas tree.

There are many different ways to acquire a Christmas tree. Some people prefer artificial Christmas trees that can be stored and taken out each year. Others make a yearly expedition to a tree lot or a Christmas tree farm to find the perfect fir or spruce. Historians believe a man named W.V. McGallard planted 25,000 Norway spruce

seedlings at his Mercer County, New Jersey farm in 1901, essentially establishing the first commercial Christmas tree farm. By 1908, customers could visit the farm and choose trees for \$1 each. McGallard helped create an entirely new industry that now accounts for 350 million trees being grown and sold in the United States every year.

Selecting a Christmas tree may not take more than an hour or two, but there are ways for families and other tree shoppers to maximize their time spent looking for a tree.

Bring refreshments. Couple Christmas tree

shopping with picnicking if the weather is amenable. Pack some foldable chairs into the vehicle (sitting on the ground on a blanket may be too cold) and bring along thermoses of coffee or hot cocoa. Snacks like granola bars, Christmas cookies or other filling treats can keep everyone satisfied and energized while they shop for a tree.

Pair tree shopping with a trip to see lighting displays. Find the tree lot or tree farm and then scope out potentially scenic spots to view holiday lighting displays nearby. Neighborhood Facebook or other social media groups



often tout homes that put up eye-catching displays. Ask around for addresses and plan your own tours.

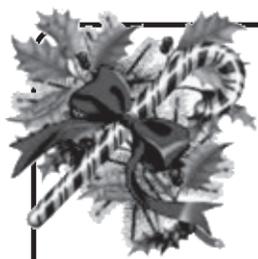
Plan a night out. Everyone may be tired and hungry after a long day of Christmas tree hunting. Plus, it's typically a good idea to wait some time for boughs to open before decorating. Use this opportunity to dine out and re-

turn home ready to decorate. Make it a regular occurrence that Christmas tree shopping is followed by a family meal at a favorite restaurant.

Watch a classic film. Many different holiday movies are broadcast this time of year and each enhance the Christ-

mas spirit. While putting up the tree, play a favorite film in the background. What better way to enjoy decorating your own tree than by watching Charlie Brown adorn his meager evergreen at the same time?

Make a day of selecting and putting up the Christmas tree each year. Doing so can enhance the holidays and make for an entertaining way to spend time together as a couple or family.



Have a jolly holly day!

Wishing you a holiday Filled with merriment and mirth! Plus lots of love and laughter With joy and peace on earth!

With our thanks for your patronage.

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Blessings of the Season

With gratitude and anticipation, We'd like to join the celebration With good cheer and best wishes too, For each and every one of you!
Happy Holidays and heartfelt thanks!

Jeanette Siegel CPA, CGA
J Siegel CPA Prof. Corp.
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FROM OUR HOUSE TO YOURS

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Town Administration,
Public Works Staff
& Town Council

Town of Spiritwood
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Season's Greetings

With our best wishes and gratitude. Thank you for doing business with us & we look forward to seeing you in 2023.

soul therapy WELLNESS SPA
Lise - 306-883-2946 Spiritwood

Simple ways to involve kids in holiday decorating

Millions of people across the globe feel that the holiday season is a magical time of year. Though those people come from all walks of life, it's likely that no group is as taken by the unique spirit of the holiday season as much as children.

Whether they're looking forward to Santa's arrival or preparing for a school holiday pageant, kids have much to be excited about come December. Parents can channel that enthusiasm by involving kids when decorating around the house this holiday season.

Make homemade ornaments. The options are limitless when making holiday ornaments with children. From simple ornaments made from pine cones picked up outside to more complex projects designed for children nearing adolescence, parents can look to the internet to find design ideas and directions for hundreds of ornaments.

Let kids lead the way



when decorating the tree. Families that celebrate Christmas can let kids lead the way when decorating their Christmas tree. Kids are likely to spend the weeks leading up to Santa's arrival gazing in awe at the tree, and knowing they decided where to place the various ornaments on it might make the season even more special for youngsters.

Take kids along when choosing lawn ornaments. It's not safe to involve children when installing lighting displays, but kids will get a kick out of choosing inflatable lawn decorations and other items to place around the yard. Take

kids along when buying new items and then seek their input when placing Frosty, Santa and his reindeer friends around the yard.

Include kids in culinary decor. Many celebrants cannot imagine a holiday season without gingerbread houses and cookies. These traditions provide another great opportunity to involve children in holiday decorating. Set aside some time to make homemade gingerbread houses, which can be used as decorations before they're ultimately eaten. Cookies may not have the shelf life of a typical gingerbread house, but kids can pitch in and

decorate cookies prior to a holiday party or family meal.

The spirit of the holiday season can be seen on the faces of children each December. Inviting kids to pitch in when decorating for the holidays can make the season even more special for its youngest celebrants.



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The King Who Is To Come

The Bible is filled, from cover to cover, with messages of things which will happen in the future. Prophecy! The Bible teaches us that prophecy is used by God to convict unbelievers of their sin and their need for a saviour. But the accuracy of biblical prophecy also helps lead us to accept that the scriptures themselves are faithful and true.

When it comes to fortune tellers and mediums, people think that relative accuracy is enough to believe them, but God insisted that his Old Testament prophets had to be 100 per cent accurate or we should believe none of what they said.

So it was with the birth of Christ. Old Testament prophets laid out specific terms for His birth, death, and resurrection. He had to be a descendant of King David, He had to be born of a virgin, He had to be born in Bethlehem, and the timing of His birth had to be precise.

In the Christmas story, we see angels announcing His birth to shepherds, we see wise men following the prophetic signs in the heavens, we see King Herod trying to destroy a perceived rival, and we see Simeon and Anna in the temple testifying to His identity as Messiah. We see His flight into Egypt as being in keeping with prophecy, as well as His return to Nazareth.

Jesus is the only person who answered all of the criteria needed to be our messiah, to declare Him King of Heaven and King of the Earth. So with the Angels in Heaven we sing: "Joy to the world, the Lord has come..." By all means, rejoice in the Lord during the holiday season, for we have good reason to celebrate. He has reunited us with God and given to us, to those who believe, the right to become children of God. Amen.

Randall C. McLeod DC,
FCCPOR(C), DACRB
Pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Parkside

Merry Christmas!

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From Melinda & Staff

Season's Greetings

Season's Greetings



Beau, Megan & Staff
LEOVILLE GROCERY AND LIQUOR VENDOR

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Best Holiday Wishes from Angie, Leon & Staff



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Leoville Village Council

Mayor Ron Craswell,
Councillors: Marcel Bruneau, Ernest Denis, Mario Ruel, Beau Vandale;
Office: Monique Hare, Connie Laventure;
Maintenance: Denny Laventure, Sheldon Buckley, Margaret Andrews
Phone 306-984-2140, Leoville
email: leoville@sasktel.net

The light shines in the darkness

In Madagascar, there are two days that kids love the most and always look forward to: Christmas and Independence Day. I know what you might say: why would Independence Day be so exciting for kids? At least Christmas makes sense, but Independence Day? Independence Day in Madagascar is on June 26, but on the eve of Independence Day, on June 25, all children and

their parents from all around the country go out into the streets, and bring in these colourful and beautiful paper lanterns called "arendrina." Children sometimes spend time decorating their lanterns, weeks in advance to make them beautiful and ready to parade on June 25. However, what makes these lanterns so beautiful, whether they are richly decorated, or just have plain colours, is the light that shines within each of them. A small candle within each lantern allows children and their parents to safely see in the dark and greet other families and friends as they all walk together to a specific location, in their respective cities, to watch a beautiful fireworks show.

It is incredible to see hundreds, if not



thousands, of lanterns lighting up the whole city, hearing children's laughter, singing, and the joy they express on that evening. June 25 in Madagascar is usually winter, kids and parents are all bundled up, and sometimes it gets a little windy. It is not uncommon to see the wind blowing so hard that it can extinguish the candles within these lanterns. Sometimes you can hear young children crying because their candle was extinguished. Soon enough though, you will see another child, run towards them, open up their lantern, light up the formerly extinguished candle, and the tears are gone. Then, you can see smiling faces once again as they walk together, led by the light of their candles.

As we celebrate Christmas, we remember the birth of Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God. We remember the birth of the Word of God made flesh, who lived and still lives among us. We remember the birth of the Light of the world,

the light no darkness can overcome. The Apostle John wrote: "In him was life, and that life was the light of all humankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:4-5).

On this Christmas Eve/Christmas Day, the question I would like to challenge you to reflect on is: from a Christian perspective, what makes life worth living and significant? Some people might say that all you need is happiness; all you need is love; all you need is to do you; all you need is to make your life more exciting; all you need is to do whatever makes you happy and whole. To be honest, I have heard these all over, even amongst Christians, but far too often, these people are constantly running after a mirage, and sadly they are never satisfied with what they can find because the pursuit of happiness never ends. That reminds me of these paper lanterns, which can be beautifully decorated, and adorned with all kinds of colours and

paper cut-outs, while others are just plain and boring. Whether these lanterns are colourful or just boring, they are useless. Why? Because a lantern cannot create light. What makes a lantern useful is the presence of that candle in its center, to light up from within, to give light to those around it, allowing them to safely see where to go. The light makes the candle useful: "In him was life, and that life was the light of all humankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:4-5).

Being a Christian is not a private thing you secretly practice at home, away from potential criticisms from your friends and family. Being a Christian means walking with others, sometimes on windy nights, when your eyes cannot see anything unless they are guided by the light from the candle within your lanterns. That light is not only Jesus but also faith (or full trust) in him.

Sometimes, people's lives can be very windy, even stormy. Amid that storm, the light from their candle might have already been extinguished at some point. Instead of leaving them in the dark, it is our duty as Christians to stand up and re-light their candles. When you do that, you don't lose anything, but rather you are creating more light, allowing you and others to see better and to safely walk together on this journey we call life.

There will be times when God will call you to light the candles of those walking in the darkness

around you. There will be other times when you will undergo struggles, and the storms of your lives will blow so hard that they may even extinguish your faith and your hope for a better tomorrow. At that time, someone around you will come and light your candle so you can see, and you will be reminded that darkness won't have the last word.

My dearest brothers and sisters in Christ, as long as the Prince of Peace, the God of Gods, the light of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ, is living and present in our lives, in our midst, and shines within us, we will never walk in darkness: "In him was life, and that life was the light of all humankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:4-5).

We are just like lanterns, useless on our own unless we are gifted with the light of faith from God that allows us to shine before others, so we may also give glory to God (Matthew 5:16).

As Christmas has come upon us, here is my prayer for you all: May God make you the light of the World and the salt of the Earth, wherever you go, through Christ Jesus our Lord and our Saviour, the one who loves you more than his own life. Today, he is inviting you to come and follow him. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Thanks be to God. Amen!

Rev. Emmanuel Aristide

Saint John's Lutheran Church Shellbrook

Zion Lutheran Church Canwood



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The Lark Restaurant

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We appreciate your support & look forward to serving you in the New Year.

UNI-PRO

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With glad tidings to you and your family from all of us this holiday season. We thank you for choosing us and look forward to serving you in the new year.

Merry Christmas!

Tracie & Staff at Glaslyn Agencies 306-342-2133 Rabbit Lake Office 306-342-7609 www.glaslynagencies.ca

WISHING YOU TWELVE "SPECIAL" DAYS

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Christmas Greetings

From the Reeve, Councillors & Staff of the RM of Medstead #497 306-342-4609

At Christmas, all roads lead home

At Christmas, all roads lead home. I read that somewhere. I can't agree more. At Christmas, I get this feeling of awe. We are celebrating the birth of Christ. Among the nativity scene we have the angels, the shepherds, Joseph and Mary and baby Jesus.

The wise men come later. We think there may have been three wise men because they presented the Christ child three gifts. Matthew 2:2 tells us the wise men were "seeking." It says "behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.'"

King Herod wasn't too impressed. Instead of seeking, he was opposing. Matthew 2:3 says, "When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him." That is an amazing response. One has to appreciate Bible scholars. During Christ's day, they were helpful locating where Jesus was to be born. They searched the Scriptures and agreed it was in Bethlehem that

be born.

The chief priests and scribes knew where Christ was to be born but simply ignored it. They were some five miles from Bethlehem yet chose not to go see Jesus, King of Kings. In Matthew 2:11 it gives us the only and right response. It tells us of the wise men "And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh."

Wise men still bow down. I get the sense, reflecting, that for my mom Christmas was her favourite time of year. She raised us in the era of the Sears and Eaton's catalogues. As we would flip through the "wish book", I wonder if mom knew what we were hoping for?

Mom wasn't raised in the north, but she grew to love it. Her earlier years were in Saskatchewan. Going north with dad who, was from Manitoba, must have been an adventure. It was the pioneer days when Hay River was being established.

Mom not only found friends in the North. There, she also found Christ.

Or better put, Christ found her. Likely she was on a search much like the wisemen, and one day Theresa Bodvarson accepted Jesus as her Saviour and

Lord. So, I grew up with Christmas, especially Christmas Eve, as a time to celebrate.

In the early part of my life, I would go out cut down a tree. I never was happy with the one I got. But there were ways mom could slip it into the corner, expose the best side, and of course decorate it so looked pretty spectacular. Knowing what I know now, my mom made Christmas special. It wasn't always easy to do, but it only happened once a year. After all we were celebrating the birth of Jesus.

I eventually moved south but never forgot the north. I am fairly certain I made it home for Christmas each year while my parents were living. After all, "At Christmas, all roads lead home."

Blessings,
Pastor David Bodvarson
SPA



Peace to the World

Advent is a time of waiting — waiting for the surprise of the incarnation of the Holy Spirit. The Creator keeps being revealed to us in many different ways in our individual lives. We also sense the Creator on many occasions when we least expect the presence of the Great Spirit to be with us.

We as a people find it difficult to accept and realize that God is always present with us in our earthly lives. The Holy Spirit is always guiding us in all directions of life that we are living today. The question that we have to reflect on, is whether we are listening to the Good Orderly Direction that our Creator is giving to each and every one of us.

This advent season, I ask you to focus on the peace, hope, love, and joy, that Jesus tells us are our gifts, if we live by faith in our Creator. This Christmas season, let all of us live in the peace of mind and soul that Jesus promises by faith in him.

May the hope of a meaningful and fulfilled life be with all of us by faith in the Higher Power. May the Great Spirit bring the love that is promised by our God, and may we let that Spirit work with us and through us as we travel the highway of life. The joy that we all seek can be ours by faith in God.

Through faith and by living in faith, we know God's promises are never broken. God's gifts to us are peace, hope, love, and joy. These gifts are given freely to us by our God, when we live by faith and love one another.

On behalf of all of us at Big River United Church, we wish everyone a very blessed Christmas season, filled with the gifts that are given to us by God; especially the gifts of peace, hope, love and joy. We also recognize that these gifts are vital for a full and meaningful life on this earth. These gifts cost us nothing. All we have to do to receive these gifts is live by faith in God, worship our creator, and treat our neighbours as we would want to be treated.

May the blessings of God be with you, now and forever.
Dave Whalley,
First United Church, Big River

With Tidings of
Comfort & Joy
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bring, peace & joy
and all good things!

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and Happy New Year
Town of Blaine Lake

306.497.2531
Blaine Lake

MERRY
CHRISTMAS
HAPPY NEW YEAR

THANK YOU AND WISHING
YOU AND YOUR FAMILY ALL
THE BEST FOR 2023!!

Krystal & Ryan Thorhaug
113 Main Street • 306-497-2461 [f/blvariety](https://www.facebook.com/blvariety)

Spread
The
Word!

Here's
hoping that your
holiday brings,
Peace and
joy and all
good things
Plus a
load of fun and
laughter
To create
warm memories
forever after!

Village of
Canwood
Council
& Staff

Happy
Holidays

All the best to
our friends and
neighbours this
Holiday Season.

R.M. of
Canwood #494
306-468-2014

Wishing you much
harmony and joy
at Christmas

Reeve and Council
R.M. of Leask
#464

Wishing
everyone
Peace & Good Will
at Christmas

Mayor and Council
Village of Leask

Rejoice!

With joy in our hearts, we wish you all a truly miraculous holiday season.

Staff and Management of
**Blaine Lake
Ambulance Care**
Keith & Diana Woytiuk

How to celebrate the holidays away from home

A popular Christmas song attests “there’s no place like home for the holidays.” For many people, a truer statement couldn’t be uttered. But sometimes life gets in the way of an old-fashioned holiday spent at home.

There are a number of reasons why individuals may not be able to spend the holidays at home. Active military service people may not be able to leave their posts to travel home. Some students studying abroad or even far away domestically may find getting back to their homes can be

time- and cost-prohibitive. Some people may not be home for the holidays because work obligations keep them out of town, or because they have planned vacations to serve as nontraditional holiday celebrations.

Being away from some familiar sights and sounds of the holidays doesn’t mean celebrations should be any less special. Here are tips for celebrating away from home.

- Find people in similar situations. Chances are you will not be the only person away from home, particularly if you are a student or someone on a business venture. Connect with others who are away from their families and do something together for the holidays.

- Partake of local traditional activities. You

may be used to baking sugar cookies for the holidays, but in a foreign country, the locals may make another type of dessert. Figure out how the locals celebrate the holidays and then take part in any way you can.

- Volunteer your time. If you will be away or alone for the holidays, volunteer your time to help the less fortunate. Deliver meals to those who are not able to leave home, like seniors, or volunteer at a soup kitchen. Visit a children’s hospital and deliver small



gifts.

- Engage in virtual fun. Connect with people at home through the power of digital technology. Video conferencing services connect people who can’t be together in person. Utilize these apps and services to remote into a holiday dinner or when loved ones open gifts.

- Cook up your favorites. Evoke traditional holiday celebrations by cooking the foods you would normally enjoy at home. Those tastes and smells can transport you back to grandma’s kitchen or dad’s living room.

- Stay off of social media. Being away from home during the holidays can be challenging,

and that challenge can be even greater if you see photo after photo on social media of people you know spending time with their friends and loved ones. Tune out of your social feeds for a few days.

- Invite others to you. Maybe you don’t have the means of getting home, but you can bring those at home to you. Find out if anyone can plan a road trip, train ride or flight to where you are and then enjoy the holidays together.

Being away from home during the holidays may not be ideal. However, there are plenty of ways to maintain your holiday spirit when celebrating in unfamiliar surroundings.

It’s that time of the year again: we pick out greeting cards, maybe take a family photo, and open up that box of unique decorations and ornaments.

Other favourite traditions may include putting lights on the house or a fresh tree, or perhaps a reusable one. And, of course, we make plans to visit friends and family to celebrate the holidays and see in the New Year.

This year, why not consider getting to know other traditions, or even creating a new tradition with your family or friends?

Here are three idea starters:

- 1. Host a holiday dessert party** – invite colleagues, friends or neighbours to a sweet potluck where they share and describe their favourite traditional desserts that all can enjoy with a cup of egg nog or mulled cider – and be ready to share the recipes digitally, too!

- 2. Host a holiday story evening** – guests bring a craft, ornament, decoration or photo if it’s too large to bring – and share its story. How did they acquire it, or why did they buy it, and what does it mean to them?

Start a new tradition this holiday season

- 3. Create a new giving tradition** – charity gift catalogues like World Vision Canada’s offer a unique opportunity for children to pick a family gift like goats or chickens, or to gift a teacher or grandparent with a meaningful gift like school essentials, crop seeds for farmers, a scarf or jewellery – or a special angel ornament for the tree! Ask children, or help them, to write in the gift cards why they chose that specific gift.

This time of year is so special for so many reasons. Take time to learn the stories behind treats or traditions, and see the holiday season in a new light.

www.newscanada.com

SANTA

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For you...

We'd like to join jolly old Saint Nick in sending warm wishes to you and your loved ones this holiday season. We appreciate your goodwill and trust in us, and thank you for your business.

Merry Christmas!

From Management
and Staff of
**Lamplight
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May your holiday be
brimming with
good times and
glad tidings!

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far ...thanks!

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Greetings at Christmas
With best wishes to
you and yours
this holiday season!

Village of Debden
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Debden, SK.

Merry Christmas
& Happy New
Year!

We wish everyone a
Happy & Safe Holiday!

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HAPPY, HAPPY,
HAPPY, HAPPY,
HOLLY DAYS

Wishing all of you
a very joyful
holiday season.

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JOY
LOVE
LAUGHTER

EARL BEEBE TRUCKING LTD.
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With best wishes to one and all
for a merry and bright holiday season.

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May Your Holiday
Be Merry & Bright

The tree is lit, the stockings are hung,
and the good times are about to begin.
We hope your Christmas is everything
you're hoping it will be.

Thanks for making our season
such a great success.
We look forward to serving you
in the New Year.

Pat, Donna & Amanda
Panter Agencies Ltd.
Big River 306-469-2155

How to travel safely *this holiday season*

Transportation Security Administrators screened more than 1.3 million people on January 3, 2021, at airport security checkpoints across the United States. That was the largest number of travelers the TSA had seen since March 15, 2020, which was just four days after the World Health Organization declared a pandemic. Airports and other transportation hubs are now as crowded as ever, as the world has largely opened up and vaccinations have helped people feel more confident about traveling.

With millions once again returning to the roads, rails and skies to celebrate the holidays with friends and family, it is once again prudent to go over safety tips that pertain to holiday-related travel. Follow these guidelines when heading home for the holidays.

Make your home secure

Travel safety begins before you even step outside your door. It means securing the home and any belongings inside and protecting them from thieves who prey upon holiday travelers. Burglaries tend to rise in both the summer months and during the holidays, when homes are more likely to be vacant. Ask a neighbor to keep an eye on the property and report any suspicious activity. Install a home alarm and activate it. Utilize a video doorbell, which can be answered remotely. Don't post travel plans on social media, and be sure your home looks occupied while you're away.

Practice safe air travel

Airports are busy at all times of the year, but particularly so during the hol-

iday season. Guard belongings by keeping an eye on your luggage and other bags at all times, even after boarding the plane. If you will be bringing a tablet, laptop or another expensive device onto the plane, put it on the x-ray belt last, so the device will not be out in the open for too long. Keep close to young children so they cannot wander off and get lost.

Prepare for vehicle travel

If you're driving, get an oil change if it is due or close to it. Have an emergency kit packed into the car that includes road breakdown tools, flares, blankets, water, and snacks.

Avoid distractions while on the road and depart after getting plenty of rest. Designate a sober driver to get everyone home after drinking at a party where alcohol is being served.

It's cold, icy and snowy in most areas during the holidays. Roads can be slippery and conditions suboptimal. Leave extra time, drive slowly and avoid driving until roads have been treated.

Keep gifts out of sight

When transporting gifts to and from home, including shopping for presents, keep items away from curious eyes. Packages should be kept in a locked trunk or in a covered cargo area. Consider shipping items to their destinations (and insure the packages) to avoid running the risk of gifts being lost or stolen en route.

These are just a few ways to keep safe when traveling for the holiday season. Keep merry and bright by avoiding theft and injury.



Merry Christmas From Our House To Yours

May the coming season deliver an abundance of peace, joy and happiness to your home.

CARRIER
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Big River, Saskatchewan

Season's Greetings

May all the joys of a sweet, old-fashioned Christmas be yours. Thank you for being such loyal customers.

From Management & Staff of

Big River Truck & Trailer

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Have a Merry Little Christmas

We're hoping your holiday is stuffed with good things! Thanks for your continued patronage.

Midtown Holdings

Jeff, Gerald & Staff
Big River
306-469-5666

Fa...la...la...la...la

... And a round of thanks to you, our kind and loyal customers. We are very grateful for your business this past year and wish you all the best this holiday season.

Merry Christmas!

LENS TRUCKING

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Big River

Now Serving: Our Best Wishes

Here's hoping your holiday season is just the way you like it. It's always a pleasure to serve folks like you and we sincerely appreciate your dining with us this past year

Third & Main and Thelma & Louise's Lounge

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Big River

Wanda and Staff

All The Best

Wishing you and your loved ones a wondrous season filled with all the trimmings and hopes of a prosperous new year.

Thank you for your kind patronage. Your friendship really makes us feel like celebrating.

Margo, Russell and Staff

H & J PLUMBING & HEATING

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Big River

Movies that are perfect for families this holiday season

Various traditions take center stage during the holiday season. One of those traditions may be sitting down and enjoying any of a number of timeless Christmas movies or even newer holiday films that are quickly becoming favorites.

Film fans have their own ideas about the best films to watch during the holidays, but the following movies are some kids and adults can enjoy together.

• “The Polar Express”

(2004): A young boy enjoys a magical adventure to the North Pole aboard the Polar Express train. He learns about the true spirit of the holidays and the value of bravery and friendship along the way.

• “The Muppet Christmas Carol” (1992): Charles Dickens’ classic story about a bitter miser might be a little frightening for young children to enjoy in its more theatrical offerings. However, when the Muppet characters tell their version of the classic tale,

the story becomes much more family-friendly.

• “A Boy Called Christmas” (2021): Based on the book by Matt Haig, this movie is a reimagined take on Father Christmas. It focuses on Nikolas as he goes on an adventure to find a magical town called Elfhelm.

• “Jack Frost” (1998): When a father dies in a car accident, he comes back to life as a snowman in his son’s front yard. Jack learns to keep his promises and make things right with his son - things he wasn’t capable of doing as a human.

• “Christmas with the Kranks” (2004): The Kranks decide to forgo their annual Christmas party and plan a vacation since their daughter will be out of town. But when said daughter decides to come home after all, chaos sets in as the couple tries to figure out how to put together an extravaganza at the last minute.

• “Beauty and the

Beast: The Enchanted Christmas” (1997): The Beast does not favour the holiday season, so Belle must change his mind on the matter in this animated Disney offering.

• “Elf” (2003): As a

youngster, Buddy was magically transported to the North Pole and raised by Santa’s elves. As an adult, he’s determined to find his real dad in New York City and uncover a way to fit in.

• “Santa Hunters” (2014): A young boy teams up with his sibling and cousins to try to capture new footage of Santa in action and prove that the man in

red truly exists.

• “The Nutcracker and the Four Realms” (2018): This is a newer take on the classic Nutcracker tale. This adventure sees Clara defending the Land of Sweets from the evil Mother Ginger.

Holiday films enhance the celebratory nature of the season. Certain movies are tailor-made for families to watch together during this special time of year.



Tidings of Comfort & Joy

At Christmastime, may the company of loved ones present and the fond memories of those who have passed surround you with happiness and fill your heart with peace.

We wish you all the very best this holiday season.

Beau "Lac"
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORIUM

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Big River 306-469-2277 – Debden 306-724-4474
Prince Albert 306-763-3322 – Canwood 306-468-2244
Leask 306-466-4822

Thanks & Best Wishes All Around

It's friends and customers like all of you who make our season bright!

David Moe
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Wishing you and your family a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

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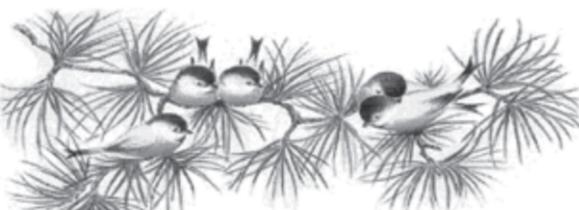
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HAVE A BLESSED Christmas

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The holidays bring many gifts, but none are more precious than the gift of your support and friendship. Thank you for contributing to our success

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Decorating the interior and exterior of a home is a beloved holiday season tradition in millions of households. Such decor makes it easy to dive into the festive nature of the season.

Many people could not imagine a holiday season without decorating their homes, and it's vital that celebrants do so safely. Fire safety is especially important during a time of year when string lights and potentially dried out trees feature so prominently. These fire safety tips can ensure this holiday season is safe.

· Buy the safest lights. It might be tempting to buy the most inexpensive lights, especially given all the extra costs already associated with the holiday season. However, safety should be the utmost priority when buying new lights. Testing laboratories such as CSA, Intertek and UL certify products to ensure they're safe for use. Products that aren't certified should be avoided.



May your cart overflow with glad tidings & joy!
May your heart be full with love & contentment this holiday season & beyond
Thank you for shopping with us!

SHELLBROOK BIGWAY
306-747-3623



Fire safety protocols to keep in mind when holiday decorating

· Use lights and cords where they're intended to be used. The packaging on lights will indicate if the product is intended to be used indoors or outdoors. It's vital that individuals decorating their homes with lights pay attention to these labels. Never decorate the exterior of a home with interior lights, and vice versa. Extension cords made for indoors also should not be used outdoors and vice versa.

· Be especially careful with candles. Candles should only be burned when adults are in the room and should always be extinguished before leaving the room or going to bed. When burning candles, place them on heat-resistant surfaces that are beyond the reach of curious kids and pets. Never place candles within arm's length of Christmas trees or houseplants, including poinsettias.

· Ask an electrician to inspect your exterior outlets and circuits. Ground fault circuit interruptor (GFCI)

outlets are designed to prevent electric shocks and reduce the risk of electrical fires. Most areas now require new homes be built exclusively with GFCIs, which are recognizable because they feature two buttons between the outlets. But older homes may not be equipped with GFCIs, particularly with exterior outlets. GFCI installation is not an especially expensive job, so homeowners should ask an electrician to inspect their interior and exterior outlets and replace non-GFCIs with GFCIs.

· Do not pinch light cords. Stringing lights can be a hassle, but cords should never be pinched in doors or windows or beneath interior and exterior furniture. Doing so increases the risk of damage to the cord, which in turn increases the likelihood of fire.

· Avoid overloading circuits. Overloaded circuits pose a significant fire hazard. When plugging in lights, choose outlets that aren't already occupied by devices

and other electronics. If need be, unplug appliances like televisions and devices while lights are on and plugged in.

When decorating this holiday season, celebrants are urged to do everything they can to reduce the risk of fire in their homes.

When did Christmas lights become so popular?

Now everywhere come the holiday season. Private homeowners tend to hang the holiday lights outside their homes just after Halloween and keep them up through New Year's Day.

Though it might seem like a tradition without a deep history, decorating a Christmas tree with electric lights can be traced all the way back to the nineteenth century. In 1882, Edward Johnson, who was a friend and colleague of the man who invented light bulbs, Thomas Edison, replaced candles, which had traditionally been used to briefly light Christmas trees, with light bulbs.

But at the time of Johnson's innovation, the high cost and relative infancy of light bulbs

ensured the idea did not catch on. And though United States President Grover Cleveland used electric lights to illuminate a Christmas tree in the White House in 1895, it would be another eight years before General Electric would begin selling Christmas light kits. Those kits cost \$12 in 1903, which equates to several hundred dollars today.

The first outdoor Christmas light shows started to become popular in the 1920s, and this is the same time when commercial sales of Christmas lights picked up.

In the 1960s, GE's decision to begin manufacturing Christmas lights overseas helped reduce the price of outdoor lights even further,

thus paving the way for the tradition of decorating home exteriors with string lights during the holiday season to take a firm hold.

And that tradition remains wildly popular today.



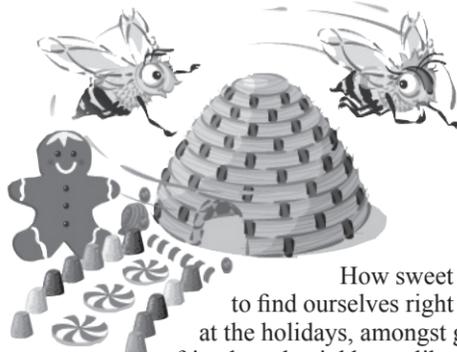
Trimmed With A Wish

Here's hoping your holiday is a cut above the rest! I loved every minute of serving you this year, thanks!

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Gift Certificates Available for the Hard-To-Buy-For

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Wishing You a Holiday Rich in Blessings

Love, friendship, health, happiness, peace, goodwill and contentment... we hope your holiday season is filled with all the things that matter most.

Serving you has been our pleasure. Merry Christmas!

IG PRIVATE WEALTH MANAGEMENT
BOURGEAULT & ASSOCIATES

Paul & Kelly Bourgeault, Paul Beaulieu, Gavin Holcomb & Jo-Ann Maagad

How to pet proof your home when decking the halls

The holiday season is a special time of year. Many factors combine to make the holiday season so unique and festive, and that includes all the effort people put into decorating their



homes.

Much thought is given to holiday lighting arrangements and which tree to buy, but it's equally important to consider pets when decorating. Many common household pets are naturally curious, and that curiosity can make it difficult to decorate safely come the holiday season. But various pet-proofing strategies can ensure holiday decorations and displays aren't compromised by four-legged friends this season.

- Secure the Christmas tree. Much like other residents of the home, pets may be mesmerized by a glowing Christmas tree. Pets may sniff around the tree or investigate it closely, which can increase the chances that it tips over. That poses a significant safety hazard and underscores the importance of using a sturdy stand. Fastening the tree to a wall, much like one might do with a television that isn't mounted, adds a further layer of protection from tip-overs.

- Block off the base of a live tree. Live trees need water to stay green

and keep their needles throughout the season. That water could prove enticing to thirsty pets. Drinking water from a tree stand could increase the risk of the tree tipping over and the water could upset the stomach of pets if the tree was treated with pesticides prior to being brought home. When decorating with a live tree, make sure the base of the tree where the water will be is blocked off. A small fence around the tree could keep curious pets away. The room where the tree is located should be locked or inaccessible when pets are home alone.

- Inspect and conceal light wires. Wires can become frayed over time, and that could pique pets' curiosity. Lighting wires should always be inspected prior to decorating and frayed or damaged wires should be thrown away, even if it means replacing lights. If wires are still sturdy, conceal them along the base of the wall using a cable concealer, which prevents pets from chewing on them.

- Avoid lighting can-



dles. Candles should not be lit in homes with pets. Even candles on shelves that are seemingly beyond pets' reach can be hazardous, as pets, especially cats, have a way of accessing spaces they seemingly shouldn't be able to reach. Use electric candles in lieu of traditional ones.

- Speak to a vet about seasonal plants and flowers before bringing them into the home. Pet owners can speak with their veterinarians before bringing poinset-

tias, holly and other seasonal plants and flowers into their homes. Some pets could suffer allergic reactions if they eat certain seasonal plants, so it's best to err on the side of caution and speak to a vet before including live plants and flowers in decorative displays.

Decorating is part of the holiday season. Pet owners must exercise an extra bit of caution to keep their pets and homes safe when decorating during this special time of year.

In The Holiday SPIRIT



We'd like to thank all of you who have helped to make our spirits bright this year with your friendship and support.

Merry Christmas!

Kerb Side
Convenience
Shellbrook

Thank You
for your
business and
Happy
Holidays to
you & yours.

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princealbert@
novuslaw.ca
306-922-4700



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Hope your holiday serves up a hearty portion of peace plus an extra helping of joy. We know serving you has been a real joy for us.

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We hope you

DIG

the Happy Holidays, as much as we do.

Thank you
to everyone
for your support
this year.



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General Excavation
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Smile...It's Christmas!



Wishing a very happy holiday season to all our patients and their families.

Dr. Denise Koeberlin
Dental Clinic
306-747-2555

Denise, Courtney, Kendal, Cher, Tracey & Raeleen



Thanks Friends!

With Season's Greetings to you and your kin, We're really grateful for you droppin' in!

Dave, Heather & Staff

Parkland Meats Ltd.
306-747-3939 Shellbrook

Holiday shopping hacks to spend wisely

When we're in the holiday spirit, it can be tempting to overspend. But is it worth the financial stress? Here are tips to keep in mind during this wonderful time of year to help you spend wisely.

Have a plan for gift giving

If gift giving is important to you, make a budget and set a spending limit for each person on your "nice" list. Look out for sales to keep your costs down, just keep in mind how long the person will have to return it if it is not right for them. To lower expenses, you may also consider offering homemade gifts such as baked goods or handmade candles. Making your own gifts makes them extra special and may also allow you to spend quality time with your family while preparing them.

Be careful with buy now, pay later offers

Many companies offer buy now, pay later plans, allowing you to purchase something without having to pay for it in full right away. Accepting this type of payment plan may seem like a great deal, but before signing on the dotted line do some thinking. Determine if you can afford the higher interest charges and applicable fees if you miss a payment or can't pay off the balance by the due

date. If you are already struggling with debt, making purchases this way could encourage you to spend beyond your means and make it hard to keep up with payments.

Debit vs. credit

It might be convenient to fund your holiday spending with your credit card, but between rising interest rates and the higher cost of living, managing your debt load in the new year may be a challenge.

Your 2023 January credit card bill may be extra expensive because of a class action settlement between Visa, Mastercard and merchants. Businesses now have the option of adding a surcharge of up to 2.4 per cent when you pay by credit card. To avoid these fees, consider another method of payment, such as debit.

Find more tips, tools and resources to help you spend wisely this holiday season, and all year round, at Canada.ca/money.



Peace on Earth

... And thanks to you, our customers, for your loyal support. We feel blessed to have you as our friends & neighbours. Have a wonderful holiday.

Shellbrook Pharmacy
Krista, Stacy & Staff

At This Special Time Of Year...
We want to give you our warmest wishes for a holiday season that's magical in every way.

Happy Holidays
Council and Staff
R.M. of Shellbrook #493

Merry Christmas
with many thanks, and I'd like to extend to each one of you ...my very best wishes and gratitude too!

Parkland Therapeutic Massage
Shellbrook
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and
MACKENZIE FUNERAL CHAPEL & CREMATORIUM

THE STAFF AT SHELLBROOK FUNERAL HOME & MACKENZIE FUNERAL CHAPEL WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

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With Thanks For Your Business At The Holidays
On behalf of Tammy & Dale Johnson

SHELLBROOK STORAGE & RENTALS

Five ways to support mental health this season



Few things fill someone's heart like the knowledge that someone cares about how they are feeling and doing.

But often our stress and anxiety intensify during the holiday season. Some Canadians have experienced loss that is magnified this time of year or come to this season exhausted or dreading the busyness ahead.

During this time of often added pressure, how can we guard our own mental health, while looking out for others?

Here are 5 suggestions:

1. Find the right support. 211 is the Government of Canada's twenty-four-seven hotline that provides free access to a mental health professional. It can also connect you with resources in your community.

2. Confide in someone. Trust a friend, neighbour, coworker or family member with how you are doing. Let them know you would welcome an invite for coffee or a chat on Zoom, on the phone, or in person.

3. Get your steps in. While exercise may be the last thing you feel like do-

ing, just 15 minutes of aerobic exercise can have a profound effect on your mood.

4. Help others. Relating to others and providing a gift of mental health support, like for children struggling in conflict zones or after climate disasters, can help us feel part of a larger world family and that we are making a purposeful difference.

5. Lean into gratitude. Even in the darkest times, we can find things and people to be thankful for. As Canadians, we can pause to appreciate peace and the freedoms and opportunities we have. Bringing loved ones and thanking them for kind gestures can improve mental health and wellbeing.

www.newscanada.com

You's Bar GRILL AND OFFSALE

Cheers!
Here's to the greatest bunch of people we know ... our customers! Merry Christmas and sincere thanks.
Brad & Staff

Season's Greetings!

We take this opportunity to Thank You
for your friendship & support over the past years. We look forward to serving you in 2023 and wish you health, happiness and prosperity in the New Year.

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Did someone say eggnog?

Nothing says holiday like a delicious, cold glass of eggnog. Make this smooth treat from scratch at home and you'll never go back to the store-bought version.

Check out Chef Anna Olson's Crème Brûlée Eggnog recipe below:

Prep time: 20 minutes

Cook time: 8 minutes

Serves: 6-8

Ingredients:

- 2/3 cup (160 ml) granulated sugar, di-

- 1 tbsp (15 ml) water
- 1 tsp (5 ml) fresh lemon juice
- 3 cups (750 ml) 2% milk
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) finely grated nutmeg
- 6 large egg yolks (reserve 1 egg white for rimming the glass)
- 6 to 8 oz (175 to 250 ml) rum, brandy, whiskey or a combination (optional)
- 1 cup (250 ml) whipping cream

Directions:

1. Line a baking tray with parchment paper and set aside.
2. Place the water, lemon juice and 1/3 cup (80 ml) of the sugar in a saucepan and stir. Bring to a boil over high heat without stirring, and boil until the sugar turns a light amber, about 90

seconds. Remove from the heat.

3. Immediately pour the sugar onto the tray, swirling the sugar into as thin a layer as possible before it sets. Let the mixture cool until set, about 30 minutes.

4. Break the sugar into pieces. Crush them in a resealable bag with a rolling pin until coarsely ground, and set aside.

5. Meanwhile, in a saucepan over medium heat, bring the milk and the nutmeg to just below a simmer. In a bowl, whisk the egg yolks and the remaining sugar together.

6. Add a ladleful of hot milk to the egg mixture and whisk well. Whisking continuously, slowly add up to half of the hot milk to temper the egg mixture.

7. Add the tempered egg mixture to the saucepan of remaining milk and reduce the heat to medium-low. Stir until the custard is well combined and coats the back of the

spoon, about 3 minutes.

8. Strain the custard through a sieve into a bowl and let it cool to room temperature. Cover and chill completely.

9. When ready to serve, whisk the rum (or brandy and/or whiskey), if using, into the chilled eggnog custard. Whip the cream

with an electric beater at high speed until it holds a soft peak when the beaters are lifted. Whisk the whipped cream by hand into the eggnog.

10. To serve, lightly whisk the reserved egg white with a fork and place it in a dish. Place the crushed caramelized

sugar in a small saucer, reserving some for garnish. Dip the rim of each glass into the egg white and then into the caramelized sugar. Ladle the chilled eggnog into each glass and top with a sprinkle of the reserved caramelized sugar.

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Merry Christmas!
Thanks for visiting and we look forward to serving you in 2023.
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Thank you for choosing us.
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Merry Christmas to you and yours!
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IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR!
And we loved every minute of serving you all year long!
Merry Christmas
Mayor, Council and Staff
Town of Shellbrook

TO OUR CHERISHED CUSTOMERS
We wish you tidings of comfort and joy as we thank you for making us feel so at home here.
Merry Christmas!
Triple S Transport
306-747-2944
Darin, Tina, Logan, Kassandra & Staff

At This Season of Giving -
We'd like to give you our well wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season. We feel deeply honored to have your friendship and trust. **Thanks!**
Grant, Heather, Daryl, Tamara, Mark, Karen, Taylor, Wendy, Marlene, Cathy, Patty, Gwen W., Lorraine F., Doreen, Lorraine Y., Jeremy, Ale, Gwen P.
Woodland Pharmacy
Shellbrook, Canwood, Leask

Make the ultimate holiday gingerbread cookies

Gingerbread cookies are a holiday classic for a reason – they are fun to make and decorate, and even more fun to eat.

Try out Chef Anna Olson's Classic Gingerbread Cookies recipe below:

Prep time: 30 minutes

Cook time: 20-25 minutes

Makes: Approximately 2 dozen

Ingredients

Gingerbread

- 1/2 cup (125 ml) unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) packed light brown sugar
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) fancy molasses
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) pure maple syrup
- 1 large egg
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) finely grated fresh ginger
- 2 1/3 cups (350 g) all-purpose flour

- 1 tsp (5 ml) ground ginger
- 1 tsp (5 ml) ground cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) baking soda
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) fine salt
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) ground allspice
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) ground cloves

Royal Icing:

- 3 tbsp (45 ml) meringue powder
- 4 cups (520 g) icing sugar, sifted
- 6 tbsp (90 ml) warm water

Directions

Cookies:

1. For the gingerbread, use an electric beater or a stand mixer to beat the butter and brown sugar together at medium-high speed until fluffy, about 2 minutes. Beat in the molasses and maple syrup until smooth. Add the egg and beat in the ginger.

2. In a separate bowl, sift the flour with the ginger, cinnamon, baking soda, salt, allspice and cloves. Add these dry ingredients all at once to the butter mixture and mix at low speed until combined. Wrap the dough in two discs and chill for at least 2 hours. Preheat your oven to 325°F (160°C) and line 2 baking trays with parchment paper.

3. Roll out the dough on a lightly floured surface to just under 1/4-inch (0.5 cm) thick.

4. Use cookie cutters to cut out your desired shapes and sizes and transfer these to the baking trays, 1-inch (2.5 cm) apart.

5. Bake for 12 to 15 minutes, or until lightly browned at the edges. Transfer to a wire rack to cool before decorating.

To make the royal icing:

1. Place the icing sugar, meringue powder and water into a bowl. Beat on low speed until the icing sugar is incorporated. Increase the speed to medium and beat until the icing comes together and is fluffy, about 5 minutes. Set aside some of the icing in a bowl with plastic



wrap.

2. To make a "flood" style of icing that spreads over the cookie, add just a little more water to the bowl of icing until it spreads on its own but will completely cover a cookie. Add food colouring in small amounts until you reach the colour intensity you want.

3. Spoon the "flood" style icing into a piping bag fitted with a small, plain tip. Pipe an outline on the cookie and then fill it in with icing, or pipe dots and use a toothpick to swirl the colours. Allow 4 to 6 hours for the icing to dry.

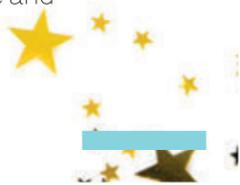
4. After drying, use the reserved icing to pipe additional details on top of the flooded layer then sprinkle with coloured sugars. Dry for an additional 4 hours.

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We answer the call to care during the holidays and all year round.

We are the CRNS, regulating Saskatchewan's nearly 13,000 Registered Nurses in the public's interest. We wish you a safe and healthy holiday season!



THE HOLIDAYS are Better TOGETHER

Happy holidays from our family to yours

Affinity Credit Union

Merry Christmas!

From our families to yours, we wish you a safe and happy holiday season.

PARKLAND AMBULANCE
PRINCE ALBERT
We Care For You

Season's Greetings...

...to the best people we know,
Our Customers!

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Prince Albert, Sask

Thank you for your trust in us and we wish you all the best in 2023!

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To all our clients & friends,
Merry Christmas
and thank you for your patronage.

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To all my clients and friends,

I thank you very much for your patronage and hope you have a Very Merry Christmas.

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We Know You've Been Good... Especially To Us!

Start Your Engines...Christmas Is Coming!

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Thank you for your patronage!

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Merry Christmas to all
P.A. Autobody thanks you for your patronage and looks forward to serving you in the New Year.

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*As we turn the page to another holiday season,
we'd like to take a moment to thank you,
our patrons, for your trust and support.
We hope this Christmas delivers all the
good news you've been hoping for and more.*

*Shellbrook Chronicle
Spiritwood Herald*